

Germany will describe its input for Manila more precisely in the months to come. There will be a contribution to either round table 1.2 or round table 2.2.

Round Table 1.2. ("Empowering migrants and diaspora to contribute to development"):

One option is presenting the pilot project of German Technical Co-operation "Migration and Development" which inter alia promotes activities which diaspora groups of migrants undertake to help fellow citizens in their countries of origin. Do home town associations contribute to development and to the fight against poverty? How can we assist migrants to fund and encourage development back home? Are remittances sent from migrants in Germany for their families a development factor apart from allowing immediate consumption? The current EU discussion on circular migration hints at the fact that well integrated foreigners may be more willing to bring knowledge to their home countries, rather than those who constantly have to justify their work permit etc.. We will see whether the results of the next months will produce more than anecdotal evidence for the development impact of (relevant) migrant endeavours.

Round Table 2.2. ("Managing irregular migration as a negative factor for development")

Germany is willing to share results of an ongoing research project dealing with reasons of illegal migration from African countries into the EU, conducted by the Faculty of Sociology, University of Bielefeld. The aim is to learn whether there are development policy options for dealing with this pressure to illegally looking for work in Europe. What can we learn from existing employment promotion programmes in the countries of origin? It has to be seen in summer 2008, whether there are already solid results of this research, presentable in Manila in October 2008.