**EXPERT SYMPOSIUM ON
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT**
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**CONTRIBUTION
TO THE EXPERT SYMPOSIUM ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

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

UNU Migration Network 2018 Output

In 2018 UNU continued its research focus on migration through a range of activities and outputs that built on a substantial portfolio of policy-relevant evidence in this field.

UNU-GCM and UNU-CPR report: "Surges and Swarms: A Conversation on Responsible Coverage of Migration"

In 2018 UNU-GCM and UNU-CPR saw the publication of their co-authored report "Surges and Swarms: A Conversation on Responsible Coverage of Migration", which provides recommendations for addressing xenophobia through a better understanding of the role of the media in representing migrants and refugees. The joint report was based on a meeting of international experts in Bellagio. Although, UNU-GCM ceased its operations at the end of 2018, in the course of the year, a range of policy reports on migration and crises, as well as on places of welcome were completed.

UNU-CS project: Migrant Tech

Ongoing research project by **UNU-CS** called *Migrant Tech*: Empowering migrant workers with mobile technology, focusing on the victims of trafficking in Thailand. This research focuses on the use of technology by low skilled and semi-skilled workers. By drawing from findings of a number of case and design studies, it analyzes how migrants can use technology to empower their situated agency and enable them to enhance their conditions.

Joint UNU Migration Network Book Project "Regional Integration and Migration in the Global South"

UNU-CRIS is in charge of an edited volume publication by Springer Book Publishing with co-editor UNU-MERIT, also involving UNU-INWEH, UNU-CS, and UNU-EHS. The book will combine different chapters from the UNU institutes involved, with a focus on East, West, Central Africa, the Horn of Africa, and Latin America. Overall, the book will focus on global migration, with a broad range of topics related to the Global South. Some of the topics which will be covered in the book range from determinants for migration to the implications of migration, including both economic and non-economic factors.

Migration output projects by UNU-MERIT for 2018:

1. Aligning Migration Management and the Migration-Development Nexus (MIGNEX) (2018-2023)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG and MACIMIDE are part of a consortium led by Prof. Jørgen Carling at PRIO, which is carrying out what is likely the largest-ever European-funded research project on migration. The MIGNEX project is taking place over the course of five years. It aims at forging new connections between two policy fields: how migration is regulated, and how migration and development affect each other.

2. H2020 Project: Advancing Alternative Migration Governance (ADMIGOV) (2018-2022)

UNU-MERIT/ MGSoG are part of a project consortium led by UvA. This project investigates the conformity of European migration policy in practice with the basic principles of the United Nations. ADMIGOV analyses the current gap between the basic principles of migration policy on the one hand and its practice on the other including entering and exiting the EU, and innovative solutions for temporary and circular migration. The aim of the project is to develop alternative forms of migration policy that are in line with human rights and protection, and consequently contribute to a future-proof migration policy.

3. Interreg Project: youRegion (2018-2020)

The INTERREG-V-A project *youRegion* pursues to promote the cross-border labour markets in the Meuse-Rhine Euregion (EMR) by centrally coordinating advisory and placement services and establishing a Euregional welcome

culture for newcomers, employees and companies in the region. UNU-MERIT/MGSoG and ITEM aim to research the increasing cross-border cooperation of already existing services, seeking to attract and retain newcomers and to integrate them into the (euregional) labour market, and to improve cross-border information services for precarious workers. The project intends to consolidate the euregional labour market and effectively counter the regional shortage of skilled workers.

4. Regional Development and Protection Programme for the Horn of Africa (RDPP) (2017-2020)

As part of a consortium with partners from MDF and APE consultancies, Samuel Hall and ECDPM, UNU-MERIT/MGSoG have set out on a multi-year assessment of RDPP for the Horn of Africa. The RDPP for the Horn of Africa was launched in 2015 to improve protection and enhance development prospects for refugees, IDPs and local communities, aiming to offer an alternative to irregular migration. Through the programme, partners aim to contribute to durable, comprehensive solutions for long-term development challenges posed by protracted forced displacement of refugees in their host communities.

5. WODC Project: Fluctuations in Migration Flows on the Balkans Route (2018-2019)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG leads the project in partnership with Koc University and EUR. The aim is to unpack the changing dynamics of the migration flows on the Western Balkans route; the decision-making of migrants on taking this route; and the overall aspirations and destinations choices of migrants on this route. The project aims to address the interplay of policy dynamics, migrants' decision-making, and migration flows, and to ascertain how different interventions, including potential ones in the future, may impact migration flows.

6. CEDEFOP Project: Complementary Pathways for Adult Refugees (2018-2019)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG contribute to a research project commissioned by CEDEFOP led by ICMPD and the Italian-based FIERI. The purpose of this research project is to increase the evidence base for complementary pathway mechanisms for admission of adult refugees from a first host country to an EU country, through the use of vocational education and training (VET), skills and qualifications.

7. H2020: The Role of European Mobility and its Impacts in Narratives, Debates and EU Reforms (REMINDER) (2017-2019)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG are part of a research consortium of 13 European institutions who implemented a three-year project REMINDER. The project started in January 2017 under the lead of Oxford University and was funded by the European Commission's 'Horizon 2020' Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. The project investigates the economic, social, institutional and policy factors that have shaped the impacts of free movement and the public debates surrounding it.

8. Erasmus + Project: Helping Students in Acceptance (HESTIA) (2017-2019)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG have been commissioned for the project to help the integration of immigrant children at schools from five countries: Greece, Belgium, Italy, Portugal, and Spain. Over the course of two years (2017-2019), participating schools are implementing a multitude of activities teaching pupils about migration and human rights.

9. TI Project: Women's Political Participation and Corruption: What Works in Engaging Female Politicians in Anticorruption (2018-2019)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG have been mandated by Transparency International (TI) to conduct a study on female politicians' engagement in the fight against corruption. The overarching aim of this project is to generate evidence to promote female politicians' leadership in transparency and anti-corruption policies. The team was asked to develop and test a methodology that can later be applied locally by each national chapter of Transparency International. The regional focus of this pilot project is Latin America; Argentina and Mexico were selected as the two pilot countries.

10. Connecting Diasporas for Development (CD4D) (2016-2019)

IOM The Hague, funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has commissioned UNU-MERIT/MGSoG to conduct an evaluation of the *Connecting Diaspora for Development Programme*. The programme links diaspora members with Dutch residency to institutions in their countries of origin to participate in short term return assignments aimed at knowledge transfer and capacity building. This is done via physical and online assignments with organisations in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, Sierra Leone and Somalia.

11. Inventory of Services and Activities for Newcomers in the Meuse-Rhine Euregion (2018)

In relation to the "youRegion" interreg project, UNU-MERIT/MGSoG and ITEM conducted an "Inventory of Services and Activities for Newcomers in the Meuse-Rhine Euregion" commissioned by the Meuse-Rhine Euregion Foundation. The project mapped existing initiatives to attract and retain newcomers from within Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands, as well as abroad to the region. In a second step, the project explored possibilities for increased cross-border cooperation between the mapped initiatives and identifies potential gaps in the service provision.

12. GIZ Project: Migration Routes in West and Central Africa & East and Horn of Africa (2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG commissioned by GIZ to follow-up on the 2017 studies on Migration Routes in West and Central Africa as well as East and the Horn of Africa. This study describes the most prominent irregular and regular migration routes in West and Central Africa and the East and Horn of Africa. It covers bilateral and circular (trans-border) labour migration, intra-regional migration as well as outward and return migration: origin countries or sub-national regions, transit points, final destinations of regular (labour) migrants and border areas along the main migration routes where refugees and (irregular) migrants cross borders.

13. EURES Project: Experiences of Cross-border Workers (2018)

Within this project UNU-MERIT/MGSoG and ITEM investigated the experiences of active and passive frontier workers in the Euregion Rhine-Waal and the Euregion Rhine-Meuse-North. It aims to identify and compare the obstacles and needs for guidance in taking up work in the neighboring country in the two border regions, and to contribute to a further stimulation of cross-border work. The aim of the project was to draw up a EURES guidance and placement directive, better suited to the needs for guidance of active and passive cross-border workers.

14. DRC Project: Syrian Diaspora mobilisation in the context of contested sovereignty (2018)

DRC mandated UNU-MERIT/MGSoG to carry out a study on future scenarios of Syrian diaspora mobilisation in Europe and Syria's neighbouring countries. In particular the study sought to explore how different Syrian diaspora actors will be willing and able to, or are already adjusting to the political realities inside Syria and what future scenarios there may be for constructive involvement of diaspora groups.

15. ITUC Project: Content of Migrant Recruitment Monitor Website (2018)

ITUC commissioned UNU-MERIT/MGSoG to undertake a study to support the development of ITUC's migrant recruitment monitor website. The researchers collected and collated relevant information on migrant worker recruitment in 10 countries. This included a review of relevant national legislation, a list of licensed/registered private employment agencies, a mapping of bilateral government agreements for migrant workers, a list on common recruitment problems and advice on how to avoid them.

16. GIZ Project: Ecuadorian, Peruvian, Indian, and Nepalese Diasporas in Germany (2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were commissioned by GIZ to quantitatively and qualitatively analyse the Ecuadorian, Peruvian, Indian, and Nepalese diasporas in Germany. The projects aim was to provide a comprehensive overview of Ecuadorian, Peruvian, Indian, and Nepalese migrant organisations and associations based in Germany. Moreover, the characteristics and activities of these initiatives, as well as their development potential was analysed.

17. DRC Afghan Diaspora Mapping (2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were commissioned by DRC in collaboration with the DRC Regional Office for Asia's Diaspora Programme to conduct a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the Afghan diaspora in Denmark, Sweden, Germany and the UK. The study enveloped the characteristics, structure, transnational practices, and potential for cooperation with the DRC, of the Afghan diaspora in the focus countries.

18. WHO: European Refugee and Migrant Health Report (ERMHR) (2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were commissioned to contribute quantitatively and quantitatively to the ERMH report in line with the *Strategy and Action Plan for Refugee and Migrant Health in the WHO European Region*. The aim of the report was to provide a summary of the latest evidence on the health of refugees and migrants and country initiatives in the WHO European region. The report is an overview of refugee and migrant health, addresses the public health challenges related to migration and provides evidence to enable the progress towards creating a migrant friendly health system as outlined in the strategy and action plan.

19. IOM Project: Understanding and Managing Internal Migration in Mongolia (2018)

The aim of the project was to support the Government of Mongolia and other actors to strengthen the management of internal migration through a quality assessment of internal migration, as well as migrants' vulnerabilities, capacity building of government agencies and key stakeholders and policy dialogue to raise awareness and support the development of a plan of action. The role of UNU-MERIT/MGSoG was to contribute to and finalise the research study carried out by the research team of PTRC, NUM. The main partners in this project were IOM Mongolia, IOM Regional Office Asia Pacific Thailand and NUM.

20. GIZ Project: Analysis of potential African partner countries for labour mobility schemes to Germany (2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were commissioned by the GIZ to carry out an analysis on the labour markets, TVET-systems and migration profiles of Senegal, Nigeria and Ethiopia. The desk study provides the basis for decision-making on potential partner countries, sectors and target groups for labour mobility schemes to Germany. These labour mobility schemes focused on employment and/or training of people from different educational levels. They are aimed at maximising the development potential for partner countries by stimulating brain gain and preventing potential brain-drain.

21. AKT on Smuggling by Air: Action for knowledge transfer on migrant smuggling by air and document fraud in select MP and CAMM countries (2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were commissioned by ICMPD to qualitatively and quantitatively study document fraud and migrant smuggling by air. This study analysed the main features, developments and modus operandi of migrant smuggling at airports, in addition to the topic's interconnection with document fraud and related poly-criminal activities. Following a case-study approach, the focus of the research is on India, Nigeria, and Morocco as source and transit countries and Europe as a destination. The research project entailed a systematic review of existing laws and regulations concerning migrant smuggling and human trafficking by air at the country level and at the international level.

22. Reintegration of Returnees in the Western Balkans (2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were commissioned by the World Bank for a project on the Reintegration of (Roma) Returnees in the Western Balkans funded by the EC's DG NEAR. The aim of the overall project was to identify relevant policy responses and implementation pathways for the effective reintegration of returnees in the Western Balkans – with a particular focus on Roma returnees - based on the evidence of reintegration experiences.

23. Displacement Tracking Matrix 2: Enabling a better understanding of migration flows from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Somalia, and Iraq towards Europe (2017-2018)

DTM is a system developed by IOM to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. In this project, researchers from UNU-MERIT/MGSoG analysed data gathered through the DTM to gain a better understanding of the migration journeys of Ethiopian, Nigerian, Somali, and Iraqi nationals to Europe including their migration routes; the roles of intermediaries and the diaspora; the challenges and risks migrants face pre-migration, along the route, and at their destination and upon return; as well as the factors influencing their decision-making factors.

24. IDEA - International Project: Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Democracy (2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were commissioned by IDEA-International to carry out a German case study within the project 'Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Democracy'. The project aimed to generate knowledge on the impact of displaced populations on democracy in their host and origin countries, and to formulate and promote policy recommendations for their civic and political inclusion. Through this project, policy makers, including political parties, legislators, and organisations of refugees and asylum seekers, are provided with relevant country examples and policy recommendations for the inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in civic and political life.

25. Curriculum development for the Kenya Institute of Migration Studies (2017-2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG was contracted by GIZ to collaboratively develop a curriculum for an envisioned year-long post graduate diploma in migration studies offered by KIMS in Nairobi, including stakeholder engagement workshops that involved regional migration experts, academics, practitioners, government officials and civil society organisations to tailor the curriculum to the needs of end-users. The course is expected to be delivered on an ongoing annual basis by the KIMS from February 2019 onwards.

26. ICMPD Project: Evaluation of European Union Mobility Partnerships (2017-2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were contracted ICMPD and its Mobility Partnership Facility to carry out an independent evaluation of selected EU Mobility Partnerships, namely those with Cabo Verde, Georgia and Moldova. The evaluation sought to examine the extent to which the objectives for the Mobility Partnerships have been met, what sort of impact they have had, as well as how their implementation and functioning could be improved in the future. The evaluation involved a number of in-depth interviews with representatives of EC services and EU agencies, EU Member States, partner countries, and international organisations and NGOs.

27. GIZ Project: Mapping and Study of the Jordanian and Palestinian Diasporas in Germany (2017-2018)

UNU-MERIT/MGSoG were commissioned by the GIZ to quantitatively and qualitatively analyse the Jordanian and Palestinian diasporas in Germany. The project aimed to provide a comprehensive overview of Jordanian and Palestinian migrant organisations and associations based in Germany. The study, informs GIZ's Migration for Development Programme (PME), which focuses on promoting the capacity of migrants in Germany to engage in knowledge transfer to their origin countries.

28. Intra-Regional Labour Migration in the East African Community (2016-2018)

Samuel Hall, UNU-MERIT/MGSoG and the University of Oxford were mandated by the British Department for International Development (DFID) to undertake a study on intra-regional labour migration in the EAC. Based on the results of this research, recommendations were given to support government and development interventions aimed at reducing poverty and vulnerabilities by exploring the untapped potential of labour migration.

29. Mobility in the new development strategy of Benin (2016-2018)

In 2016 SDC started developing its new 2017-2020 Cooperation Strategy in Benin. The objective of the strategy was to incorporate migration into development projects related to Switzerland's main areas of intervention in Benin. To inform

the development of the strategy, UNU-MERIT/MGSoG conducted fieldwork in Benin interviewing key ministries, international organisations, NGOs and staff at the SDC office in Benin to ensure that the 2017-2020 strategy adequately incorporates migration across the different areas of intervention while remaining coherent with the regional programme of SDC's West Africa Division and the Global Programmes of the SDC.

30. Displacement Tracking Matrix: Studying Migration Flows from Afghanistan and Pakistan to Europe (DTM) (2016-2018)

DTM is a system developed by IOM to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to systematically capture information on the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations. In this project, researchers from UNU-MERIT/MGSoG analysed data gathered through the DTM to gain insights on migrant profiles; challenges and opportunities in origin, transit and destination countries; migrants' perceptions towards Europe; migrants' journeys; and migrants' decision-making factors.

ANNEX

List of UNU institutes:

- **UNU-CPR:** United Nations University Centre for Policy Research, located in New York, USA.

- **UNU-CRIS:** The United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies; Located in Bruges, Belgium.

- **UNU-CS:** United Nations University Institute on Computing and Society; Located in São Lázaro, Macau, China.

- **UNU-EHS:** United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security; Located in Bonn, Germany.

- **UNU-GCM:** Former United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility; Located in Barcelona, Spain.

- **UNU-INWEH:** United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health; Located in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

- **UNU-MERIT/MGSoG:** The United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology is a joint research and training institute of United Nations University and Maastricht University's Graduate School of Governance; Located in Maastricht, the Netherlands.

List of acronyms:

- **ADMIGOV** - Advancing Alternative Migration Governance

- **AKT** - Action for Knowledge Transfer on Migrant Smuggling by Air and Document Fraud

- **CD4D** – Connecting Diaspora for Development

- **CEDEFOP** - European Centre for Development of Vocational Training

- **DFID** - British Department for International Development

- **DG NEAR** - Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations

- **DRC** – Danish Refugee Council

- **DTM** – Displacement Tracking Matrix

- **EAC** - East African Community

- **EC** – European Commission

- **ECDPM** - European Centre for Development Policy Management

- **EFTA** - European Free Trade Association

- **EMR** - Meuse-Rhine Euregion

- **ERMHR** - European Refugee and Migrant Health Report

- **EU** – European Union

- **EUR** - Erasmus University Rotterdam

- **EURES** - European Employment Services

- **FIERI** - International and European Forum on Migration Research

- **GIZ** – German Development Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)

- **HESTIA** - Helping Students in Acceptance

- **ICMPD** - International Centre for Migration Policy Development

- **IDEA** - International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

- **IDPs** – Internally displaced persons

- **INTERREG** - A series of programmes to stimulate cooperation between regions in the European Union, funded by the European Regional Development Fund

- **IOM** – International Organization for Migration

- **ITEM** - Institute for Transnational and Euregional cross border cooperation and Mobility; Complementary to the research centre MACIMIDE

- **ITUC** - International Trade Union Confederation

- **KIMS** - Kenya Institute of Migration Studies

- **MACIMIDE** - Maastricht Centre for Citizenship, Migration and Development

- **MGSoG** – Maastricht Graduate School of Governance

- **MIGNEX** - Aligning Migration Management and the Migration-Development Nexus

- **MP** and **CAMM** - Mobility Partnership or a Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility

- **NGO** – Non-governmental Organization

- **NUM** - National University of Mongolia

- **PME** - Migration for Development Programme

- **PRIO** - Peace Research Institute Oslo

- **PTRC** - Population Teaching and Research Centre

- **RDPP** - Regional Development and Protection Programme

- **REMINDER** - Role of European Mobility and its Impacts in Narratives, Debates and EU Reforms
- **SDC** - Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation
- **TI** – Transparency International
- **TVET** - Technical and Vocational Education and Training
- **VET** - Vocational Education and Training
- **WHO** – World Health Organization
- **WODC** - Research and Documentation Centre (Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-en Documentatiecentrum)