

BRINGING CAPITAL FOR DEVELOPMENT: Return Migration and Socio-economic Change in West Africa

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Bringing Return Migration Back On The Agenda

- 3 Rs. Return is part of migration process
- Substantial volume on Return (between 1991 and 2001 the volume of 'return' migration quadrupled)
- Beyond remittance.

INGREDIENTS FOR POSITIVE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE

- 3 forms of capital needed: Financial, Human and Social Capital
- Enabling and conducive environment: Rule of law, accountability, good governance

Migration and Development

- Onward migration

- Financial hump
- Network, social capital
- (human capital)

- Return Migration

- Financial (Saving & income)
- Social capital
- Human capital
- Leadership and training

Likelihood of greater benefit?

DATA: TRANRED PROJET OF SCMR, University of Sussex

- Focus on Less-skilled and Highly Skilled(Elite) return migrants from Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.
- 302 less skilled and 300 skilled recruited through snow ball sampling.
- In-depth interview and Focus group

Benefits of Return Migration

In Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire

Benefits at Individual level: *I can confidently say that What I am now really has all its roots in the 15 years that I was in the State'*(ITC Entrepreneur in Ghana)

Human Capital	Social Capital	Financial Capital
<p>Increased in education Work experience Exposure</p> <p>Example</p> <p>Upward job mobility 76 % work experience very useful</p>	<p>90% gain network</p> <p>Expanded network.</p>	<p>Higher return on investment</p> <p>>70% of elite better off than b4 migration</p> <p>A third of less-killed had higher income than abroad.</p>

Benefit at Family and Community Levels

- Over 70% think their migration and return has been positive for the family and community in 2002. In 1991 only 46% said this.
- Continue remittance and other support
- Improve social relations (e.g parent-children and gender relations)

Benefits at Macro level (Public Sphere)

Agent of Social Change

- ‘We have contributed much to the experience of multi parties because we had seen democratic society’ (Ivorian Elite)
- ‘My experience had made me very human rights conscious’ (Ghanaian Elite Returnee)
- ‘I am very critical of things,..of the acceptance of bad workmanship, a total lack of customer care’

Economic Benefit (employment)

Occupation	GH. Less Skill %	CIV Less Skilled %	GH Elite*	CIV Elite*
Employee	30	47	60	82
Self employed	10	9	8	8
Employer	46	23	32	10
Other	14	21		

Economic Benefit (Taxation)

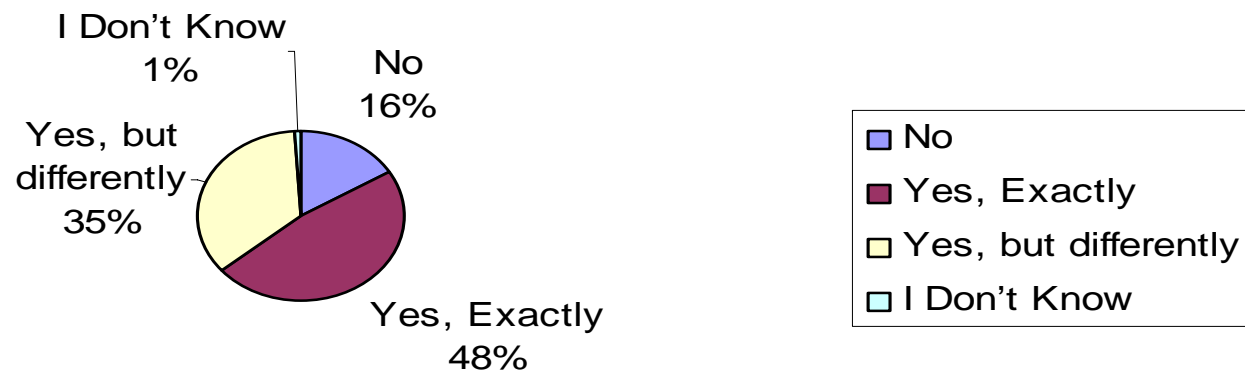
- Most of the entrepreneurs (self employed) have registered their business and therefore operate in a formal sector: 69% in CIV and 63% in Ghana.
- → Provides additional income to local and national authorities through taxation.
- Income tax for all employees.

In Short, Return Migration

- Does not STOP private transfer to family and relative (remittance)
- Provides Skills and Knowledge for local development
- Expands social network

Conclusion

If you could go back Would you take the decision to return?



- Policy issue: Provide enabling and conducive environment; Address challenges of return.