



## SESSION IV

# **Administrative sources to measure migration: Methodological considerations/discussion**

*Interregional workshop on*

**Collecting and using migration-related data for development:  
Cooperation and exchange in the European-African corridor**

*Organizer*

**UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs**

*Venue*

**IFAD, Rome**

**30 November – 2 December 2016**

# United Nations Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration 1998

- Definition of an international migrant
  - Any person who changes his or her country of usual residence (proxy's: country of citizenship or birth)
- Time criterion
  - At least one year: long-term migrant
  - More than three months: short-term migrant

# Administrative sources: some examples

- Labour permits (entry, exit)
- Residence permits (labour, asylum, settlement, regularization, etc.)
- Registers (foreigners, refugees, asylum-seekers, citizens abroad, etc.)
- Regularisation
- Deportation, repatriation
- Pension, social security
- ....

# Administrative sources

## □ Some advantages

- Detail (sex, age, reasons, duration, ...)
- Timeliness
- Minimal costs
- Source for short-term migration

## □ Some challenges

- Limited international comparison (legal basis)
- Coverage (limited to legal movements)
- Events, not persons (status changes, renewals)
- “Inflation” (incentives to register, disincentives to deregister)
- Data protection

# Border crossing systems

## ■ Some advantages

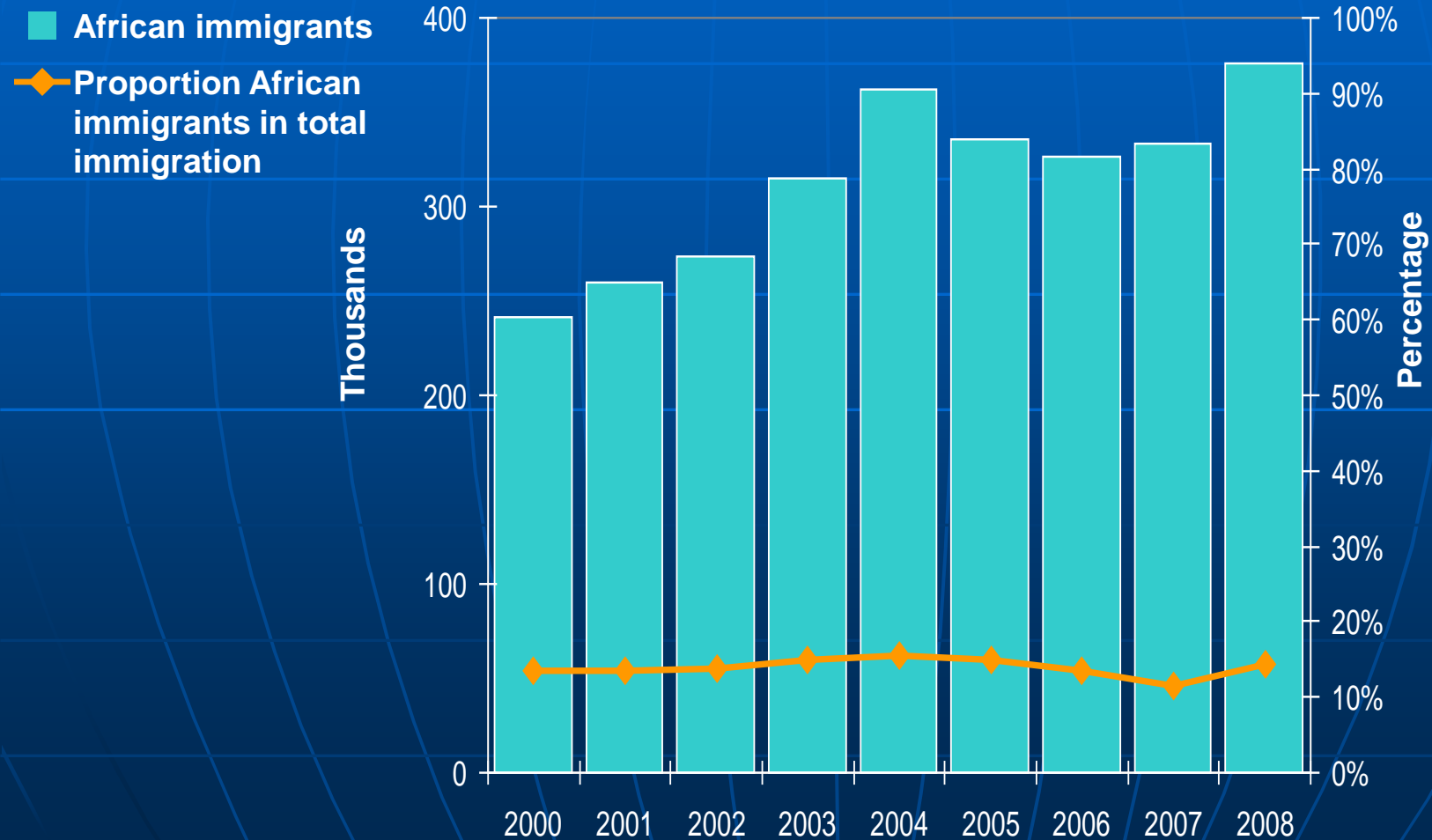
- Actual border crossings
- Purpose

## ■ Some challenges

- Distinguishing movements/mobility from migration (change of place of usual residence)
- Volume / Lack of automation

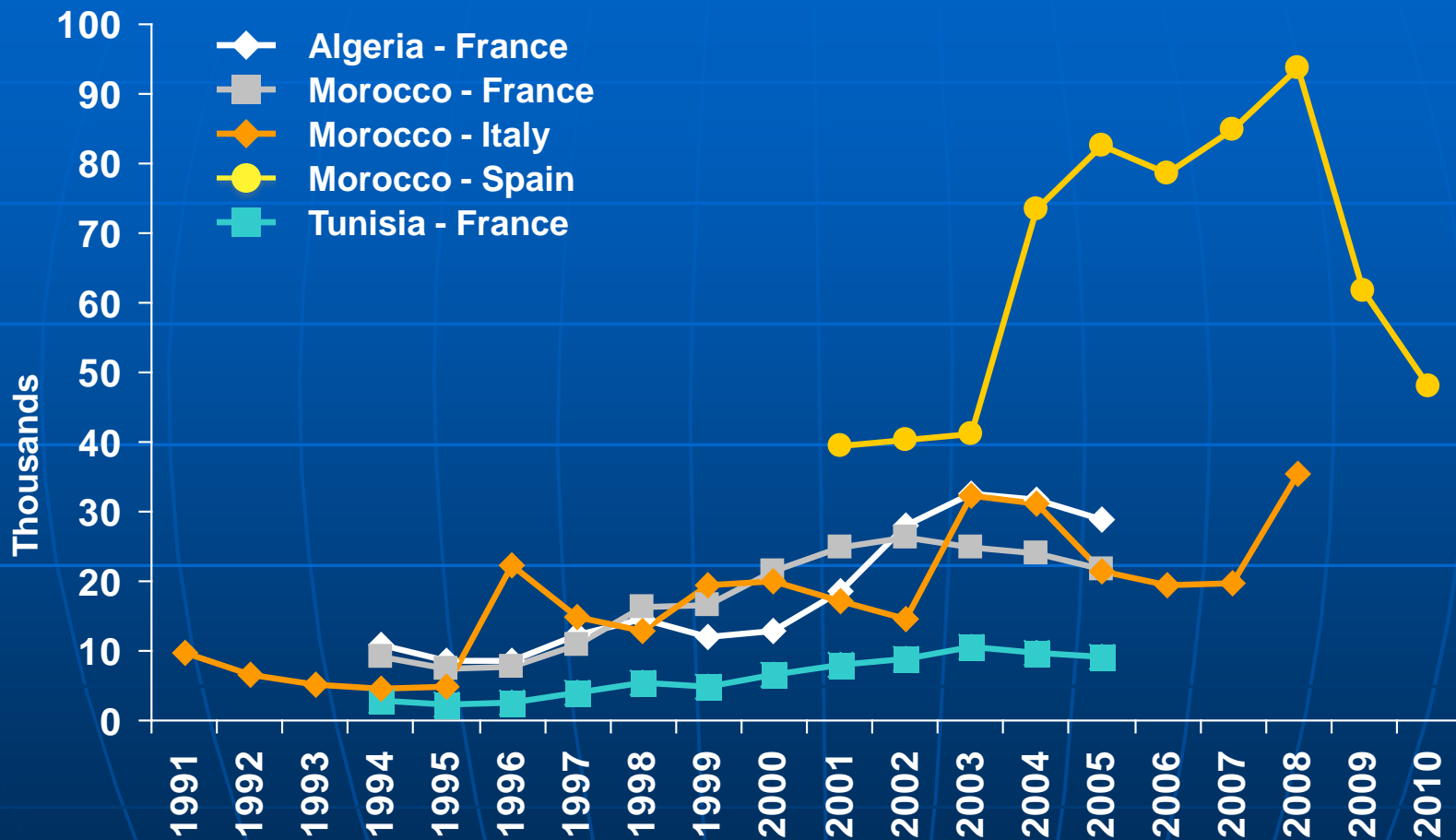
# Example 1.

## African immigration flows to Europe



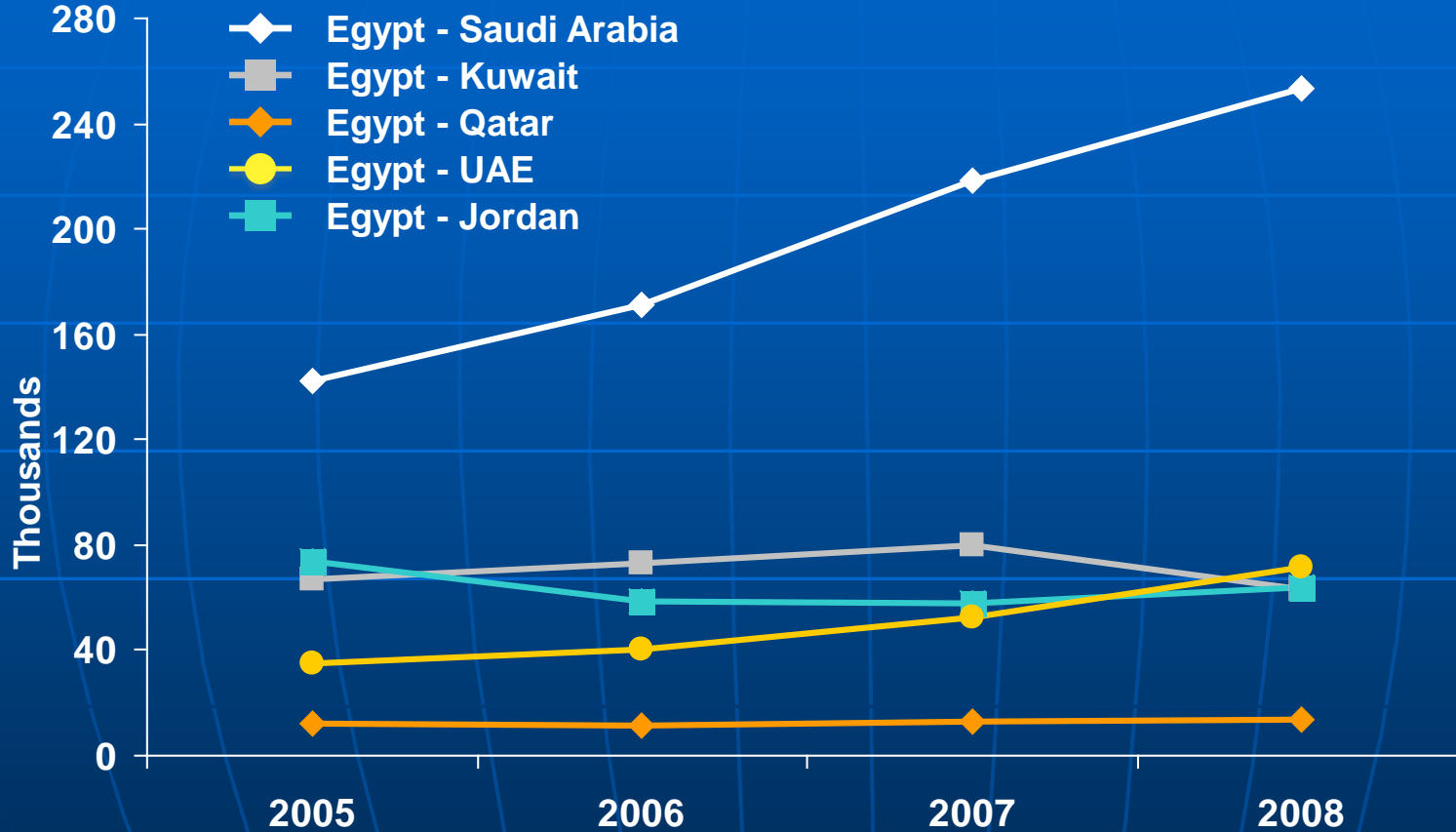
# Example 2.

## African migration corridors to Europe



# Example 3.

## Main corridors Africa -> Asia





# Basic tabulation for inflows of foreigners (reasons for migration)

Reason	Year-2	Year X-1	Year X
Work (low-; medium-; high- skilled)			
Students			
Family (formation; reunification)			
Asylum (accepted asylum-seekers)			
Settlement			
Regularization			
[Retirees, investors, intra-company transferees, etc]			

TABLE 10. FRAMEWORK FOR THE PRESENTATION OF STATISTICS ON THE PROCESS OF ADJUDICATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR ASYLUM

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

		Country of citizenship	
		Country A	Country B
1. Applications pending at beginning of period	Cases		
	Persons		
2. Applications submitted during period	(a) Total	Cases	
		Persons	
	(b) Of which, re-opened	Cases	
		Persons	
3. Positive decisions during period	(a) Convention status granted	Cases	
		Persons	
	(b) Humanitarian status granted	Cases	
		Persons	
4. Negative decisions during period	(a) Total	Cases	
		Persons	
	(b) Of which, stay of deportation	Cases	
		Persons	
5. Cases otherwise closed	Cases		
	Persons		
6. Applications pending at end of period	Cases		
	Persons		
7. Convention recognition cases			
8. Total recognized			



# Conclusions

- **Administrative data sources**
  - Rich source of information on flows
  - Highly underutilized source
  - Automate, Tabulate, Disseminate (web)

# 1998 UN Recommendations on international migration statistics

- Includes issues such as:
  - Reasons for migration
  - Regularisation
  - Asylum-seekers

# Sixth Edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6)

- Appendix 5. Remittances  
<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/bop/2007/bopman6.htm>