

**SIXTH COORDINATION MEETING ON
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

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DEVELOPMENT ON THE MOVE: PROJECT OUTLINE*

Institute for Public Policy Research

*The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.



Development on the Move: Project outline

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This paper sets out the work that the Institute for Public Policy Research (ippr) has been undertaking on migration and development. In particular it discusses the work we have been doing in collaboration with the Global Development Network (GDN) on our Global Research Project: *Development on the Move: Measuring and Optimising the Economic and Social Impacts of Migration*.

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About ippr

ippr's is the UK's largest and most influential think tank. We work across a range of UK and international issues, undertaking policy-relevant research with the aim of helping to build a more socially just, democratic and environmentally sustainable world. We have a reputation for incisive work which has real and substantial impacts on the policy landscape. We also have a high media profile, with more than 3500 world-wide media hits in 2006.

ippr has over a decade's experience in migration research, and has become a key centre for the study of issues relating to migration, asylum, integration, and citizenship. Migration and development is a critical strand of ippr's work in this area.

Migration and development at ippr

ippr has a substantial history of work on migration and development, much of it linked to UN initiatives in the area. The head of the team, Dr Dhananjayan Sriskandarajah, was the expert author of the Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM) report on migration and development, and ippr contributed to both the civil society and state days at the recent Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), to sessions examining 'the measurement of migration and development impacts' and 'strategies and partnerships for working on migration and development issues'.

ippr's current work plan on migration and development involves a number of projects, all of which address the questions raised by the GFMD. One such piece of work is a study we are currently undertaking for the OECD (in partnership with ODI, the UK's leading development think tank). This examines how migration policymaking in OECD countries can better incorporate impacts on developing countries. Our main project in this area, however, is a much larger endeavour, undertaken in collaboration with the Global Development Network (GDN), called *Development on the Move: Measuring and Optimising the Economic and Social Impacts of Migration*.

Development on the Move: Aims

Development on the Move has five key aims:

1. Developing better methodologies for assessing the economic and social impacts of migration

The multidimensional nature of migration requires a multifaceted framework for understanding how migratory flows - both emigration and immigration, between all destinations (not just particular corridors or from south-north), and resulting from all sorts of motivations - impact on a country's economic, social and political development. This project aims to develop nuanced and robust ways of capturing those impacts.

2. Improving the evidence base on migration

There is a clear need to build a more robust evidence base on migration issues. This project will involve commissioning 6 country studies that will assess the impacts of migration in selected cases, including through collecting new data via household surveys (for further details see page 5). By using similar research questions and methods in each study, the 6 studies will be an invaluable resource in capturing the similarities and differences in the economic and social impacts of migration across countries. The studies will also provide a valuable learning opportunity for refining the methodology.

3. Analysing policy impacts and options

In order to entrench the policy focus into the project, we propose conducting simultaneous analysis of the impact of current migration policies to see what interventions seem to be working. This would involve assessing policies in developed and developing countries, as well as multilateral institutions. The analysis will also explore new, fresh and workable policy idea to harness the developmental benefits of migration and minimise the costs.

4. Research capacity building

In keeping with the objectives of the GDN, a significant focus of this project will be to build research capacity in developing countries. This will be done primarily through the commissioning of 6 country studies led by in-country teams, and supported by specially selected mentors, as well as by core staff and expert advisers. These efforts will be particularly valuable because migration issues have often not been a focus of research interest in much of the developing world, and thus there is much to be gained from working to build research capacity in this area.

5. Promoting multidisciplinary analysis

Much of the existing literature on migration concentrates on examining particular issues using particular analytical frameworks. This project aims at promoting much-needed holistic analysis of migration issues by formally adopting a multidisciplinary framework. Drawing on analyses commissioned by GDN, we believe that carefully combined and sequenced qualitative and quantitative methodologies ('Q squared' research methods) have the potential to substantially contribute to the study of migration and development. Multidisciplinary analysis will also be enabled by the assembly of a multidisciplinary group of expert advisers and the recruitment of multidisciplinary teams to conduct the 6 country studies.

Development on the Move: Methodology

The project has four key dimensions - methodological development, compiling country reports, undertaking policy analysis, and organising collaborative workshops - which it will pursue in order to achieve the aims of the project.

1. Methodological development

Developing better methodologies for assessing the impacts of migration on development is a key component of this project and involves four strands of work.

1a. Mapping key issues to assess the impact of migration

While many recent studies have looked at particular ways in which migration can affect aspects of life in developing countries (the effects of remittances and brain drain being perhaps the most prominent), there have been few attempts, even analytically, to draw together these various impacts in order to understand the overall impact of migration on a country's development. We believe that it is vital to attempt to move towards this sort of understanding. Such a holistic view would allow research findings and policy recommendations about a particular migratory impact to be put into the context of what that impact means for development overall – a vital methodological advance.

We believe that such a process requires both defining what 'development' entails, and then mapping the different potential impacts that migration could have on development. In our paper doing just this (Chappell and Sriskandarajah 2007), we draw on the capabilities and sustainable livelihoods approaches (e.g. see Sen 2000, and www.livelihoods.org) to guide us as to how to define development in this project. In summary:

- We view the process of development as the process of expanding the substantive freedoms that allow people to live their lives in the way that has value for them.
- The sort of migratory impacts that we wish to examine, therefore, are those which could affect the substantive freedoms that people enjoy.
- We intend to investigate the same kinds of impacts in all countries, but ensure that we also discover which are particularly relevant in each case.
- Building on the insights of the sustainable livelihoods approach, we will examine both the impacts of migration at the individual level on people's assets (defined broadly), as well as the impacts on macro structures and processes which can shape people's access to assets and their potential for generating livelihood outcomes.

- Our framework should help us to understand some of the more contentious impacts of migration by providing criteria by which to assess them – i.e. whether the impact expands or restricts substantive freedoms. Where contentious impacts may have positive short-run effects which do not contribute to sustainable outcomes in the long-run, our framework recognises the tension, while emphasising the importance of sustainability.

Drawing on a wide survey of the migration-development literature, as well as discussions with expert advisers, we have put together an ‘impact map’, which sets out the ways that migration might impact on development. We came up with 38 separate impacts, grouped under eight headings:

- economic impacts
- educational impacts
- health impacts
- gender impacts
- wider social impacts
- governance impacts
- impacts on environmental sustainability, and
- impacts on the provision of disaster relief.

We found some of these impacts to be relatively straightforward, at a conceptual level at least - for example the impact of migration upon the educational level of a ‘migrant household’. Others, however, are more complex – for example the impact of migration in fuelling ‘dependency’. While researchers and policymakers have frequently hypothesised about this relationship, it is still far from clear *how* migration might impact dependency. It appears that there are a number of different channels by which this effect could occur - by altering labour force participation, the investment/consumption split or government’s economic policies, for example. Therefore our mapping exercise has also involved investigating the different channels by which the effect occurs (where necessary). The paper investigating these issues is available at:

http://www.ippr.org/uploadedFiles/research/mapping_development_impacts_of_migration.pdf

1b. Cross-country analysis

The second component of *Development on the Move*’s methodological development is the conduct of cross-country analysis. We believe that this is a vital aspect of the project as comparative work on migration and development has tended to be fairly limited, with much analysis being country, region, or village specific. We want to examine the extent to which relationships between migration and development are constant - or vary - across countries, and under which circumstances.

Having explored a number of possible comparative methodologies, we believe that Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) will be the most useful in the case of *Development on the Move*. QCA allows for the systematic comparison of case studies, using the researcher’s knowledge of the selected case studies to actively refine the analysis, and has proved most suitable for small and medium *n* research. Given that *Development on the Move* involves commissioning 6 country case studies, which will generate much understanding about the specificities of the countries in hand, utilising a tool which allows this understanding to be actively drawn upon seems particularly appropriate. GDN has commissioned work examining the potential for QCA to contribute to its current projects (Rihoux 2007), and early indications demonstrate its usefulness to *Development on the Move*. We therefore intend to use QCA to examine our 6 case studies together, and explore the extent of commonalities and generalisable conclusions.

1c. Migration indicator

The third aspect of methodological development we hope to achieve in *Development on the Move* is the development of a migration indicator. We believe that there is a compelling need for an instrument which can powerfully communicate the importance of migration and development issues to policymakers, the media and the general public in a simple and yet effective way. This would draw on lessons learnt from tools such as the Human Development Index (HDI), for example, which has

successfully elevated the concept of human development from the realm of academic research and very specific policy fields, to the awareness of the wider policy community and the general public.

One such potentially useful form is the 'migration diamond'. This is based on the 'development diamond' concept, which depicts multiple indicators of development on the 'points' of the diamond, producing striking visual comparisons between countries. However in this case the variables charted would describe the extent and nature of migration characterising a country. A migration indicator of this form would comprise an easy reference tool to compare the migration circumstances of a particular country with the average country in the world, or in that geographical region, or at that level of development, for example. This would allow the public, the media and policymakers to compare their country's migration circumstances with those of other countries, contextualising it. It would also demonstrate the different facets of migration to these audiences, hopefully increasing understanding of the heterogeneity of migration flows. As such, we believe a migration indicator of this form would provide a powerful, simple and effective communication instrument to improve understanding of the real nature and complexity of migratory flows in a developmental context.

1d. Q squared approach

The final aspect of methodological development is utilising a Q squared approach – i.e. drawing upon a combination of quantitative and qualitative methodologies. As discussed earlier, we feel that the potential of multidisciplinary approaches has been under-explored in the area of migration and development research. We therefore intend to use a variety of instruments in our research in a sequenced, complementary fashion in order to draw upon the strengths of both forms of analysis. GDN has also commissioned work exploring the potential of Q squared research methods for *Development on the Move* (Hulme 2006), and found that they have strong potential to contribute. Discussion of how precisely we intend to combine quantitative and qualitative tools is detailed in section 2 below.

2. Country reports

The country studies are the key evidence-building aspect of the project, but they will also play a major role in methodological development. There will be 6 studies commissioned in 6 different developing countries from across the globe (initially, more may follow later in a second round), each conducted from a uniform template to ensure comparability. Each will involve two distinct components:

- A large, nationally representative household survey, and
- An analytical country report, of approximately 50 - 100 pages, describing and analysing the impacts of migration on development in that country, and how it is being and could be addressed through policy.

These components will overlap to the extent that the household survey results will be provided to the team compiling the country report, but they will also be used more widely, with *Development on the Move's* core team compiling the results from all 6 household surveys and performing comparative analysis. Similarly, whilst each country report will draw on the results of the household survey in that country, it will also utilise a number of other research methods (discussed below) in order to gather complementary data.

The exact 6 countries to be studied will be chosen through a competitive process currently underway. As in previous GDN Global Research Projects, GDN have invited interested individuals and institutions based in developing countries to submit expressions of interest to participate in this project, and the successful teams will be selected in the coming weeks.

Providing good support to the country study teams will be crucial to ensure both quality outputs and successful capacity building. As well as regular interaction with and visits from the core project team, the country study teams will be allocated mentors - experts from the field of migration and/or development - who will assist them in the research process. We have also been offered in-country research support from the country offices of institutions such as the International Organization for Migration and World Bank.

2a. Household survey

For further details on the survey see the following sub-section on '*Development on the Move: The Survey*'.

2b. Other research tools

The country report will draw on the household survey results, but also draw from:

- existing data, quantitative and qualitative, on the impacts of migration on development available at the country level (e.g. data from universities on the destination of their students after graduation, where it is available)
- information regarding the respective country's policies on migration and their effects, and
- the results of semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders (policymakers, business representatives etc) regarding their opinions of the impacts of migration in their home country, and on how policy might improve migration's developmental impacts.

To ensure comparability, detailed guidance will be given to the 'country teams' regarding the sorts of information to collect. For example this will include suggestions of particular data sources they could examine, as well as an interview guide for use with policymakers. They will also be provided with an outline structure of the final report. A briefing paper is available with further details on what the country report will examine and how it will be commissioned and conducted.

3. Policy analysis and evaluation

This project will provide an invaluable opportunity to build on ippr's recent work on policy development in this area (Sriskandarajah 2005b, forthcoming; Farrant, MacDonald and Sriskandarajah 2006). Country study teams, visiting researchers and ippr staff will:

- map existing policies and policy frameworks relating to migration and development
- conduct in-depth interviews with policy makers in developed and developing countries, as well as multilateral institutions, in order to explore what policies are in place at present and what impacts they are having
- apply regulatory impact assessments to key interventions currently in place to ascertain their effectiveness
- explore the parameters and possible impacts of proposed or nascent policy initiatives (such as temporary movement of natural persons under Mode 4)
- explore the scope for new policy interventions at the international and national levels, in both sending and receiving countries, which optimise the developmental benefits of migration.

Country level policy analysis is to be incorporated into the country reports by the local analytical teams, but policy analysis spanning the 6 countries and also incorporating developed country and multilateral policies will also be undertaken by ippr staff, who will then write up an overarching final policy report.

While academics will be a key audience for the work, the aim is to provide a useful and usable tool to policymakers for understanding migration and for better optimising its benefits. As such, a key part of our research and dissemination strategy will be to involve policymakers. This will include working with our country study teams to ensure that they build relationships with local policymakers, including through the holding of country study 'launch' and 'dissemination' workshops in each of the 6 countries. These will involve ippr and GDN staff, the country report team and key policy actors, amongst others, in order to build ownership for the research amongst the policy community, and ensure that the results it produces reach a wide policy audience.

Policy impact will also be enhanced by the experience that staff of both ippr and GDN have in interacting with policy actors, as well as the media, ensuring that the project has the sustainable impact that it deserves.

4. Project workshops

Project workshops throughout the life of the project will play a critical role in helping to promote intellectual exchange, capacity building and quality assurance. Moreover, by holding the latter workshops in conjunction with GDN's annual conferences, there will be opportunities to showcase research in progress to several hundred key development experts who will be attending.

The first workshop for the project was held in September 2006, and involved the project team and some of the project's expert advisers spending two days examining and honing the project's objectives and methodology. A second workshop was held in January 2007 alongside GDN's eighth annual conference in Beijing, which again brought project staff and the expert advisers together, but also included a broader audience of development experts from around the globe. This meeting discussed the progress made with regards to methodological development, reviewed the research strategies for the different components of the project, and examined complementary research ongoing in the field, in order to learn from current best practice.

We envisage holding three further workshops as part of the project. The third workshop will be held in February 2008 to coincide with GDN's ninth annual conference in Brisbane, in order to gather the country teams together to plan research strategies, discuss lessons learnt from the pilot phase, and to strategise in detail about the policy audit. An interim workshop will be held in conjunction with GDN's tenth annual conference in 2009, to discuss research progress and interim findings. The final workshop will be held in January 2010, again in conjunction with GDN's annual global conference. This is when the project's research outputs will be presented.

Workshops, and the project as a whole, will benefit from the participation of the project steering committee – a range of international experts in migration and/or development who will guide the project, and be present at the workshops to shape discussions and interact with the country study authors. Our steering committee includes:

Dr. Manolo Abella, Chief Technical Adviser, ILO Asian Regional Programme on Governance of Labour Migration, International Labour Organization.

Prof. Richard Black, Director of Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty, University of Sussex.

Dr. Ahmed Galal, Managing Director, Economic Research Forum, Egypt

Prof. Carolina Hernandez, President, Institute for Strategic and Development Studies, Philippines and GDN Board member.

Dr. Frank Laczko, Director of Research, IOM

Prof. Michael Landesmann, Director of Research, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies

Prof. Robert E. B. Lucas, Professor of Economics, Boston University.

Prof. William Lyakurwa, Executive Director of the African Economic Research Consortium, Kenya

Dr. John Page, Chief Economist, Africa Region, World Bank

Prof. Lant. Pritchett, Professor of the Practice of Economic Development, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, and

Prof. Alan Winters, Professor of Economics, University of Sussex.

Development on the Move: The survey

Given the focus of this meeting on migration data, the key dimensions of the *Development on the Move* survey will be laid out in greater detail. The following discussion will refer both to how we have implemented the survey in Jamaica, our pilot case, and the possible alterations we may make to the survey when we launch our six main case studies in 2008.

1. Title of survey programme or project

Development on the Move: Measuring and Optimising the Economic and Social Impacts of Migration.

2. General purpose of the survey(s) carried out

The purpose of the *Development on the Move* surveys is to generate new comparable data on the prevalence and impact of migration on households in developing countries. It is a broad based survey, covering a wide range of impacts – economic and social - in order to try to get an idea of the overall impact of migration on developing country households.

3. Country or countries covered by the survey(s)

The *Development on the Move* survey is currently being piloted in Jamaica. The clean data will be provided to ippr and GDN as well as the Jamaican research team we have commissioned to write a country report, in the first half of December.

We will also commission surveys in six additional developing countries. We are currently in the process of selecting those countries through a competitive process, but we intend to select at least four of the countries from the Middle East, the Pacific, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

4. Time frame of the survey(s)

The Jamaican survey will be complete by the time of the sixth coordination meeting on international migration. We hope to complete the six additional surveys in 2008, though in some cases we may need to continue into 2009. At present, we don't intend to repeat the surveys to collect panel data, but we will make the instruments available to others if they wish to do so in the future.

5. National agencies or institutions collaborating in carrying out field work

In Jamaica we have had a very close and productive relationship with our collaborating fieldwork agency, the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN). We were able to work closely with a range of their experts on issues such as sampling, fieldworker training, data entry etc. STATIN directly engaged the interviewers who took the survey into the field. The interviewers were experienced fieldworkers, engaged on a contract basis to work on the *Development on the Move* survey.

The survey has also benefited from the inputs of the research team we have employed to write the country report (which will draw on the findings of the data, as well as existing literature and the results of stakeholder interviews). This research team is comprised of researchers from across the University of the West Indies, as well as personnel from government. They have reviewed successive drafts of the questionnaire and provided useful feedback.

6. Type of sample being used (probabilistic, purposeful, snowball....)

We hope to achieve a nationally representative probability sample. We want to undertake a multi-stage process, including a screening operation at the ultimate area unit, as we hope that screening will allow us to implement a probabilistic approach to sampling with reasonable budgets. Nationally representative probabilistic sampling is a priority in this project as we are very keen to be able to discuss the effect of migration on a nation meaning that we'd like to be able to say with some confidence that the results we derive do represent the country in which the survey was conducted.

However, in Jamaica, a quota system was implemented at the final stage, with each fieldworker being given a set number of 'migrant' and non-migrant' households to interview. This was done for the sake of simplicity and in order to minimise costs. We have still to decide whether we will repeat this in the main phase of the project or not.

7. Primary sampling unit (household or individual?)

Our survey is addressed both at households and individuals, though the bulk of the information we wish to obtain pertains to the household. The majority of questions are asked to the household reference person about the circumstances of the household as a whole. A small number of questions are asked to the household reference person who answers for themselves. In the main, these are opinion questions around their views on living in the country being studied, and how they think migration is affecting it.

There are also two shorter additional sections – the first pertaining to the experiences of the returned migrant, and to be answered by the returned migrant him or herself, the second pertaining to any absent migrants, to be answered by a proxy.

8. Was the survey specifically designed to study international migration or has a migration module been added to an existing survey?

The survey was designed specifically to meet the needs of this project.

9. Types of populations covered: migrants at destination; return migrants at origin; non-migrants at origin; non-migrants at destination; proxy respondents for migrants abroad.

In Jamaica we collected information about households without migrants and households with migrants (we class households with migrants as households with one or more returned migrants, absent migrants and/or immigrants). We also collected individual information from returned migrants who had returned to Jamaica and from proxy respondents about migrants abroad. In the main phase of the project we may collect some specific information from immigrants.

We have not and will not attempt to trace the migrants in their countries of destination, or conduct other forms of complementary analysis in those countries (such as corridor analysis).

10. Are specific types of migrants the focus of attention? (e.g. migrant workers, refugees, foreign students, female migrants, etc.)

This survey is explicitly addressed at all kinds of migration - both emigration and immigration, between all destinations (not just particular corridors or from south-north), and resulting from all sorts of motivations (forced movement, travel for study, travel for work etc). As such, no particular sub-group of migrants is the focus of our attention.

11. How are migrants identified? Please provide definitions.

We use the following definitions to identify each of our migrant groups:

Immigrant: Someone living in the country of study, who was born in another country

Returned migrant: Someone who was born in this country, who has previously lived in another country for more than three months, and who has now returned.

Absent migrant: Someone who left this household within the last ten years and directly went to live in another country for more than three months. They have not yet returned.

12. Is the survey gathering data on remittances and their use?

The survey does gather data on remittances and their use. Our remittance section includes questions on:

- (a) Place of residence of remitter
- (b) Who within the household is the recipient
- (c) Relationship between remitter and recipient
- (d) Gender of the remitter
- (e) Quantities of money received over the past 12 months
- (f) Regularity of remittances
- (g) Methods used to send cash remittances
- (h) Use of remittances – a specific question is included, as well as a general section in the household questionnaire on expenditures more broadly
- (i) Value of goods received over the past 12 months
- (j) Methods used to send goods remittances
- (k) Whether remittances are a gift or a loan
- (l) The existence and size of reverse remittances

13. Indicate means of dissemination of survey results: reports, detailed tabulations, data in digital form, micro-data in digital form.

The results will be disseminated first in the series of country studies to be produced by our research teams in-country. A comparative analysis of the different results will follow. Once the project reports are complete, the data will be made available in digital form.

14. Indicate if researchers may have access to the data collected for further analysis

Once the Development on the Move project documentation is complete, there will be open access to all the data collected through the study. We will also make available the project templates, such as the questionnaire, both so others can learn from our experiences, and so they can use them as templates (if they wish) to carry out their own survey work.