

Challenges of estimating the distribution of remittances among migrant sending countries

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Four questions

- What are remittances?
- Who send them?
- Who receives them?
- *What are they used for?*

What are remittances?

- Direct to households
 - From family members working abroad
 - From non-working family members abroad
 - From non-family members
- Via a charitable institution

Workers abroad

- Seasonal workers eg fruit pickers, tourism workers
- Border workers - do we want these in?
- Compensation of employees
- Long term expatriates
- Workers' remittances

Other transfers direct to HH

- Irregular gifts, not necessarily from close family
- Regular gifts from non-family eg adopt a child schemes
- Lottery winnings
- Alimony payments etc
- Pensions

Transfers

- Previous are **current transfers**
- Also have **capital transfers**, funds sent to acquire capital asset eg house, business premises, vehicles for business
- (Not migrants' transfers)

Funds via charities

- National channel for remittances from diaspora
- Disaster relief funds

What do we have now?

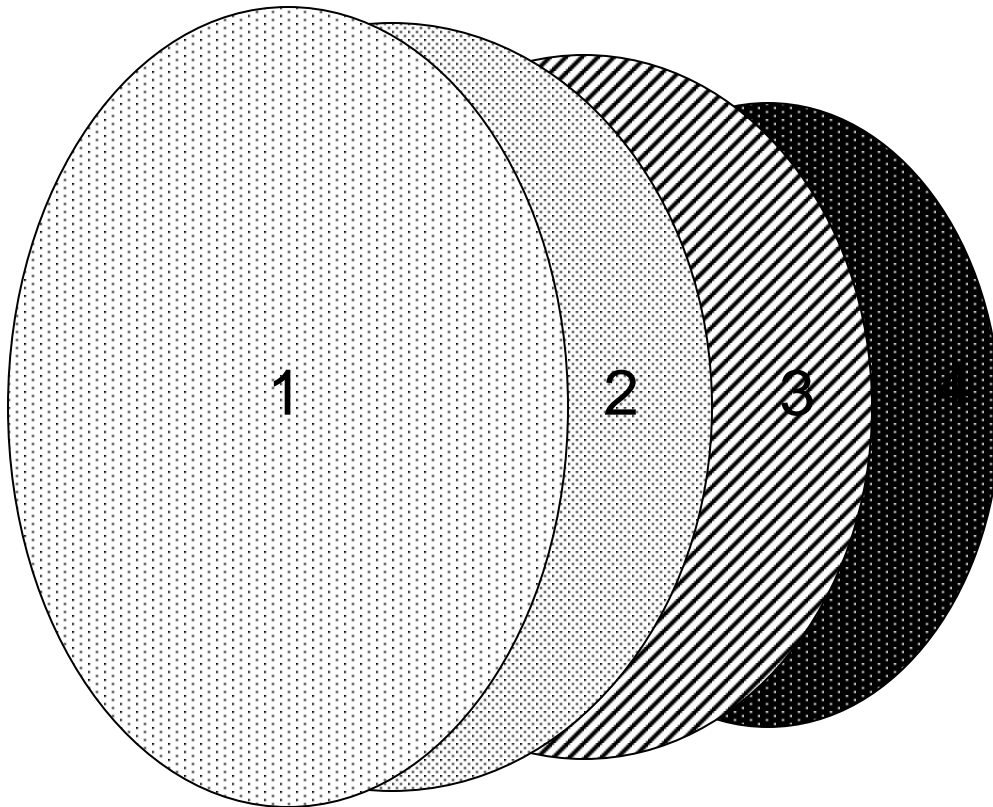
- Compensation of employees
 - Too high (local expenditure)
- Workers' remittances
 - Informal channels particularly here
- Current transfers
 - Cannot identify part to HH or charities
- Capital transfers - ditto

What might we have?

- Personal transfers
- Personal remittances (current and capital)
- Institutional remittances (current and capital)
- When?

Who send remittances?

- Working non-residents
- Resident non-national/citizens
- Residents of foreign origin
- Resident not of foreign origin



1. Nationals not of foreign origin
2. Nationals of foreign origin
3. Resident non-nationals
4. Working non-residents

What do we have?

- Numbers of $(1+2)$
- Numbers of 3

- Total earned by $(1+2)$
- Total earned by 3
- Total earned by 4

What do we need?

- Propensity to remit for different population groups
 - Regularly
 - Occasionally

And..

- Information on former workers who have a pension entitlement payable abroad
- Assets held by non-residents

Who receives?

- Family
- Fellow nationals
- Means work with data broken down by nationality
- Miss remittances/transfers to unrelated countries

Glimmer of hope

- Some countries may be able to give destination of some types of remittances

How dismal is the situation?

- Assuming national ties are the strongest motivation, general picture may be reasonably indicative
- Scope for significant errors for small countries or where diaspora assumes local nationality but maintains link to home country