

Rethinking Mobility

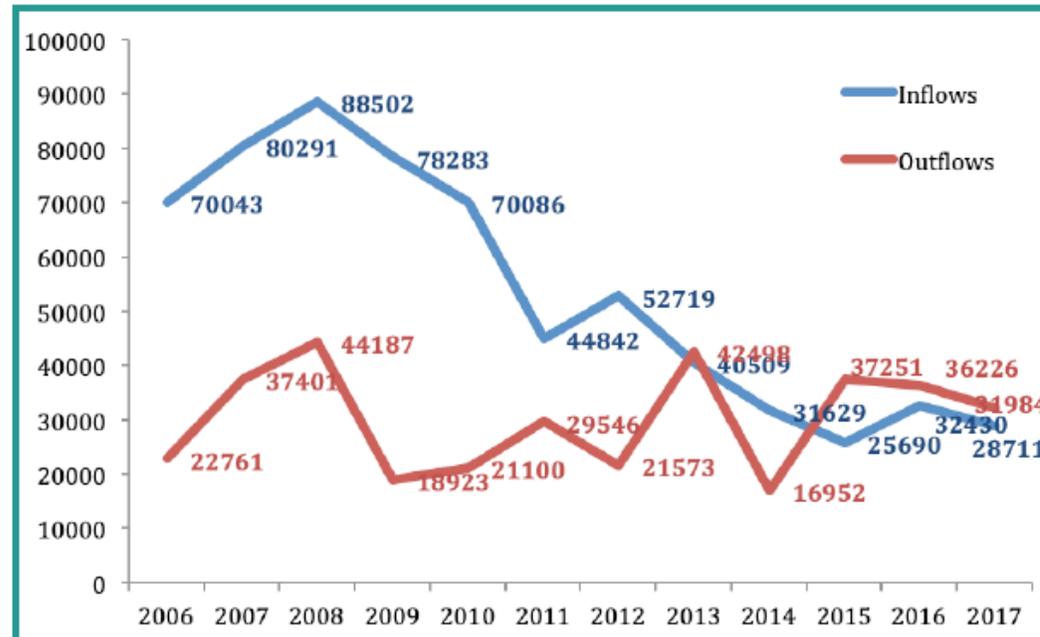
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WHY AN INTEGRATED LABOUR MARKET

- Increasing trade integration between EU and Mediterranean countries
- Relatively free capital mobility (even if FDI inflow has substantially reduced for well known reasons)
- Integrating labour markets will increase efficiency and also allow to move people instead of only jobs

Fig 1.7. FDI inflows into and outflows from the Middle East and North Africa (USDmn)



Source: Annual Investment Climate 2018 report, The Arab Investment & Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (Dhamaan). Countries tracked by Dhamaan, and included under MENA are Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE and Yemen

MAKING MIGRATION A CHOICE RATHER THAN A NECESSITY

- Improving labour market conditions and outcomes in countries of origin helps reducing the urgency of leaving the country, in turn reducing reliance on irregular migration channels and helping to ensure that eventual migrants are well-matched to the labour market demands in destination countries;
- Active labour market policies are important in providing local labour market opportunities, but are not sufficient to drastically change local labour market conditions.

INCREASING THE EMPLOYABILITY OF PROSPECTIVE MIGRANTS

- **Vocational education and training** (Tunisia, Egypt, Central America);
- **Promotion and facilitation of FDI by firms from would-be destination countries to absorb skilled workers;**
- **Skills accreditation.**

PRE-MIGRATION PREPARATION

- **Job matching interventions** (to date, for the most part concentrated on high-skill workers);
- **Provision of information on labour market and living conditions in destination countries;**
- **Pre-departure formation programmes, integrated with post migration programs**
- **Integration with post-migration programs**

Examples: The Philippines, Armenia, Indonesia, Nepal

CIRCULAR MIGRATION

- Allow to benefit from employment opportunities without having to *permanently* uproot and relocate to a foreign country;
- Facilitate two-ways flows of migrants and their accumulated knowledge, skills and capital and promote local development.
- Legislative arrangements: different legislative provision within Europe; the legislative framework is particularly well-defined in Canada (SWAP, even though with some worker-rights concerns).
- Examples of human capital transfer: MIDA project in Ghana, Tron II in a number of countries

MAKING MIGRATION A REVERSIBLE CHOICE

- Encouraging return migration

The focus is currently on encouraging the «return of talent» (Germany, Switzerland)

- Legislation in destination countries that lower the cost and help facilitating return migration.
- Transferability of social protection rights (e.g. pensions)

DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT

- **Human capital transfer** (MIDA, TOKTEN..)
- **Direct Investments in productive activities** (Ethiopia, Colombia, Ecuador..);
- **Capital market investments** (The Philippines, ..);
- **Diaspora philanthropy** (*Tres por uno Mexico*; Philanthropic intermediaries to channel donations to specific community projects in countries of origin, ex. Brazil,..);
- **Diaspora tourism.**

ADDRESSING THE UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF MIGRATION «COSTS» IN HOSTING COUNTRIES

**The inflow of migrants might generate some costs, that are currently very
unequally shared by the host population**

- **High skilled, low skilled**
- **Education**
- **Public services congestion**
- **Housing and other amenities**
- **Cultural “disharmony” and insecurity**

DATA AND ANALYSIS NEEDS

- **Gross migration flows, especially to analyze return migration flows**
- **Focus on inequality and concentration, using high resolution data**
- **Rigorous evaluation of pilot programs**