How can research support policymakers?

Understanding the relation between migration and development for evidence-based policy-making: data and research needs
The outline

• Cooperation and partnerships between researchers and policy makers.
  – Data collection priorities
  • The role of Migration Profiles
Observatory of Migrations East of Europe

• Funded by the European Union, as a pilot for 24 months
• Based at the European University Institute, Florence, Italy
• Covers Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine, with an outlook to five Central Asian countries
• Network of migration specialists – main target: academia, but also civil servants, think-tanks. Target: 50 members.
• Activities:
  – assessment of research gaps;
  – launching pilot research;
  – building bridges between scholars of migration in the region and in the EU (state-of-the-arts, systematic translation in EN/RU)
Mismatch between policy making and research

- Forecast studies with possible scenarios are typically absent from the policy-making domain (with at least 10-15 years of forecasting)
- Non-codified variety of a legal body of different hierarchy with overlapping subjects (Belarus)
- Superficial interpretation of facts as a basis of policy recommendations (Armenia)
Cooperation and partnerships between researchers and policy makers.

1. Why is research done or not done?
   - Internal policy agenda
   - Gap between research and policies

2. What is researched?
   - Source vs. host countries

3. How it is researched?
   - Data collection vs. statistics collection

4. Who is doing the research?
   - Funding research
   - Multiplier effects
## Research needs identified by the CARIM-East network members in June 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Area</th>
<th>Area of Focus</th>
<th>Key Areas</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impact of immigration/emigration on labour market</td>
<td>Integration of returnees</td>
<td>Diaspora</td>
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<td>Feminization of migration</td>
<td>Impact of the readmission agreements</td>
<td>Attracting back highly skilled emigrants</td>
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<td>Social exclusion/integration of migrant workers (also the issue of xenophobia)</td>
<td>Cooperation with countries of emigration</td>
<td>Volume of migration</td>
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<td>Discourse on migration</td>
<td>Impact of visa facilitation agreements</td>
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<td>Impact of immigration on demography</td>
<td>Trafficking/smuggling/Migration for criminal purposes</td>
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<td>Brain drain</td>
<td>Conformity with international legal norms</td>
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<td>Identification of migration potential</td>
<td>Problem of statelessness</td>
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<td>Mobility partnerships</td>
<td>Return migration/Reintegration</td>
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<td>Labour migration/human capital</td>
<td>Human rights of immigrants</td>
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<td>Competitiveness of the labour market in the light of Free Trade/Association</td>
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<td>Internal labour migration</td>
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<td>Freedom of movement</td>
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<td>Social exclusion/xenophobia/integration of migrant workers</td>
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Data Collection/Production Needs

Statistical data (demographics, economics)

• Longitudinal data
• Comparative data (with control groups)
• Accessible data
Migration Profiles

• A report gathering existing information
• Good place to introduce coherent set of indicators on migration and development

• However…
  – Only as good as the existing data
  – It cannot be updated if
    • primary datasets are not updated/created
    • no new research is done
    • the legal framework is not implemented/updated/changed
Thank you for your attention!

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