

Migration in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Dr. Melissa Siegel WUN Migration Conference, 26 April 2015



The channels through which migration can benefit development are vast and do not only concern migrant sending countries.



Migration, Development & Dignity

- Reducing inequalities is overarching objective of the sustainable development agenda
- The right to migrate is one of the biggest inequalities we have today (see work of Michael Clemens).
- Migration has always been "one of the most powerful and immediate strategies for poverty reduction."
- Migrants, refugees, displaced persons must be treated equally, and included in development efforts.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – 8 targets implemented in 2000 with a fifteen-year deadline.

The original MDGs did not explicitly link migration and development. However, most of the goals have important linkages to migration.

 Open Working Group proposal for Sustainable Development Goals

 Synthesis Report of the Secretary-General On the Post-2015 Agenda

Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

• In the introduction to its proposed SDGs, the OWG stresses that sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection should benefit all people, "without distinction of any kind such as...*migratory* status"

Goal 8 of the proposed SDGs

- to "promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all."
- 8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including *migrant workers*, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

Goal 10

- to "reduce inequality within and among countries"
- 10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies
- 10.c By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent

Data, monitoring and accountability

 17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries,....., to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, *migratory status*, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts



Urban goal

 GOAL 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



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30..... And we are a mobile world, with more than 232 million *international migrants* – and almost one billion when *internal migrants* are counted. These trends will have direct impacts on our goals and present both challenges and opportunities.

46. Mechanisms to review the implementation of goals will be needed, and the availability of and access to data would need to be improved, including the disaggregation of information by gender, age, race, ethnicity, *migratory status*, disability, geographic location, and other characteristics relevant to national contexts.



51. All voices have demanded that we **leave no one behind**, **ensuring equality**, **nondiscrimination**, **equity and inclusion** at all levels...need to include the poor, children, adolescents, youth, and the aged, as well as the unemployed, rural populations, slum dwellers, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, *migrants*, *refugees and displaced persons*, vulnerable groups and minorities......

68.The agenda must accommodate the voices of women, youth and minorities, seek the prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, **remove obstacles to full participation** by persons with disabilities, older persons, adolescents and youth, and empower the poor. It must **not exclude migrants**, **refugees**, **displaced persons**, or persons affected by conflict and occupation.

- 72. Economic growth should lead to shared prosperity......
 migrants have decent employment, social protection, and access to financial services, will be a hallmark of our economic success.
- 117. Efforts should be intensified to **reduce costs on the transfer of remittances**, in a manner fully respecting the rights of **migrants**. I welcome the commitment of G20 countries to reduce the global average cost of transferring remittances to five per cent.
- 157. Today's world is a troubled world.....Societies are under serious strain, stemming from the erosion of our common values, climate change and growing inequalities, to *migration* pressures and borderless pandemics. It is also a time in which the strength of national and international institutions is being seriously tested...



This gives us (WUN) an opportunity....

4 Key global challenges WUN

- Understanding Cultural
- (Public) Health
- Climate Change
- Global higher Education (and research)
- Linkages between migration and these areas are clear but still under-studied
- Need to be better about promoting finds and making sure we access (have a dialogue with) policy makers

Mainstreaming migration in post 2015

- Focus on WUN thematic areas in the SDGs
- Focus on producing evidence on migration and the key thematic areas of WUN to feed into the knowledge base

How can these links be appropriately addressed by policy?

- Policy coherence is important
 - Institutional coherence will feed in to policy coherence
 - Whole of government approach to migration and development is most affective
 - Horizontal and vertical coherence

How can we better gather and use data to add to evidence base as well as to monitor progress on migration-related development initiatives?

Let's make sure that: Migration-related development benefits are not be "left on the table" as a result of poor policies!