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International Organizations and United Nations Studies

# Migration, Displacement, and the Sustainable Development Goals

SUMMER SCHOOL ON  
HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT

O. P. Jindal Global University & Harvard University  
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## Migration, Displacement, and the SDGs

**International Mobility: A snapshot**

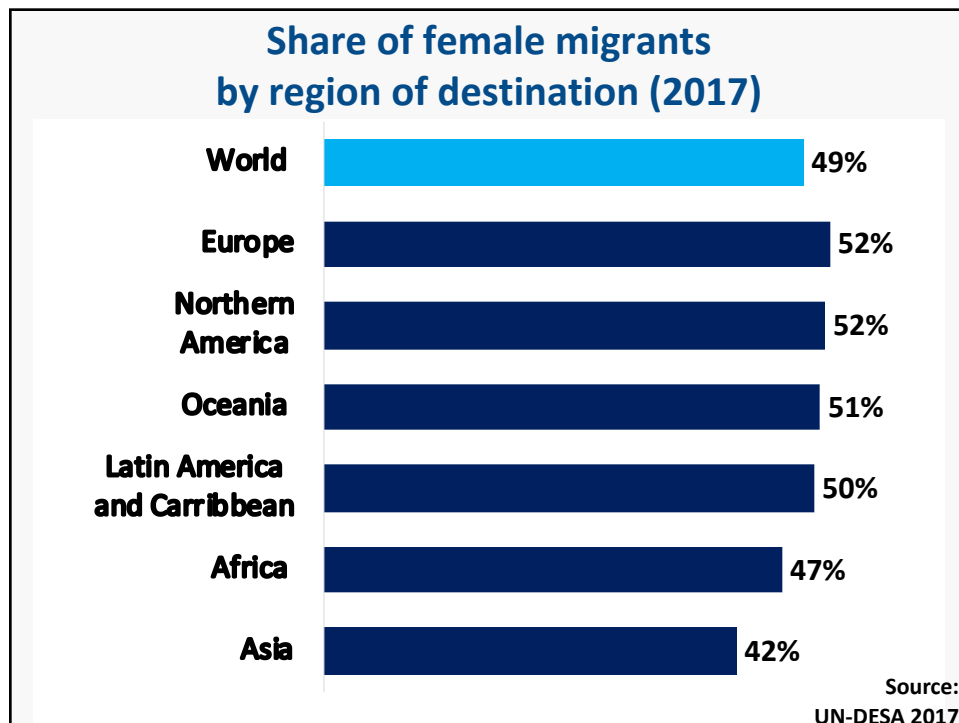
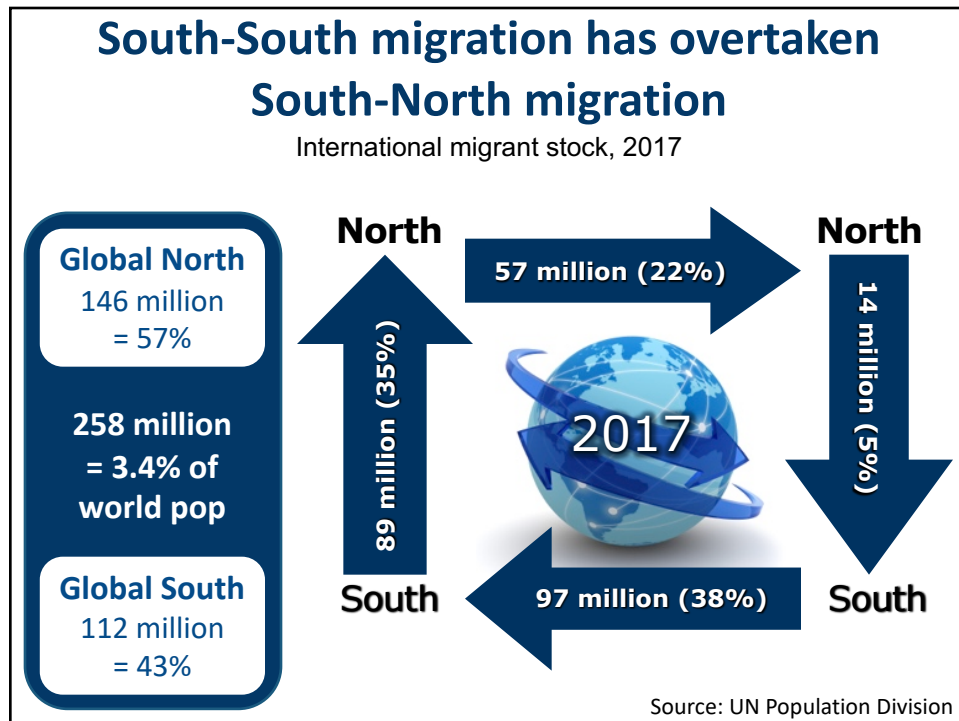
Migrants' rights and governance

Migration and Development

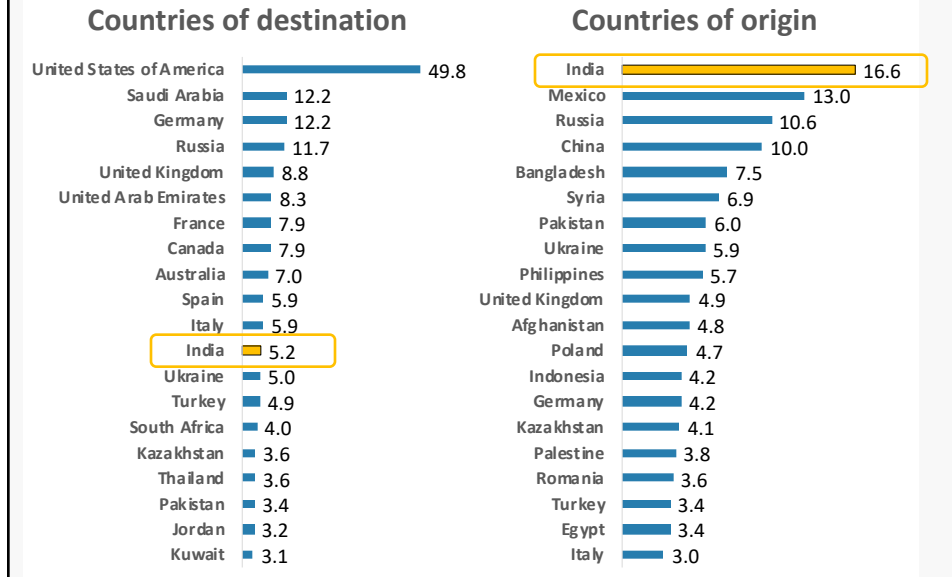
Public Policies and M&D

Group Exercise

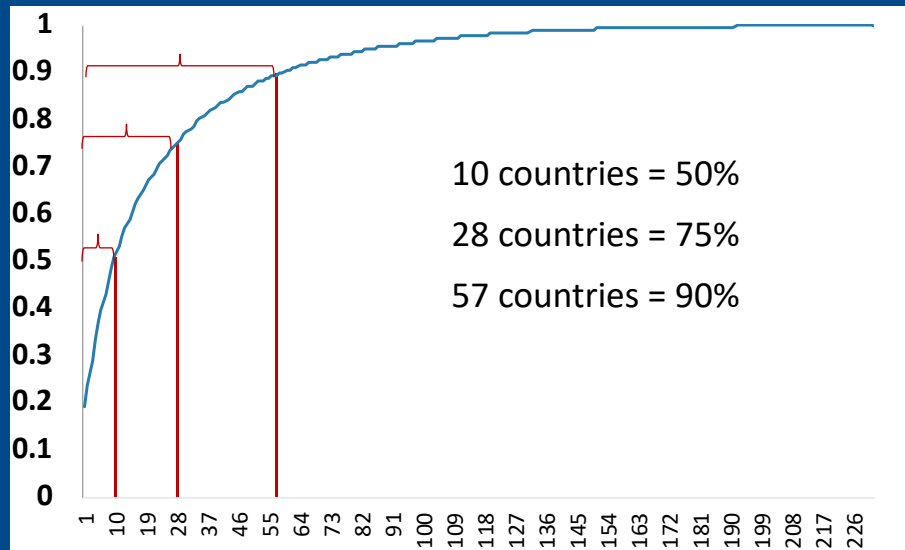




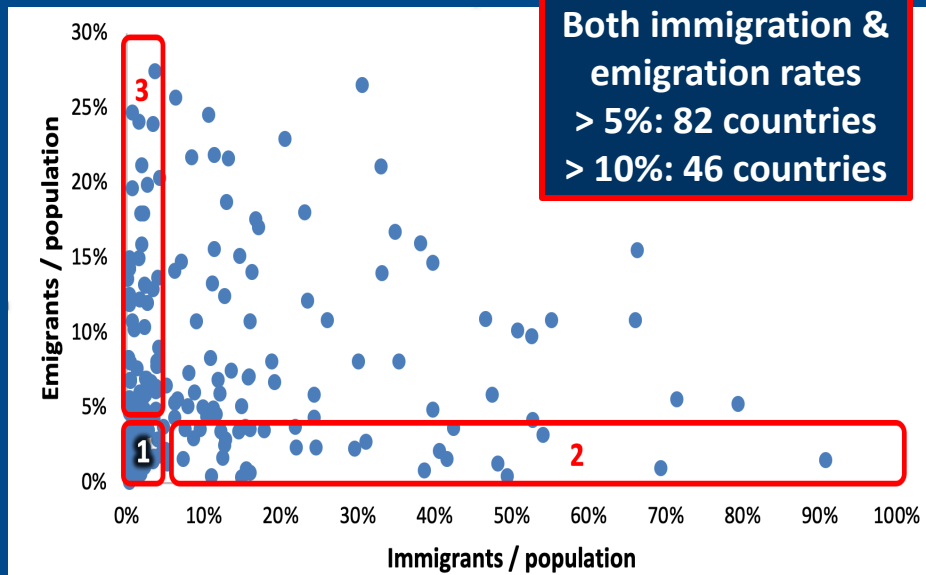
## Major countries of destination and origin (million)



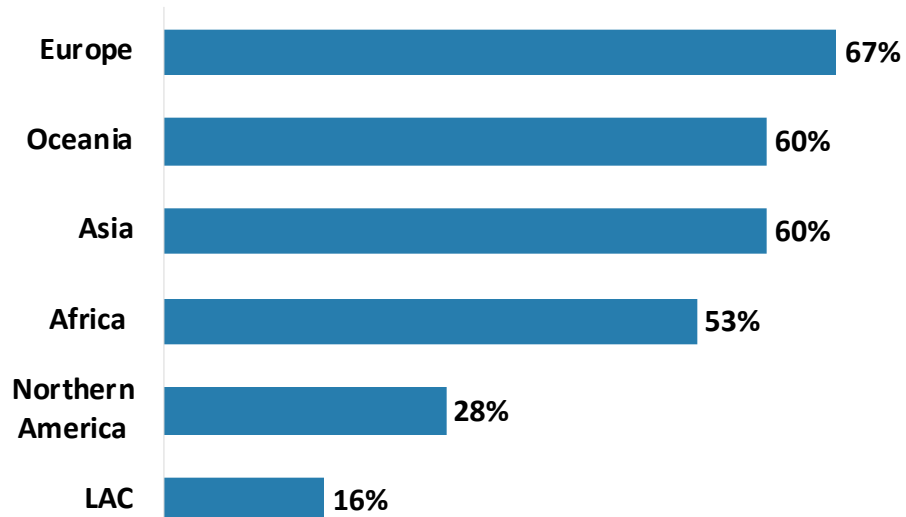
## Distribution of international migrants across all countries (2017)



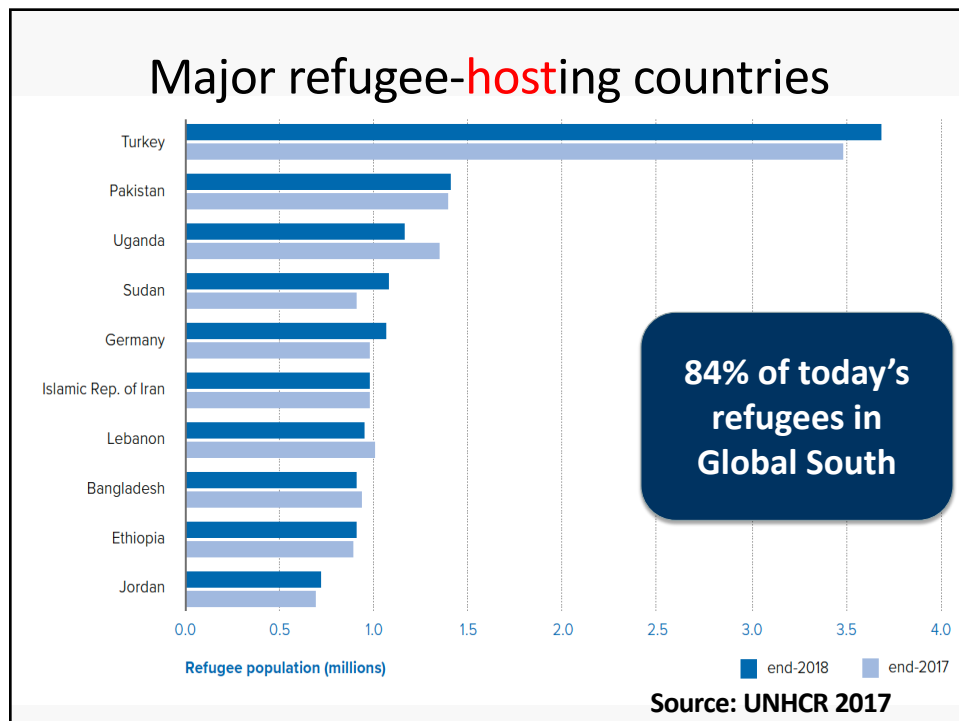
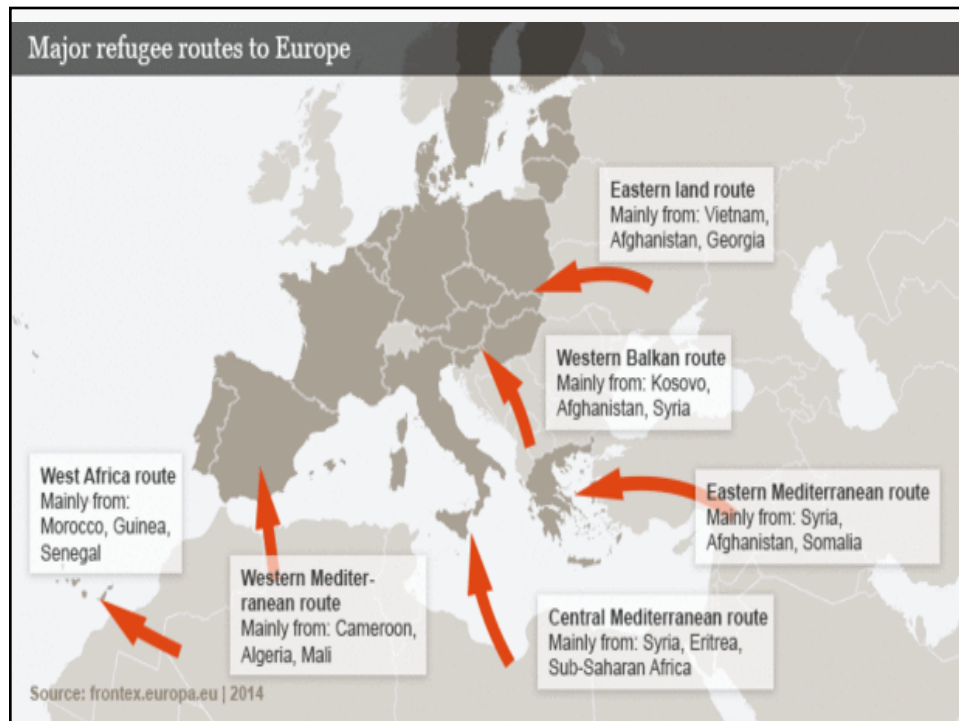
## Global immigration & emigration rates (2017)

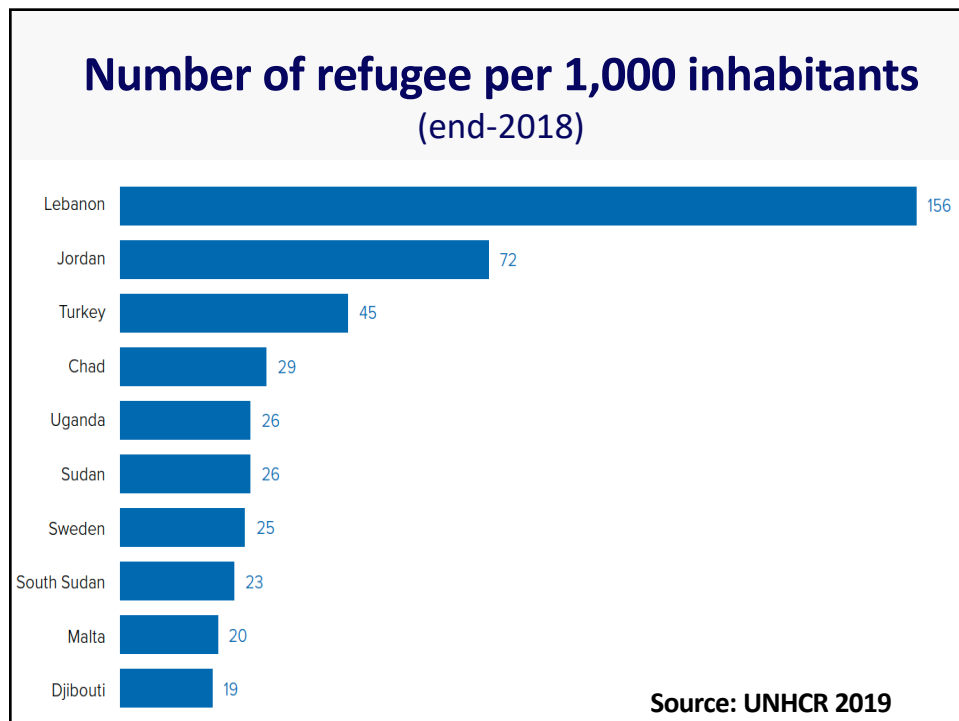
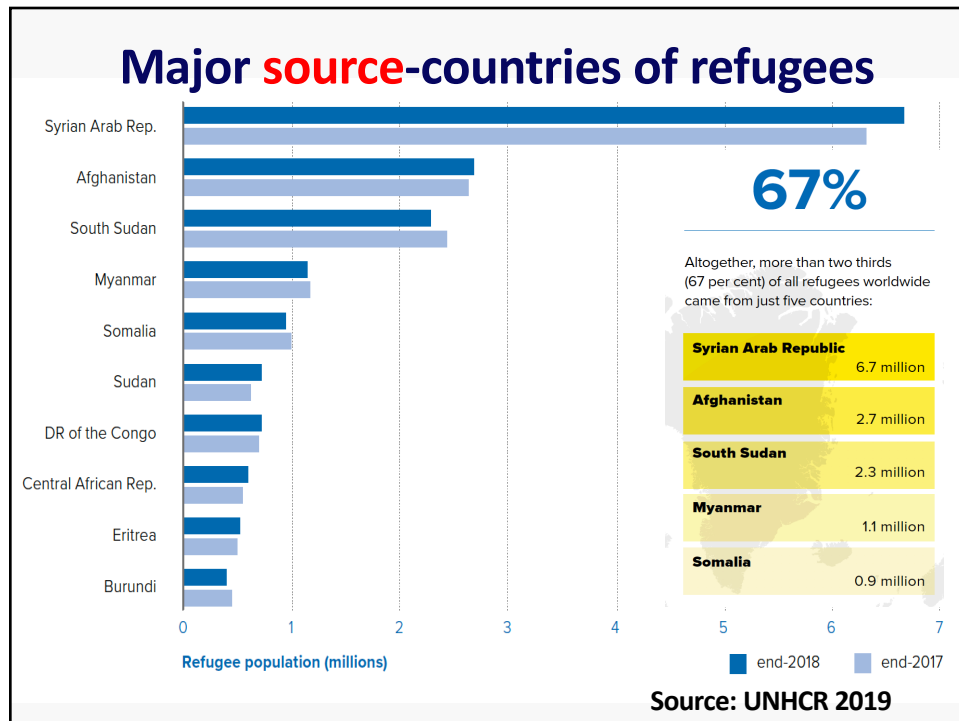


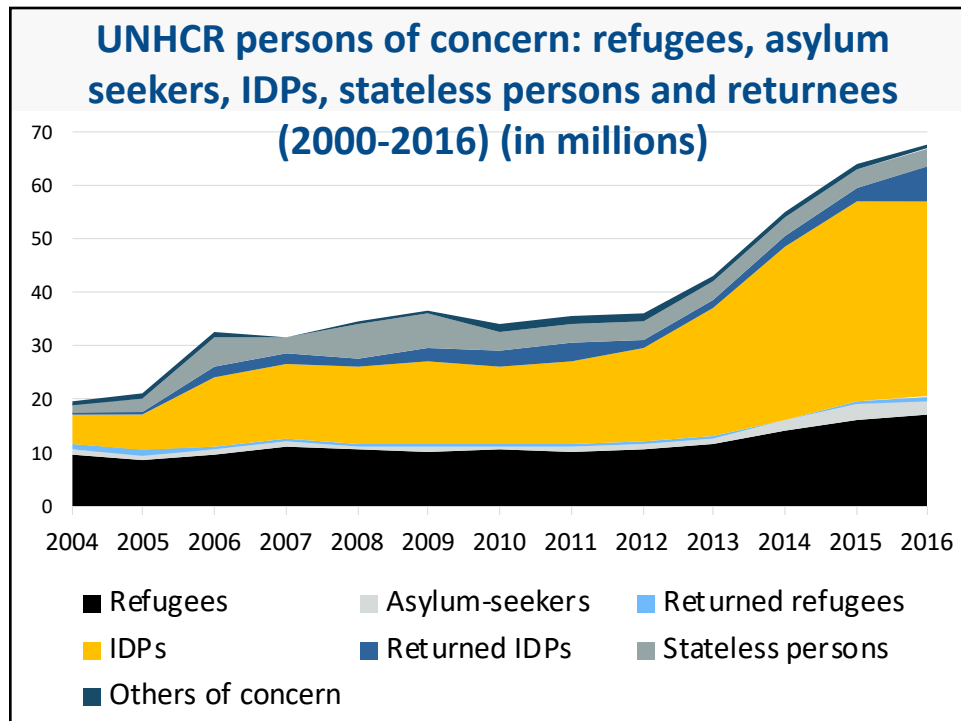
## Share of migrants who remain in their region of birth (2017)











## Zataari (Jordan)

Oct 2018: 78,000



## Dadaab (Kenya)

2011: 439,000

2019: 211,000



### Accommodation of refugees (2014-2016, end-year)

Type of accommodation	No. of refugees			Distribution (%)		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
<u>Planned/ managed camp</u>	3,512,500	3,390,900	4,011,000	29.3	25.4	28.6
Self-settled camp	487,500	518,600	525,200	4.1	3.9	3.7
Collective centre	302,000	301,900	320,100	2.5	2.3	2.3
<u>Individual accommodation (private)</u>	7,578,400	8,949,200	8,877,100	63.2	67.0	63.3
Reception/ transit camp	111,700	197,600	281,800	0.9	1.5	2.0
Sub-total	11,992,100	13,358,200	14,015,200	100.0	100.0	100.0
Unknown	2,393,200	2,763,200	3,172,200	(UNHCR 2017)		

# Who's a migrant?



# Who's a refugee?





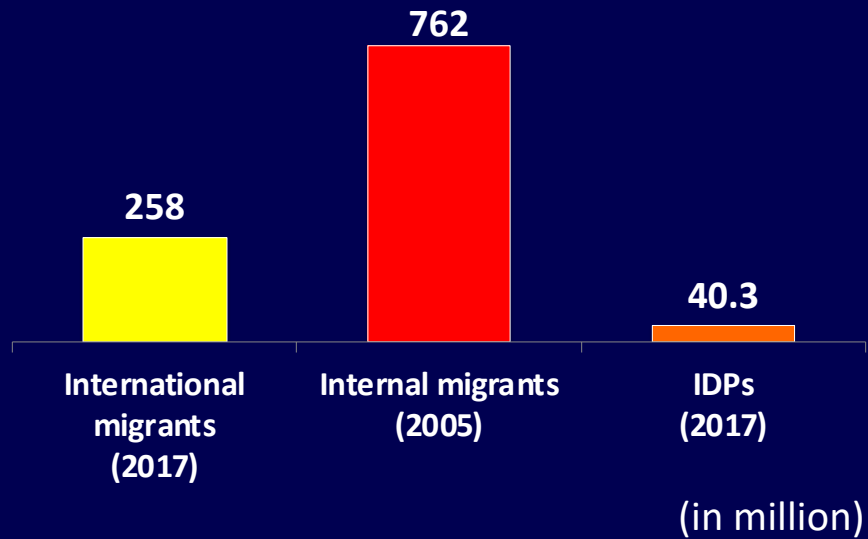


## Statistical definition of international migrant

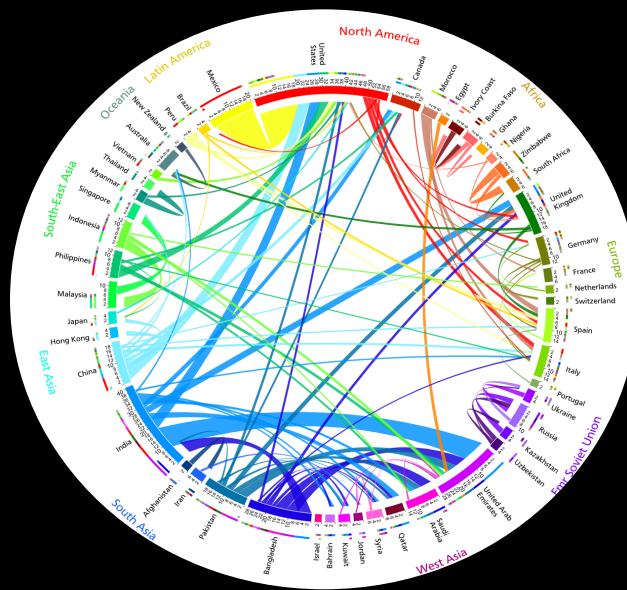
### Person

- who resides outside his or her country of birth for one year or more, irrespective of the motivation to move
- or
- who resides in a country holding a foreign citizenship (thus, counting 'legal foreigner').

## Internal migration larger in scale than international migration



## Migration is Global and Multi-directional



# Migration, Displacement, and the SDGs

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Group Exercise



## What 2x2 regimes exist for migrant protections?

International law: Conventions, treaties, ...

Specific Migrant and Refugee Rights:  
mostly specific  
interpretations of  
general HR.

General Human Rights Norms  
("everybody  
rights") →  
universality of HR.

Domestic rights: same content but different  
source, not international but domestic law.





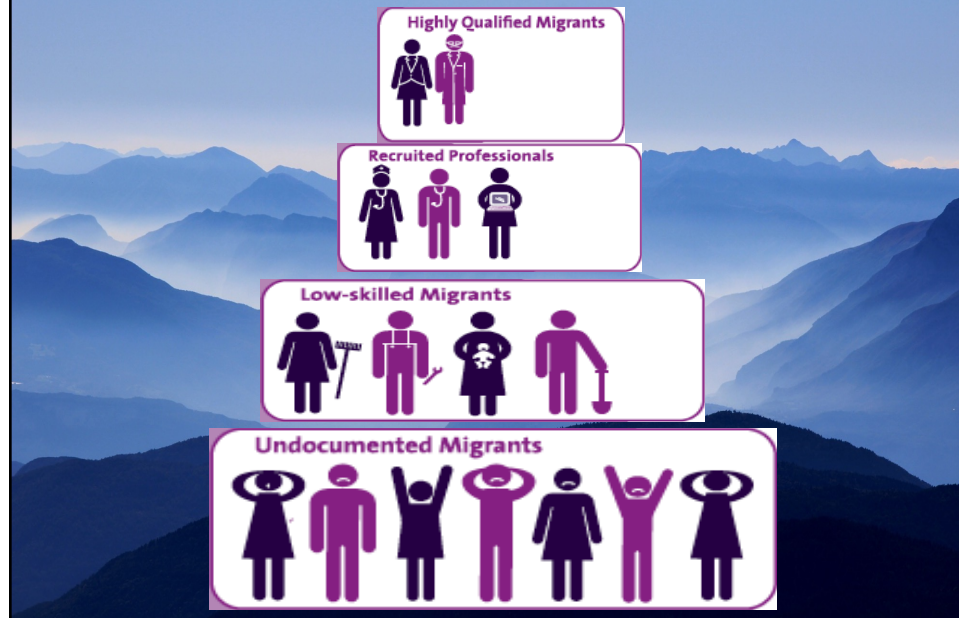
 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) 1984	 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)	 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) 1966	 Discrimination   (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)	 Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)	 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) 1966	 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87)	 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 1979	 Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)

***Mobile persons are rights-holders – not only based on refugee & migration law, but also general human rights law and domestic law***

## It's important to uphold migrants' and refugees' human rights because

- It is the right thing to do. ... **Moral/normative**
  - It is international/national law. **Legal**
  - Not doing it can lead to shaming at international fora **Diplomacy/IR**
  - It increases the potential and agency of migrants.
  - Leads to better, more appropriate policies.
  - Creates trust.
  - Not doing it can create public health, rule of law, and security challenges.
- Public Policy**

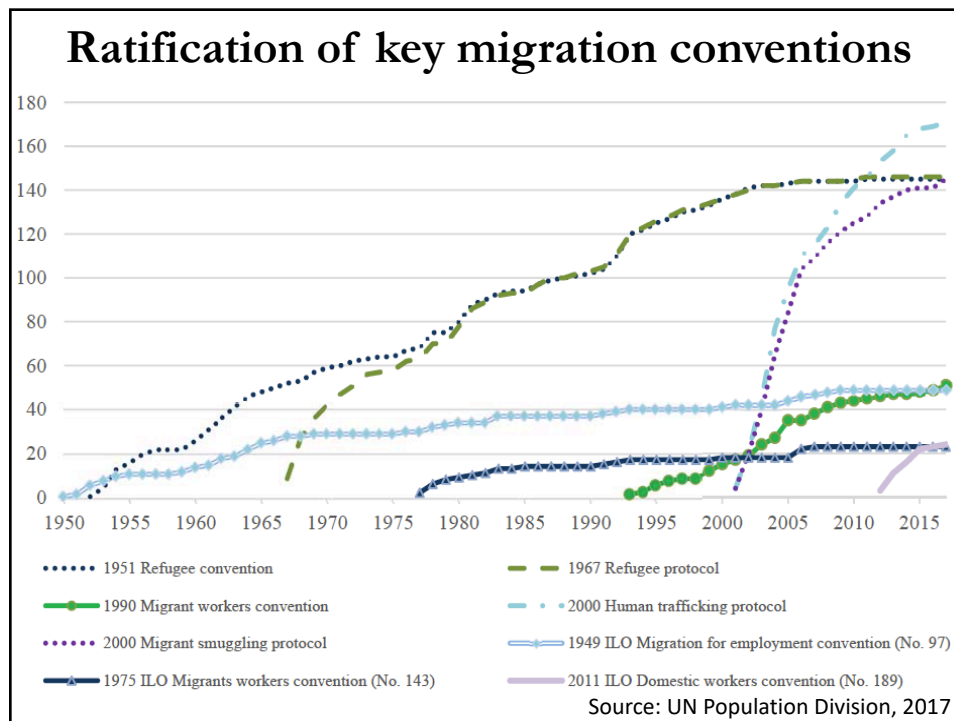
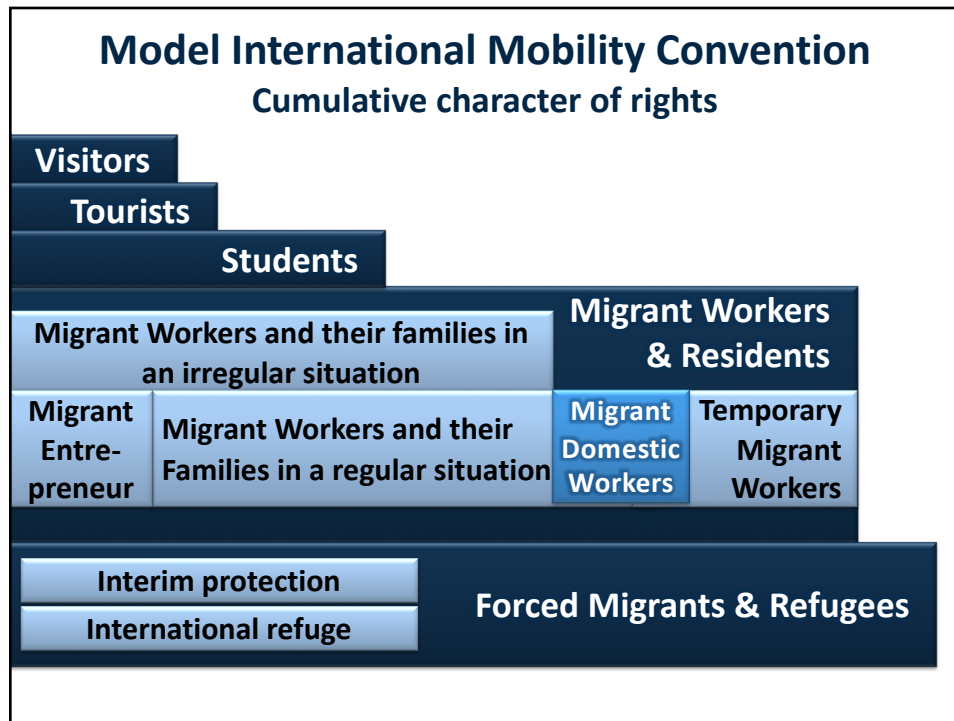
## Are there “hierarchies” of migrants?



## MODEL INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY CONVENTION

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International convention on the rights and duties of all persons moving from one State to another and of the States they leave, transit or enter



## Ratification of the MWC: 51 states

Albania, Argentina, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, East Timor, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Guinea, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sao Tome and Principe, Lanka, Saint Vincent&Grenadines, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uganda and Uruguay

(March 2018)

Average < 3%  
immigrants/pop

Country Status



State Party (51)



Signatory (16)



No Action (131)



## Global Compact on Refugees Global Compact for Migration

### Where were they envisioned?

- New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (Sept 2016)

### What are 2 key elements of the Global Compact on Refugees?

- Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, as agreed in NY Declaration
- Programme of Action



**“non-legally binding, cooperative  
framework”**



### **Objectives for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

1. Disaggregated data for evidence-based policies
2. Minimize adverse drivers that compel people to leave COO
3. Information at all stages of migration
4. Migrants' proof of legal identity & documentation
5. Pathways for regular migration
6. Recruitment & conditions / decent work
7. Vulnerabilities in migration
8. Save lives & missing migrants
9. Smuggling of migrants
10. Trafficking in persons
11. Manage borders

### **Objectives for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

12. Migration procedures
13. Migration detention
14. Consular protection
15. Access to basic services for migrants
16. Inclusion and social cohesion
17. Discrimination & perceptions of migration
18. Skills development & recognition
19. Migrants and diasporas contribute to development
20. Remittances and financial inclusion
21. Return and readmission
22. Portability of social security entitlements
23. International cooperation and global partnerships

# Migration, Displacement, and the SDGs

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**Migration and Development**

Public Policies and M&D

Group Exercise



Unpacking the  
link between  
development and  
human mobility





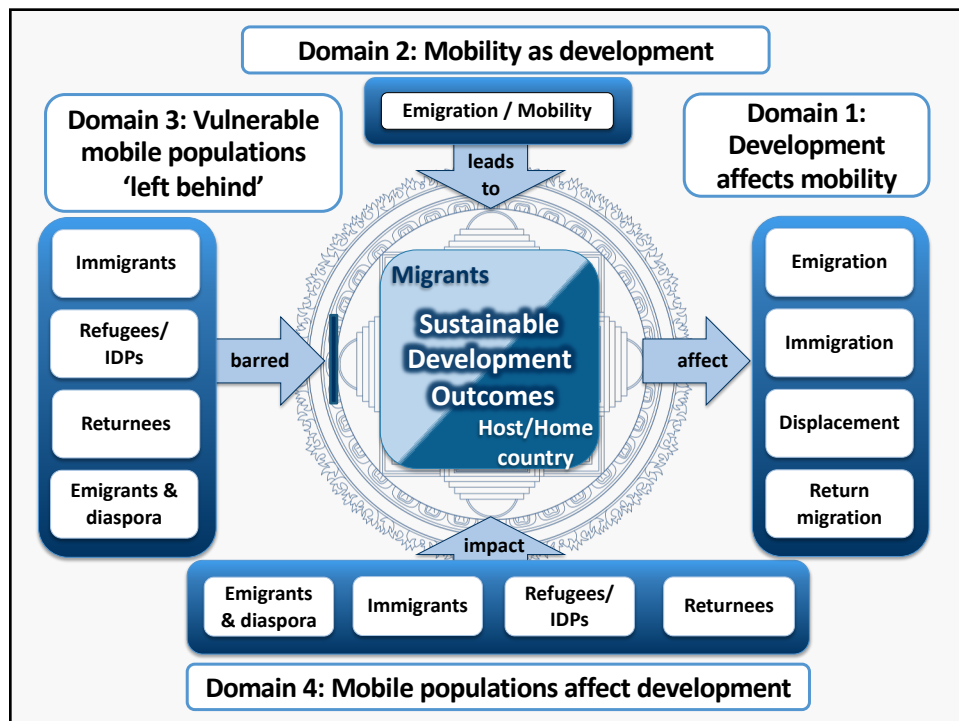


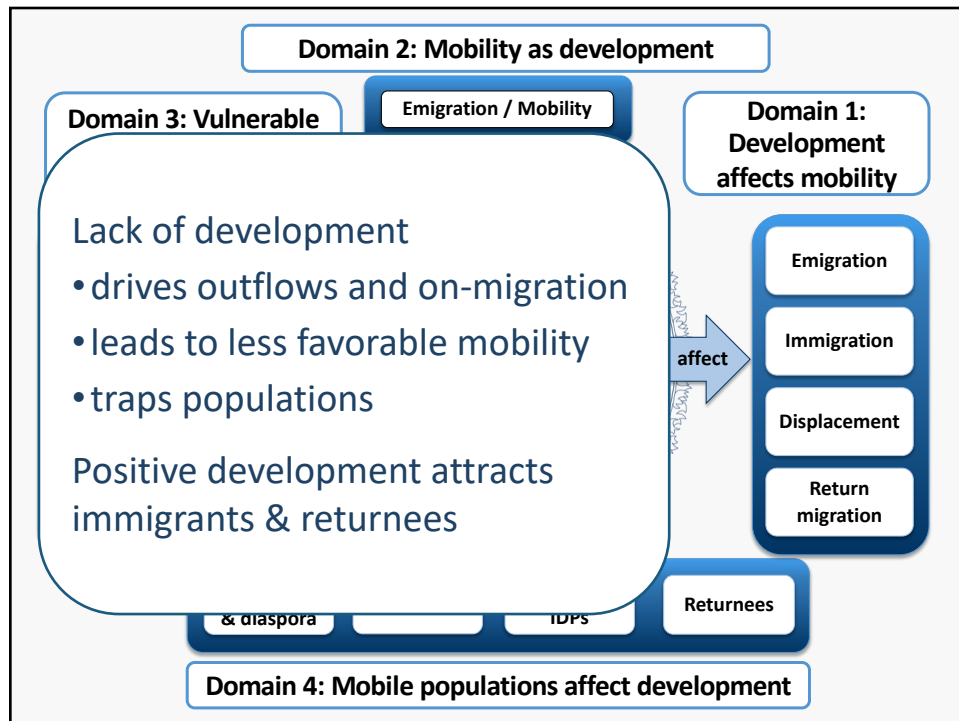
## The Mobility Mandala framework





# The Mobility Mandala framework

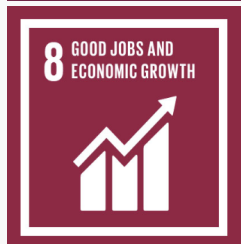




## SDGs, Rights & Migration



- Facilitate orderly, safe, regular migration through well-managed migration policies.



- Protect labour standards of migrant workers.

## SDG10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

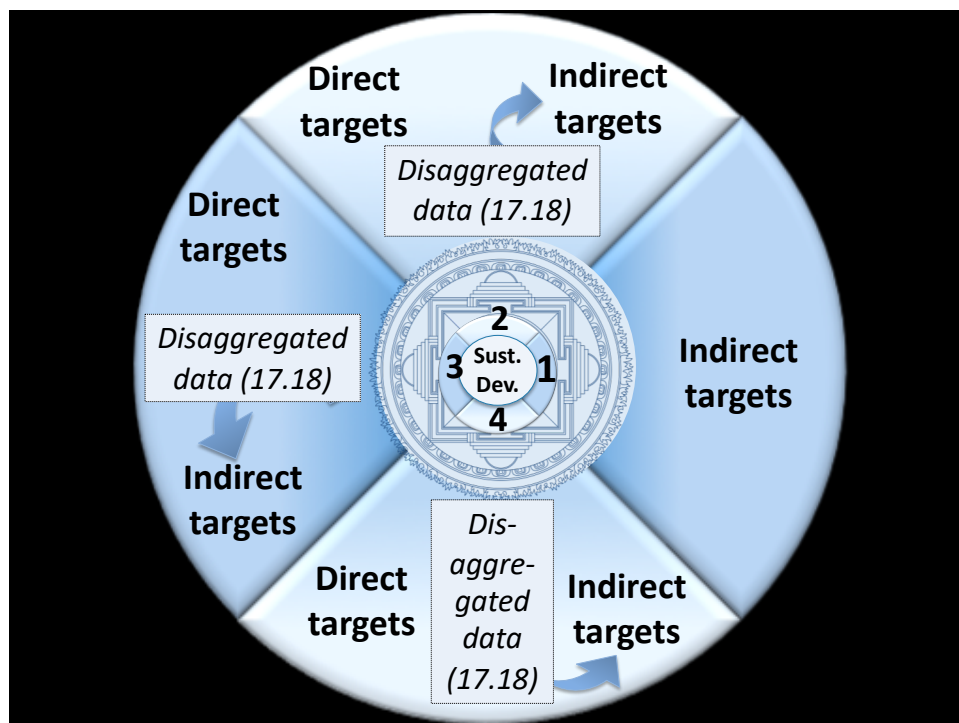
Target 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular migration through well-managed migration policies.

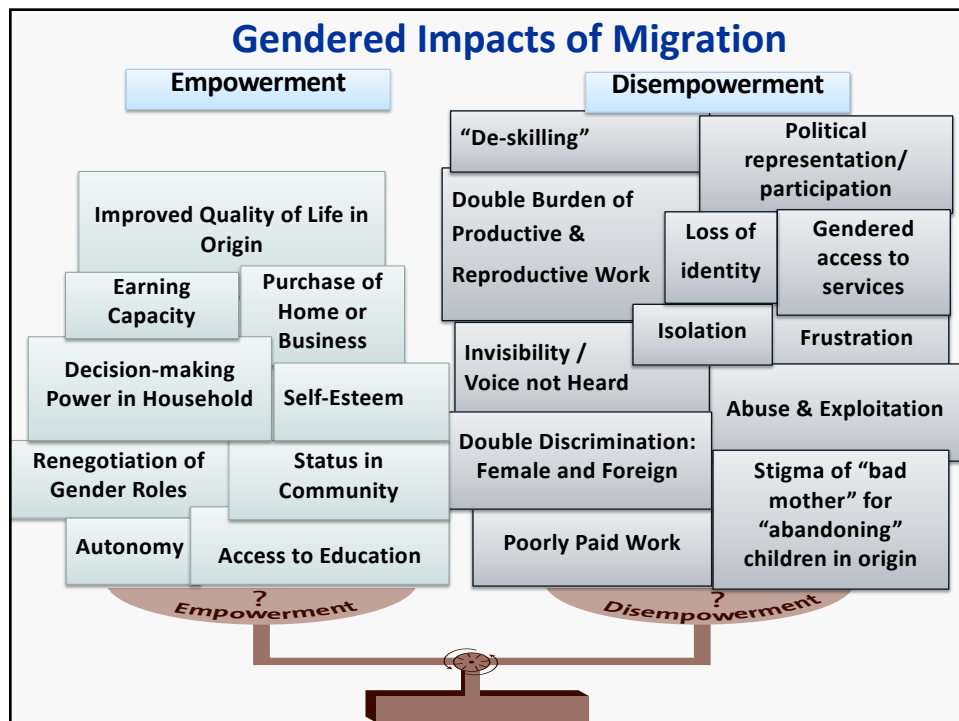
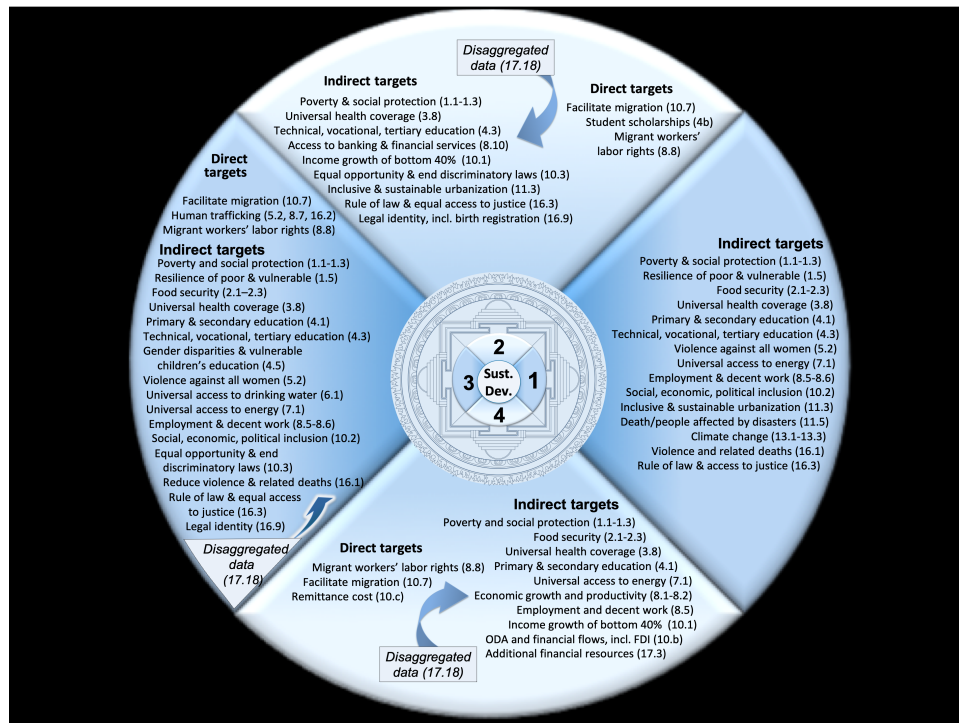
### Indicators

- 10.7.1 Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of yearly income earned in country of destination.
- 10.7.2: Number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies.

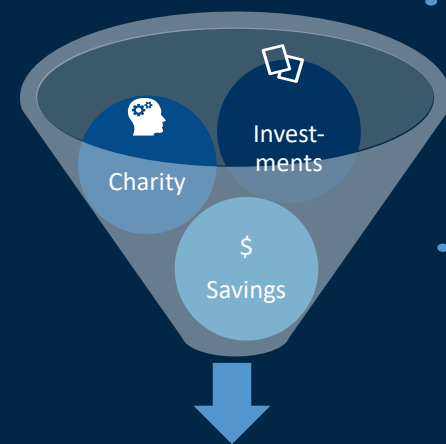
## Sustainable Development Goals & Migration







## Channel Diaspora Contributions into productive sectors and products



Sustainable Development

- **Sectors**

- Agricultural development
- Climate Change adaptation
- Social Development

- **Products:**

- Savings schemes
- Investment platforms
- Fund matching schemes
- SMEs/MMEs
- Capital markets

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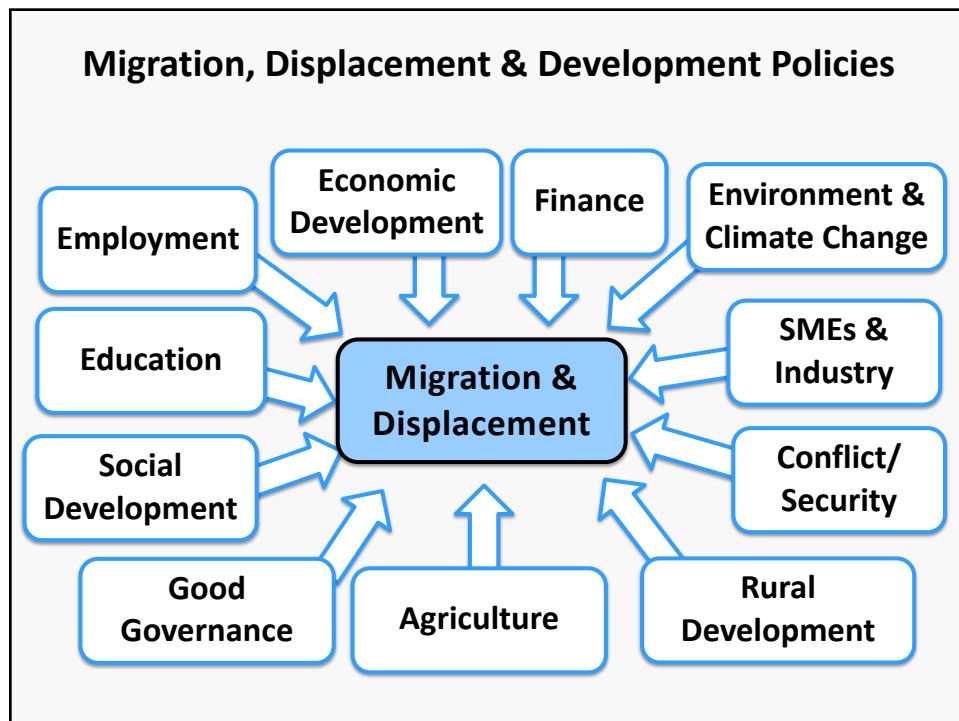
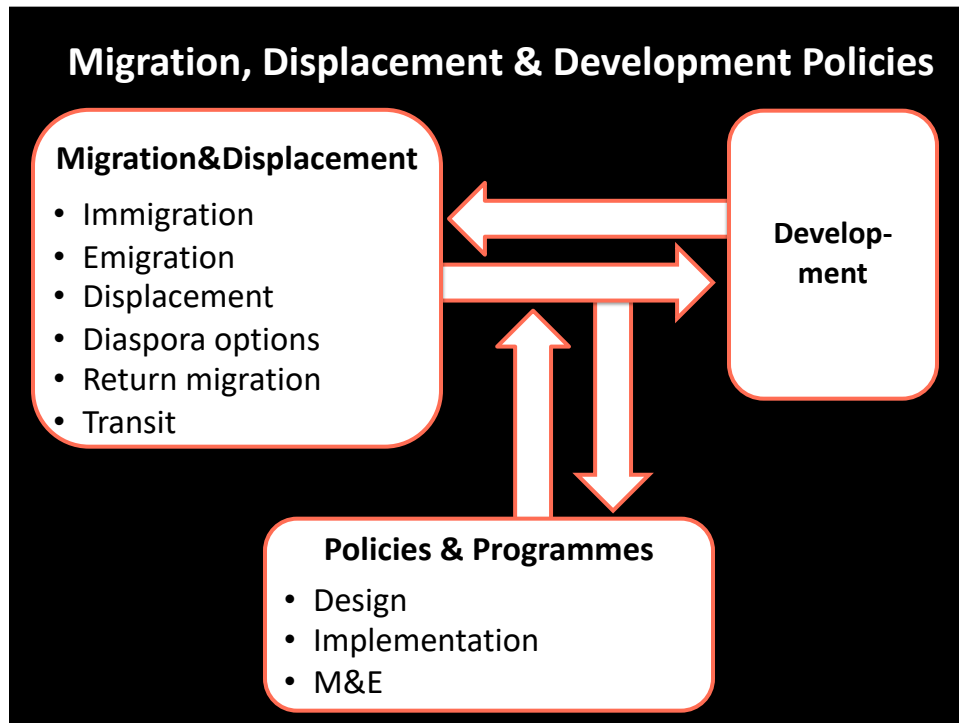
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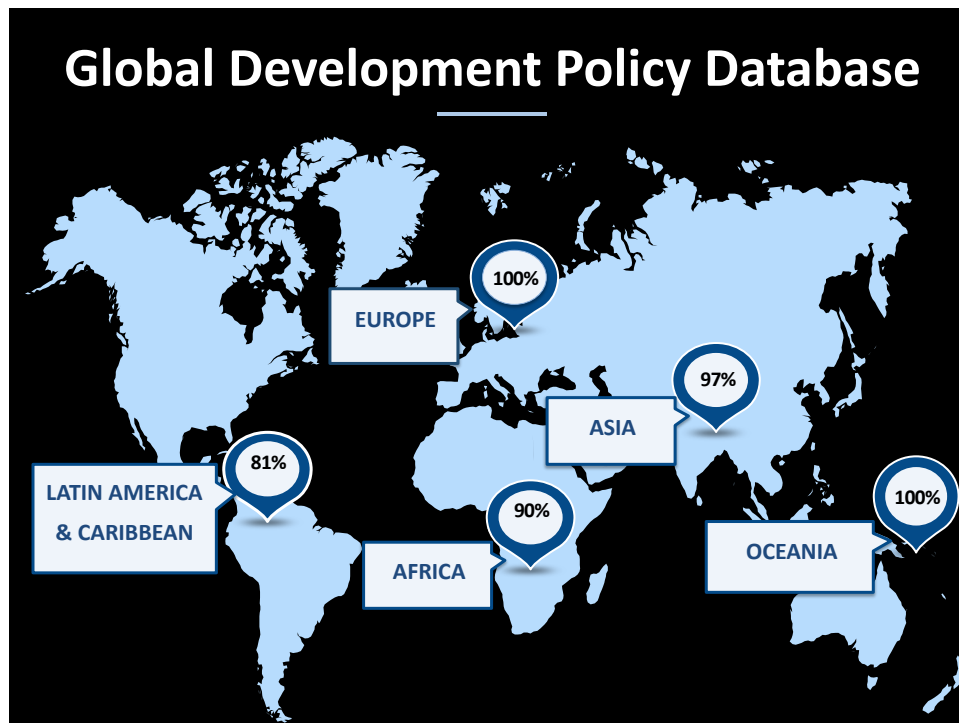
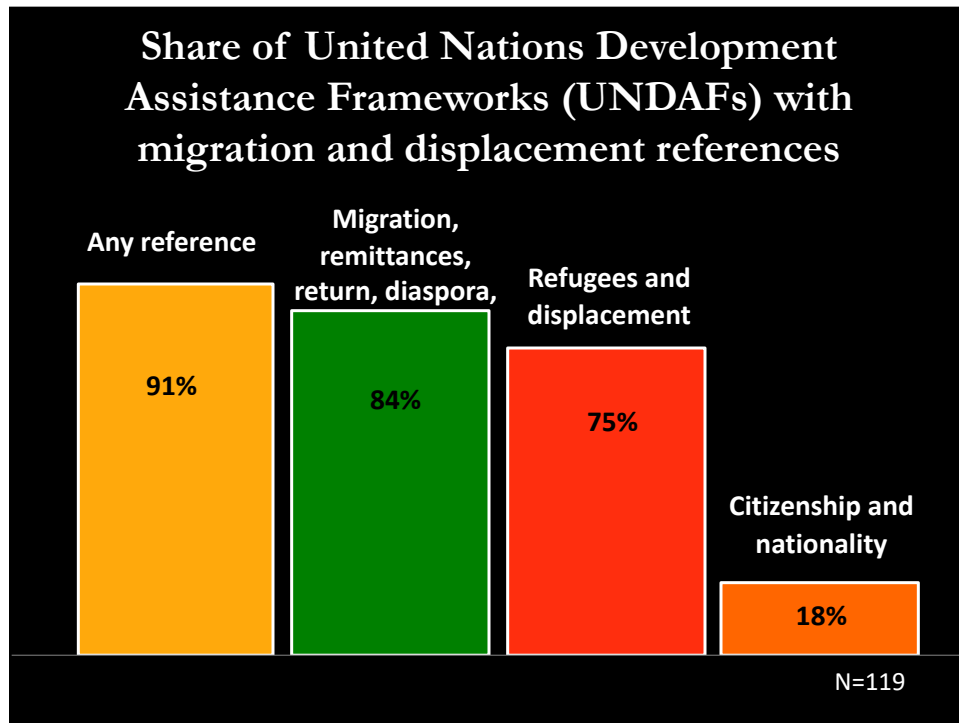
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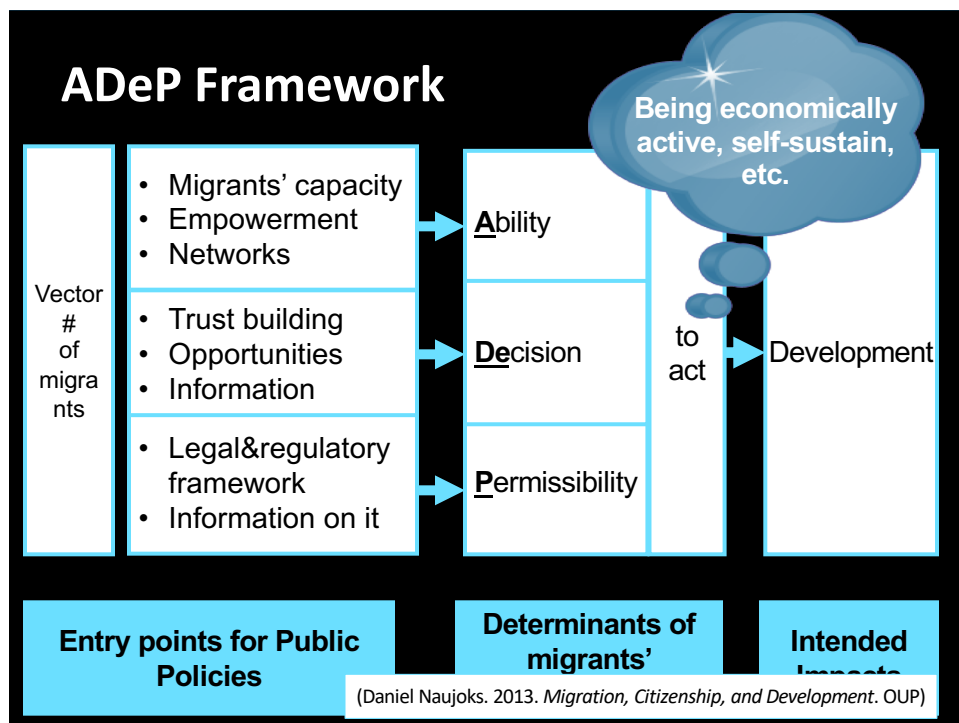
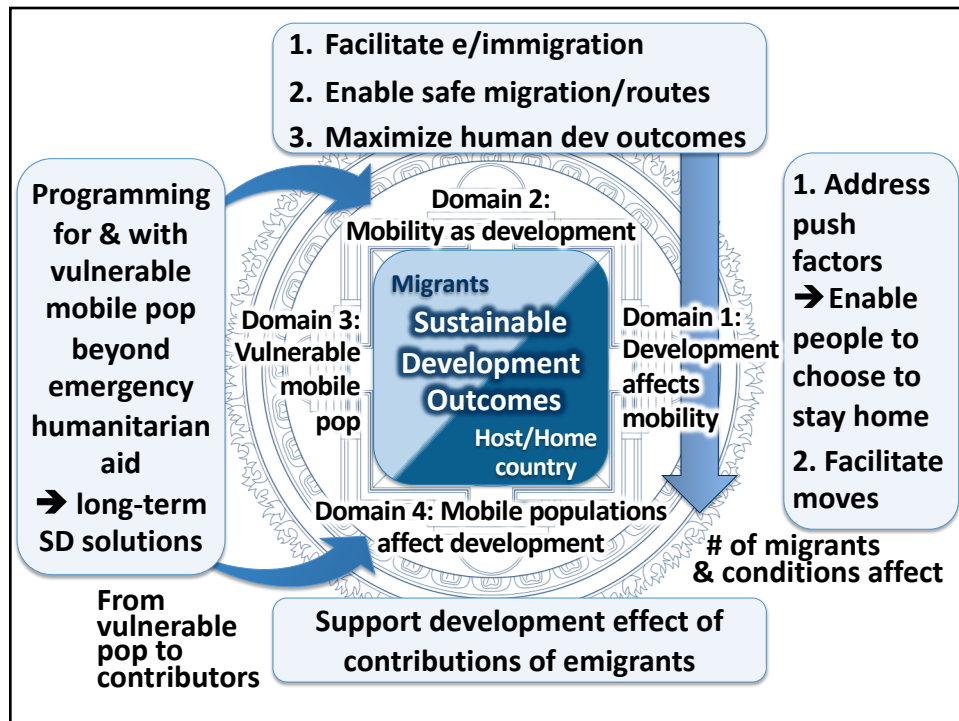
Group Exercise









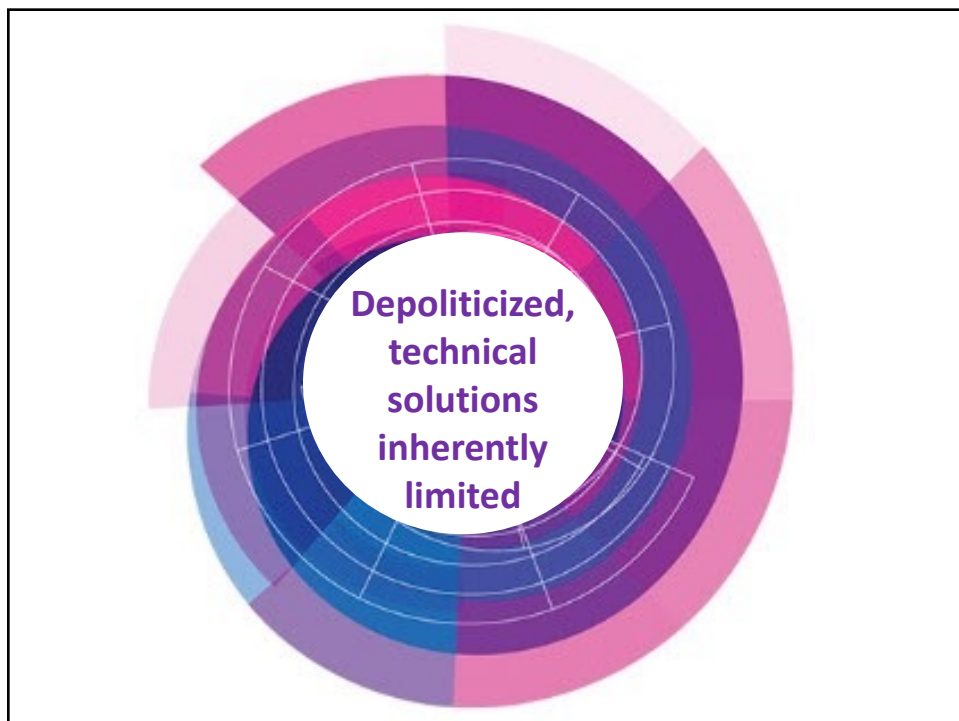




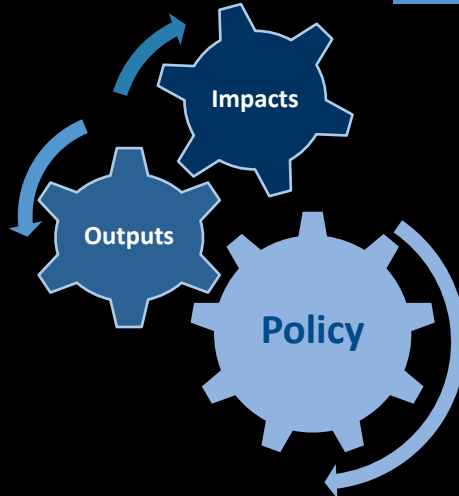
**Potential of classic development policies  
(education, skills, and labor force) limited**

Low returns in a refugee context because

- status of refugees
- limited rights
- limited set of economic opportunities



## From Policy to Impact



### Theory of Change

How do migration and displacement-related policies and programmes produce outcomes & impacts?

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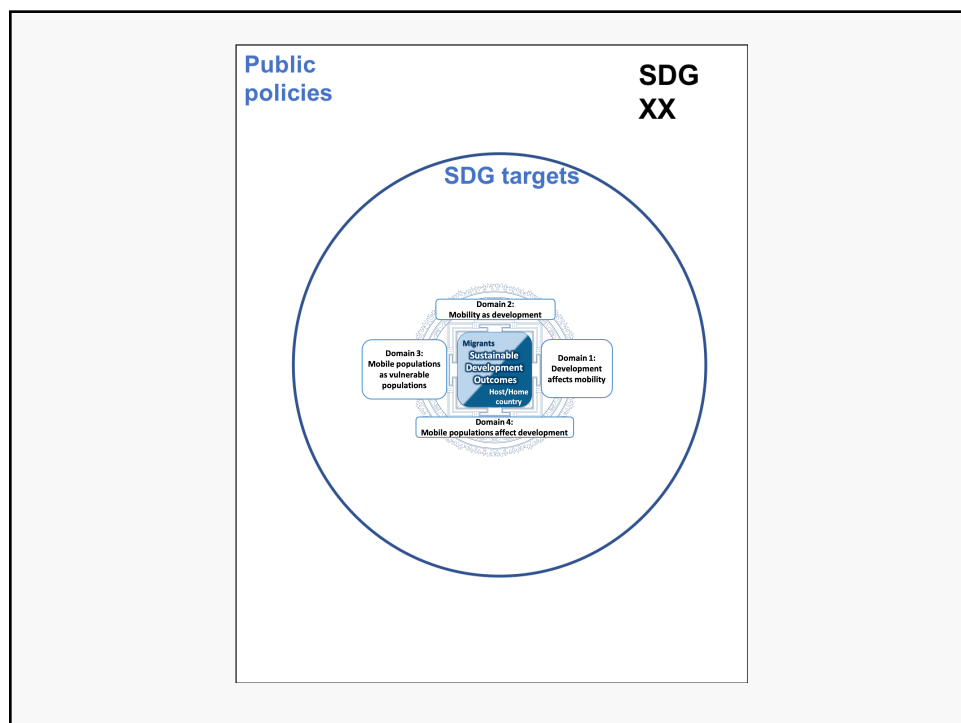
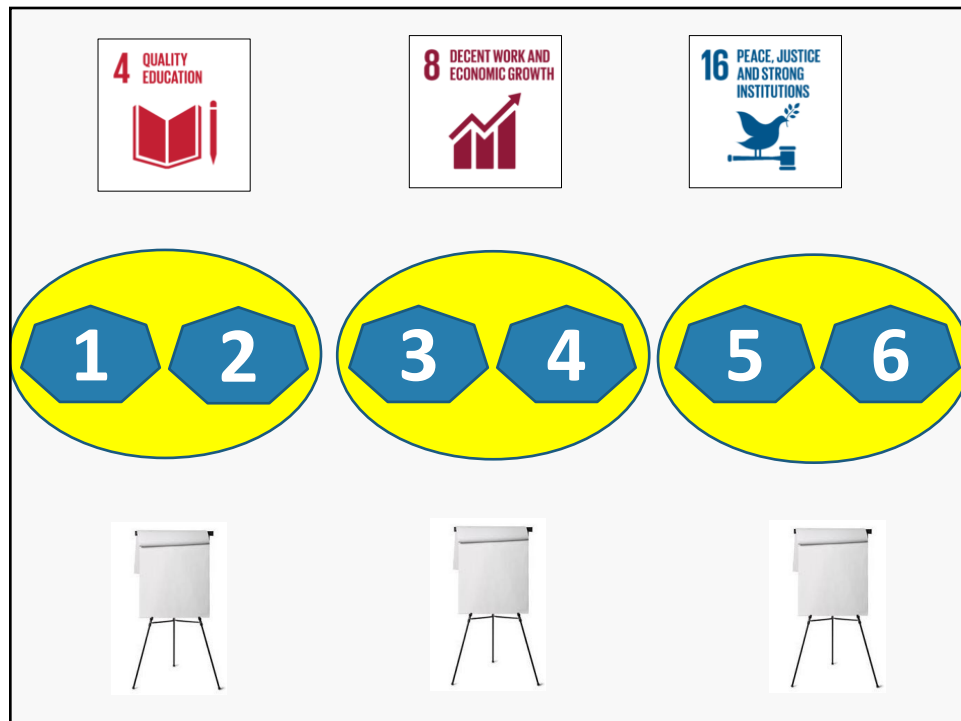
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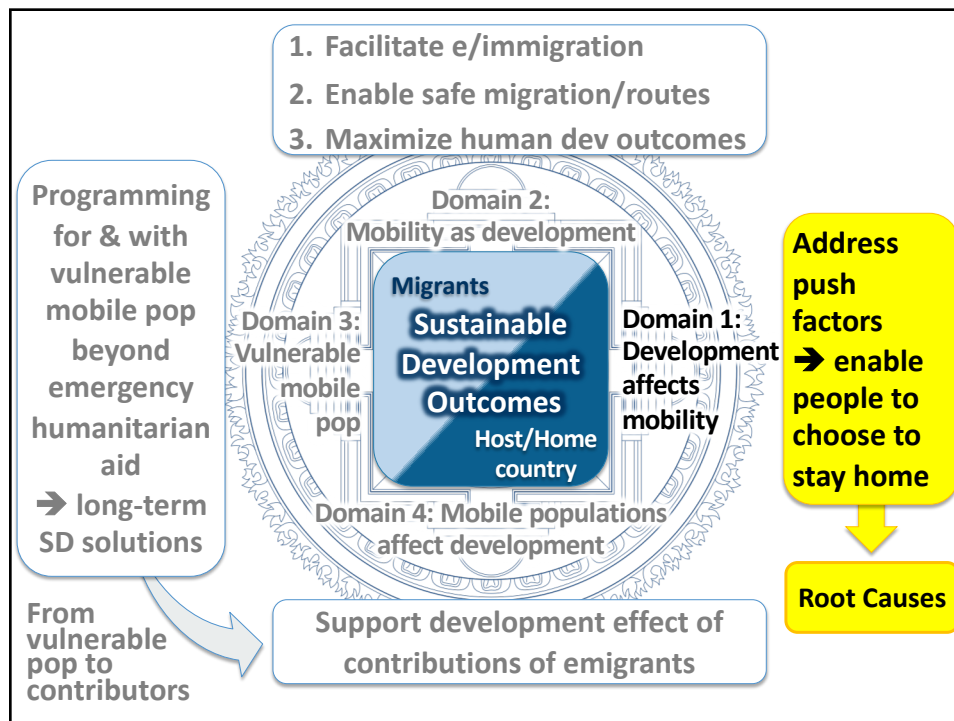


## Group exercise: Connecting specific SDG targets and human mobility





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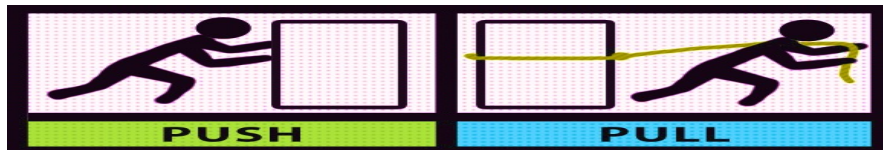
### The “push-pull” factor model



What are key **push** factors?

- High population growth/density
- Lack of jobs/livelihoods
- Political repression/ lack of governance.
- War, crime, violence.
- Environmental degradation/ disasters

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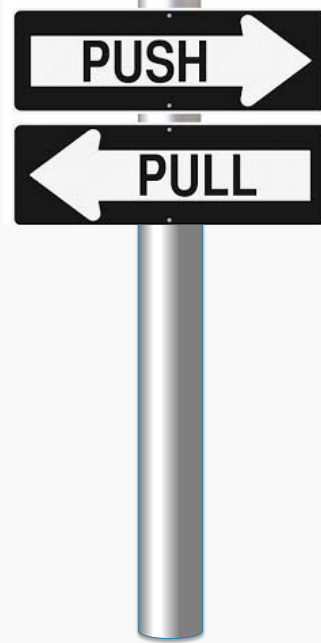
What are key **pull** factors?

- Higher income and available jobs
- Available land
- Political freedom

## “Push-Pull factors”

It is not really a “model” because:

- Purely descriptive/a heuristic
- Too deterministic
- Lack of explanatory framework
- People move “against” the framework (e.g., return migration).



Do development programmes address the “root causes” of migration/displacement?

Does “more development” mean less migration?

What needs to be considered?





### More development may lead to ....

Migration  
–

+  
Migration

#### Higher income

- People have jobs that pay enough so they don't have to leave their homes → reduces migration.
- Helps to cover migration cost → increases migration.

#### More access to education and information

- Leads to more local entrepreneurs and development which in turn decreases migration pressures.
- Leads to more opportunities to find employment opportunities abroad and access to information about travel routes.

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### More development may lead to ....

Migration  
–

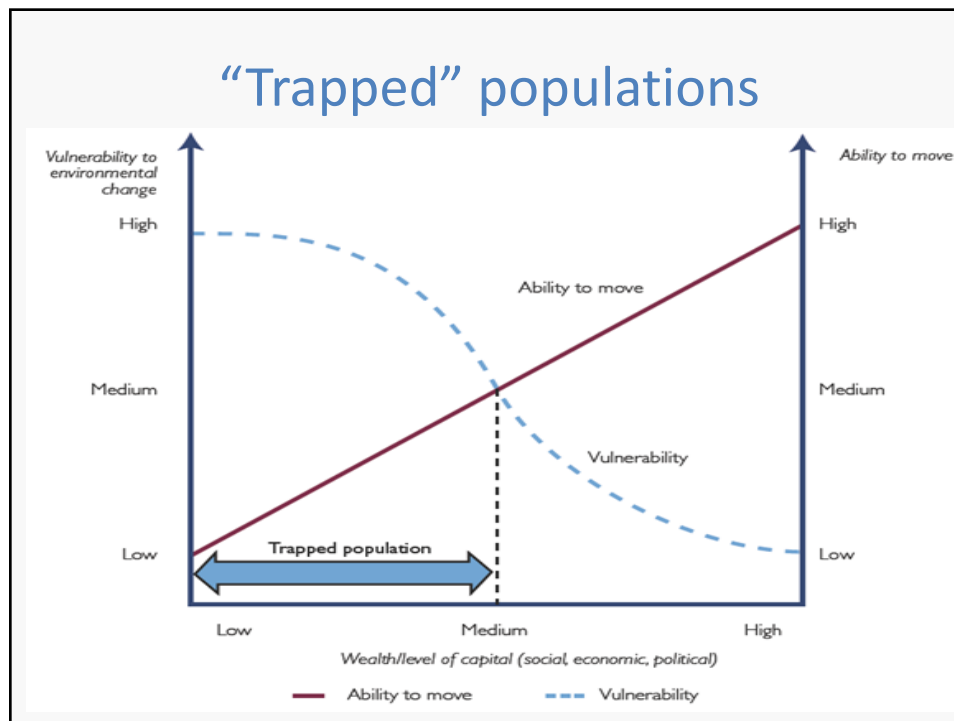
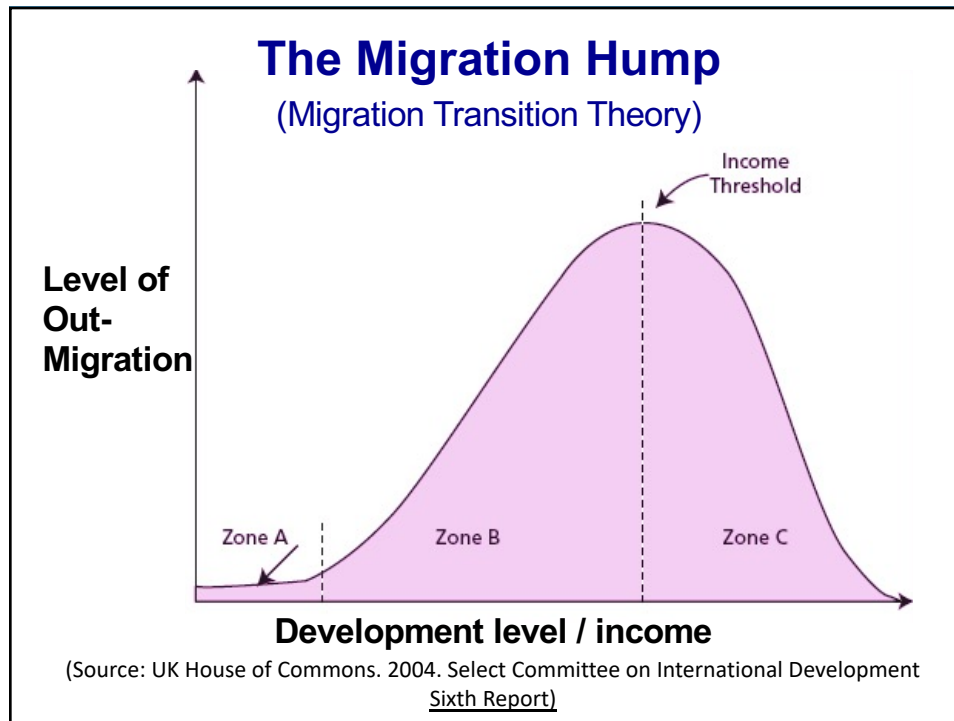
+  
Migration

#### Overall more development

- Leads to more incentives to stay at "home".
- Leads to aspirations, capabilities, social networks to migrate.

⇒ thus, the impact of development on migration is not linear or clear.

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Does the wish to address the root causes of migration/displacement lead to problematic allocations of development funds?

- ➔ Areas that are migration-prone but not the poorest?
- ➔ Regions close to major donor countries, but not poorer countries/regions further away from such countries?



## Key take-away points

- Migrants, refugees, and displaced persons are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other key development frameworks.
- International human mobility is multi-directional and multi-faceted.
- When defining migrants, refugees, etc. it is important to differentiate between statistical, legal, and policy definitions, while also considering the connotations of certain terms for the discourse at large.

## Key take-away points

- The Global South hosts 42% of international migrants and 84% of global refugees.
- It is important to differentiate effects of human mobility for those on the move, from impacts for communities and countries of origin, transit and of destination.

## Key take-away points

- There are several SDG targets that directly and explicitly focus on migrants. This includes target 10.7 on migration governance, target 8.8 on migrants labour rights and several targets on human trafficking.
- Migration and displacement need equally be considered with regard to a large number of SDG targets that do not explicitly refer to human mobility. Indirect SDG targets can consider migrants, refugees and IDPs as
  - Vulnerable populations that shall not be left behind.
  - Contributors to achieve specific SDGs

## Key take-away points

- When designing public policies to address the link between human mobility and sustainable development, we need to go beyond simplistic assumptions and have concrete theories of change.
- Policies for migrants and displaced persons need to be based on their specific needs, potentials, and preferences.

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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