Rural Migrants to Urban Areas

Ellen Hamilton, Lead Urban Specialist, the World Bank
Rural-urban migration in economic development

55% IN CITIES TODAY
68% BY 2050

MIGRATION MAIN DRIVER OF URBAN GROWTH

FUTURE OF MANY/MOST RURAL RESIDENT LIES IN MOVING TO THE CITY.

3 OF 4 MIGRANTS ARE DOMESTIC

9.4% OF GLOBAL GDP DUE TO MIGRANTS
Importance of rural-urban migration in economic development

• Most rapid rate of rural-urban migration in low-income countries

• Rural-urban migration drives urbanization (not natural increase)

• “Push” and “Pull” forces explain migration.
## Drivers of Urban-Rural Migration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Factors</th>
<th>Push</th>
<th>Pull</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Unemployment</td>
<td>• More employment opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Poverty</td>
<td>• Higher wages</td>
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<td>• Land tenure insecurity</td>
<td>• More career options</td>
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<tr>
<th>Social Factors</th>
<th>Push</th>
<th>Pull</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Poor quality education and healthcare</td>
<td>• Better education and healthcare</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Limited public services</td>
<td>• More public services</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Political Instability</td>
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<td>• Conflicts</td>
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<th>Environmental Factors</th>
<th>Push</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Climate change</td>
<td>• Better climate and disaster resilience</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Low agricultural productivity</td>
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Impacts of rural-urban migration

Individual / Household

Rural

Urban

Economy
Snapshot of rural-urban migration across the world

China

- Rapid economic growth and rapid rural to urban migration.
- By 2030, up to 70% of population will be urban
- Keeping up with urban services and pollution are major issues

(WDR 2009)
Snapshot of rural-urban migration across the world

Brazil

- 1960s & 1970s saw 40 million people migrate from rural to urban areas
- Today, younger works still move to cities for opportunities.

(WDR 2009)
India

- In India migrants move from lagging to leading areas.
What do we know about rural-urban migration in MENA?
rural-urban migration in MENA

LESS MOBILE

• City systems are fragmented

• Education systems produce stuck people

• MENA countries are walled off
According to international evidence, rural-urban migration in MENA countries is LESS MOBILE.

- **In MENA countries**
  - Human capital
  - Credentialistic education
  - Immobility

(WB 2019)
Migration pushed by Conflict

• Cities are the forefront of the forced displacement response: In MENA, the share of IDPs (Internal Displacement People) are higher – an estimated 80-90 percent live in towns and cities (WB 2017).

• MENA is estimated to have more than 10.5 million IDPs (IDMC 2018), which has been continuously increased since 2009.

• Jordan’s population growth rate, which averaged 3.2 percent over 2000–16, rose to 7 percent a year from 2011 onward as a consequence of the large influx of refugees (WB 2017).

• Due to recent influx of Syrian refugees, Lebanon’s’ refugees per capita is 1 refugee for every 4 Lebanon (1.5 million Syrian refugees / 5.6 Lebanon nationals).
rural-urban migration in MENA

Migration pushed by Climate

• The study of climate perception and migration decision (WB 2014) discovered that climate condition account 10%-20% of current migration flow in MENA.

• Since MENA is one of the world’s most water-scarce and dry regions; the agricultural productivity is highly sensitive to climate changes.

• MENA has been subject to an almost continuous drought since 1998 (NASA 2016). Further, the temperature will be 4°C higher by 2050 (Max Planck 2016)
Solutions:

1. Emergency Planning
2. Long-term: Urban rural linkages
Jordan and Lebanon Emergency Response Projects: Community Driven Urban Upgrading

To tackle:

- Infrastructure deficit impacting economic growth;
- Increased pressure on municipal services due to influx of refugees;
- Weak capacity of local governments in service provision and in revenue generation;
- Drivers of Social Tension: competition over municipal services and jobs.

To achieve:

1. Improved quality of Life
2. Improved Social Cohesion
3. Renewed social contract

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<th>OUTCOMES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Municipal Service Delivery</td>
<td>Improved access to services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labor Intensive Public Works</td>
<td>Temporary job creation and skills transfer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Interventions</td>
<td>avenues for collaboration and cohesion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citizen Engagement</td>
<td>Building trust in local authorities</td>
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Upper Egypt Local Development Program (UELDP)

- $1bn Program ($500mn IBRD loan) for integrated development in **2 lagging governorates in Egypt**
- PDO is to improve the business environment for private sector development and strengthen local government capacity for quality infrastructure and service delivery in select governorates in Upper Egypt
- **Implementing integrated development to enhance connectivity**

**Two sub-programs and one cross-cutting area**

1. **Improving the Business Environment and Competitiveness**
2. **Improving Access to Quality Infrastructure and Services**
* **Cross Cutting Element (Citizen engagement)**
Upper Egypt Local Development Program (UELDP)

Ultimately, UEDLP aims to achieve:

1. Investing in Citizen Services & Infrastructure
   - Local road network and transport system
   - Electricity / Electricity transmission
   - Environment enhancement + Water and wastewater management

2. Investing in Local Government Performance
   - Governorate ICT Platform
   - Data Analysis and M&E
   - Upgrading government workforce skills
   - Citizen service centers

3. Investing in Private Sector Led Growth
   - Government to business service digitization & re-engineering
   - Industrial zones
   - Economic cluster support

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY
Extra slides:
Korea

- Experienced rapid urbanization from 4.9% in 1920 and 95.7% in 2005
- Governmental polices are focused on supporting construction of long-term settlement housing
- Very radical plan aimed at raising the housing supply was implemented: Two-Million Housing Unit Construction Plan (1988~1992)