

2009

Needs Assessment Seminar on Migration  
and Development Challenges in the Greater  
Horn of Africa (GHA)

Convened by  
African Migration and Development Policy Centre  
Through financial assistance of  
United Kingdom's Department for International Development  
(DFID)  
Venue: Kisumu Hotel, Kenya  
Date: 16-17 March 2009

## Introduction

The seminar was held for researchers/experts and policymakers in the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) with representatives of development partners attending as either participants or observers. Due to the short notice sent out about the seminar, the process of organising it proved tedious as the AMADPOC secretariat did all it could to bring on board all the invited participants. Participants reported on 15 March, attended the seminar for two full days and left on 18 March.

Of the 10 GHA countries — Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Djibouti, Eritrea and Ethiopia — invited to the seminar, only five countries sent representatives. These were joined by the representatives of IOM and UNIFEM as well as two observers from the British High Commission in Kenya.

The seminar programme consisted of several plenary sessions and break-out groups. Dr. Boniface K'Oyugi, the CEO of Kenya's National Coordinating Agency for Population and Development, kindly accepted to chair all preliminary sessions of the seminar.

This report highlights deliberations at the seminar, with the seminar programme appended at the end of the report.

## Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009

### ***Opening Session***

At the request of AMADPOC' founder, the participants observed a one-minute silence in honour of Kenya's Prof. Elisha Atieno-Odhiambo, formerly Professor of History at Rice University, USA, who recently passed on after a long residence as a skilled migrant who authored authoritative works including migrants' lifestyles.

Thereafter Prof John O. Oucho, the AMADPOC Founder and Executive Director, gave a brief welcome address and moved on to request the participants to introduce themselves including stating their routine work as well as their expectations from the seminar. The British High Commission, IOM and UNIFEM representatives wished the seminar success and looked forward to it opening a new chapter in migration and development work in the GHA region.

### ***Objectives and Prospects of the seminar***

This two-day seminar convened primarily to initiate structured dialogue among different stakeholders: policymakers, researchers and academia on the ramifications of migration-development nexus in the GHA region.

The seminar organiser (AMADPOC) and sponsor (DFID) hoped that the seminar would set forth an agenda on how to bring to prominence issues of migration-development dialogue in the entire GHA region and in respective countries of the region as well.

AMADPOC founder’s presentation underscored the stark absence of migration issues in the crafting of national and regional development policies over the years. A singular attempt was a conference he convened in 1990 for migration researchers in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) which, among other things, proposed the formation of a Migration Network in Eastern and Southern Africa (MINESA), a proposal which fizzled out at a time migration had not generated as much interest and drawn the attention of African governments and their development partners as currently.

The presentation acknowledged the general lack of appreciation of the significant role played by both internal and international migration in the development process. As a consequence, there were chronic data gaps due to lack of specific research agenda and routine data generation. The big casualty has been the absence of interface between research and policy. There is hardly any forum in the region for sharing of ideas among policymakers, academics and researchers on migration-development nexus.

He reiterated that AMADPOC aims to constitute a bridge between academics and policymakers, in the North-South cooperation and South-South interactions on issues pertaining to migration-development nexus.

AMADPOC’s founder then stated what AMADPOC has done since its registration in August 2008. For a start, it has set up an evolving website (<http://www.amadpoc.org>) to facilitate appropriate exchanges on issues of migration and development in its four programme areas: (a) Research and Data Hub; (b) Training and Capacity Building; (c) Policy Dialogue and Networking; and (c) a Resource Centre.

The following issues emerged from comments on the overview:

- Participants acknowledged the pivotal role of governments in this dialogue and urged AMADPOC to explore all possible avenues of bringing the GHA governments together as partners, a move which portends well for AMADPOC’s work with them.
- Donor agencies should be urged to organise/fund migration and development fora for sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) at venues in the developed world only if there are no viable institutions to organise the same in developing countries. Such a tradition would save both time and costs which have far-reaching implications when participants are drawn from the South.
- Such fora as are organised in SSA should be attended by participants in the North to let them witness facts on the ground in SSA.

**SESSION I: MIGRATION-DEVELOPMENT NEXUS: RESEARCH AND POLICY INTERFACE**

Three presentations were made in this session to provide overviews and raise concerns in migration-development nexus in SSA including the GHA region.

<b>Presentation:</b>	<i>Migration and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Research Policy Disconnect</i>
<b>Presenter:</b>	Prof Eugene K. Campbell
<b>Organisation/Institution:</b>	Department of Population Studies, University of Botswana,
<b>Country:</b>	Republic of Botswana

This paper provides an overview of the key issues in migration and development. It identifies, defines and provides relevant instances of four main issues in the migration-development debate: (i) brain drain and brain circulation; (ii) migrant remittances; (iii) Diaspora; and (iv) xenophobia.

- The paper acknowledges the positive shift in the perception that brain drain is negative given the established positive roles played by remittances in and brain circulation from the countries of origin.
- The paper notes that some African countries including Nigeria and South Africa have put in place policies and legislation that acknowledge the significance of brain circulation and migrant remittances.
- The paper wondered, however, how the current global financial crisis will impact on remittances and brain circulation.
- In addition, it forecasts that the accelerating unemployment and consequent deepening poverty in the SSA region might accelerate irregular migration flows, all with serious consequences for security issues and xenophobia.

The paper poses a number of issues and questions:

- (i) There is ongoing debate as to whether remittances contribute to national development.
- (ii) What really motivates people to move?
- (iii) What is the general status of qualitative data on migration?
- (iv) What are the health ramifications of migration?
- (v) What is the real magnitude of human trafficking, considering that it is part of irregular migration which is scorned by most countries of destination?
- (vi) Is it true that irregular migrants do contribute to development at destinations more than nationals as has been noted, for instance, on Botswana's construction industry?
- (vii) How does xenophobia affect migrants in the countries of destination?

The presenter provided brief answers to each of the above questions in order to provide the participants with facts to discuss later in the session.

<b>Presentation:</b>	<i>Migration and Women in Development Settings in the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) Region</i>
<b>Presenter:</b>	Prof. Winnie Mitullah,
<b>Organisation/Institution:</b>	Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi
<b>Country:</b>	Kenya

The presenter began by underscoring the beauty of addressing women-based concerns in migration-development nexus. The central thesis of this paper is that irrespective of the type of migration, women tend to face more challenges in population movements than their male counterparts due to a number of reasons, among them women's triple roles in reproduction, production and community services which they retain irrespective of the circumstances in which they find themselves.

Chronic data (local, national, regional and international) gaps and lack of gender disaggregated data (where they do exist) have led to generalisations/sweeping statements devoid of any facts on migration-development nexus at the expense of real opportunities.

The paper poses several questions that cannot be answered due to chronic lack of data on issues pertinent to migration:

- (i) How does one interpret the statistics which indicate that women and children form the majority of refugee camps inhabitants?
- (ii) Coping mechanisms: as migration is a complex mechanism, how do migrants (in particular women), their three roles notwithstanding, cope with migration?
- (iii) Whose responsibility is it to ensure coping mechanisms are in place for migrants – migrants themselves or host communities?
- (iv) How does one determine the magnitude of human trafficking when irregular migration is criminalised?
- (v) The myth of skills: how do we determine if the skills being brought back by returning migrants are useful for development activities in their countries of origin?
- (vi) Brain drain or brain waste: how do we track international migrants to ascertain that they continue to be active in the professional areas in which they were trained?
- (vii) Unmarried/unattached women seem to enjoy expanded opportunities with various form migration movements – which begs answers to the question: what challenges do married women face in population movements?
- (viii) What are the attributes of women who migrate anyway?
- (ix) Social networks: being useful for professional output and generally to migrants, one wonders how the ongoing global recession is going to impact aspects of social networks useful for sustaining migration.

<b>Presentation:</b>	<i>Migration-Development in Academic and Policy Settings</i>
<b>Presenter:</b>	Prof John O. Oucho
<b>Organisation/Institution:</b>	University of Warwick and AMADPOC

The paper explores reciprocity of development and migration from time immemorial in the global context and concludes that migration actually shapes multilevel development.

The paper decries the glaring disconnect between policy-making processes and academia, policy making remaining an exclusive domain of national governments with no reference to academia, and vice versa. As a consequence, issues of migration are missing in key government policy documents, such as Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as in the Vision 20 series that are currently articulating government’s development agenda.

The paper also notes that developed countries of the North have very elaborate migration policies and legislation in contrast to developing countries of the South where these policies are either undocumented or, in worse case scenarios, non-existent.

The paper underlines the point that migration should actually be treated as integral part of development and not as two issues – migration and development.

## Discussion

### (i) Data Gaps

Available data on migration are either out of date or simply lacking. Whenever available, the data are hardly disaggregated by gender/sex. Most notable is lack of qualitative data on migration. As a result of this chronic lack of data on migration, it is safe to assume that generalisations or sweeping statements on the reciprocity between migration and development are finding their way into policy pronouncement without a basis.

Qualitative and comparative research on migration and development is badly needed.

- *Remittances*

Reference was made of the United Nations research that questions the economics of remittances in countries of origin vis-à-vis the cost of hiring experts to fill vacancies created by migrants in their countries of origin. The consensus was that remittances alone cannot adequately compensate for adverse effects of brain drain.

Adequacy of data on remittances was interrogated. Governments' foreign exchange policies as well as taxation in home countries foster non-disclosure of remittances by remitters. Sometimes the status of migrants in their countries of destination may force them to remit through informal, and therefore, undocumented channels.

- *Internal Migration and Internally Displace Persons (IDPS)*

Issues regarding internal migration have only recently become important in countries like Kenya following the 2007 post-election chaos despite the persistence of problems such as landlessness which has triggered internal migration since the colonial period.

- *A different kind of brain drain*

It was noted that mass exodus of professionals from very highly skilled disciplines – especially medicine – to politics, actually constitutes a form of brain drain from a more vital service to a vocation such migrants could do without.

Further, it was observed that the Protocols of Economic Communities (RECs) in the region have not addressed women's issues in migration-development nexus. For example, although research by the Southern African Migration Project (SAMP) has already established the significance of women's cross-border trade as a form of remittances, the RECs in the region are silent on this point.

- *Unemployment*

Questions were raised about the policy options national governments could adopt in situations where unemployment soars and the system is still producing huge numbers of youth with minimal employment prospects.

- *Use of terminologies*

Harmonisation of terminologies is crucial to the sharing of ideas. Terminology is but a tool. For example, the term "refugee" meets tightly defined criteria. To refer to "labour migrant"

as “economic refugee” is to deny those working on refugee issues the right orientation to deal appropriately with the situation. The same goes for terms such as “irregular refugees” and “illegal immigrants” that often elicit controversy. Therefore, the need to harmonise terminologies cannot be overemphasised.

- *Effects of migration on the MDGs*

Remittances impact positively on the immediate household poverty indices. Conversely, brain drain, particularly of health professionals, as has occurred in the region, impacts negatively on the MDG goals of health and poverty reduction. Therefore, research should target the impacts of emigration on MGDs.

- *Diaspora*

Discussion focused on the Diaspora and homeland development. Examples of this phenomenon include the Rwandan, Ethiopian, Somali, Kenyan and Ugandan Diaspora.

It was noted, however, that attention on Diaspora should also embrace the “domestic Diaspora” which has received little or no attention at all, even in countries where over 80 per cent of doctors are concentrated in major urban centres alone instead of rural areas where the majority of population lives.

SSA countries scarcely have adequate information about their Diasporas: the size, attributes and perceptions of engaging and willingness to participate in homeland development. The countries engage more in rhetoric than empirical information that can inform their policies and programmes in tapping the Diaspora as a valuable resource.

Desire was expressed to make the Diaspora and their non-migrant nationals in the countries of origin forge strong working relations to support homeland development.

## SESSION II: COUNTRY NEEDS: RESEARCH, POLICY AND TRAINING

The country reports were conceived to provide a snapshot of the contemporary issues on migration and development in the participating countries. The objective of this session was to let participants take a peek at how immigration policies and legislation impact on development in regional countries. Representatives of four countries made presentations in this session.

### **Rwanda**

The Rwandan representative presented the case of his country. Important points in his presentation included the following:

- Rwanda views migration as a global issue with opportunities for homeland development. The role of immigration officer in this process is considered professional, which, therefore, calls, for relevant training.
- In an attempt to identify country’s needs, the Rwandan participant underlined the national development vision.
- The paper underlines Rwanda’s keenness in promoting increased trade, investment, tourism, nationals’ skills development, foreign skills attraction, enhancement of private sector effectiveness, security and stability and regional economic integration.

- The country has developed strong ties with its Diaspora for pertinent roles in its socio-economic development.
- Finally, the presentation indicated the country's migration training needs on items which were reiterated in the break-out group on training and capacity building.

### **Sudan**

The presentation on Sudan by two senior officers from the Sudan Embassy in Nairobi was entitled "Sudan Migration: Context and Capacity Building Needs". It underlined the following points:

- Sudan shares borders with 10 countries.
- One-third of Africa's population lives around the region in which Sudan is situated.
- The country experiences transit migration, but also experiences emigration and immigration, the latter including large numbers of refugees.
- Sudan can issue travel identity/travel documents from any of its 26 states and has created a Bureau to deal with affairs of expatriates.
- Challenges for the country include having very long borders and having many major African migration routes passing through Sudan.
- Sudan sees sense in reviewing her migration policies alongside engaging in bilateral management of shared concerns relating to immigration and development issues.
- The paper draws attention to five main issues: historical background to migration management; the mandate of the Passports and Migration Department; migration control mechanisms; changes in the country's migration; and the country's needs pertaining to migration.

### **Uganda**

The Ugandan representative from the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control Inspection and Legal Department, addressed "Migration and the development Nexus in Uganda". Key points in her paper included:

- Migrants are considered potential agents of development.
- Diaspora is seen a pool of expertise that could be positively tapped for the country's benefit. In this respect, Uganda has recently amended her constitution to allow for dual citizenship.
- Areas identified as requiring policy intervention include: border control, labour migration, international protection and the management of irregular migration.
- Uganda is already examining how well to exploit the positive linkages of migration and development.
- Uganda is currently inundated with refugees arriving from neighbouring countries and the country has been feeling pressure from various fronts. Outbreaks of diseases, as in western Uganda, are attributed to refugee influx from Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Challenges include the abuse of refugee status, especially by persons holding Canadian CDTs for purposes of working abroad.
- As a consequence of labour immigration, forgery of professional qualifications among immigrants is thriving thereby pushing out genuinely qualified nationals. The

Capacity building for staff in partnership with neighbouring countries is considered suitable.

- The sharing of information with counterparts in neighbouring countries is considered crucial.
- The paper underscores the need for training on migration mitigation measures.

### **Tanzania:**

Presentation on Tanzania was on “United Republic of Tanzania’s Needs pertaining to Migration and Development Policy, Research and Training.” It was made by Tanzania’s representative from the Immigration Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The paper indicates that:

- Tanzania shares borders with eight countries within the Eastern and Southern Africa.
- Tanzania is a big country with long borders. The border control posts are too far apart in some cases, constraining efforts to have border- control points. The country shares borders with eight countries within the Eastern and Southern Africa.
- The challenges a large influx of refugees include environmental degradation and increase of lawlessness in the refugee hosting areas due to proliferation of illicit arms.
- Tanzania does not IDPs.
- More than 800,000 Tanzanian citizens who work abroad – in the Middle East, UK, USA and the Far East — constitute 2.2 per cent of national population work abroad.
- Tanzania urgently needs training on how to deal with issues related to irregular migration.
- Tanzania recognises the need to conduct research geared towards a better understanding of the issues and challenges of irregular migration flows and movement of people in general.
- Remittances are considered as an important positive aspect of migration.
- The redesigned logo of Tanzania’s immigration department depicts immigration as a key development issue but with security-related concerns.
- The paper calls for mobilisation of voluntary repatriation of refugees; improved border management procedures relating to irregular migration; establishment of capacity building programmes for immigration officials; establishment of policies and legal framework to protect Tanzanians in Diaspora; and ways and means to counter brain drain and for mobilisation of the Tanzanian Diaspora for development back home.

## **Discussion**

- (i) All the country reports recognize migration and important part of development both at the origin and destination. Thus migration is an asset for development;
- (ii) Diaspora – still incoherent, but countries are trying to find ways of integrating Diaspora into the national development agenda;
- (iii) Remittances, for long believed to be for domestic subsistence, are currently being directed to major development projects;

- (iv) Government departments dealing with migration are never working in concert: home affairs, labour and foreign affairs work independent of each other without comparing notes on emigrants and immigrants;
- (v) National borders are porous largely due to lack of adequate border-control points. As a consequence, irregular migration is rampant in these countries;
- (vi) All countries acknowledge the value of research on issues of migration and development;
- (vii) Participants wondered to what extent the refugee situation contributes to environmental degradation or increase in criminality. Studies in these areas do not reveal a linear relationship. Even then, perception that the influx of refugees increases crime and environment degradation seldom attracts research to inform policy and resultant programmes; and
- (viii) The re-emergence of diseases like polio will not augur well for the enactment of crucial positive legislation governing cross-border movements.

### SESSION III: RESEARCH, POLICY AND TRAINING NEEDS: EXPERIENCE FROM UNIVERSITIES AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

Two sets of presentation were made in this session: perspectives from universities and those from national policy and data-based institutions.

#### Experience from Universities and Training Institutions

<b>Presentation:</b>	<i>The Institute for Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE)</i>
<b>Presenter:</b>	Dr. Gideon Rutaremwa
<b>Organisation/Institution:</b>	Institute for Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE), Makerere University, Uganda
<b>Country:</b>	Uganda
<b>Overview:</b>	The presentation gave a brief history of the establishment of the institute in 1969 as a regional project which continues to have a strong regional representation, one-third of its participants coming from outside Uganda. ISAE has carried out several commissioned studies, none of which has addressed migration and development issues.

The presentation envisioned that AMADPOC:

- Provide a forum for dialogue on migration and development;
- Perform an advocacy role for cross-country issues that require collaboration;
- Help mobilise resources for work on migration and development; and
- Help bring together synergies of various organisations in migration-development work.

<b>Presentation:</b>	<i>Research Policy and Training Needs</i>
<b>Presenter:</b>	Dr. Khoti Chilomba Kamanga
<b>Organisation/Institution:</b>	Centre for the Study of Forced Migration (CSFM) at the University of Dar es Salaam
<b>Country:</b>	Tanzania
<b>Overview:</b>	He stated that the CSFM was created by the Senate of the University of Dar es Salaam on the understanding that it would not seek any funding from the university. Generally, the CSFM does its work through several media that include: (a) outreach Programmes, (b) Print Media, (c) refugee camp visits and (d) through networks of like-minded organisations.

The main points the paper raised included:

- Funding is a major challenge since the centre relies exclusively on donor funding which is erratic;
- Teaching is limited in scope since education offered at the University is compartmentalised;
- Research and publication outputs are low;
- The centre runs an annual two-week residential course for people who work with refugees; and
- The staff turnover is high, leading to discouraging consequences for institutional memory.

## Discussion

The main points emerging from the discussion were:

- Governments should fund public training/capacity building institutions and initiatives;
- The GHA region lacks a clearly articulated research agendas – a situation that has resulted in donor-driven research agenda;
- There exist region-wide legislative challenges on migration-related issues;
- Most of the existing legislation/policies are either undocumented or retrogressive;
- Lack of access to information and dissemination avenues do exist; and
- There are limited opportunities for publication.

### ***Instructive National Policy and Data Perspectives***

Two presentations were made on Kenyan by policy and data-based semi-autonomous government agencies (SAGAs).

<b>Presentation:</b>	<i>Data Considerations and Shortcomings: Censuses and Surveys</i>
<b>Presenters:</b>	A. A. Imbwaga and Dr. Collins O. Opiyo
<b>Organisations:</b>	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), Ministry of State for Planning, National Development and Vision 2030
<b>Country:</b>	Kenya
<b>Overview:</b>	The paper looks at migration and development within the framework of

the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the Programme of Action (PoA) of which mandated countries to address issues relating to international migration and development.

It made the following main points:

- Population censuses, surveys and civil registrations are the major sources of data on migration in any country;
- The challenges that many countries including Kenya face, relate to effective migration management in order to enhance its positive and reduce its negative impacts;
- Data on migration remain scanty and records of international migrants are grossly incomplete;
- Estimation of remittances is unreliable;
- Migration data suggest that migration patterns in Kenya remain the same in the thirty years 1969-1999 even when it is clear that redistribution patterns have changed significantly;
- Kenya conducted a national IDPs survey/census in 2008 following the post-2007 general elections violence which produced a total of 643,000 IDPs;
- Questions used in past censuses to elicit answers on immigration are inadequate; and
- For the first time ever, the 2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census questionnaire will have some short questions on emigrants at the household level.

<b>Presentation:</b>	<i>National Policy and Programme Development</i>
<b>Presenters:</b>	Dr. Boniface K'Oyugi
<b>Organisations:</b>	Chief Executive Officer, National Coordinating Agency for Population and Development
<b>Country:</b>	Kenya
<b>Overview:</b>	This paper adopted the 1994 ICPD framework and highlights what governmental institutions are doing in realising the mandate of the ICPD. It sheds light on the seven elements of the ICPD framework in detail and highlights what the Kenya Government is doing in each of those areas.

The paper highlighted the following points:

- The paper notes persistent population distribution between rural and urban area with severe consequences to sustainable development;
- The underlines the point that the ICPD PoA requires nations to address the root causes of poverty, maximising benefits of migration and the reintegration of return migrants;
- Like many countries within the GHA region, Kenya is very concerned about the emigration of skilled manpower to higher income countries in the continent and beyond; and
- The paper explores some aspects of possible collaboration between AMADPOC and population coordinating institutions in the GHA region. To this end, it sees a clear role for AMADPOC in collaborating with national GHA research and training

institutions. To this end, AMADPOC should: (a) collaborate with national population coordinating bodies/secretariats in the GHA region; (b) work with research and training institutions in the region; and (c) assist partner institutions to facilitate communicating research findings to policymakers thereby helping them identify windows of opportunity, support advocacy champions and evolve viable networks.

### Discussion

- (i) Participants wondered about the sensitivity of the indicators used in gauging migration patterns in Kenya between 1969 and 1999;
- (ii) Interrogated was the role of local administration in documenting and tracking population movements for planning;
- (iii) The session recognised important role played by remittances in household economies but also underscored their volatility, particularly during the current global economic downturn. It is important to champion the significance of remittances while remaining aware of the fragility of this enterprise;
- (iv) Taxation policies are most likely to result in non-disclosure of remittances; and
- (v) Actionable data is lacking on areas of remittances and migration in general and requires to be addressed.

### SESSION IV: DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS' INITIATIVES IN MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

This session saw by presentations by the two development partners represented at the seminar, namely the IOM and UNIFEM. They provided insights of what they have been doing in the GHA region and Southern Africa respectively. Their presentations demonstrated what they could do with the GHA countries and AMADPOC.

#### ***(a) International Organisation for Migration***

The representative of this migration-based agency made a presentation on the “migration-development nexus”. In Africa, one of IOM’s focal areas is Migration and Development in Africa (MIDA) which is accessible as [www.midagrandslacs.org](http://www.midagrandslacs.org).

IOM has four pillars in this: forced migration (IDPs, counter-trafficking); facilitating migration; regulating migration; and migration and development. The presentation, based on the standard IOM template, concentrated on MIDA.

The main issues addressed included: (a) poverty as the root cause of migration; (b) the impact of globalisation; (c) brain drain as a loss of initial investment in education; (d) remittances currently exceeding overseas development assistance (ODA) or foreign aid and growing but with exact figures unknown; (e) transfers of skills in which MIDA is crucial; (f) trade linkages due to migration; (g) social links occasioned by migration.

The presentation underscored the following points:

- Difficulty in quantifying of all the above;
- Migration is not a substitute for development policy;
- Some key lessons already learnt;
- The need to target pertinent issues at different levels;

- Labour migration is a reality which requires facilitation;
- Migrants want to help their home countries, this happening at family and community levels;
- It is time to integrate migration into development policy;
- It is necessary to undertake mapping of the Diaspora;
- IOM has the Great Lakes project which has generated useful lessons;
- It is advisable to tap the Diaspora as a resource for developing the home countries, in which virtual transfer of knowledge is an important component;
- MIDA has provided a significant contribution and instructive lessons; and
- The way forward should embrace (a) enhancing knowledge of the effects of migration policies on development and promoting policy dialogue.

**(b) UNIFEM**

The UNIFEM representative provided insights into Zimbabwe women’s involvement in informal cross-border trade. Her presentation was based on desk study of existing literature.

The presentation covered the following:

- Institutional surveys which UNIFEM has undertaken or supported;
- Harmful practices targeting women, e.g. female genital mutilation (FGM);
- Women as small-time traders moving goods across borders, the gender dominating because of poverty and food security reasons;
- How international cross-border trade (ICBT) can contribute to women’s empowerment;
- Little or low capital is essential to start a business;
- Educated people are also engaged in ICBT;
- Specific recommendations were made for governments; and
- Conclusions drawn included the role of ICBT in MDG1, i.e. alleviation of poverty; it contributes to GDP directly and indirectly; it is being seen as prostitution as women spend many days away from home; and it continues to play an important role in social and economic activities of families and communities.

**FINAL SESSION: NEEDS IDENTIFICATION, THE WAY FORWARD AND NARROWING FOCUS**

This session began with break-out groups on research and data, training and capacity building, and policies and programmes. The respective groups identified specific needs for discussions in the final plenary session.

**Research Agenda**

AGENDA	ACTIVITY
Remittances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The definitions and concept of remittances;</li> <li>• Impact on development; policies in place for handling remittances;</li> <li>• Institutions and legal frameworks; and</li> <li>• Best practices: evidence based, that is, use of empirical data.</li> </ul>

Brain drain/brain circulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The attributes of those involved;</li> <li>• magnitude of the problem;</li> <li>• Causes, benefits and Risks; and</li> <li>• Impact on development.</li> </ul>
Feminisation of migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding women and migration; and</li> <li>• Gender dimensions of migration and development.</li> </ul>
Forced migration (refugees/asylum seekers/IDPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying durable solutions;</li> <li>• Local integration;</li> <li>• Positive and negative impacts on development;</li> <li>• Root causes; and</li> <li>• Magnitude of the problem.</li> </ul>
Internal migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigating on IDPs and magnitude of the problem;</li> <li>• Understanding the nature of rural-urban and urban-rural (including return);</li> <li>• Regional comparative studies of three, five or seven or all 10 GHA countries on internal migration; and</li> <li>• Urbanisation and its implications.</li> </ul>
Policies, laws and institutions governing migration	There is need for capacity building.
Comparative research on migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparing research within and without individual GHA countries and across nations (internal and external);</li> <li>• Regional comparative studies; and</li> <li>• Comparative studies of national Diasporas.</li> </ul>
Research and data dissemination	There is a need to design and development of appropriate models and information sharing

## Data Agenda

AGENDA	ACTIVITY
Methodology and Ethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantitative and qualitative methods should be employed as deemed necessary;</li> <li>• Accuracy and reliability are the hallmark of good data;</li> <li>• Focus should be on credibility of the data generated; and</li> <li>• Appropriate models should be developed using the available data.</li> </ul>
Data and Information Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is need for comprehensiveness of the data to fill migration data gaps in the previous surveys, e.g. DHS;</li> <li>• National statistical systems should assist in conducting migration studies and infusion of migration modules in national surveys;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Censuses should include questions geared toward collecting migration data;</li> <li>• Timeliness and up to date data or information on migration should be observed; and</li> <li>• Available data should be retrievable, accessibility and be user friendly.</li> </ul>
Data Quality	Needs to reflect accuracy, reliability and credibility.
Data Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential sources of data include national IDs; and</li> <li>• GHA countries should try systems such as population registers and civil registration which exist in the Nordic countries as they provide reliable migration data.</li> </ul>

## Policies and Programmes

### GENERAL POINTS

- Migration is a cross-cutting issue but hardly considered so in policy documents or frameworks;
- Migration is dealt with in terms of control and security (procedures, legal/illegal) and as a threat;
- Migration is not viewed as a development issue and there is need to shift this perspective;
- Migration, whether voluntary or forced, has impacts on efforts towards integration, for example, in the East African Community (ECA);
- Policy should address the risks of migration, e.g. its volume and impact on receiving country resources as well as infrastructure;
- Brain drain is an important form of migration which requires policy intervention; and
- Women/gender cuts across migration and development issues and should not be handled properly in policy frameworks.

### POLICY INTERVENTIONS

- Labour migration policies should deal with seasonal migration and brain drain among others.
- University graduates should be encouraged to seek employment opportunities elsewhere and thus exploit their full potential.
- Government labour departments/ministries should register people who want to migrate.
- Educational and training policies should embrace migration in order to recognise the place of human resources in the development process and to permit exchange of information on migration.
- Proper documentation of remittances is necessary as a way of ascertaining both volume and value.
- Policies fostering linkages between the Diaspora and home-based nationals are necessary to enhance their contribution to home-country vis-à-vis destination-country development.

- Different policies security and legal implications of migration.
- Cross-border migration policies should have bilateral and multilateral frameworks for dealing with migration.

#### PROGRAMMES

- There is need for training/orientation of migrants for vocations in the chosen destinations and when they return to their home countries. Programmes in Asian countries such as the Philippines, Bangladesh, Korea and so on are instructive for GHA countries;
- Assistance for voluntary return migrants (re-integration, payment of experts) is necessary even if the return is virtual; and
- Migration management programmes should focus on origins of migrants to avoid subjecting migrants to trying conditions at the destinations.

Discussions of the group report generated additional points, viz:

- Reintegration of return migrants help to reorient them to the situation in the home countries.
- Policies and programmes in support of research and training institutions to be developed in a participatory manner.
- Sectoral aspects of policies should be looked at, for instance, harmonising the work of departments/ministries handling immigration, labour and foreign affairs; this would foster policy coherence.
- Limiting government departments/ministries to immigration leaves out emigration to which attention is seldom given.

#### Training and Capacity Building:

There was consensus that the region has similar migration challenges and thus training needs are more or less the similar. It was also identified that the porous borders between countries requiring not only beefing up border-control personnel, but also using state-of-the-art equipment for managing cross-border migration. There is little or no collaboration between neighbouring states in the management of cross border movements. Migration training and capacity of policymakers should be extended to include ministries of Finance, Trade and Industry, Foreign Affairs and so on.

Migration training should be carried out in 3 key areas:

FOCUS AREA	CONTENTS
Public Relations/Customer Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• international migration policy and management;</li> <li>• Customer service delivery;</li> <li>• Decision making management;</li> <li>• Refugee status determination and asylum admission;</li> <li>• Language skills;</li> <li>• Graduate-level training on immigration law and international relations;</li> <li>• Inter-linkages/mobilisation; and</li> <li>• Training in aspects of human rights, of researchers and of</li> </ul>

	migrants.
Migration Management Techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General border management and control;</li> <li>• Passport and document control;</li> <li>• Human trafficking/smuggling drug peddling;</li> <li>• Information security;</li> <li>• Interview techniques;</li> <li>• Investigation and prosecution;</li> <li>• Passenger and travel itineraries profile;</li> <li>• Forgery detection techniques;</li> <li>• Management and Leadership;</li> <li>• Human resource management and development programmes;</li> <li>• Financial planning and management programmes;</li> <li>• Counter-terrorism and other organised crime; and</li> <li>• Visitor credibility and theory</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Training and capacity building on equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desk duty and computer systems;</li> <li>• Database design and implementation management; and</li> <li>• Electronic processing archives and border control</li> </ul>

**Note:** Training programmes will vary from short-term to medium-term training and long-term depending on objectives and outcomes.

## OUTCOMES OF THE SEMINAR

- As this was the first seminar in the GHA region to bring together policymakers, researchers, migration experts and development partners, it made a firm ground-breaking effort;
- Attendance of the seminar by representatives of five governments from the invited ten (with Somalia likely to be unrepresented), migration experts and other social scientists, two development partners and the British High Commission as an observer, all invited at very short notice, gave it impetus as an innovative move toward migration and development work in the GHA region;
- The seminar provided an opportunity for different categories of representatives come to grips with and discuss migration and development issues which have either previously featured or are likely to influence their work in future;
- The seminar achieved all its objectives, providing hope for all stakeholders to undertake more focused work on migration and development in the GHA region.
- Analysis of participants' evaluation of the seminar suggests that it was a great success and that different stakeholders see AMADPOC as facilitator, coordinator and catalyst of its four programme areas relating to migration and development policy in the GHA region;
- The seminar provided the first step for forging networking on migration and development in the region;

- The seminar gave AMADPOC invaluable experience on the challenges of organising a GHA-wide forum from which the Centre expects to make improvements for similar and other activities in the future; and
- Against the backdrop of the seminar, AMADPOC, benefiting from its recently constituted Advisory Board, will develop a strategic plan for the period 2009-2013 to streamline migration development work in SSA, with particular focus on the GHA region.

At closing ceremony of the seminar, the management of AMADPOC expressed satisfaction with its outcome, thanked all the participants for attending the seminar at very short notice, promised to incorporate points raised in a forthcoming strategic plan for 2009-2013 and thanked DFID for sponsoring the seminar, also at very short notice. On behalf of all the participants, some participants volunteered to thank AMADPOC and urged it to ensure that the initiative already made flourishes to realise research and data, training and capacity building, policy dialogue and networking and establishment of a viable resource centre on migration and development.

The ball is now in AMADPOC's court to play as necessary in the interest of the GHA region. All the seminar papers will be posted on AMADPOC's website for the seminar participants and other interested parties to read and determine how best to become involved in migration and development work in the GHA region.

**APPENDIX I  
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