

Migration & Development EU perspective

7 March 2013, Brussels





I. EU Policy Framework

M&D policy framework as revised in 2011/2012:

1) Global Approach to Migration and Mobility:

- - M&D pillar has been broadened and extended
- - May 2012 GAMM Council conclusions call for 'to ensure a more **ambitious and forward-looking** policy development on the migration and development nexus'

2) Agenda for Change (development policy framework):

- Explicitly recognises migration as a **priority** for development cooperation;
- Encourages the EU to **facilitate regional mobility** and support targeted efforts to fully exploit the interrelationship between **migration, mobility and employment**.



II. Migration – Development nexus

- Migration can impact positively and negatively on **development**
- **EU aims** at maximizing the positive impact of migration on the development of partner countries whilst limiting its negative consequences
- **4 Key (traditional) areas:** Remittances; Diaspora; Circular migration; Brain drain
- This agenda is currently **being broadened**

III. Analysis and challenges: key areas

1. Remittances

- **EU policy:** to promote cheaper, faster and more secure remittances, and to enhance their development impact.
- Remittances represent significant portion of GDP in many countries
- Positive effects on poverty reduction, housing, health, schooling etc.

Challenges

- Data on amounts sent/corridors uncertain (Eurostat improved this in 2009 by consolidating MS data)
- 90% of remittances are used in consumption. Need to encourage productive use in order to enhance developmental impact.
- Transfer costs are still too high
- Promoting market transparency in the EU
- Set up an enabling regulatory environment in partner countries
- Remote and rural areas have no easy access to remittances



III. Analysis and challenges: key areas

2. Diaspora

- Diaspora members as individuals with a 'double identity'
- Major source of remittances, direct investment, knowledge, technology transfer, etc.

Challenges / Strategies for Improvement

- Diasporas often lack capacities to access or absorb funds and to manage and implement initiatives. Limited sustainability and lack of coherence of their initiatives.
- Support the diasporas technically/financially
- Support governments map their diaspora, motivate their engagement with country of origin and/or interest in return
- Enhance cooperation with local authorities

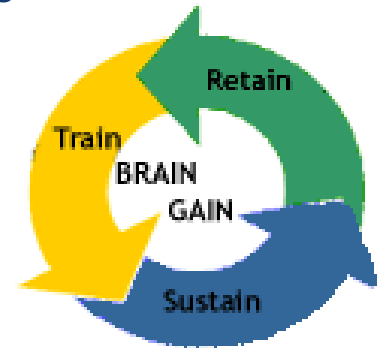
III. Analysis and challenges: key areas

3. Brain drain

- Massive emigration of the highly skilled can have negative impact on the development of the country of origin (Key sectors: health and education)

Challenges / Strategies for Improvement

- 'Ethical recruitment' in sensitive sectors
- Circular migration to mitigate the adverse effect of brain drain
- Enhance cooperation between sending and receiving countries
- Address structural push factors to improve retention and facilitate sustainable return



III. Analysis and challenges: key areas

4. Circular migration

- Promoting a triple win situation
- Allowing some degree of legal mobility back and forth
- Transfer of knowledge, skills and experiences
- Match the international supply and demand for labour

Challenges / Strategies for Improvement

- How to ensure effective circularity?
 - Secure status perspective/absence leaves
 - Incentives for return: need for enabling legislative framework
 - Multiple entry visas
 - Fast track re-entry procedures
 - Transferability of social security



IV. The way forward

Challenges faced by partner countries/links between development and migration are **much broader and more complex** than the areas addressed so far.

- **Change of perspective:** development and migration
- Stronger focus on **South-south mobility**
- Stronger focus on the **local dimension**



IV. The way forward

Priorities:

- Consolidating knowledge and awareness of the **interconnections between migration and other policy areas** as well as of the **contribution to economic growth**;
- Work with partner countries on establishing **national strategies and policies** on migration and integrating migration into development planning;
- Ensuring that **refugees** are better considered in the M&D agenda, not only as an humanitarian concern.

Financial instruments and the next financial perspectives: 2014-2020

- Thematic programme for migration and asylum
- Geographic instruments (EDF, ENPI, DCI)
- The TPMA will be incorporated in the “**Global Public Goods and Challenges**” instrument
- The programming of the geographic instruments will be concentrated on (max) **3 focal sectors**
- Consequently, it will be crucial to promote the **mainstreaming of migration dimension** into other policy sectors
- External component of the **funds managed by DG HOME** will cover actions in third countries (territorial continuity with internal EU priorities)



Thank you for your attention!

Questions?