



# Final Technical Report

## Migration, Gender and Social Justice

### Connecting Research and Practice Networks

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The Migration, Gender and Social Justice project aims to make a strategic contribution to the migration field as a whole, through and from the connection of the findings on different facets of gender in migration covered by research projects funded by IDRC (2006-2011). As home of the researchers involved in the process, the following institutions are the partners of this project:



Achieve – Action for Health Initiatives Inc – Philippines



Institute for Social Development Studies – Vietnam



Centre for Woman's Development Studies – India



Universidad Alberto Hurtado – Chile



Asian Institute of Technology – Thailand



Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales – Universidad de Costa Rica



Centro de Estudios Migratorios Latinoamericanos – Argentina



Universite Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis – Senegal



El Colegio de la Frontera Sur – Mexico



Universitas Indonesia



Fujian Normal University – China



University of Western Ontario – Canada



Flasco – Dominican Republic



University of Leeds – United Kingdom

Groupe de Recherche sur les Femmes et les Lois au Sénégal



University of Windsor – Canada

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**Women and children in detention:** AP, The Herald Sun in:

Patricia Karvelas 'Child detentions "unlawful", High Court to be told', *The Australian*, January 18, 2011.

<http://www.perthnow.com.au/news/western-australia/child-detentions-unlawful-high-court-to-be-told/story-e6frg13u-1225990098177>.

**Justice photo:** Matt H. Wade [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Supreme\\_Court\\_Wade\\_19.JPG](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Supreme_Court_Wade_19.JPG).

**Young woman:** Nate Miller <http://www.flickr.com/photos/natepmiller/3148392922/in/photostream/lightbox/>.

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## Summary

During a 30-months period (2010-2013) the project Migration, Gender and Social Justice (MGSJ) and research partners from 11 previous projects – embedded in the IDRC Women and Citizenship Programme (2006-2009) and located in Asia, Africa and Latin America – were convened to form a network of researchers and practitioners to synthesize the findings and contribute to debates and solutions on gender inequality and social justice in migration<sup>1</sup>. The process has encouraged the sharing and comparison of research insights, critical reflection on the current state of knowledge about migration across the disciplines, exploring the challenges of institutional rigidity as well as the potential of rights-claiming actions to open new spaces for joint-reflection on policy and advocacy strategies. MGSJ primary aims were: 1) to support these 11 projects in deepening the analysis of data gathered and insights gained, and to compare realities manifest in the regional contexts of research; 2) to discern differences and commonalities with regard to political and cultural configurations of identities in migration, institutionalized rights violations, and measures of negotiation and rights claims; and 3) to translate research findings into policy briefs and educational materials. Through knowledge exchange and the sharing of practical experiences (including partners' methodologies of research, advocacy and rights-claiming action) the project also sought to foster cross-regional collaboration beneficial to policy in the long-term.

The cooperation between IDRC and ISS has involved four main modalities of participation: a) the inception workshop held in The Hague in 2011; b) the visiting scholar programme in 2011-2012; c) digital communication for knowledge sharing and co-production of the academic volume and policy briefs designed for policy-makers and practitioners, accessible through the project's portal, [www.iss.nl/IDRC](http://www.iss.nl/IDRC); and d) the final dissemination workshop, held in India in 2013. As a culmination of MGSJ activities, the final dissemination workshop was designed with two main objectives: 1) To launch a pre-final version of the co-edited volume entitled *Migration, Gender and Social Justice: Perspectives on Human Insecurity*, published by Springer (in a hardcover version and as an open access E-Book) as part of the Hexagon Series on Human and Environmental Security and Peace, as well as to share the policy briefs more widely – among partners and between partners and the public for wider impacts; and 2) To connect networks of researchers and practitioners, to generate critical reflections on the book and to explore emerging areas of shared interests for new forms of cooperation.

A consensus has emerged from this collaboration on how and why migration (both internal and cross-border) ought to be approached as a phenomenon integral to the complexities of social transformation in an inter-connected and globalized world. Such a perspective helps to develop a framework of gender analysis of migration and social justice that can respond to the specificities of historical and geographical contexts, including the forces behind the emergence of new forms of migration, and the corresponding forms of governmental action. Through explorations of emerging forms of circular, temporary, and transient migration and their gendered features, the research endeavours have revealed the multi-layered meanings of “gender” and their intersectional expressions in all stages of migration. In this respect, the traditional framework to women's rights and citizenship may be applicable specifically to

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<sup>1</sup> We regret that cooperation with the Universities of Ontario and Windsor did not materialize. Neither of the Canadian partners could come to the inception workshop, due to other obligations. An opportunity for the leader of the MGSJ project to meet with the partner at the University of Ontario in 2011 in Singapore at a conference on gender and migration did not come through. For a technical reason the leader of this project could not make it to the Conference in Singapore. However, one member of the project team did meet with colleagues of these universities, on their invitation, and contributed to a joint panel, as part of the Latin American Studies Association conference in San Francisco in June 2012.



immigration (or migration for permanent settlement). In other migration forms, the transnational character of power relations as well as their local expressions and affiliated practices of gender-based discrimination should be seen as a series of connected links between different institutions and relations (household, communities, market-based recruitment, relations between sending and receiving states, legal rights entitlements and work placement). The results of this research furthermore reveal that new approaches to claiming rights that recognize the roles of multiple actors and that can discern different aspects of structural vulnerability at each point in the entire migration process and develop a corresponding notion of accountability are necessary. Forms of gender-based discrimination and abuse of rights cannot therefore be easily generalized; they are contingent on the character of migration policy and its administration in a given country and the role of social networks that facilitate migration. Finally, understanding how certain practices in migration on the sending, transit and receiving ends can promote the formation of a migration system can help better identify the specific gender dynamics and their implications for social justice.

The key policy messages of MGSJ underscore the need for innovative responses through cross-fertilizing ideas between regional research networks. Promoting cooperation to reduce duplication and to avoid research driven by pure theoretical or policy interests without due consideration for gender transformation as an on-going process integral to migration itself would fall short of what is needed to meaningfully address migrants' needs and aspirations. It is therefore important to help forge a bottom-up strategy of rights claiming that can respond more directly to these needs and aspirations. While migrants' agency remains an important domain for deeper analysis, this should not be seen as a linear process. Rather this agency can result from a complex interplay between different articulations of gender as power producing diverse scenarios for migrants' agency. These policy messages do not necessarily correlate with the assumptions held by civic actors concerned only with service provision, or of achieving social justice through conventional, rights-based advocacy approaches. Current problems and challenges demand the design of bold mechanisms, including the issue of *portable social protection*, which can be seen as a synthesis of the key findings.

## 1. Research Problem

MGSJ work tried to connect different facets of research done by others on gender issues in migration and their social justice implications; therefore it did not involve a definition of a single research problem per se. MGJS used diverse research tools to find patterns of congruence of ideas generated by the findings of its partners. For decades, the framework for international migration studies (as well as that of refugee studies) has represented mainly the experiences of men at productive age, while the framework of human trafficking has almost exclusively represented the experiences of young and unmarried women. Since the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development initiated by former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in 2006, policy makers have recognized the complex factors behind an increased presence of women in migration streams – now on parity with men's – and the need to undo biased assumptions based on gender, age and productivity that have been built into research concepts, methods of data collection and the interpretation of migration. These biases have great consequences for policy choices in matters related to migration, as well as assessment of their impacts. Invisibility, misrecognition and inappropriate framing of gender concerns may be considered as the key issues for research and advocacy on social justice in migration<sup>2</sup>. The

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<sup>2</sup> For example, to account for the presence of women in migration streams Thadani and Todaro (1984) introduced a typology of women migrants, that had been missing from earlier analysis, consisting of: (a) married women migrating

promotion of inclusive practices and the search for appropriate paths to social justice for underprivileged migrants requires a more nuanced understanding of the multiple mechanisms of segregation, marginalisation (in a material as well as symbolic sense) present in informal and/or formal practices towards them.

Viewed from Burawoy's concept "Public Sociology"<sup>3</sup> research on migration, gender and social justice may be characterized by two prominent approaches: the 'problem-solving approach' (or instrumental knowledge) at one end of the spectrum, and that of 'reflexive knowledge' or critical knowledge for emancipation at the other end. The former research approach, which has reinforced state and business-centred policy approaches, draws its principles from the ethos of the nation-state and its sub-components, thereby to evaluate a given field of migration policy (labour import and export, migrants' welfare and rights, migrants' remittances, cultural assimilation and humanitarian concerns). The latter approach, which would reinforce a migrant-centred, human security approach to policymaking, treats research and knowledge as a reflexive process. It uses both multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary methods to both question the boundaries of a given definition of 'migration' as well as to bring to the fore the voices of those being 'defined' as migrants (migrants with an irregular or liminal status, formally labelled as 'undocumented' migrants, 'trafficked and/or smuggled' persons) in respect of their experiences. Incorporating migrants' voices have helped to pose questions about (a) the accountability of states in regard to its citizens who migrate within or across borders, and (b) the power relations between nation-states with regard to how international conventions on people's movement across borders are interpreted, as well as their accountability to each other and to the migrants who move between these nation-states.

The MGSJ project convened the researchers and findings from 11 research projects located in Asia, Africa and Latin America, to form a network of researchers and practitioners and to synthesize the findings of individual projects under one umbrella. The collaborative process that emerged joined concerns about gender issues in migration and their implications for social justice thinking and practices expressed at different levels and in different places. The projects explored internal and transnational and mainly intra-regional migrations, and one case of South-North migration (Senegal-Spain). The projects differed both in size and in methodology, and also in their approach to "gender" as power relations in relation to age, visibility of productivity, and ethnicity.

To provide guidance for reflection on issues of gender-based discrimination in migration, MGSJ adapted Collins' (2000: 277; Truong/Gasper 2011) four-dimensional 'matrix of domination' designed for Black studies and renamed it as the matrix of the relations of gender subordination in migration. This matrix consists of the following dimensions:

Firstly, the *hegemonic dimension* has involved the idea of the bounded nation-state with enforceable borders and a relatively clear set of norms and rules to determine membership. Accordingly cross-border migration has been defined along a series of dichotomies: 'free choice' versus 'force', 'economic migrants' versus 'refugees' and 'men as autonomous migrants' versus women as 'dependents'. Not only do these dichotomies provide legitimacy to practices having consequences for (un)fair treatment, they also cannot address the cumulative effect of the 'spiral' of discrimination, based on multiple inequalities (gender, ethnicity and/or migrant status), captured by the concept of intersectionality.

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in search of employment; (b) unmarried women migrating in search of employment; (c) unmarried women migrating for marriage reasons; and (d) married women engaged in associational migration with no thought of employment. The conceptualization of women's migration remained heavily influenced by views on the family as dominant institution.

<sup>3</sup> Burawoy, Michael (2005) "For Public Sociology." *American Sociological Review* 70(1): 4-28.

Second, the *structural dimension* has involved how migration institutions (organizations of the state, migrant recruiting agencies) can interact with each other in gendered ways that (re-) produce these series of dichotomous classifications of people on the move (skilled-unskilled, legal-illegal) with consequences for the subordination of women as a group of migrants over time.

Third, the *bureaucratic dimension* has involved regulations through stipulated norms or standards for specific groups of migrants, and surveillance practices.

Finally, the *interpersonal dimension* explains how the three elements above are manifested in everyday social interactions (among the migrants, between the migrants, the local communities, support groups and their bureaucracies) in specific contexts.

This four-dimensional matrix of the relations of gender subordination can pave the way to move thinking about gender and migration beyond the subjective domain of identity politics to show the materiality of intersecting forms of subordination producing contextually specific forms of legal liminality, and the practical challenges for advocacy on inclusive citizenship.

In view of the mixed methodologies of WCR research endeavours, the research findings had to be clustered on a thematic basis, rather than in terms of geographical coverage. Here, the matrix of gender relations of subordination was a useful tool for the MGSJ team to structure research findings and find linkages in order to prepare the book proposal for Springer, for which additional contributions were also solicited to address more conventional approaches to citizenship as well as issues of masculinities and femininities in migration, which were not systematically dealt with by the WRC research.

In some cases, partners have found the concepts of “intersectionality” and “legal liminality” difficult to use although they do not disagree with the general idea. In these cases, it was necessary to find ways to accommodate these reservations, by partnering these concepts with those projects whose findings are more conducive to their application, and identifying areas requiring the use of additional secondary data to sharpen the analysis.

The two large projects (India and China) used quantitative methods. The India research project addressed the statistical invisibility and misrepresentation of the migration of women for work in migration data and its consequences for their access to citizenship rights and social entitlements. By contrast, the China project focused on the effects of the tension between a dated Hukou system (household registration systems), which has tied rights and entitlement to social services to places of origin of the migrants, and the increased mobility of workers due to rapid industrialization. In this respect, though in different ways, both projects addressed the hegemonic dimension of gender power by showing how the three dimensional bias (gender, age, and productivity) built into knowledge and policy frameworks have rendered some categories of women migrants and their issues invisible. Despite the relatively clear set of rules to determine membership and entitlements for citizens, internal women migrant workers in low-skilled occupation do not have access to them. The India study did touch upon the position of migrant women workers as resulting from an intersection between gender, class and caste systems which has made them invisible to the eyes of statisticians and policy makers. In this respect, achieving equal access to citizenship has required a re-drawing of the boundaries of hegemonic knowledge on gender and migration in order to build a frame of interpretation and action more appropriate to changing social realities.

The set of studies that have especially addressed the structural dimension of relations of gender subordination involving the interactions by both migration institutions (organizations of the state, migrant recruiting agencies, employers), and households were: Indonesian domestic workers in the United Arab Emirates; the bilateral arrangement between Senegal and Spain; the migration of Burmese workers along Thailand’s northern border with Burma and the migration

of Vietnamese women as brides to Taiwan and South Korea. A common issue shared by these projects concerns the relations of social reproduction (cultural, social, and economic) that has given form to women's migration for work and how women migrants have maintained caring relations across borders. The hegemonic definition of domestic work and care work as non-work has filtered down to practices adopted by multiple actors involved in the migration process, who also benefit from the deficiencies in arrangements for cross-border migration at the expense of the female migrants. The complex machinery of the multi-location migration system has also contributed to making the workers invisible to the eyes of the law and policy-making bodies in both the countries of origin and destination. Overall, this set of studies point to how the economy and society of receiving countries are being reproduced on the backs of migrant workers in homes, factories and fields, while hostility to the workers prevails.

The Mali-Senegal project addresses the representation of women migrant workers in the legal sphere and specifically the institutional rigidity that has made them invisible. On the one side, Malian women migrant workers in Senegal, though growing in numbers, have been side-lined by labour unions who resist accepting women's work in the informal sector (petty-traders, domestic workers, laundry service workers and so forth as work). On the other side, the migration of teenage women and children for work was also made invisible by legislation that has defined movements across border by people under the age of 18 as having been subjected to child trafficking. In the case of migration as guides of male beggars, built-in assumptions in research on children's work that defines "begging" as the work of boys has also added another layer of invisibility. The concept of intersectionality was applied here to interpret the findings, showing how "agency" could be understood from the perspective of the web of relationships of mutual dependence between the female guides (children and young women) and the adult male beggars, which cannot be simply reduced as "child trafficking".

Also centred on the migrants, intersectionality was useful to interpret the findings of the Philippines' research on the sexual and reproductive health (SRH) of migrant domestic workers in Qatar, Singapore and Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China). It helped to discern how their poor state of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) can be an outcome a combination of different forms of institutional discrimination that are interconnected in respect to: (a) the worth of their 'identity' (migrant, female, the work they do); (b) the distinct aspects of discourses on sexuality and normativity which specifically relate to the presence of migrants in the destination countries and (c) ideational and material realities constraining migrants' own agency in finding adequate care. Variations in access to services may be explained in terms of the types and degree of migrants' structural vulnerability in regard to labour rights, the relationship with employers and migrants' associations, and their personal SRH awareness.

Placed in the bureaucratic dimension of migration control, involving surveillance practices and regulations through stipulated norms or standards for the programming of migrant-related activities, the concept of "legal liminality" was useful in interpreting the findings of the Chile research on Peruvian women domestic workers. As a category placed outside of labour law, domestic work is not recognized in the bureaucracy of migration. Migrant domestic workers from Peru, who have chosen short-distance migration to better maintain links with their places of origins, face an ambiguous legal position, which has over time fostered their dependence on social networks for their protection and employment. This dependence in turn produces a process of racialization in social perceptions of migrants and further re-enforces discrimination based on their identities as workers and as indigenous people. Inter-personal relationships through social networks have more impact on their lives than their relations with the states of origin and destination.

Though also applicable to the situation of transient migrants in Southern Mexico, the concept of legal liminality was not applied in this case owing to the fact that the Mexican study dealt with a mixed group of Guatemalan women with different migrant statuses (long-term residents and



immigrants, transient migrants, circular migrants, border workers). Due to the re-scaling of control at the Southern Mexican border – supposedly to increase the management efficiency of different flows of migrants – Guatemalan women migrants regardless of whether they are long-term residents or newly-arrived, have faced similar problems of discrimination on the basis of their identity as being of indigenous origin. In order to capture the meanings of their agency, this research has taken on board the concept of “strategic invisibility” to explain how leading an “invisible” life can be a choice for those who want to avoid problems, due to their lack of power for voicing experiences of physical and verbal abuse. This strategy has also affected migrants’ children’s access to education, legally guaranteed by Mexico’s new law on migration. Both the Chilean and Mexican research have shown the limits of current advocacy strategies on migrants’ rights, given that social organisations seem not yet able to grasp the considerable structural constraints on migrants’ agency.

The Costa Rican study stands on its own with its focus on a public sociology for migrants. It helps connect all the concerns expressed in different projects about the need to move beyond an instrumental approach in building knowledge about migration and to embrace those practices of knowledge construction that have more emancipatory potentials.

To recapitulate, the work of MGSJ did not involve a definition of a single research problem. Rather it used diverse research tools to find patterns of congruence of ideas generated by the findings of different research projects.

## 2. Objectives

In the project design, the objectives were stated as follows:

Through knowledge-sharing, reciprocal learning and academic support, this project attempts to identify areas of intersection between different relations of inequality specific to each IDRC-funded project while respecting its unique context and its findings. Built on the assumption that knowledge-sharing is beneficial not only to individual partners but also to groups of researchers, space will be given to discuss and reflect on each other’s research endeavours and their results.

Two key concepts have guided the learning process: 1) reciprocal learning (central to interdisciplinary research) and 2) self-reflexive learning (central to post-colonial feminist theories of knowledge and theories of globalization). These concepts recognize that knowledge production does not occur in a ‘flat terrain’, but one laden with values, power relations and priorities. Therefore, learning from others and reflecting on one’s own position are crucial for shifting lenses and changing perspectives in order to review the directions of analyses and prescriptions. Given that power and institutional conditions have the capacity to shape knowledge in particular ways (to the extent of systemically suppressing dissenting voices), attention to group dynamics, patterns of social inequality, and institutional conditions which generate differences in knowledge positions have formed crucial parts of the project. Encounter with ‘difference’ in the space created by the project has the potential to generate a process of change of values and behaviour and to foster more openness by which to appreciate each other’s perspectives and realities. Such encounters can help partners to connect findings with a joint-reflection on what a strategy for change in each context may entail, what processes may be involved and the viability of options for action.

### *General objectives*

1. To create a platform of reciprocal learning for analyses of the relations between gender, migration and social justice in order to clarify the [corresponding] strategies and make these more mutually supportive rather than exclusive.
2. To connect communities of researchers and practitioners involved in social justice movements to develop new abilities for working in inter-disciplinary and cross-cultural teams and for communicating recommendations effectively – thereby making an impact both in civil society forums on migration, gender and development, and in inter-governmental dialogues on cooperation for social justice.
3. To contribute to a change of attitudes and views in ways that can bridge the discrepancy of understanding between ‘international migration’ (a definition based on the nation-state as a unit and actor in international relations) and ‘transnational’ migration (a definition based on the recognition of a transnational space formed by the actions of a variety of actors, including but not limited to the nation-state). The former definition is confined mainly to the management of aggregate flows between countries (population, goods, finance, skills etc). The latter definition seeks comprehension of the interaction between global and local dynamics of migration to show the relevance of a mixed approach in research, advocacy and policy prescription.

### *Specific objectives*

1. To facilitate the IDRC-funded research projects on women, migration and citizenship in producing: a) high quality research which can be subject to peer reviews for publication; b) policy briefs which have the authority to influence policy makers and also appeal to civil society forums. These can take the forms of booklets, fact sheets and similar presentation of research outcomes.
2. To facilitate academic support (theory, methodology, analysis) and technical assistance which will be provided to achieve the general objectives mentioned above. Academic support will include: the setting up of a Drop box system for sharing knowledge, short-term coaching on various subjects for those in need (academic writing as a tool for persuasion, web-based research methods, on-line academic support) to improve the quality of research outcomes. Technical assistance will include the core areas of expertise of the ISS team: migration, gender and the ethics of development and public policy, citizenship and socio-legal approaches to human rights strategies in migration, and local governance and migration.
3. To strengthen the overall position of the IDRC research programme on migration within the thematic area of Women and Citizenship – through synthesis of the materials and provision of directions for integrating the perspectives generated by individual projects.
4. To generate added values for ISS researchers through reciprocal learning and co-production.

The understanding of the objectives has deepened during implementation, and the means chosen to fulfil them evolved accordingly. The platform for reciprocal learning can, however, be said to have achieved its goals of mutual support. This process has helped clarify the distinction between forms of knowledge in migration studies, their respective functions and how to creatively use them. In terms of specific objectives, the first, third and fourth objectives were met

with the publication of both the volume on *Migration, Gender, and Social Justice: Perspectives on Human Insecurity* published by Springer in 2013, in hard copy and as an open access E-book, and the policy briefs. The key technical lessons drawn from the production of publications as planned are the high demand in synchronizing different paces of work in all 11 locations with the locations of the numerous referees, to meet the requirements of the publisher, and how to organize the editorial service accordingly. These aspects added considerably more work for the team, particularly the management team (Truong and DeVargas), especially towards the deadline of submission for Springer. By teaming up with partners, the ISS team managed to finalize all the chapters of the 11 projects so that the book did not leave anyone out. This was an important achievement, but at major extra cost in terms of time and additional research on the side of the ISS team.

The second objective, involving academic support (theory, methodology, analysis) was met, as evidenced by the publications. However, mention should be made of some aspects of technical assistance which have been revised in the process of implementation:

- The project's intranet (or "Moodle") was set up to share literature and stimulate discussions on line (instead of a Drop Box system as originally planned). In the process of implementation this did not prove to be feasible for reasons related to copyrights and the limited use done by partners. In hindsight, the Drop Box system would have been a better means of sharing information between partners since it is also designed for a closed community, but is easier to use. However, in both cases there is the issue of limited time available for accessing and exploring the material. The project developed a simple portal through which key outputs can be made publicly accessible, [www.iss.nl/IDRC](http://www.iss.nl/IDRC).
- The component of teaching web-based research methods was discontinued after the inception workshop due to a difference of understanding between the principal investigator and the consultant about the technical term "community of practice" on the one hand and the term "capacity-building" in web-based research methodology on the other. One idea was to build a Community of Practice for migration using the Internet through the activities of MGSJ, which could be further developed and maintained after the project period of two years. The idea of capacity-building in web-based research methodology would involve face-to-face training as a single event. The MGSJ team decided to focus on the production of educational materials and policy briefs for dissemination as more concrete output, and to build the practice of collective learning through the collaboration to produce these materials as expected outputs. This is because idea of a community of practice requires the active participation of members in a process of collective learning for which we were uncertain after the inception workshop when partners explicit indicated limited interest and time available for this purpose. Additionally, a structure would have to be created within the community to assist the creation and knowledge sharing.
- The modality of academic writing skills training was changed from workshops to on-line and face-to face-support for visiting scholars, which allowed much fuller interaction. The success of academic-writing skills support was variable; certainly all chapters and policy briefs were brought to a satisfactory level but this in several cases required major professional investment.
- The visiting scholar scheme also allowed time for deep reflection and interaction with and between fellow researchers from other projects, and proved to be an essential component in the project.

A lesson to be drawn from the technical aspect of co-learning is the fact that the notion of "capacity-building" should have been defined in a clearer way and according to this

definition supportive activities should be designed according to the needs of research partners, as was then actually applied through the course of the project.

## 4. Methodology

The project's methodology was built on the premise of participation and mutual learning through four main modalities:

- The inception workshop held in the Hague in 2011, which provided inputs into the design of the activities that followed;
- The visiting scholar programme in 2011-2012;
- On-going digital communication for knowledge sharing and co-production of the academic volume and policy briefs designed for policy-makers and practitioners, through Moodle, email and the project's web portal, [www.iss.nl/IDRC](http://www.iss.nl/IDRC) and
- The final dissemination workshop, which had these objectives:- launching a pre-final version of the co-edited volume entitled *Migration, Gender and Social Justice: Perspectives on Human Insecurity*; sharing the policy briefs more widely;-to connect networks of researchers and practitioners; and to generate critical reflections on the book and explore emerging areas of shared interests for new forms of cooperation.

The inception workshop brought to the surface the significance of a contextual understanding of gender in migration and its social configurations. The workshop also helped to clarify partners' views on how to cluster these research endeavours and how to organize the activities of collaboration in the following 2 years, especially in light of the production of educational materials and policy briefs. Evaluation questionnaires were used to assess the inception workshop and the visiting scholar programmes so as to make necessary adjustments and improve the design and delivery of the final dissemination workshop, bearing in mind the need to make the participatory approach explicit.

The conversion of three scholarships to attend the Diploma programme on Migration and Human Security into a Visiting Scholar Programme proved to be extremely helpful since it enabled MGSJ to bring nine scholars in the project to ISS, each for a period of time between 3 and 6 weeks. During this time the visitors worked on their chapter for the book and to contribute to preparing a policy brief for their respective projects. Interactions during these visits have contributed to bringing the quality of the chapters up to the level required for peer-reviews towards a high quality academic publication, and have also helped develop the policy briefs into an attractive form. The partners who participated in this activity were:

1. Claudia Mora;
2. Sulistiyowati Irianto;
3. Yu Zhu;
4. Aly Tandian;
5. Le Bach Duong;
6. Khuat Thu Hong;
7. Marta Luz Rojas Wiesner;
8. Indrani Mazumdar
9. Indu Agnihotri





## 5. Project Activities

The inception workshop brought together 17 partners. The presentations and discussions revealed the richness of the findings, the complex realities of rights claiming, and the need for an inductive approach to find appropriate points of departure that help to connect the diverse contributions. The workshop also planted the seeds for collaboration between research partners in terms of peer-to-peer support and technical support in the preparation of the planned outputs of the MGSJ project. Significantly, the discussions that took place also pointed to a need to clarify the term ‘feminization’ of migration, which variously refers to (i) statistical representation of women in migration streams (internal, cross-border, south-north and south-south); (ii) migration as a phenomenon with gendered characteristics and (iii) the precariousness of some modes of migration and means of livelihood as women migrants. Key stakeholders (UN officials, civil society advocates, government officials both in the sending and receiving countries) hold different normative views on migrants’ rights and are confused about the meanings of “feminization” of migration. A focal point for cooperation within MGSJ became to clarify these meanings and implications for research and policy. Different contexts demand different public advocacy targets and strategies. Therefore, a critical issue for this project was to discern clearly what kind of social transformation was sought for through a particular civic intervention (social, cultural, legal, political, or a combination of these). A critical view on civil society was helpful to provide understanding about the embeddedness of advocacy. The workshop provided ideas for the proposal and for the design of activities that followed (see Annex I and II: Conceptual Note and Inception Workshop Report)

The visiting scholar programme in 2011-12 brought nine researchers from the following projects for periods of writing in The Hague: Chile-Peru, Indonesia-United Arab Emirates; China, Senegal-Spain, Vietnam-Taiwan-South Korea; India; Guatemala-Mexico. Partners worked on their chapters with an ISS-peer assigned to each project and, if requested, with the academic writing skills instructor. They were also assigned to a specialist on policy brief writing to

translate their findings into clear policy messages. Most of the visits overlapped, sometimes for several weeks, which proved helpful in generating discussions, both amongst the MGSJ visitors and with colleagues at ISS. As part of their stay at ISS, each visiting scholar was asked to present their draft at a public seminar, which generated useful comments and discussions for further refinement of their work.

On-going digital communication was used for both knowledge sharing and co-production of the academic volume and policy briefs aimed at policy-makers and practitioners. As mentioned, the Moodle set up was not appropriate due to access difficulties and copyrights, so in the end the staff had to rely on one-to-one online communication.

The final dissemination workshop took place at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum in India, a leading centre of migration research. This occurred with excellent cooperation from Professor S. Irudaya Rajan and his colleagues, students and staff. The workshop brought together a number of 13 MGSJ partners, as well as others more than 40 participants, including the Rector of the International Institute of Social Studies, and high level policy-makers and researchers on migration in India, to interact with researchers, practitioners, and advocates from different global, regional and national networks. In addition, a few high-level Indian policy makers at both the national level as well as the provincial level participated as speakers and chairs of particular sessions.

The design of the workshop sought to maximise the level of participation through the following measures: assigning two discussants for each paper presented; making bi-lingual translation services (French-English and Spanish-English) available and organizing two break-out sessions. Four themes were explored in the break-out sessions that have emerged from the discussions within the MGSJ framework and were considered to be at the cutting edge of research and policy debates. These themes were proposed and accepted by workshop participants, namely: Feminist economics and migration studies; Gender and youth migration research and practice; Emerging patterns of South-South migration; and transformations of borders and border control (see Annex V: Final Dissemination Workshop Report).

## 6. Project Outputs

### *Production of Educational Material as Planned:*

An extensive list of selected literature was located on Moodle platform to facilitate the access to partners in different geographies. It was classified under key words relevant for the academic knowledge and research on migration, gender and social justice. (see Annex III: Recommended Literature in Moodle)

The academic volume: Truong, Thanh-Dam; Gasper, Des; Handmaker, J., Bergh, S.I. (Eds.): *Migration, Gender and Social Justice - Perspectives on Human Insecurity*. Hexagon Series on Human and Environmental Security and Peace, vol. 9 (Heidelberg – New York – Dordrecht – London: Springer, 2013). With the joint support of the ISS and IDRC, the project team arranged with the publisher an open-access version to ensure public access to the book at no cost.

### *Materials for policy Influence as planned*

- Policy Brief N. 1: *Access to Justice for Indonesian Women Migrant Domestic Workers in the United Arab Emirates*, Sulistyowati Irianto, team leader and editor; Researchers: Titiek Kartika Hendrastiti, Liem Sing Meij, Tirtawening, Vidhyandika and Henky Irzan.
- Policy Brief No. 2: *Filipino Women Migrant Domestic Workers' Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in Hong Kong, Singapore and Qatar*, Researchers: Malu S. Marin and Amara Quesada-Bondad.
- Policy Brief No. 3: *The Trajectories and Experiences of Malian Girl and Young Women Guides to Blind Beggars in Senegal*, Researchers: Codou Bop.
- Policy Brief No. 4: *Protecting the Human Rights of Cross-border Migrants: Considerations from the Burmese–Thai Border*, Researchers: Kyoko Kusakabe, Ruth Pearson.
- Policy Brief No. 5: *Protecting Rights and Reducing Stigma against Vietnamese Women Married Overseas*, Researchers: Duong, Le Bach; Thu Hong Khuat.
- Policy Brief No. 6: *Claiming Migrants' Rights in Costa Rica through Constitutional Law*, Researchers: Carlos Sandoval-García, Esteban Sánchez-Solano, Mayela Castillo-Villachica, Karen Masís-Fernández, Marcela Montanaro-Mena, Olman Bolaños, Mónica Brenes-Montoya and Laura Paniagua-Arguedas.
- Policy Brief No. 7: *From Temporary Work to Irregular Status: The Transition and Experiences of Senegalese Migrant Women in Spain*, Researcher: Aly Tandian.
- Policy Brief No. 8: *Internal Migration in India: Addressing Gendered Vulnerabilities and Access to Rights*, Researchers: Indu Agnihotri; Indrani Mazumdar; Neetha N. Pillai.
- Policy Brief No. 9 *Advocating Migrants' Rights in Chile: Embracing Opportunities and Anticipating Challenges*, Researcher: Claudia Mora.
- Policy Brief No. 10 *Enhancing the Social Protection of Vulnerable Migrants through Non-Residence-Based Approaches: Considerations based on China's Floating Population*, Researchers: Yu Zhu and Liyue Lin.
- Policy Brief No. 11 *The Education of Children of Migrant Women in Mexico: A Right Denied in Practice*, Researcher: Martha Luz Rojas Wiesner.

The policy briefs were prepared with support also from Dr. G. Sinatti and Ms. J. Matthews. They are available on-line through the project's portal at [www.iss.nl/IDRC](http://www.iss.nl/IDRC).

### ***Experiences gained in the process:***

The plan for publications was executed effectively. The edited volume has benefited greatly from a large pool of peer-reviewers thanks to the wide network the MGSJ team has with international researchers on migration and gender, including specific region specialists and area specialists (socio-legal studies, domestic work, social justice, human security).

The project underscores the value of multi-sited research methodologies in migration and the importance of studying transformation of gender relations on the sending and receiving ends, during transit and return.

The priorities identified during the final dissemination workshop for knowledge-building and networking may be summarized under the following headings:

- *Transformations of borders* in various ways are a theme that has become evident during the MGSJ project, and was discussed on two days by a second large group at the February 2013 workshop, to start to identify questions for follow-up research. Borders are transforming in various ways: physically, the gate-keeping functions to control and exclude migrants are now dispersed across numerous locations, including within the routines of daily life in the country of in-migration; legally, there are now huge grey zones of 'legal liminality'; culturally and psychologically, borders of diverse sorts are being constructed and deconstructed. Illumination of the new meanings and practices of borders is a research priority, to update the conceptual apparatus that we bring to considering migration and thus to re-orient subsequent research in a way that does fuller justice to contemporary and emerging systems. The emergence of new forms of female migration that are temporary, circular and/or transient, and questions around how these forms can produce conditions of insecurity not experienced by settled migrants, are in need of policy attention. The implications of borders transformation and female migration for children (as stay-behinds, or co-migrants, or born during migration, or as returnees) have been explicitly noted in the research projects of Mexico, Mali, and Thailand. Other research projects have noted them but did not focus on children as a group. The application of the existing group rights approaches (e.g. Women's rights, Children's rights, Indigenous people's rights) to migration would seem more applicable to the integration of settled migrants in the host society than to the increasing number of circular, temporal, and/or transient migrant communities.
- *Portability of social protection* is the key transformation needed to respect the human rights of the migrants whom the global economic system requires and generates. This theme too leads directly out of the studies undertaken in the MGSJ project, including for intra-national as well as inter-national cases. Likely areas for further work include special attention to the particular situations and needs here of various categories of women migrants, and to organization of and by migrant workers, to contribute in campaigns for portable protection. For particular groups of migrants whose movements are temporal, circular or transient, having social protection schemes that can be made portable may be especially appropriate. For example, Indonesian migrant domestic workers pay for their health and social insurance before departure, but they cannot access this support when in need, due to institutional rigidity in the administration of labour migration policy in Indonesia as well as in the receiving country.
- *South-South migration*, including climate change related migration: South-South migration had already become equal in scale to South-North migration (as conventionally measured) some years ago (Human Development Report, UNDP 2009), and is likely to rapidly exceed it. Women are very prominent in such movements. However due to the domination of research agendas by the concerns and perspectives of Northern funders, South-South migration is relatively greatly understudied. South-South migration was the subject in the large majority of the component studies in the MGSJ project, even though it was not explicitly discussed as such until the Trivandrum workshop. One of the largest components of migration during coming decades is likely to be related to climate change. This is especially so for South-South migration, much of which is likely to be climate-driven. The greater expected impacts of climate change are



in tropical and sub-tropical areas and in low-income countries. The Bangladesh-India border is a likely example of a major locus of such migration. While there is growing research on climate change and migration, and there are some current or likely calls for proposals, relatively little has yet connected closely to the issues of differential impacts on men, women, children, family organization, etc.

As a follow-up of the final dissemination workshop, MGJS received permission from IDRC to use the budget balance to conduct surveys of available literature on gender issues to deepen understanding of migration in the following areas:

1. South-South migration as a subject in most of the component studies in the MGSJ project, even though it was not explicitly discussed as such until the Trivandrum workshop, especially in the context of climate change in tropical and sub-tropical areas and in low-income countries and the differential impacts on men, women, children, family organization.
2. Various aspects of transformations of borders and their impact of migrants' lives: physically, the gate-keeping functions to control and exclude migrants are now dispersed across numerous locations, including within the routines of daily life in the country of in-migration; legally, there are now huge grey zones of 'legal liminality'; culturally and psychologically, borders of diverse sorts are being constructed and deconstructed. Illumination of the new meanings and practices of borders is a research priority, to update the conceptual apparatus that we bring to considering migration and thus to re-orient subsequent research in a way that does fuller justice to contemporary and emerging systems.
3. Portability of social protection as the key needed transformation to respect the human rights of the migrants whom the global economic system requires and generates. This theme also emerged directly out of the studies undertaken in the MGSJ project, including for intra-national as well as inter-national cases. Special attention to the particular situations and needs of various categories of women migrants, and to organization of, and by migrant workers, to identify likely areas for further work.
4. The reports of the literature surveys will be published as working papers and made available to the public in the second half of 2013.

## 7. Project Outcomes

A major project outcome is a change in thinking about "gender" in migration research. While women migrants remain the primary concern for research partners and practitioners who attended the workshop, some notable changes resulted from the process of preparing the academic publication and the policy briefs, as well as the delivery at the final dissemination workshop. These are:

- The recognition of multiple meanings of gender equality in migration, each of which hinges upon the framing of a problem of "gender inequality" linked to how "migration" is framed and the envisaged solution. The question remains: who should be participating in the framing and what methods could be used to find congruence between different perspectives?
- The recognition that civil society advocates need to work with, but must go beyond, the policy templates of funding agencies by raising new questions and suggesting new directions for dialogues on rights and social protection;

- The recognition that social hierarchies among males and females play an important role in shaping social understanding of masculinities and femininities in the process of migration and marginalisation.
- The recognition of the importance of intersectionality as a concept that can help to overcome the limits of a focus on citizenship, and can generate new insights for advocacy when applied in situ.
- The recognition of the key importance of portability of social protection, especially for certain categories of migrants recently identified by researchers and recognised policy makers.
- The recognition that the younger generations now embrace the concept of “gender diversity” and resist a binary definition of gender as male versus implies that ways must be found for a more inclusive approach;

More practical outcomes include:

- The matrix of relations of gender subordination in migration has helped to locate the research problem at the specific level and to connect findings with other levels.
- New relationships between researchers from the South have been established
- While we do not know about research users as yet, we were informed that the policy brief on the female guides of child beggars has been brought to the attention of policy makers in Senegal, and that the case-study chapters are already being used as teaching materials by network participants (e.g. Professor Fabio Baggio) and partners (e.g. Professor Yu Zhu).
- Policy briefs play a very important role, and researchers are not trained to write them. Working with consultants who have special skills in this area has helped a great deal in translating the findings into clear policy messages.
- Since MGSJ is a project that synthesizes the findings of research initiatives conducted by others it is obvious that communication across cultures (social as well as work cultures) have been handled with great sensitivity. The lead partner (ISS) has involved researchers with fixed employment as compared to independent researchers (in the case of some partners) who must raise funds for their work through consultancies. Mutual understanding of the contextual constraints of each side has helped to keep the process of production the academic volume and the policy briefs on schedule. Similarly, respect for each other’s academic cultures has helped to negotiate differences to suit the criteria of the academic publisher.



## 8. Overall Assessment and Recommendations

### 8.1 Overall assessment

Since its inception the project has benefitted greatly from the guidance of the IDRC project officer, Ms Ramata Thioune. Close consultation and openness with each other about issues that needed to be resolved were essential to the project's success.

By focussing on two main objectives (a) production of educational and policy materials and (b) exposure to different regional and national realities and co-learning, the project has enabled all partners in MGSJ to deepen their understanding of migration and its complexity, especially migrants' social conditions at different moments in the process of moving across social and political borders, from places of origins through to intermediate locations during transit, places of destination and upon return. This understanding plays a major role in making visible the defects in the social infrastructures of migration and their gendered aspects. A consensus has emerged at the final dissemination workshop about the need to move beyond the logic of instrumentalism in current policy frames so as to overcome prevailing minimalist approach to the protection of migrants' rights.

### 8.2 Recommendations:

1. Promote more awareness about how different contexts of regional economic interdependence (whether fostered by agreements on regional integration such as NAFTA and ASEAN, or by virtue of market forces such as labour migration to growth poles such as the Middle-East and East Asia) can generate distinct styles of management of labour flows.
2. Develop frameworks of action that can systematically address the intersections of different forms of discrimination built-in migration policy;
3. Actively disseminate the MGSJ project findings, especially the policy briefs, in regional consultative processes to contribute to the re-designing of migration policy in bilateral and multilateral contexts that can respond to emerging forms of gender discrimination, especially with regard to workers with a temporary, transitional and provisional status and the barriers to social protection they face in specific contexts and places.

4. Systematically ensure mechanisms of portable social protection, and continuously updating national programmes of action in this regards;
5. Engaging with policy-makers to overcome deeply-seated gendered values in thinking about care and domestic work, and urging them to apply internationally recognized standards and principles on human mobility to migration streams involving domestic workers as well as marriage migrants;
6. Foster closer collaboration between researchers and civil organisations in promoting a bottom-up approach to achieving rights for migrant workers, as well as people and communities who are negatively affected by out-migration, paying specific attention young groups of population as stay-behinds as well as migrants.



## Appendix I: Conceptual Note for Inception Workshop

**Project:**

# **“Migration, Gender and Social Justice: Connecting Research and Practice Networks”**

**(IDRC-ISS, October 2010-October 2012)**

**Inception Workshop: 10-14 January 2011**

**Project leader:** Associate Professor Dr. Thanh-Dam Truong

**Project team:** Prof. Dr. Des Gasper, Dr. Jeff Handmaker, Dr. Sylvia Bergh, Mr. Paul Huber

**Consultants:** Mr. Camilo Villa Cothem, Ms. Linda McPhee

# ***The Workshop Programme: A Conceptual Note***

## ***I A brief introduction to the project***

The project entitled “Migration, Gender and Social Justice: Connecting Research and Practice Networks” (MGSJ) is funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and implemented by the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam (October 2010 - October 2012). The project proposes an interdisciplinary approach to connect the different facets of gender in migration, which are addressed by ten projects funded by the IDRC under the Women’s Rights and Citizenship Programme (see portfolio attached).

The primary aims of MGSJ are:

- To facilitate knowledge-sharing and mutual learning between research partners in the ten projects cited in the portfolio, with the aim of comparing findings and conclusions and thereby deepening research insights;
- To discern differences and commonalities with regard to political and cultural configurations of identities in migration, institutionalized violation of rights, measures of negotiation and rights claims and their local/regional contextual features, thereby contributing to theory-building;
- To translate research findings – beyond the publications already produced by some individual projects – into (co-authored) publications for educational and academic purposes; and also into policy briefs for critical engagement with policy-making bodies. These findings will be shared in a policy dialogue planned to take place at the end of the project (October 2012);
- To foster long-term cross-regional collaboration through the exchange of knowledge and the sharing of practical experiences (methodology of research, advocacy and rights-claiming actions).

There is now broad recognition of a theoretical deficit among migration researchers. It is generally believed that this deficit is due to barriers in theory formation, including: disciplinary and paradigmatic divisions, dominance of political and bureaucratic agendas in research funding, and a favouring of the interests of receiving countries<sup>4</sup>. Research on women’s rights in migration in the last decades has, however, produced a rich body of literature – bringing to the fore many interfaces between gender, power and social discrimination and as to how (on many accounts) the human rights deficit in migration is closely connected with the democratic deficit. Research has noted also the phenomenon of *gender embeddedness* on multiple scales<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> See presentation by Stephen Castles entitled ‘Understanding Global Migration: A Social Transformation Perspective’, available at: <hdr.undp.org/en/media/Stephen\_Castles.ppt> (accessed 20 November, 2010)

<sup>5</sup> The term ‘scale’ (used in the field of political geography) is concerned with the geographic expression of power, typically through a defining – of boundaries and borders – which separates one world of privilege from another and thereby creates exclusionary impacts. Among the different scales of social organisation the state has traditionally been the most important. The growing integration of economies through transnational flows is now transforming the boundaries of social action; and therefore other such scales have been receiving more attention over the last decades. These are: the global, the geopolitical (regional),

“Gender” as power relations in global, regional and sub-regional migration flows seems to have impact across different domains of reality. These involve (a) the individual subject whose “rationality” and interest in becoming a “migrant” are influenced by household and community relations at the point of decision-making, departure and even return; (b) the networks of recruitment and brokerage which link the individual subject to the migration and work placement processes; (c) state and inter-state relations operating within broader regional and global political economic structures. A focus on micro dynamics in particular localities has also revealed the intersection of multiple power structures based on social identities (legal status, gender, class, ethnicity and age) at different moments of the migration process. These power intersections can produce unique experiences of marginalization and social exclusion. There is an emerging perspective that sees “gender” and “migration” as part of a more profound process of social transformation. Different places with different rules and different histories of migration have different affects on gender identity/relations and women migrants’ agency.

Migration policy – whether driven by a *bureaucratic ethos* (based on the standards of meritocracy, professionalism, expertise and efficiency) or a *democratic ethos* (based on the moral principles of equality, participation and individuality) – is not free from instrumental frameworks that define the “migrants” as an “object” of control and regulation. Such policy has therefore often failed to recognize how “gender” as a power relation is fully played out. Cross-border migration involves an additional layer of bureaucracy, namely cooperation between two or more states – which may not necessarily share the same ethos regarding the spatial movements of human populations out of, and into, their territories, nor their gendered characteristics. Given the above, to find a strategic entry point for building a coalition of researchers and practitioners for critical engagement with policy-making in the defence of the rights of women migrants is a great challenge for social justice movements.

The IDRC-funded migration research projects – covering several regions under the Women and Citizenship Programme (2006-2011) – provide an excellent opportunity to build connections between researchers and findings from different sites; this is likely to improve communication between researchers and policy makers, and thereby increase the utilization of research results for greater impact. Defining the impact of research on policy is a highly contextual activity and depends on the particulars of a political culture of decision-making as well its specific understanding of policy. It is useful to note for example that IDRC defines impact in terms of: 1) expanding a policy’s capacities; 2) broadening policy horizons; 3) making alterations within existing policy regimes; 4) developing new policy regimes. The UN defines impact in terms of: 1) changing ways in which policy issues are perceived and framed for action; 2) changing ways in which key stakeholders perceive their interests – thus creating a new balance of forces pressing for change or resisting it; 3) embedding new ways of perceiving policy issues in institutions responsible for carrying the ideas forward.<sup>6</sup> The former definition is based mainly on a normative understanding of policy, whereas the latter gives emphasis to the cognitive and epistemological concerns in addition to institutional ones. Knowledge-sharing and co-learning within the MGSJ project aim at defining the “impact” of each research more sharply through mutual support, and in respect of the relevant scale(s) of action appropriate to the context of each research. Research impact need not necessarily be limited to the short-term needs of policy; it can also mean the development of new concepts and ideas to advance theoretical development and contribute to education for social change.

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the locality (city and sub-regions), household and subjectivity (of individuals and groups). Cross-scaling has become a mode analysis.

<sup>6</sup> Summer et al (2009) ‘Making Science of Influencing: Assessing the Impact of Development Research, Institute of Development Studies. Working Paper N. 335.

## ***II Rationale and Objectives of the Inception Workshop***

This Inception Workshop brings together the research partners engaged in the ten research projects on gender and migration funded by IDRC, who will join the team of ISS researchers who are covering different facets of migration (the role of knowledge, law, social ethics and policy).

The workshop intends to provide space for the exchange of insights on the research findings of each of the ten IDRC-WRC projects and to facilitate mutual learning across different research locales. The aim is to connect what might appear to be “disparate”, “diverse”, or “particular” findings and weave them together into a picture to show broader patterns of stratification and rights deprivation – and their structural implications for which strategic organized responses are required.

The theme of a Pre-GFMD (Global Forum on Migration and Development) High-level Consultation held in September 2010 in Mexico – “*Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Women Migrant Workers: Partnerships for Migration and Human Development: Shared Prosperity and Shared Responsibility*” – could be a good reference point for reflection for the following reasons.<sup>7</sup> To focus on this theme can help orient the discussions towards a more grounded understanding of human rights and human development in respect of context and variations in time (historical setting) and place (comparative setting). A focus on the links between migration and human development shifts attention away from the interests of nation-state, the economy and the society to the wellbeing of the woman migrant as a human subject; and also to the context of power that shapes her multidimensional identity and agency. The emphasis on shared prosperity and shared responsibility provides an opportunity for critical reflection on the range of actors involved in the entire migration process, and also on the local structures of power which mediate negotiation of benefits and responsibilities. This can help translate notions of fairness and equality into more transparent operative norms for women migrants. It should also help to clarify the notion of ‘partnership’<sup>8</sup> in particular settings and domains of action.

The specific objectives of the workshop are:

1. To share research findings and insights;
2. To clarify expectations and commitments of all partners regarding the outputs stated under I.
3. To exchange ideas on those concepts which will frame the final event in October 2012. These will be elaborated through consultation during the implementation of the project.
4. To prepare a work plan for the remaining period of the project.

The expected outcomes are:

- Discussions and decisions on the required support activities for individual project teams and the timing of delivery by ISS;
- A publication plan (books, articles, high quality policy briefs). Apart from an edited volume to which each project is invited to contribute a chapter as expected by IDRC, partners are also free to explore other ways of collaboration so long as these contribute to the dissemination workshop, and are within the mandate of the project.

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<sup>7</sup> See <http://www.un-instraw.org/grvc/en/news/312-high-level-pre-gfmd-global-forum-on-migration-and-development.html>

<sup>8</sup> Such as: between states, civic organizations, the private sector, migrants’ organizations and Diasporas organisations.



- A shared vision of the dissemination workshop in 2012 during which all participants in this strategic initiative will be invited to link their work and outputs in a planned dialogue with policy makers.

### ***III Workshop Programme and Preparation***

During the first three days (10-12 January) all ten project-teams will be given adequate time to present and discuss their findings. In drafting the detailed programme we are bearing in mind that the projects vary in size – and therefore proportionate time allocation is necessary. Clustering the presentations by region and theme/analytical approach will help to focus the discussions on intra-regional similarities and differences. These may help, in turn, to bring out relevant synergies. Time will also be set aside to prepare the work plan for 2011-2012.

The following two full days (13-14 January) will be allocated to developing academic and policy brief writing skills as well as introducing Web-based research tools and a training programme for those research partners who see the need.

In preparation for the workshop we expect research partners to familiarize themselves with the work of peers by (a) reading in advance the WRC project portfolio attached and (b) exploring additional information in the project reports uploaded by IDRC on Google Docs.

**We ask each project team to prepare a 30-40 minute presentation<sup>9</sup> in the plenary using the following template.** The template aims to facilitate comparisons between the various research projects and to draw lessons from them.

The elements to be covered:

- Main aspects of the research problem, theoretical positioning (disciplinary, interdisciplinary) and spatial coverage.
- Methodology (approach to knowledge: knowledge for whom? why?); methods of data collection and the chosen units of analysis – the latter being likely to cover the nation-state, region, or sub-regional entities; the individuals with intra-household and community links; migration institutions (recruiters, brokers, facilitators); “discursive formation” (or how brokers, policy and civil society groups name, frame and act upon “gender” in the domain of migration).
- Major challenges encountered (hindrances and ways of overcoming them).
- Key findings.
- Highlights of the specific aspects of gender embeddedness, and of any power intersection.
- Reflections on the key points of affinity and divergence in the interaction between research and policy.

Following are some points of reference for **group discussions**; suggestions are most welcome:

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<sup>9</sup> Projects with a wide coverage might take slightly longer to present the essentials.

- The meanings of the “person” (as a legal subject) in regard to social dimensions: gender, ethnic, nationality, class and age.
- The relevance of the meaning of “human development” – normatively defined as expansion of individual choice and improving conditions to exercise agency for enhancing wellbeing – to the specific context of migration under examination.
- The meaning of “societal wellbeing” in specific situations.
- Given that many cultures accord a higher place to collective duties and responsibilities, the effect this has on individual women migrants’ perception on their wellbeing and state perceptions on the relation between migration and societal wellbeing.
- Strategic consequences for mobilizing and realizing the rights of women migrant workers.
- The challenge of organizing across borders.
- The meanings of “partnership.”
- The relative effectiveness in rights claims of recent tools used in bottom-up action.

## Appendix II: Report Inception Workshop

### Migration, Gender and Social Justice: Connecting Research and Practice Networks

Grant number: 106213-001

*Sharing and generating ideas on women's  
migration and rights-promotion:  
Towards international cooperation  
in 2011 & 2012*

### Scientific Report<sup>10</sup> on the Inception Workshop

The Hague, January 10-14 2011

International Institute of Social Studies (ISS)

20 March 2011

**Project leader:** Associate Professor Dr. Thanh-Dam Truong

**Project team:** Dr. Sylvia Bergh, Professor. Dr. Des Gasper, Dr. Jeff Handmaker,  
Mr. Paul Huber, Ms. María DeVargas

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<sup>10</sup> This report presents a synthesis of the scientific discussions that took place on 10, 11, 12 January 2011 in The Hague at the International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam, and the ideas shared for the work plan for March 2011-October 2012. Reference is also made to points from the additional training days 13 and 14 January. The work plan is attached as an appendix.

## Summary

This report provides a synthesis of the discussions on the research themes, findings and ideas expressed during the Migration, Gender and Social Justice (MGSJ) inception workshop held at the International Institute of Social Studies in The Hague on 10-14 January 2011. The workshop brought together researchers from 10 projects on women's rights and citizenship in migration funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). The aims of the inception workshop were to discuss the concepts used in these research projects, to reflect on 'gender issues' in migration, to consider the implications for rights violations and their redress and, particularly, to discuss how best to translate the research findings into the production of a book and other publications for policy influence and education. The workshop revealed the very diverse nature of migration, the variety of research approaches in terms of methodology and focus, the richness of the findings and the complexities of rights-claiming.

In this report we discuss the issue of diversity before considering areas where a synthesis may be found. We look at possible integrative themes such as global economic transformations, an understanding of the concept of gender, state policies and perceptions, research policy interactions and finally, how to make the inevitable diversity between the various studies in relation to these themes into a strength rather than a weakness. We expand on the special themes mentioned above and also look at the similarities and differences between the various studies in relation to these themes. We take particular note of the importance of context in defining the terms of reference: gender, human rights, policy impact and influence, sexuality, civic action and how research findings can be translated into concrete practical outputs. By identifying themes and considering context, we hope to ensure that the very diversity of the projects brings to the surface their added value to existing literature on migration, gender and women's rights. We also point to the possibility of expanding some of the themes identified, such as identity formation, taking into account the role of the media, of migrants' associations in representing the migration experience and of the diverse impact of migration on intimate personal lives.

We hope the MGSJ project will provide an opportunity to learn from each other, to deepen insights into both theoretical and methodological issues and enable us to deepen our understanding and interpretation by inter-study review and collaboration.

## I Introduction and Overview

### The role of the MGSJ project 2010-12

So far, the knowledge gained internationally on gender and migration is rather fragmented. Migration is a complex research field with many interfaces and many disciplinary entry points for trying to look at diverse realities. Available knowledge covers areas such as the gendered characteristics of migration and decision-making and how migration changes such things as demographic composition, gender relations, migrants' sense of belonging, identities and citizenship. The formation of gender-specific occupational niches in receiving countries and the transformation of gender roles in sending communities and households have also been documented in many cases. A further area of ongoing research is the social construction of 'sexuality' and its impact on migrants' identities and access to reproductive health in the receiving countries. However, effective promotion of gender equity in migration needs a deepened understanding of gender – as a social structure and as intersectionality – which will help to bring together the knowledge gained in these different areas.

In 2006, IDRC launched the Women's Rights and Citizenship (WRC) programme (2006-2011) with a component on women and migration. The projects are now at various stages of completion. Whereas previous IDRC-linked research on migration focused on livelihood, the WRC programme is built on the vision of a just world where women in the South have a sense of self that includes citizenship and the right to have rights; where all individuals have equitable access to justice and the opportunity to participate meaningfully in democratic decision-making; and where there is no discrimination based on gender in realizing the full range of one's rights and freedoms, including economic rights, and sexual and reproductive rights. It has sought to place Southern voices centre-stage in international debates in the gender and development field.

The WRC programme has funded many projects on gender and migration in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Connecting the findings of these projects and seeing how they can contribute to the above vision of a just world is considered a priority by IDRC. Since migration is a dynamic phenomenon and its interaction with gender relations is complex and multi-layered, and since diverse interests and social forces drive migration policy, making an impact here is a great challenge. Achieving gender equity in migration needs a deepened understanding of the intersection between multiple power structures and relations (gender, class, ethnicity and age) with the contextual particularities that produce experiences of marginalization and social exclusion and of experiences with diverse strategies for claiming and consolidating rights. The WRC has provided an excellent opportunity to build connections between communities of researchers and practitioners for contrast, comparison and co-learning about the local expressions of gender at different moments in the migration process. The projects have been conducted by experienced researchers and have a strong focus on the relevance of gender as a multi-dimensional research theme and the challenges posed to theorizing rights and rights-claiming action. In order to work towards a strategic impact in the policy field, the current project on Migration, Gender and Social Justice (MGSJ 2010-12) has the task of preparing a set of outputs that will add value to the WRC research programme on migration as a whole.

## Objectives and outcomes of the MGSJ inception workshop

As a first step, an inception workshop was held at ISS in The Hague from January 10 to 14 2011. It was prepared as an event for research partners to meet, share research findings and form teams to work towards the intended outputs. The objectives were:

- 1) to take stock of how the concepts of 'gender', 'migration' and 'social justice' are defined and used in framing the research projects;
- 2) to co-reflect on the findings on 'gender issues' in migration and their contextual realities and discern differences and commonalities;
- 3) to consider the implications for rights-violations and action for negotiation of rights and ways of seeking redress and protection of rights;
- 4) to discuss how to best translate research findings into materials for various types of policy influence and education, thus including policy briefs and publications of different types.

The workshop revealed the diversity of research approaches, the richness of the findings and the complex realities of rights-claiming. Examples of this diversity include the following.

- Analysing women migrants' rights through a composite lens - gender understood as a social structure and as an outcome of intersecting relations of inequality - can help to



situate normative views on citizenship within specific contexts and experiences of inclusion and exclusion.

- In particular, the construction and re-construction of migrants' identities was found to be deeply influenced by economic restructuring, which triggers new processes of defining and invoking public and national security, including using ideas of cultural and social cohesion as a justification for forms of exclusion. Searching for new pathways to claim rights has to take into account this new reality.
- An inductive approach directed at reducing legal ambiguity and addressing the disjunction between the different types of law applied in the field of migration, building on the findings of the projects, may be one appropriate point of departure that helps connect many of the diverse contributions.

The workshop has planted the seeds for collaboration between research partners in terms of peer-to-peer support and technical support in the preparation of the planned outputs of the MGSJ project. Setting up a web-based platform for knowledge-sharing and co-learning is essential to facilitate this collaborative process. Research partners have indicated their priority for the following activities:

(a) knowledge-sharing and co-learning, including selected information relevant to the current research themes in addition to the already existing access to the IDRC's wider database;

(b) online discussions and debates on conceptual, theoretical and methodological issues relevant to the research themes in order to help sharpen and connect to each other's perspectives to provide truly interdisciplinary and cross-regional perspectives;

(c) working towards the co-publication of academic works, policy briefs and other means of communication with diverse stakeholders, to bring to light new aspects of rights violation and influence the cognitive frames that dominate policy in the domain of migration, gender and social justice.

The following section highlights theoretical, conceptual and methodological issues deliberated at the workshop. This will be followed by a proposed structure for the intended main publication that will seek to compare the findings from different projects and develop new insights on the basis of both the contrasts and convergences.

## **II. Theoretical and conceptual issues, methodologies and policy influence: themes and questions from the research projects**

### **Variety of the studies**

The set of studies is extremely diverse, in terms of the societal contexts and the specific types of migration that are studied, and in terms of study size, methodological approach and research detail, primary questions and primary intended audiences. As a result, the studies can, in most cases, be contrasted rather than ordinarily compared. The challenge arising is how to use this diversity as a strength for exploring research issues, options and themes.

For example, in terms of type of migration according to geographical origin and destination, rural-rural migration (to agricultural and construction work) is an important component in the China, India and Mexico studies; the Senegal-Mali study is unique in that it deals with rural-urban-rural movements of migrants seeking either to beg or to guide blind beggars as a form of work. The other studies seem to be primarily concerned with the rural-urban and urban-urban movement.

In terms of occupational destination:

- some studies focus on migration of domestic workers (in the Indonesia study, Philippines study and, to a large extent, in the Latin America studies);
- marriage migration and brides are the focus of one Vietnam study and an important component in the India study;
- migration to industrial work is the focus of the other Vietnam study and the Senegal-Spain and Thailand studies and a major component in the India and China studies.

There is great variation also in the nature of state-civil society relations in the countries that are studied and in migrants' settlement intentions and prospects. Most of the studies deal with transitory labour migration rather than settlement: the majority of Chinese migrants, for example, want to return to the interior, but the majority of Burmese in Thailand do not want to return at this moment in time.

At the same time, some striking similarities emerge; for example between the India and China cases of internal migration, regarding the volatility of employment and the non-portability of social rights within national borders. And from the perspective of women's rights and citizenship, research partners seem to be dealing with many shared issues, as described below.

## **Rights violation and Rights-claiming: conceptual issues**

The studies show the limits and inadequacy of many conventional concepts and categorizations regarding migration and the implications for conceptualizing migrants' rights.

### Feminization

An insight that is generated from the workshop discussion is the use of the term 'feminization' of migration, referring to different phenomena: (i) the statistical share of women in migration streams (internal, cross-border, South-North and South-South); (ii) migration as a phenomenon with gendered characteristics; (iii) the precariousness of some modes of migration and means of migrant livelihood.

### Employment and legal status

The studies show the need to disaggregate key terms that define the form of employment and legal status associated with different kinds of migrants in order to clarify, for example, what is a 'domestic worker'; what is a 'migrant bride'; what is a 'victim of trafficking', a 'child'; what is 'consent', 'voluntary' and 'forced'; what does 'protection' mean (e.g. by law and/or sociocultural norms). Requiring clarification too are the context-specific meanings of 'territory', 'borders', 'temporal', 'permanent', and the reasons behind definitions of 'migration' (which movements are defined as migration and which are not) and the logic of state control.

## Transitory migration

More work is needed to compare and refine the concept of 'transitory' migration and its gender implications; for example, Vietnamese brides to East Asian countries clearly intended to settle, yet many have returned. In some other cases the reverse applies, while there are Burmese women workers in Thailand who move back and forth between borders.

Many of the studies (China, India, Mexico etc.) have thus felt a need to critique and refine standard categorizations of types of migrant as used by governments, mass media and international organizations, and have embarked on their own categorizations. Sharing and comparative discussion of this work could be interesting.

## Theoretical issues

First, there is consensus that caution is needed regarding generalized surface-level comparisons of the dynamics of migration (whether internal or cross-border). At the same time, it is better to ensure that theorizing about possible driving forces is made explicit rather than being carried out in a tacit and non-self-critical way.

- The various geopolitical contexts of migration (internal and cross-border) are profoundly influenced by market-oriented, neo-liberal policies and other forces of globalization which attempt to drive the flows of labour and capital. Specific patterns of labour migration reflect the global market and especially global competition. Increased transitory labour migration may well reflect changing relations in regional and global political economy.
- Resistance to recognizing the important role of migrants in the regional and global labour processes seems to have enabled an ethno-racial social order to emerge, both nationally and globally. This order appears to operate in an exclusionary way by: (a) linking the particular definitions of 'work' done by the migrant population with their legal status, work permit and wages (e.g. domestic work is not legally recognised as 'real' work); and (b) extending this formal and informal classification to judgements of their 'quality' as persons (intellectual, moral and work capacity). All these aspects have implications for access to formal systems of rights protection.

A second theme is *messy migration regimes*. Currently there is no such thing as a coherent framework of migration policy, nationally or internationally, despite much time and the many financial resources put into this by states and inter-governmental organizations, including multi-lateral efforts to try and 'regularize' migration flows. Rather, we see policies being pulled in different directions by diverse interests (control of the movement of specific groups of foreigners, closely related to surveillance and crime control; the promotion of migration as an instrument for 'development' remittances; protection of vulnerable groups of migrants defined as 'trafficked' and punishment of facilitators defined as 'smugglers'). Ambiguity and non-committal classification shape the space of 'legal non-existence' for those who move within or across borders.

- Related to this, key stakeholders (international officials, civil society advocates and government officials both in sending and receiving areas and countries) hold different normative views on migrants' rights. The disjuncture between national and international laws, and the fragmentation of migration-governance frameworks, are sources of problems since they lead to selective border control policy and practices based on local interpretations of public and national security as legitimate reasons for arbitrary arrest and detention. Such practices often conflate migration with crime and

are directed at migrants with a status classified by the state as 'irregular', a label that becomes a condition for rights denial.

Third, and closely connected to the point made above, a theme that crosscuts several cases concerns the conditions of *liminal legality*<sup>11</sup> of migrants, which is important for evaluating the level of their social exclusion and to help deepen understanding about citizenship, rights and the questions of belonging to a community. For example, the Thai project noted 13 categories of citizenship in Thailand, with a wide range of categories of ID card, each with specific entitlements in terms of health care, wages, length of stay and intimate relations. Violation of formal rules pushes people into a precarious zone of 'legal non-existence'. Special economic zones and border areas in particular (in Thailand and Mexico for example), are characterized by liminal legality when it comes to migrants and migration.

- The social implications of complex public laws – both national and international – as well as private contractual arrangements are also revealed. The relations between (1) the migrant and the recruiting agency in the place/country of origin; (2) the migrant and the employer in the place/country of destination and (3) the recruiter and the employer, are usually not sufficiently covered by public laws.

Fourth, overlapping with the third area but distinct from it, *local regimes of migration governance* deserve further attention, with particular reference to how local government regulations and practices can, in some cases, override national laws, giving rise to a variety of practices such as 'migration taxes' in the form of bribes to local government officials to get migrants out of jail and back to work.

Finally, the legal consciousness of stakeholders matters a great deal, as does the power differential between sending and receiving countries and areas.<sup>12</sup>

## Issues of Research Methodology

The studies are very diverse in both methods and methodology: ranging from a very large questionnaire-based survey, to large surveys complemented by the use of secondary data, complete reliance on in-depth interviews, reliance on exploratory interviews and more.<sup>13</sup> Comparative discussion can try to show the respective strengths, roles and contributions of each of these approaches.

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<sup>11</sup> The term liminal legality refers to the uncertain legal status of immigrants, situating their experiences within frameworks of citizenship/belonging and segmented assimilation. See: Menjivar, Cecilia (2006) 'Liminal legality: Salvadoran and Guatemalan immigrants' lives in the United States' in *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 111, no 4, pp. 999-1037. The term legal liminality, on the other hand, refers to a legal status faced by irregular workers who are neither fully protected by nor fully denied the rights of formal employment. See: Chun, Jennifer Jihye (2009) 'Legal Liminality: the gender and labour politics of organising South Korea's irregular workforce' in *Third World Quarterly*, Volume 30, Number 3, April 2009, pp. 535-550.

<sup>12</sup> For example: (a) diplomatic officials in Indonesia and the Philippines find it difficult to exert leverage on behalf of their nationals in the UAE; (b) the absence of support from the Senegalese Embassy in Spain despite the fact that the Senegalese migrants were recruited through bilateral treaties; (c) the periodic temporary repatriation of Burmese migrant workers in Thailand prior to labour inspection visits in factories.

<sup>13</sup> Many projects have small sample sizes but the China and India studies are huge. The China project uses quantitative survey techniques and there is a need to add qualitative insights. The India project uses surveys in addition to secondary data. The Latin American studies all use in-depth interviews, not surveys. The Indonesia project uses exploratory interviews and snowball techniques, in addition to analyses of legal texts. The Vietnam project uses survey methods in addition to participatory methods and interviews. The Senegal projects address fundamental questions about epistemology, the identity of the researchers and the perspective they adopt.

For example, the question of scale is important in the analysis of relations between states, capital, labour and gender. Ethnographic studies are valuable in revealing culturally specific aspects of exploitation and resistance from the perspective of lived experiences. Connecting findings on different scales can give additional insights into how gender operates in migration. A thorough understanding of context and sensitivity to intersecting relations of inequalities are both crucial.<sup>14</sup>

One issue to perhaps consider later would be to compare the chosen research methodologies (not only the chosen methodologies for communication and dissemination) with the different purposes of the different projects, their different intended audiences and social contexts.

## Research influence and impact

This is a central concern of the current project, given the objectives of the WRC research programme. Also, there may be distinctive features of research-policy interaction in the migration area that deserve attention, due to the exceptional political sensitivities and complications around migration, especially, but not only, international migration.

The studies illustrate a range of options for attempted and actual interaction of research with policy. The various options (e.g. by way of confrontational or cooperative interventions) need critical reflection to try to identify realistic pathways towards social justice for migrants. The desire for action-oriented or socially relevant research by migrant-advocates and -researchers needs to be partnered by a sophisticated examination of what actually brings influence and relevance.

- The context of advocacy varies dramatically between projects, depending on the degree of openness on the part of the national government and its perceptions of the particular researcher or NGO – i.e. the social distance between the two sides. Also relevant is the degree and form of social embeddedness of civil society organizations.
- Different contexts demand different public advocacy targets and strategies, therefore a critical issue for the MGSJ project is to discern what kind of social transformation is sought for through a particular civic intervention (social, cultural, legal, political, or a combination of these). For example, where there is strong collusion between government and industry in the violation of migrant rights, it may be very difficult for research to influence policy in any meaningful way. Research may then be more useful in supporting NGOs and their advocacy work to give them legitimacy in their engagement with policy makers.
- The primary intended audience for particular research reports seems generally clear. For example, the Philippines project indicates its audience as international organizations, the government of the Philippines and migrant workers' organizations. The China project indicates the government of the province of Fujian as the primary intended audience. The India project aims to present a perspective from the 'women's

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<sup>14</sup> For example: in the Mali-Senegal case, the interplay between cultural and economic interests among particular groups of migrants (e.g. the young girls migrating from Mali to work as guides for blind men begging for a living) has not been fully taken into account in the 'translation' of international laws and policies aimed at the legal protection of children from traffickers. On an interpersonal scale, the Indonesia-UAE study shows that the employer-employee relationship is not always exploitative as commonly assumed, but can be supportive and caring. The Thai study is a good example of the link at the township and province level with industrialization policy at the national scale.



movement' to the national government.<sup>15</sup> The Thailand project aims at the academic communities and civic organizations engaged with issues of human rights and migrant workers. The Vietnam project mentions the intention to challenge current assumptions held by the government about women's migration as brides by comparing their status with those who migrate through labour export channels; the precise intended audience appears not yet to be specified.

- Further work is required to refine ideas about the audience(s), its/ their main characteristics and the appropriate methods to disseminate research findings and develop the strategies to influence policy. Policy influence will be taken up as one of the foci for knowledge-sharing and co-learning.
  - Who are the primary intended audiences? For policy audiences, regional dissemination may be more relevant than attempted global statements;
  - What types of product? Website, booklets, policy papers, other papers; glossary, bibliography, stakeholder dialogue, other;
  - What is the nature and role of the 'dissemination' workshop?

### III Possible Integrative Themes

This section suggests themes that can be used to provide a comparable structure for each of the likely country chapters in a book.

#### III.1 Global economic transformations

We can emphasize both the link between migration and the intensification of neoliberal globalization, and connect research findings with the perspectives and voices of grassroots organizations, movements and communities in different regions to better understand the diverse expressions of the same process. Analytically it is not possible to separate migration from the capital-labour nexus. Intensified global competition results in intensified internal and cross-border migration. Globalization needs to be viewed also from a local perspective which brings into focus how global tensions are expressed in local lives and local conditions that drive migration, both internal and cross-border, as well as the sequencing between the two. The local-specific expressions of the link between globalization and diverse forms of migration thus need to be placed in a unifying perspective.

#### III.2 Social reproduction systems and migration systems

Deepening and connecting the insights generated by each research project could be supported by methods that link the cultural with the economic dimensions of migration to illuminate not just migrants' motivation and preferences or the costs and benefits of the choices they make, but also highlight the *systemic* dimensions: notably, gender aspects of demographic changes in receiving and sending countries, changes in state policy towards the family and care duties and local adaptations at both ends.

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<sup>15</sup> There were questions from peers on this choice of authorial 'voice', about how far the project can take into account diverse and plural views and whether a conception of a women's movement perspective as being grounded in grassroots organizations is sufficient for this.

The set of studies which highlight the migration of domestic workers or brides could, for example, be interestingly connected by shared attention to the theme of how specific migration systems alter and are articulated with social reproduction systems<sup>16</sup>. Despite diversity, the organization of social reproduction is in many ways gendered, in that social thinking about 'gender differences' determines and/or influences the social and political relationships and structures of power through which social provisioning takes place. The provision of care in families and households constitutes an important daily activity to achieve the wellbeing goals of members. Women's migration as brides and domestic workers can be understood in relation to the difficulties in meeting care needs in receiving countries due to demographic and cultural changes, as well as family policy, and to how local adaptations create new forms of labour transfer between different care systems. The concept of '*reproductive bargain*' may help in discerning the ensemble of institutions, ideologies and identities around social provisioning and care for human beings. The bargain constitutes a hegemonic framework within which actors negotiate rules. Bargain implies a bounded agreement (structure) proscribing and prescribing conduct, but it also injects a dynamic notion of boundaries being made (agency).<sup>17</sup>

Another systemic aspect of migration is how 'temporary' migration can re-structure a social order in the long-term. For example, although the Philippines' labour export was designed in the 1970s as a temporary measure to respond to the country's fiscal crisis, it is now a structural feature of the economy in which women's migration as domestic workers and as 'entertainers' have become solid 'niches'.

### III.3 State policies and perceptions

The state also plays an important role in structuring the 'feminization of migration'. Researchers need to critically dissect the terminology used by the state. For example;

- How does a state define 'migration', what kinds of movements are considered as 'migration', with what kinds of effects? How is the term 'gender' used in relation to migration and with what kind of assumptions? To what extent does this term capture local expressions of gender issues and struggles?
- Just as 'migration' can be treated as an empirical phenomenon and a social construct, so too can 'gender.' There is a remarkable similarity across countries between gender structures that shape the social and legal space for migrants, suggesting a singular meaning of gender in law and policy. Yet at the level of everyday life, practices of

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<sup>16</sup> In its simplest definition, social reproduction is the provisioning for human needs and human wellbeing, mediated by historically formed cultural and economic relations.

<sup>17</sup> For example, the migration of Vietnamese women seems to reflect specific gender features of East Asian industrialization (the social and family policy and gender conflicts, the impact of conflicts on marriage patterns, fertility, demography) at the receiving ends, and gender transformations at the sending end which make migration through 'marriage' a new 'window of opportunity'. This can be relatively more advantageous from the standpoint of visa requirements and costs of migration than the regular 'labour export' programmes. In the case of the Indonesia-UAE migration of domestic workers, the systemic dimension at the receiving end appears to be rapid nation-building and 'modernization' with a welfare system for nationals based on oil wealth that impacts on gender relations (as relationships arising from the reproductive arena) and on demand for paid domestic work regulated through family law, i.e. the domestic worker is considered to be a member of the employer's household and, as such, she is not regulated and protected by labour law. For a conceptual definition see: Pearson, R. (2007) 'Gender, globalisation and development: key issues for the Asian region in the 21st century', keynote address, International Workshop, Beyond the Difference, at Ochanomizu University, 13–14 January.

gender can be fluid and vary according to the specific context. Migration is a socio-economic and politico-geographic terrain wherein gender as a social identity is most often intersectional. This requires an approach that goes beyond issues of legal identities and access to rights and probes deeper into the process of identity construction as dynamic and fluid, the social space created for migrants, and the legitimacy/illegitimacy of acts of rights denial.<sup>18</sup>

Thus attention to the terminology and categories used in policy should be a part of each country study; and it may also be the basis for a comparative chapter in the project volume.

### **III.4. Complexity of gender; embodiment and intersectionality**

An understanding of gender (in)equality as a long-term process of structural formation requires an understanding of the contextual expressions of gender issues and the local manifestations of power relations. This is in contrast to the singular form(s) of understanding gender in mainstream academic and policy discourses on gender. A key contentious issue though is that if we were to treat 'women' as a category built on a fictitious unity of sex, and gender as a fluid concept that shapes social identities, how then can we move on in demanding women's rights? What can a conception of gender identities as multi-local identities contribute?

- An example of the plural meanings of gender is how Senegalese women view their migration experience. While polygamy is perceived as an oppressive system for women, women who migrate can rely on co-wives to take on their domestic burdens and tend to regard migration as a temporary escape from the tyranny of in-laws. Short-term migration can become long-term and returned women migrants can feel more empowered. Thus it is important to bear in mind the specific conditions of migration and how women can or cannot negotiate the boundaries of the social space through which they move.
- A methodology that can study the embodiment of suffering and the biological expression of social inequality, or how women migrants literally embody and biologically express experiences of social inequalities, can contribute to overcoming the tendency to reduce the interpretation of migrants' wellbeing to a comparison with a certain threshold of income. Understanding issues of the body — the human body that works, feels and seeks affinity — are important to reveal structures of inequality expressed through migration experiences.
- The perspective of gender as intersectionality can help develop methods to study the differences in the formal and informal legal approaches to gender in the different regions covered by the projects. Social changes triggered by globalization require an emphasis on the context and the concrete local manifestations of gender as power relations. An inductive approach that can illuminate the novelties and new realities of 'gender' and how the cultural and social domains are imbricated with economic domains can do this. This can be contrasted with the narrow ways in which policy discourses on migration typically tend to frame 'gender'.

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<sup>18</sup> A clear example is the evacuation of foreign nationals during the unfolding Libyan crisis. Many companies evacuated their nationals and left non-nationals employed through sub-contracts to fend for themselves.

### **III.5: Research-policy interactions**

Given the political sensitivities and complications related to migration, there are probably major specific features of research-policy interactions in this field. Such sensitivities and complications include: the visceral links to identity and race; the frequent ignorance of and antagonism towards the human subjects being 'othered' and the paradox that the more that migrants are needed economically, the more they are feared and (potentially) resented in the receiving societies.

### **III.6: Making diversity of methodological approaches into a strength**

Given the enormous diversity of the studies and their methodologies, the challenge is how to make this feature a strength rather than a problem. By identifying themes where diversity of approaches and experiences of such studies can be instructive, it is possible to bring to the surface their added-value in relation to the existing body of literature on gender in migration. Thus:

- Discussing epistemology and methodology in migration research can be an attractive aspect of the joint-volume, for both educational and capacity building purposes. Several partners have emphasized, for example, that 'gender' in migration constitutes a domain of research requiring great sensitivity in that the gender of the researcher and the language used can make a difference in identification and prioritization of issues deemed important for exploration and analysis.
- A comparison of the methodologies and how they relate to different purposes can help to illustrate the range of choices open for studies in this area and the relevance of those choices to the interactions (attempted and actual) between research and policy.

## **IV. Ideas for the planned book (and possible journal special issue)**

A possible format for a book is as follows:

1) Introductory set of chapters on some central themes, contextual issues (including worldwide structural transformations) and methodological issues as identified in Section III above.

2) Country and region chapters prepared with reference to a standard template that will be jointly developed. This template would include many of the issues raised above in Section II and Section III (and perhaps some of those mentioned below in Section V).

In addition, in the presentation of the project findings within a comparative framework, some important issues to draw out and explore could include:

- multi-local identity (the feeling of belonging to more than one locality);
- inter-generational issues: looking, for example, at the children of migrants;<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> In China, for example, the children of internal migrants are not registered and the elderly are left to care for the children who do not migrate. Similar cases, involving cross-border migrants, may be found in other countries.

- social reproduction, with reference both to the provision of services central to the renewal of labour (domestic work, care provision) and to the reproduction of the identity and legal status of migrants and foreign brides who take up work in this domain;
- citizenship as a negotiated process mediated by diverse power relations related to social identities as constructs (intersectionality of gender, age, ethnicity, sexual identity) and their exclusionary impacts.

Thus, many of the research projects look at the relationships between law, power and culture as well as the intersections between race, class and gender relations. The projects from Indonesia and Chile explicitly take this up in their research, while some other projects are conscious of these intersections and their particularities but do not explicitly articulate their views.

In many cases, country chapters will be written by project teams alone, with only ISS editorial assistance. In some cases, chapters may be co-written with a member of the ISS team.

3) Set of synthesis, comparison or exploratory chapters on special themes, as suggested in Section V below.

- Some chapters may be contributed by the ISS team, some by other project members, some will be mixed and others perhaps by guests.
- See also earlier on some possible themes; plus, for example, the role of the media and migrant associations in representation and image formation of migration as a social experience.
- Discussion of variation as well as parallels between the cases.
- We will need to take into account the huge existing literature and to focus perhaps on themes/linkages that have been less explored so far.

One or some of the possible special themes might instead lead towards a special journal issue or journal section. And some written outputs may appear as online Working Papers, as either an intermediate or final product.

## **V. Some possible themes for synthesis, comparison or as exploratory chapters**

### **Diversity**

Although globalization is a major driver of migration, its importance varies from place to place. There are different local situations, of which some do not seem to have a global or transnational character; in some cases migration occurs without any prior international communication having taken place with the communities of origin. Attention should be given to the diversity of local realities, particularly how vulnerability and agency are shaped by the convergence of different forces and their compounded impact.

For example, findings of the research on 'child trafficking' from Mali to Senegal call into question the dominant interpretation of the concepts of 'child', 'trafficking' and 'crime'. Adolescent girls moving cross-border in search of work can be motivated by different reasons, including personal frustrations with their situation at home and the latent effects of a prolonged drought compounded by Structural Adjustment policies which make farming untenable and erode traditional structures of support. Some enter domestic work while others



guide blind men who move from areas struck by the disease of river blindness to urban areas to beg. Claiming rights for the girls faces a major legal hurdle since they have no birth certificates. Trafficking policy takes no account of poverty as a progressive and cumulative phenomenon. In this context, the normative approach to human rights seems far removed from understanding and helping these lives characterized by destitution and chronic poverty.

## **Claiming migrants' rights in the context of agrarian crisis and rural out-migration**

Comparing the rights of internal migrants in India and China reveals some similarities, notably the agrarian crisis as the main driver of rural-urban migration. The status of the migrants (registered or non-registered) plays an important role in labour arrangements and distribution of social entitlements. Given the volatility of employment, the gender dimensions of vulnerability among non-registered migrants must be made visible. The India project calls for a women's movement perspective on migration which entails an approach that is rooted in mass organizations and that emphasizes the need to bring to bear micro realities in the policy process, and the translation of experience of daily lives into a structural view accessible to policy makers.

## **Gendered migration and 'reproductive bargains'**

This theme is emphasized in the Senegal-Spain and Indonesia-UEA studies and can be developed further to take into account the domain of social reproduction and the migration of women as domestic workers, private care providers for the elderly and as wives (Vietnam study). Deconstructing 'domestic work' and identifying the 'reproductive bargains' at different levels may help to illuminate the cultural and economic dimension of social reproduction and its cross-border links through migration. As migrants, women must bargain with multi-layered power relations to achieve a certain level of sexual and affective wellbeing without having to compromise their need to retain their jobs.

## **Including intimate personal life and the emotional dimensions**

Likewise, out-migration through labour export programmes, as in the case of Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines, exhibits certain social relations as bearers of 'gender', and in turn impacts on gender identity construction. In Vietnam, out-migration of women as brides can affect the demographic composition of sending communities and in turn influence how 'masculinities' and 'femininities' are constructed. The migration of Indonesian domestic workers to the Middle East to take over the domestic duties of indigenous women whose time is thus freed up for higher education, can be seen as an organized transfer of tasks that connects the reproductive spheres of two different countries, showing a remarkable continuity of gender structures. Yet, as domestic workers, the emotional dimension of the migrants' wellbeing is denied through stringent controls over their intimate relations with peers. Research on health among Philippines' domestic workers abroad reinforces the observation that gender as 'intimacy' tends to be misconstrued and displaced by policy. Therefore, omitting the emotional dimension involving sexuality and intimacy can lead to distorted knowledge, leading to the common belief that migrant workers are asexual and thus have no emotional life or sexual and reproductive health needs. The emotional dimension also includes the silence of suffering, nostalgia and other subjective aspects that cannot be covered by the impersonal methods used in demographic or economic studies.

## **Human wellbeing and the social construction of identity and status**

The concept of human wellbeing needs further work to bring into focus the tensions that may exist at different levels: the individual, the community and the society, in both sending and receiving countries. The concept must also account for the ambiguous space (or the shadow zone between legality and illegality) within which women migrants operate and how states use this ambiguity to avoid accountability. In this respect, the notion of the 'person' as a legal person with rights must be seen in multiple dimensions. The social construction of identity of the 'person' has implications for entitlements and rights. Caste, for example, is inherited. Overcoming caste discrimination requires moving out of a specific designation in a social stratum. In what context does migration enhance or diminish social status? It can redefine status and social position, and migration law plays an important role in designating a person's place in a social stratum. Claiming rights means being able to move out of the designated place to which a migrant is assigned, in a manner similar to the Dalit movement for social recognition.

## **The human rights framework – limits, extensions, potentials**

The human rights framework is often too focussed on the individual, explained in overly legalistic terms and its notion of social justice often only goes as far as 'affirmative action' for minorities. The framework needs to be more open to the view of rights-claiming as facing barriers at multiple levels, including the local context of power and political environment as well as macro-economic policies and the financial environment. Politically, countries with a vibrant civil society and democratic channels can provide some scope for migrants' organizations, whereas countries that restrict the freedom of association are not active in protecting their own citizens abroad, despite encouraging migration by pursuing labour-export programmes for financial gain.

## **Rights denial via legal non-existence**

As introduced earlier, the space of 'legal non-existence' arising from the mode of movements, work and livelihood demands scrutiny, because it has important implications for rights denial. Legal non-existence amounts to the erasure of humanness and is a form of (structural) violence with only limited possibilities for public or official redress. The conflation of crime and migration in conceptual terms is translated into concrete terms through practices that claim to protect national and public security but which in fact direct themselves at controlling and criminalizing migrants. Law can produce its own illegality and justify itself by producing requirements that less and less people are able to fulfil and who are therefore brought into the zone of illegality. This conflation of crime and migration can lead to hostility towards migrants' organizations and obstruction of their attempts to claim rights.

## **Civic actors organizing for policy influence**

In trying to connect policy prescriptions, the perspectives of civil society organizations and migrants' organized networks that enable the voices of migrants themselves, we must recognise that, just as gender should be analysed as a historical and socially embedded phenomenon, so too can civil society and rights-claiming action be evaluated in these terms. Civil society as a concept needs to be re-embedded in its historical context and not be

treated as a neutral term presented as if in a partnership with 'state' and 'business'. Furthermore, more self-reflective, critical understandings of the potential for civic actors to promote structural changes are crucial. For example, in the Global Forum on Migration and Development, a key issue to be addressed is who is representing whom in the Forum? (There is also need to move beyond the economic reductionism that prevails in the Global Forum and elsewhere concerning the migration-development nexus.)

Different places may have different needs and entry points to organizing. Coalition-building between migrants' organizations, researchers and activist groups is important in knowledge-sharing and monitoring state action and in order to learn from each other about the institutional arrangements by governments to protect the rights of their citizens, including those who go abroad under bilateral export contracts.

## **The roles of research**

Research can play different roles and the political environment influences how research results can be used. Therefore translating research findings into concrete practical outputs needs to be sensitive to the specificities of context. We noted that in many contexts there is collusion between government and industry such that the role of research in influencing policy is likely to be minimal. In such cases, research findings can be better disseminated to NGOs and translated into action programmes for the migrant communities themselves and not just for the state.

There is thus a need to re-define the concept of 'policy influence' in accordance with the context of the operation of migration policy.

## **VI. Conclusion**

The MGSJ project is a great opportunity for learning from others, comparing insights on theoretical and methodological issues and for revisiting the data of each project to deepen interpretations. Peer-to-peer support can enrich understandings and build collaborative relations.

## Appendix III: MGSJ Literature online in Moodle by Key Words

### 1. Theorizing Migration

- Neo-classical: human capital + rational maximization (wage, amenity, cost-benefit)
- Structural (economic globalization and restructuring, geopolitical context, gender, race dimensions of labour market segmentation).
- Institutional and cultural turns (networks and ties in sending and recipient countries).
- Institutional agents (recruiting networks, firms, subcontracting modalities, labour allocation function).
- Socio cultural context (regional characteristics).
- Three-fold bias: gender, age and productivity.
- Children of migrants.

Arango, J. (2002) “**Explaining migration: a critical view**” in *International Social Science Journal* Vol.52, issue 165. Pag. 283-296. Available in: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1468-2451.00259/pdf>

Bhabha, J. (2004) “**The "Mere Fortuity" of Birth? Are Children Citizens?**” in *A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* 15.2 pag. 91-117. Available in: <http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/differences/v015/15.2bhabha.html>

Carling, J. (2005) “**Gender dimensions of international migration**” in *Global Migration Perspectives* No.35. Global Commission on International Migration Available in: <http://www.gcim.org/mm/File/GMP%20No%2035.pdf>

Donkor, M. (2005) “**Marching to the Tune: Colonization, Globalization, Immigration, and the Ghanaian Diaspora**” in *Africa Today* 52.1 pag. 27-44. Available in: [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/africa\\_today/v052/52.1donkor.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/africa_today/v052/52.1donkor.html)

Fass, P.S. (2005) “**Children in Global Migrations**” in *Journal of Social History* 38.4 pag. 937-953 Available in: [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_social\\_history/v038/38.4fass.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_social_history/v038/38.4fass.html)

Gasper, D. and Truong, T. (2010) “**Movements of the 'We': International and Transnational Migration and the Capabilities Approach**” in *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, 11: 2, pag. 339—357. Available in: [http://pdfserve.informaworld.com/265160\\_751317144\\_922078007.pdf](http://pdfserve.informaworld.com/265160_751317144_922078007.pdf)

Goss, J. and Lindquist, B. (2000) “**Placing Movers: An Overview of the Asian-Pacific Migration System**” in *The Contemporary Pacific*, Vol. 12 , No 2 , pag. 385 – 414. Available in: <http://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/bitstream/handle/10125/13544/v12n2-385-414.pdf?sequence=1>

Levitt, P. (2001) “**Transnational migration: taking stock and future directions**” in *Global Networks* 1, 3. pag. 195-216. Available in: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1471-0374.00013/pdf>

Levitt, Peggy and B. Nadya Jaworsky (2007) “Transnational Migration Studies: Past Developments and Future Trends” in *Annual Review of Sociology*. 33: 129–56. Available in: <http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev.soc.33.040406.131816>

Truong, Thanh-Dam (2008) “**Human Trafficking and New Patterns of Migration**” in *Gender, Technology and Development* 12: 5-8. Available in: <http://gtd.sagepub.com/content/12/1/5.full.pdf+html>

Truong, Thanh-Dam (2009) “Human Security and the Governmentality of Neo-liberal Mobility: A Feminist Perspective” in *Hexagon Series on Human and Environmental Security and Peace* Vol. 4, Part IX: 1183-1189. Available in: <https://springerlink3.metapress.com/content/p14702t76w454r11/resource-secured/?target=fulltext.pdf&sid=ihyzjq24kxsv0o52by11nmg&sh=www.springerlink.com>

### 2. Scales and Impact of Migration: International and Regional

- National (competition for skilled, barriers against unskilled migrants and those considered as 'social burdens')
- Transitory labour migration (regional and sub-regional)
- Transnational migrants and diasporas networks (institutions, associations, organizational links)

- Settled migrants social integration (education, employment, public space, Refugees and displaced persons)

Mahler, Sarah J. (2000) "**Migration and Transnational Issues. Recent Trends and Prospects for 2020**" Working Paper No. 4. Hamburg: Institut für Iberoamerika-Kunde. Available in: [http://ca2020.fiu.edu/Themes/Sarah\\_Mahler/Mahler.pdf](http://ca2020.fiu.edu/Themes/Sarah_Mahler/Mahler.pdf)

Mckeown, Adam (2004) "**Global Migration, 1846–1940**" in *Journal of World History*, Vol. 15, No. 2. University of Hawai'i Press. Available in: [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_world\\_history/v015/15.2mckeown.pdf](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_world_history/v015/15.2mckeown.pdf)

Mora, Claudia (2008) "**The Peruvian Community in Chile**" in *Peace Review*, 20: 3, pag. 339—347. Available in: <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cper20/20/3>

Tyner, James A. (2000) "**Global Cities and Circuits of Global Labor: The Case of Manila, Philippines**" in *Professional Geographer*, Association of American Geographers Vol. 52, No. 1. pag. 61–74. Available in: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/0033-0124.00205/abstract>

### **3. Scales and Impact of Migration: Internal, Local and Sub-regional**

- Processes of migration (labour markets shape migration and vice versa)
- Migrants employment niches:
  - Domestic workers
  - Foreign brides (mail-order-brides, arranged group marriages)
  - Agricultural workers
  - Construction workers

Agustin, Laura M. (2003) "**A Migrant World of Services**" in *Social Politics* Vol. 10:3. pag. 377-396. Available in: <http://sp.oxfordjournals.org/content/10/3/377.abstract>

Fitzgerald, David. (2002) "**Rethinking the 'Local' and 'Transnational': Cross-Border Politics and Hometown Networks in an Immigrant Union**" Working Paper 58. The Center for Comparative Immigration Studies: University of California. Available in: <http://www.ccis-ucsd.org/PUBLICATIONS/wrkg58.PDF>

Jacka, Tamara (2005) "**Finding a Place: Negotiations of Modernization and Globalization among Rural Women in Beijing**" in *Critical Asian Studies* 37:1 pag. 51-74. Available in: <http://criticalasianstudies.org/issues/vol37/no1/finding-a-place.html>

Mather, Celia (2006) "**Respect and Rights: Protection for Domestic/Household Workers**" Report of the international conference held in Amsterdam, 8-10 November 2006. Available in: <http://en.domesticworkerrights.org/sites/en.domesticworkerrights.org/files/ENGtextRaR.pdf>

Samers, Michael (2004) "**The 'Underground Economy', Immigration, and Economic Development in the European Union: An Agnostic-Skeptic Perspective**" in *International Journal of Economic Development* Vol. 6:2 pag. 199-269. Available in: <http://www.uky.edu/AS/Geography/People/Faculty/Samers/6-2-samers.pdf>

Smith, Michael P. and Guarnizo, Luis E. Editors (1998) "**Transnationalism From Below**" in *Comparative Urban and Community Research* Vol.6. New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers. Available in: [http://members.aon.at/agiran/Michael\\_Peter\\_Smith.pdf](http://members.aon.at/agiran/Michael_Peter_Smith.pdf)

Schwenken, H. and Meimeshoff, L-M (eds) (2011) "**Domestic Workers Count: Global Data on an Often Invisible Sector**" Kassel University Press: Germany. Available in: <http://www.uni-kassel.de/upress/online/frei/978-3-86219-050-8.volltext.frei.pdf>

### **4. Citizenship and Migrants Identity Formation**

- Social embeddedness of belongings
- Security of identity and livelihood
- Trans-localities and Multi-local identities
- Participation



Faist, Thomas (2001) "**Social Citizenship in the European Union: Nested Membership**" in *Journal of Common Market Studies* Vol39, No.1 Oxford. Blackwell Publishers. pag. 37-58. Available in: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1468-5965.00275/pdf>

Higuchi, Naoto and Kiyoto Tanno (2003) "**What's Driving Brazil-Japan Migration? The Making and Remaking of the Brazilian Niche in Japan**" in *International Journal of Japanese Sociology* Vol. 12:1 pag. 33-47. Available in: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1475-6781.2003.00041.x/pdf>

Lister, Ruth (2004) "A politics of recognition and respect: Involving people with experience of poverty in decision-making that affects their lives" In Andersen, J. & Siim, B. (Eds.) *The politics of inclusion and empowerment*. New York, NY: Palgrave. Available in: <http://www.humiliationstudies.org/documents/ListerSocialExclusion.pdf>

Lister, Ruth (2006) "**Inclusive Citizenship: realizing the potential**" in *Citizen Studies* 11:1. pag. 49-61 Available in: <https://dspace.lboro.ac.uk/dspace-jspui/bitstream/2134/2524/3/citstudies06%255b1%255d.pdf>

Pan Tianshu. **Book Review...** Zhang, Li. (2001) "**Strangers in the City: Reconfigurations of Space, Power, and Social Networks Within China's Floating Population.**" Stanford University Press (P. 304) in *Anthropological Quarterly*, Vol. 76: 2, Spring 2003, pag. 359-360. Available in: [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/anthropological\\_quarterly/v076/76.2pan.pdf](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/anthropological_quarterly/v076/76.2pan.pdf)

Yen, Nguyen Thi Hai, Thanh-Dam Truong and Bernadette P. Resurreccion (2008) "**Gender, Class and Nation in a Transnational Community: Practices of identity among Undocumented Migrant Workers from Vietnam in Bangkok**" in *Gender, Technology and Development* 12:3 Sage Publications. pag. 365-388. Available in: <http://gtd.sagepub.com/content/12/3/365.full.pdf+html>

Shipper, A.W. (2010) "**Politics of Citizenship and Transnational Gendered Migration in East and Southeast Asia**" in *Pacific Affairs* Volume 83, No. 1 Spring. Available in: [http://csii.usc.edu/documents/Politics\\_of\\_Citizenship.pdf](http://csii.usc.edu/documents/Politics_of_Citizenship.pdf)

Sargent, Carolyn F. Larchanché-Kim, Stéphanie (2006) "**Liminal Lives: Immigration Status, Gender, and the Construction of Identities Among Malian Migrants in Paris**" in *American Behavioral Scientist* Volume 50 (1): 9. Available in: <http://www.deepdyve.com/lp/sage/liminal-lives-immigration-status-gender-and-the-construction-of-iXS0y9L8Xh>

## **5. Households and Multiple Livelihoods**

- Intra-household relations and gender
- Resources and opportunities and gender
- Transformation of gender identities and relations through remittances
- Stays-behinds

Francis, Elizabeth (2000) "**Gender, Migration and Multiple Livelihoods: Cases from Eastern and Southern Africa**" Available in: <http://grove.ufl.edu/~gender/Readings/ReadingsW6/Multiplelivelihoods.pdf>

Lawson, Victoria A. (1998) "**Hierarchical households and gendered migration in Latin America: feminist extensions to migration research**" in *Progress in Human Geography* 22,1 pag. 39-53. Available in: <http://phg.sagepub.com/content/22/1/39.full.pdf>

Young, Helen (2006) "**Livelihoods, migration and remittance flows in times of crisis and conflict: case studies for Darfur, Sudan**" An *Humanitarian Policy Group -HPG-* Paper. Overseas Development Institute. Available in: <http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/295.pdf>

Young, Lorraine and Nicola Ansell (2003) "**Fluid Households, Complex Families: The Impacts of Children's Migration as a Response to HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa**" in *The Professional Geographer* 55 (4) pag. 464-479. Available in: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/0033-0124.5504005/abstract>

## **6. Gender**

- Legal consciousness
- Needs and rights
- Recognition and participation

- Curran, Sara R, Filiz Garip, Chang Y. Chung and Kanchana Tangchonlatip (2005) "**Gendered Migrant Social Capital: Evidence from Thailand**" in *Social Forces* Vol. 84:1 The University of North Carolina Press pag. 225-254. Available in: [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/social\\_forces/v084/84.1curran.pdf](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/social_forces/v084/84.1curran.pdf)
- Pessar, Patricia R. and Sarah J. Mahler (2003) "**Transnational Migration: Bringing Gender in**" in *International Migration Review* Vol37, No 3. pag. 812-846. Available in: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1747-7379.2003.tb00159.x/pdf>
- Pessar, Patricia R. (2005) "**Women, Gender, and International Migration Across and Beyond the Americas: Inequalities and Limited Empowerment**" UN/POP/EGM-MIG/2005/08. Available in: [http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/IttMigLAC/P08\\_PPessar.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/IttMigLAC/P08_PPessar.pdf)
- Guerassimoff, Carine (2006) "**Gender and Migration Networks: New Approaches to Research on Chinese Migration to France and Europe**" in *Journal of Chinese Overseas* Vol.2:1 pag. 134-145. Available in: [http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal\\_of\\_chinese\\_overseas/v002/2.1pina-guerassimoff.pdf](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_chinese_overseas/v002/2.1pina-guerassimoff.pdf)
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- Tyner, James A. (2000) "**Migrant labour and the politics of scale: gendering the Philippine state**" in *Asia Pacific Viewpoint* Vol.41:2 pag. 131-154 Available in: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1467-8373.00112/pdf>
- Vanwey, Leah K. (2004) "**Altruistic and Contractual Remittances between Male and Female Migrants and Households in Rural Thailand**" in *Demography* Vol. 41:4 pag. 739-756. Available in: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1515228>

## 7. Intersectionality

- Intersection of unequal structures and identities (gender, class, ethnicity and age)
- Significant differences by nations
- Social vulnerability
- Marginalization and social exclusion

Anthias, Floya (2009) "**Thinking through the lens of translocational positionality: an intersectionality frame for understanding identity and belonging**" in *Translocations: Migration and Social Change: An Inter-Disciplinary Open Access E-Journal* Vol 4:1. Available in: [http://www.imrstr.dcu.ie/volume\\_4\\_issue\\_1/index.html](http://www.imrstr.dcu.ie/volume_4_issue_1/index.html)

Brah, Avtar and Ann Phoenix (2004) "**Ain't I A Woman? Revisiting Intersectionality**" in *Journal of International Women's Studies* Vol. 5:3. Available in: [http://www.bridgew.edu/soas/jiws/May04/Phoenix\\_Brah.pdf](http://www.bridgew.edu/soas/jiws/May04/Phoenix_Brah.pdf)

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Marx Ferree, Myra (2008) "**Inequality, intersectionality and the politics of discourse Framing feminist alliances**" in *The Discursive Politics of Gender Equality: Stretching, Bending and Policy-Making*. Edited by Emanuela Lombardo, Petra Meier, Mieke Verloo. Routledge. Available in: <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~mferree/documents/Inequality&intersect-July08.pdf>

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McCristal Culp, Jerome (1993) "**Colorblind Remedies and the Intersectionality of Oppression: Policy arguments masquerading as moral claims**" N.Y.U. Law Review. pag. 162-196. Available in: [http://scholarship.law.duke.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1230&context=faculty\\_scholarship&sei-redir=1#search=%22Colorblind%20REmedies%20intersectionality%20oppression%3A%20policy%20argument%20masquerading%20as%20moral%20claims%22](http://scholarship.law.duke.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1230&context=faculty_scholarship&sei-redir=1#search=%22Colorblind%20REmedies%20intersectionality%20oppression%3A%20policy%20argument%20masquerading%20as%20moral%20claims%22)

Naples, Nancy A. (2004) "**Towards an Intersectional Analysis of Migration: Economic Restructuring and the Social Regulation of Citizenship in the Heartland**" presentation at the *Embodied Workers Conference*, Syracuse University. Available in: <http://faculty.maxwell.syr.edu/mdevault/naples%20embodied%20workers%20conference.pdf>

Ida Ravnbol, Camilla (2009) "**Intersectional Discrimination against Children: Discrimination against Romani Children and Anti-Discrimination. Measures to address Child Trafficking**" *Innocenti Working Paper* No. IDP 2009-11 UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence. Available in: [http://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/pdf/iwp\\_2009\\_11.pdf](http://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/pdf/iwp_2009_11.pdf)

Satterthwaite, Margaret L. (2005) "**Crossing Borders, Claiming Rights: Using Human Rights Law to Empower Women Migrant Workers**" in *Yale Human Rights & Development Law Journal*. Vol. VIII. Available in: <http://www.law.yale.edu/documents/pdf/LawJournals/satterthwaite.pdf>

McDowell, Linda (2008) "**Thinking through work: complex inequalities, constructions of difference and trans-national migrants**" in *Progress in Human Geography* 32:4 pag. 491–507. Available: <http://phg.sagepub.com/content/32/4/491.full.pdf>

## 8. Conflicts and Social Justice

- Rights and obligations
- Access to power
- Social support
- Violence
- Detention practices
- Claims and advocacy

Barzilai, Gad. (2008) "**Beyond Relativism: Where Is Political Power in Legal Pluralism?**" in *Theoretical Inquiries in Law*: Vol. 9, No. 2, Article 4. Available at: <http://www.bepress.com/til/default/vol9/iss2/art4>

## 9. Wellbeing

- Reproduction
- Biological reproduction: sexuality, childbirth, reproductive health and rights
- Social reproduction: life sustaining activities, meeting wellbeing needs of members of household and communities, domestic work, provision of care (paid or unpaid)
- Systemic reproduction: gender norms in state policy on domestic work, care; gender regimes and reproductive bargains

Dalla Costa, Mariarosa (2006) "**Women's Autonomy and Remuneration for Care Work in the New Emergencies**" paper has been presented at the international Conference on "*La autonomia posible*" (*The Possible Autonomy*). Universidad Autonoma de la Ciudad de Mexico, October 24-25-26, 2006. Available in: [http://www.commoner.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/dallacosta\\_mexico\\_paper2.pdf](http://www.commoner.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/dallacosta_mexico_paper2.pdf)

Duffy, Mignon (2005) "**Reproducing Labor Inequalities: Challenges for Feminists Conceptualizing Care at the Intersections of Gender, Race, and Class**" in *Gender & Society* Vol. 2:19. Pag. 66-82. Available in: <http://gas.sagepub.com/content/19/1/66.full.pdf+html>

Herrera, Gioconda. (2005) **"Work and social reproduction in the lives of Ecuadorian domestic workers in Madrid"** Prepared for the *International Conference on Migration and Domestic Work in Global Perspective* The Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies, Wassenaar. Available in: <http://www.grupochorlavi.org/webchorlavi/migraciones2006/bibliografia/Ecuador/gioconda,%20flacso%20ecuator.pdf>

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Milkan, Ruth, Ellen Reese and Benita Roth. (1998) **"The Macrosociology of Paid Domestic Labor"** in *Work and Occupation* Vol.25:4. Sage Publications. pag. 483-510. Available in: <http://wox.sagepub.com/content/25/4/483.short>

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Pillay, Rubin (2007) **"A conceptual framework for the strategic analysis and management of the brain drain of African health care professionals"** in *African Journal of Business Management* pag. 026-033. Available in: <http://www.academicjournals.org/ajbm/pdf/Pdf2007/May/Pillay.pdf>

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## **10. Migration Governance Frameworks**

- Features:
  - Disjunctions between national and international laws
  - Legal ambiguities
  - Illegality
  - Liminal legality
- National framework
- Local framework
- Regional framework
- Overlaps and connections

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## 11. Civic Actors Advocacy

- Interplay between civic actors and state
- Legal consciousness
- Political context of advocacy
- Socio-legal approach
- 'Translation' of international laws

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## 12. Epistemological Frameworks

- Problem-solving approach (instrumental knowledge)
- Reflexive knowledge or critical knowledge for emancipation
- Social citizenship
- Active citizenship
- Inclusive citizenship
- Subaltern cosmopolitan legality
- Intersectional: structures of inequality, identities

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## 13. Methodologies

- Quantitative research
- Qualitative research
- Mixed approach
- Academic writing
- Policy Brief writing
- Advocacy for change

Bloemraad, Irene (2007) "**Of Puzzles and Serendipity: Doing Cross-National, Mixed Method Immigration Research**" Chapter 2 in Eds. DeSipio, Louis. Manuel Garcia y Griego, and Sherri Kossoudji (2007) *Researching Migration: Stories from the Field*. pag. 34-49. Available in: [http://www.ssrc.org/workspace/images/crm/new\\_publication\\_3/%7B42451838-264a-de11-afac-001cc477ec70%7D.pdf](http://www.ssrc.org/workspace/images/crm/new_publication_3/%7B42451838-264a-de11-afac-001cc477ec70%7D.pdf)

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## **14. Policy Briefs Materials and Links**

Useful link to Policy Briefs in Migration. Available in:  
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## Appendix IV: Report of Final Dissemination Workshop



### Migration, Gender and Social Justice: Final Dissemination Workshop

Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, Kerala, India  
14-16 February 2013

## I. Introduction

Launched in 2006, “women and migration” was a research theme embedded in the Women’s Rights and Citizenship (WRC) programme of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). Whereas previously research on migration had tended to focus on livelihoods, the WRC programme sought to bring Southern voices into current international debates on migration, gender and development, using the concept of citizenship as an entry point. In the period 2006-2011 the WRC programme has supported research work on migration directed at undoing gender-based social discrimination and enabling the realization of a full range of rights and freedoms for migrant women. These include economic rights, sexual and reproductive rights, equitable access to justice and the opportunity to participate meaningfully in democratic decision-making. Also embedded in the WRC programme, the project entitled “Migration, Gender and Social Justice” (MGSJ) has brought together WRC research partners from 11 projects in three continents for cooperation during a 30-months period (2010-2013) to synthesize the findings and contribute to debates on, and practices of, gender for achieving social justice in migration. The cooperation has involved four main modalities of participation: 1) the inception workshop held in the Hague in 2011; 2) the visiting scholar programme in 2011-12; 3) digital communication for knowledge sharing and co-production of the academic volume and policy briefs designed for policy-makers and practitioners; 4) the final dissemination workshop.

As a culmination of MGSJ activities, the final dissemination workshop was designed with two main objectives:

- To launch a pre-final version of the co-edited volume entitled *Migration, Gender and Social Justice: Perspectives on Human Insecurity*, published by Springer (in a hardcover version and as an open access E-Book) and to share the policy briefs more widely – among partners and between partners and the public for wider impacts;
- To connect networks of researchers and practitioners, with the invitation to engage in critical reflections on the book and to explore emerging areas of shared interests for new forms of cooperation.

## II. Workshop Programme and Achievements

The workshop brought together 13 MGSJ partners<sup>20</sup>, and high level policy-makers and researchers on migration in India to interact with researchers, practitioners, and advocates from different global, regional and national networks. In addition, several high-level India policy makers at the national level and provincial level were invited as speakers and chairs of sessions (see Appendix 1- list of participants).

The design of the workshop sought to facilitate a maximal level of participation, with the following measures: assigning two discussants for each paper presented; making bi-lingual translation services (French-English and Spanish-English) available; making room for two moments of recapitulation; organizing two break out sessions each involving four groups. The foci for the breakout sessions were selected on a consultative basis, on issues that had emerged during the MGSJ project from the inception workshop on. These foci were reframed such that they could guide the discussions in areas considered to be at the cutting edge of research and

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<sup>20</sup> Partners from Senegal, India, Philippines, Thailand, Britain, Indonesia, Chile, Mexico and Costa Rica joined the workshop. The partners from China and Viet-Nam could not come due to a visa problem in the first case, and health reasons in the latter case.

policy debates. The themes were proposed to partners and workshop participants and were accepted by them. They included: feminist economics and migration studies; gender and youth migration; emerging patterns of South-South migration; re-scaling border control and transformations of borders (see Appendix 2: Day-to-day programme).

## ***II.1 Content and delivery***

Ms. Ranjana Kale, Economic Adviser to India's Minister of Overseas Indians Affairs, opened the workshop, and was followed by Mr. K.C. Joseph, Kerala's Minister of Non Resident Keralites Affairs. Both speeches highlighted the key aspects of India's policy approach to labour migration, emphasizing on the one hand the quality of the country's human resources and the gains to be made through migration, and on the need to provide social protection for migrant workers, especially women. The experience of Kerala was revealing in that the remittances of its workers in different parts of India and abroad have stimulated its economy in the last decades without much policy attention. Today the state of Kerala's economy has led to serious steps to provide social security for Non-Resident Keralites (NRKs) working far away from the land of their birth. This also involves assisting families in the process of rapid transfer of workers' bodies to their home country to reduce stress. The emphasis on the human dimensions of labour migration and on the need to make social protection schemes portable for low-skilled migrants provided a very suitable opening for the deliberations that followed.

Ms. Ramata Thioune senior project manager, International Development and Research Centre (IDRC), emphasized the importance of women migrants to economic development (in both sending and receiving countries), the need for aggregating and connecting fragmented research findings to strengthen and sharpen knowledge, and for further research on the subject. Professor Leo de Haan, Rector of the International Institute of Social Studies, expressed his appreciation to CDS for hosting the workshop, emphasizing also the long-standing relation of cooperation between the two institutions –especially in the area of Universalizing Socioeconomic Security for the Poor (USSC).

The workshop programme was structured according to the thematic issues addressed in the academic volume, which included contributions of MGSJ partners as well as by invited scholars to provide additional insights on emerging critical issues in gender research in migration. Members of the ISS team, a CDS staff-member, and two MGSJ partners, presented the chapters of authors who could not join the workshop. The deliberations were grouped into the following themes: 1) Transformation of Social Reproduction Systems and Migration: Local-Global Interactions; 2) The State and Female Internal Migration: Rights and Livelihood Security; 3) Complexity of Gender: Embodiment and Intersectionality; 4) Liminal Legality, Citizenship and Migrant Rights Mobilization; 5) Migration Regimes, Masculinities, and Public Action.

The quality of the contributions were generally high, especially regarding the stimulation of thinking beyond conventional confines, as can be seen from the post-workshop responses. Though the language barriers among some participants may have held them back from speaking in the plenary sessions, they were active in small group discussions. Two special remarks on the quality of the overall contribution, received soon after participants have returned home, are worth mentioning here. Professor

Fabio Baggio wrote in an email dated 3 March 2013:

"I would like to thank everybody for the inspiring experience in Trivandrum. I am already using the "knowledge" I got from your contributions and the materials that were distributed for my courses in Rome and Valencia, with due recognition of the authors. I am particularly interested in taking up the issue of "South-South

migration". I perceived some enthusiasm among the participants of our small group about possibilities of joint multiple-country (or multiple-region) research."

Linda Oucho wrote on LinkedIn on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2013:

"It was definitely a fruitful experience which has sparked a few research ideas [which] I would like to explore at AMADPOC (African Migration and Development Policy Centre, Nairobi). I will be writing a brief article about the workshop to create publicity on the book in our online newsletter called 'Africa on the Move' and I wanted to find out if there is a website that I can include and if you have a date that the book will be launched. We are hoping the newsletter will be out end of this month or early next month".

Apart from these responses mentioning specific actions to spread ideas generated at the workshop, an evaluation questionnaire was sent to participants, the results of which may be found in Appendix 3.

The deliberations generally called for avoidance of overgeneralizations on the relationship between gender and migration. There are commonalities and differences regarding the interaction of gender with other social statuses (legal identity as migrants, class, race/ethnicity and age). It is important therefore to recognize the importance of contexts and their particularities. Overgeneralization can hide the diverse ways in which institutional power dynamics circumscribe the space for women's migrants to claim rights. Existing social justice approaches need to be informed by a better understanding of the specific dynamics of migration and institutional transformation (organizational practices and legal regulations) as well as the sense of prestige that people attach to "being mobile", the role of social networks in images and norms diffusion about mobility within and across borders, in addition to the material circumstances that drive migration and patterns of differentiation among migrants. The key messages that cut across the deliberations may be summarized as follows:

### ***II.1.1 Invisibility***

The relationship between "invisibility" and "misframing" of both "migration" and "gender" on the one hand, and the consequences for social justice strategies on the other, emerged as a theme that connects nearly all the contributions. While the framework on women's human rights is clear and covers many dimensions, its implementation is too soft and individual-based. Furthermore application of this framework very much depends on the collaboration between nation-states to address issues of protection of migrants, as citizens have crossed national boundaries of jurisdiction. Hierarchical relations between nation-states and a host of issues – including economic and political agendas and rigidity in administration – can make this collaboration ineffective. Despite the important role of civil society, civic actors are also embedded in the national sphere of politics that is also influenced by national sentiments that do not always favour migrant's rights. Nearly all studies in the MGSJ project have documented different aspects of "racialization" as a social process, or other types of social construction of migrant workers as inferior beings. Countering these processes is an important task in the demand for the implementation of the legal frameworks on migrants' rights.

Invisibility and its relationship with the realm of cognition stand out as an area that can provide a synthesis of the ideas presented. Discussions on invisibility took on several of its meanings:



- a) Invisibility as meaning being outside of the realm of cognition in the sense of formal knowledge and sometimes even tacit knowledge;
- b) Statistical invisibility, which leads to the invisibility of women migrants in the eyes of planners, and thus their exclusion from the process of programming activities related to social protection;
- c) Institutional invisibility (or the fact of not having a formal status or having an unauthorized status) derived from the rigidity of tacit knowledge and institutional setting, which exclude some migrants from policy frameworks and programmes that might benefit them;
- d) Strategic invisibility as migrants' choice to evade unfair practices of control by the state and/or abusive behaviours at inter-group level.

These multiple layers of invisibility have significant implications for migrants' economic and socio-cultural security in their daily lives and in their relationship with state agents. Invisibility is therefore to be considered as a social field of power where *misframing and reframing* manifest a tension in striving for "recognition". Asymmetrical relations between actors can limit the possibility for reciprocity and cooperation because they can re/structure gender norms through institutional practices without having to significantly re-frame the issues at stake. In other words, a popular strategy commonly known as the "add-and-stir" approach is often preferred. This point is well illustrated in the discussion on domestic labour and the migration of women as domestic workers. Though policy makers are beginning to recognize the presence of domestic workers in transnational migration streams, they do not pay sufficient attention to the significance of this type of migration as a manifestation of the transformation of the organization of social reproduction at a societal level. Persisting misframing can lead to crises, which provides an opportunity for reframing, recognition and re-affirming certain categories of migrants whose presence and contributions to society have been made invisible.

Invisibility must be taken on board as an issue of social justice in terms of systems of classification of work, workers and migrants. These systems are not to be taken as "given". They are informed by specific knowledge frames, which are time-bound, and vulnerable to errors and to institutional rigidity. Cultural and ethnographic research can help bring migrants' voices on their experiences of being invisible, the multiple and inter-connected layers of insecurity. These voices can direct attention to the ways in which control is being practiced, and how studying migration also means studying not just the life-worlds of migrants but the life-worlds of controlling borders (legal, social, economic and cultural) that shape migrants' everyday life and their agency. This can help bridge the gap of understanding between a state-centric notion of "national security" and a notion of security produced locally by social interactions; that gap can produce new forms of social enclosure, rather than promoting participation as part of an ideal form of democracy.

### ***II.1.2 North-South and migration***

Debates on migration among policy circles and some research communities tend to follow the "North and South" framework, which depicts a geographical divide, and a binary opposition of power (North) and vulnerability (South). Approaching forms of structural inequality in migration as those that cut across national boundaries through practices adopted by migrants and social networks operating trans-locally appears more fruitful. These forms of structural inequality can be located in the vertical relationships (between the migrants and the states) as well as at the horizontal level (relations between social groups). Dysfunctions found in the administration of migration policy in the case studies have revealed the tension between the



mobility of labour and the non-mobility of entitlements for many migrants as a key issue in the governance of migration.

A perspective capable of capturing the forms of insecurity experienced by “people on the move” straddling between different jurisdictions and conventional frameworks of social protection is called for. Such a perspective can help inform how the politics of securitization of borders in different parts of the world have stimulated the erosion of existing protection systems, and promoted xenophobic sentiments. These have in turn encouraged ever-more stringent practices of migration management which operate in terms of “flows of people” across borders rather than with awareness and understanding of people with their own histories, aspirations and agencies.

As subjects of human in/security, migrants are affected not only by the framework of classification of identities that separates them from nationals, but also by a hierarchy of identities within the population of foreigners. Though the specific features of this hierarchy of identities may differ according to the particularities of geopolitical contexts, often the management of “flows” (of people on the move) misframes some groups of migrants and their identities into a “social problem” supposedly requiring a solution. Misframing can displace the necessity to examine dysfunctional aspects of the management of migratory flows by the state and non-state actors. Subsequently, concerns over human security (as distinct from state-centred security concerns) are being re-framed to fit political forms of discipline and control over the migrant population. Ensuring the goals of human security for “people on the move” requires as the first step addressing the forms of structural injustice they face. Enhancing migrants’ capabilities to make choices, and the actual opportunities they have, would help shift the thinking about “security” as border control into one guided by the notion of positive freedom for those who migrate or return, as well as those who are considering these possibilities.

Returning to the question of gender in migration and its affiliated concept of the “feminization of migration”, several layers of reality were discussed. Though popular in usage, so far the term “feminization” refers mainly to the increasing statistical share of women in various migration streams (internal, cross-border, South-North and South-South). The term can, indeed, be extended to capture the set of migration practices that bear distinct gendered values, norms and characteristics, the gender-differentiated treatment of migrants, gendered modes of migration and means of migrant livelihood. Moving beyond the legal approach to women’s rights in migration, which is embedded in the dated framework of groups rights built on the rationale of protecting minority groups and minors, requires scrutinizing measures of protection of migrants that draw on the tacit social construction of “masculinities” and “femininities”. As social constructs and subjectivities these categories can exercise great influence on how women, men and young people become involved in migration processes, and how policies of social protection are designed.

## **II.2 Report of the 4 breakout sessions**

### ***II.2.1 Gender, Youth and Migration (Rapporteur Shipra Saxena)***

Participants: Mara Quesada-Bondad; Linda Oucho; Rhodora Abano; Sivakumar; Kamonwan Petchot; Ramata Molo Thioune; Joyce Armstrong Matthews; Marina Faetanini; Victor HH; Malika Basu; Shipra Saxena.

The group discussed the idea of forming a Gender Community between the group members to develop tools for interaction with other professionals to broaden knowledge among communities of practitioners. While acknowledging the existence of gender and development

programs at the governmental or intergovernmental level in some countries, the group observed that this does not necessarily guarantee adequate intervention, given that the meaning of “gender” is equated with “women”. This Gender Community can serve as a point of reference to create a sub-community on gender, youth and migration and to develop new tools of analysis for intervention at the level of projects as well as advocacy.

The “invisibility” of young migrants in policy forums is striking. For example, in India, the interconnection between youth and internal migration is poorly monitored and understood. Given that there are no specific questions about young people in the census, statistics on youth migration are virtually non-existent.

Youth is not a homogeneous group. In migration three groups may be distinguished: young people who migrate alone, those who migrate together with their parents, and the stay-behinds. A further distinction between girls and boys can be made to understand the gender-differentiated motivation for migration. Until knowledge about migration produced at state level covers young people as a group, they remain invisible, as being outside of the realm of public cognition. National youth policy in India has made some amendments, but these have not touched upon issues of inclusion that matter most. The integration approach tends to treat “youth” as a social problem based on strong assumptions that are yet to be analyzed. The current focus is placed mainly on youth and crime and violence. Crime is often linked with migration and migrants. CDS Trivandrum is working on the statistical representation of youth in migration data in India.

Generally, using chronological age as a yardstick to monitor migration is also problematic. For example, the median age for migration of women is found to be 30 but there are so many female migrants who are much younger. In Mali girls are not recognized as migrant workers therefore they are missing from the data. The social construction of “childhood” in UN conventions is such that the migration of young women under 18 years is framed as “child trafficking” despite the fact that some migrate independently to earn their own income. Categorized as “children”, young people below 18 years of age are seen as victims without acknowledging their capacity of agency and decision-making. In Philippines girls are being made to look older than they are meet the requirements for migration abroad as domestic workers. Advocates of the rights to health of transnational migrant workers do not address “youth” as a category and the health needs of young migrants.

Ill-conceived practices in gender mainstreaming can also play a role in making youth migration invisible. These practices are built on a binary model of gender (male and female) and cannot address issues of gender identity as a crosscutting phenomenon (crosscutting with age, gender, class, race, migrant status). For example, Kenya’s climate change initiatives address mainly the relationships between the livelihood conditions, climate change and migration. Gender mainstreaming of such projects is reduced to the presence of a woman (with no expertise or opinion), seen as a sufficient measure of “representing” gender interests, whereas what is needed are people with expertise who can work both with climate change and gender issues in the migration of young people. There is limited interest in gender, youth and migration, although in reality the migration of young people for their own reasons and goals may be increasing. The links between climate change, youth migration and gender need to be explored more systematically.

The example of the Philippines is another case in which the framing of gender issues as women’s issues in reproductive health, with a binary understanding of gender (men versus women), has exclusionary impact. Recently, some organizations have taken on men’s role and masculinity. But the binary understanding of gender has displaced reproductive health issues faced by transgender people who are not included in the classification of the population as a specific group. HIV practitioners only talk about MSM (men-having-sex-with-men) as a group,

not about transgender people. As transgender people cannot find jobs in Philippines due to discrimination, they migrate for work abroad and typically become sex trade workers. Many health issues they face cannot be addressed because health practitioners in the country are not aware of transgender issues, let alone the specific aspects of reproductive health related to transgender sexual practices. The gap between the feminist pioneers and the new generation of feminists must be resolved. Resistance to the inclusion of “new” ideas of gender can have a negative impact on migration and migrants whereas the “diversity framework” for gender identity can be tool to promote a more inclusive approach towards transgender people, addressing also their employment situation and reproductive health.

Mainstream institutions that provide knowledge services to practitioners such as UNDP – Gender Community should bring issues of “gender diversity” and youth on board. Working with grass-roots organizations helps provide new avenues for the articulations of problems of discrimination as experienced by young people whose presence remains invisible to policy makers by virtue of their identity. More knowledge sharing on such experience will help re-direct thinking on gender towards a more inclusive tendency for young people of different gender identity. To move forward, the policy frameworks on youth and migration need to be aligned. Creating a knowledge network on gender, youth and migration can help improve this engagement with policy.

UNESCO will take the lead in building a knowledge network in India to create a consistent space for interaction between communities of practice (civil society organizations and international governmental organizations, researchers, and policy makers) with the idea of “solution exchange”, which can links with other networks in South East Asia and elsewhere that are supported by UN Women. The goal is to create a sub-committee on youth, gender and migration, which will work towards closing the gap between researchers and policy makers. The guidelines for this initiative and criteria for membership will be worked out by the nine members of this breakout session and shared with others. UNESCO will take the lead.

### ***II.2.2 Transformations of borders (Rapporteur: Stefania Donzelli)***

Participants: Amita Shah -- María DeVargas – Des Gasper – Sulistyowati Irianto – Claudia Mora – Malu Marin – Carlos Sandoval-Garcia – Martha Luz Rojas – Thanh-Dam Truong –Stefania Donzelli

Borders should be understood as having both material and discursive elements. They function as partitions that produce notions of insiders/outside, and that create spaces of enclosure and openness. Borders are historical constructs that operate in several spheres – the territorial, political, economic, social and identity formation. Different actors (capital, international organizations, states, NGOs, social movements, migrants, and so forth) and their conduct are part of processes of transformations of borders. At the level of nation-states, the protection of sovereignty and the control of territory have today have produced a multiplication of forms of control, including the erection of social and spatial borders within a territory and the externalization of border control through pre-emptive measures to “repel” the arrival of unwanted migrants. The transformation of borders can be seen as a process emanating from the politics of boundaries of belonging and the re-defining of the legitimate basis for “citizenship” on the one hand, and a response to migrants' agency seeking to claim the right to “belong” on the other. Increasingly nationalistic discourses, as well as the return to the notion of “citizenship” based on the old notion of the “polis” (the city), have provided the legitimacy of closure to some types of internal and cross-border migration.

Whereas borders manifest the fixity of rights, in a globalized economy the mobility of workers requires the portability of rights and social protection. The fact that the degree of

applicability of “portability” varies (according to the position occupied by the workers in the apex of a stratified and globalized system of labour relations) reflects the importance of social boundaries in the definition of workers’ identities and entitlements. Social boundaries – based on a particular identity or a combination of such – can indeed buttress existing exclusionary mechanisms that affect workers and that require new forms of analysis of the competing regimes of rights and their implications. In a world in which capital is allowed to move without frontiers, the divide between global knowledge workers affiliated with WTO-GATS mode 4 on trade in services and, on the other hand, global workers in sectors not recognized as part of “export of services” programmes, has led to malpractices of border control and to migrants’ agency in circumventing them in an attempt to achieve some degree of social protection through their own social networks. This in turn has led to state responses to control what is perceived as crime, by expanding the apparatus of detention-deportation financed by the state and executed by private security agencies. This area is now called the securitization of migration, a process built on a production of fear of the “other” combined with the use of new technologies to construct and monitor identities. In recent years, the attempts to transform newly erected borders through coalitions of resistance among different forms of “border activism” have emerged as an important domain of practice and research, on the interplay between governmental and social forces that have produced a high degree of insecurity rather than ensuring stability for all concerned.

Studies on migrants’ identities and subjectivities or the political and personal aspects of borders can benefit from a genealogical approach to migration policies, their re/formation and transformation and the societal base behind changes in different places and time. This can help shift the direction of thinking in mainstream high-level dialogues on migration which limit the discussion to a dated definition of “development”.

### ***II.2.3 South-South Migration (Rapporteur: Kyoko Kusakabe)***

Members: Chantana Wungoe, Fabio Baggio, Papa Demba Fall, Aly Tandian, Kyoko Kusakabe

South-South migration has gained some attention in recent years, although as a research domain it still needs many clarifications. Firstly, in geographic terms, South-South migration refers to the movements of people in emerging economies in the southern hemisphere and especially intra-regional migration due to proximity. In a changing global scene, in which countries in the Northern hemisphere are closing borders, South-South migration is becoming an alternative and is showing complex patterns of temporary, circulatory and transient movements. Secondly, in terms of a social construct, the meaning of the “South” has been associated with “underdevelopment” in contrast to the “North”, and the drivers of migration have been conceived in relation to economic crisis, political conflicts, natural disaster, environmental degradation and land use problems. Though some of these assumptions still hold, it is also important to acknowledge that the “South” has also been transformed and many countries have become magnets for migration due to emerging economic opportunities. While the “North” has been seen as the provider of norms of development (high level of economic growth, generous welfare systems, high level of human development, transparent decision-making) and therefore attracts migration streams from the “South”, today these assumptions are being challenged.

Comparative South-South migration research can help deepen understanding of the formation of migration patterns within regions. Is South-South migration to be seen as a secondary choice as entry regulations in the North have become more restrictive, or is it to be seen as a more attractive alternative for some migrant workers, especially in view of geographical and cultural proximity? Does such proximity makes it easier for states, migrants and their employers to arrange social protection across borders, or does it buttress

“feminization” of migration in terms of casualization of norms of social protection so far applicable to the majority women migrant workers? The relationship between migration and social reproduction has hardly been explored in the context of South-South migration. The lack of data so far makes it difficult to compare experiences in South-South migration and to work towards a common platform for labour rights. Some regions in the South try to implement intra-regional free movement of labour (ASEAN, MERCOSUR, ECOWAS) yet limited research has been conducted on these schemes’ effectiveness and/or problems.

## *II 2.4 Feminist economics and migration (Rapporteur: Ruth Pearson)*

Participants: Indu Agnihotri – Christina Sathyamala– Neha Wadhawan – Ruth Pearson

The following issues, which had arisen from the papers presented in the workshop and the discussions with participants, were discussed.

- The need for a clearer definition of the notion of “social reproduction”. This should encompass not just the various elements of reproductive activity – biological, daily and generational as determined in established socialist feminist literature -- but also the notion of the reproduction of society, which encompasses institutions, social roles and norms and values which make possible the continued functioning of the social and political system as well as the possibility for on-going accumulation of capital. The current tendency to limit the meaning of “social reproduction” to just activities in the social sectors such as health and education is too restrictive. Attention is needed to all facets of biological, daily, generational and societal reproduction, and how they are shared between the state and the other agents represented on the Razavi ‘care diamond’<sup>21</sup>.
- The need for a reconsideration of what is known as the Domestic Labour Debate. This discussion stemming from 1970s feminist debates looks rather Eurocentric and out of date from the vantage point of the 2010s. An important omission is the consideration of extra familial paid or unpaid household labour – which is such a central feature of households in the global North today. Paid and other forms of household help have always been a feature of the reproduction of households in the global South, once they are beyond simple survival level. But they were also part of the global North even in the post second world war period, but this has been excised from the feminist analysis. The centrality of migrant domestic workers, both intra and international as evidenced in the research discussed at this workshop illustrates the need for more analysis needs to be done (see below).
- More feminist economic analysis is needed to understand the links between global accumulation and women’s migration. Much of current gender analysis of migration takes neo liberal economic policy and institutions as a norm rather than critiques them.
- The group recommended the following resource: The economics toolbox of AWID – found at <http://www.awid.org/Library/Feminist-Economics-Toolbox>. This includes papers presented at the 2012 AWID conference on Transforming Economic Power including a teaching curriculum Feminist Economics 101.
- There is a need for more analysis of how to organize Domestic Workers, especially migrant domestic workers, and how to engage with labour unions and other labour

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<sup>21</sup> Razavi, S. (2012) *Seen, heard and counted: rethinking care in a development context*, Chichester; Malden, MA: John Wiley & Sons.



groups and learn from best practices. Most trade unions ignore the issue of migrant domestic workers, so the ILO Convention on DWs is unlikely to be implemented.

- This connects to the general issue of organizing labour across national boundaries. The discussion of “legal liminality” should be extended to discuss the challenges of collective bargaining and organizing.

Some members of the group agreed to write a joint article revisiting the Domestic Labour Debate in the light of 21st century global care chain discussions. There was also enthusiasm for exploring the possibility of a comparative research project on strategies for organizing migrant domestic workers.

## **II. 3 Closing**

The Director of CDS, Pulapre Balakrishnan, and the Director of CWDS, Indu Agnihotri, chaired the closing session. Ramata Molo Thioune, S. Irudaya Rajan, and Thanh-Dam Truong thanked everyone for being present and for their contributions, special words appreciation was extended to the staff and students at CDS and Maria De Vargas at ISS who have ensure smooth operation and the creative of an environment conducive to dialogue and exchange. Indu Agnihotri emphasized the need to complement the micro and meso investigations, with attention to the structures of economic power and political belief which guide and constrain all the micro and meso activity, and all the formation and operation of identities. Work on clarifying and rigorously relating the mélange of new concepts which have arisen is also important.

## **III. Key Policy Messages and Ways Forward**

- Make the best use of existing bodies of knowledge on gender in migration and provide incentives for (a) reduction of duplication; (b) innovations by cross-fertilizing ideas between regional research networks and cooperation.
- Ensure that the performance of the administration of migration policy is informed by a sound knowledge of “gender” through inter-organisation cooperation in training of personnel about the implications of “being invisible” and/or “misframed” for justice-seeking migrants.
- Invest in better policy-coordination to ensure that both economic and social/human goals of labour migration are met for men, women and young migrants.
- Enhancing the capabilities of migrant-sending communities to make choices, and having the actual opportunities for carefully considering labour migration among other options.
- Create institutional mechanisms to ensure portable social protection for migrant workers and their families who stay behind. New problems demand the design of new mechanisms to respond to current challenges.
- Find ways to promote self-reflexive and reciprocal learning among stakeholders (migrants’ organisations, civil society organisations, policy makers and researchers) to ensure that knowledge on migration will serve to create a fairer world rather than buttressing existing transnational hierarchies of power and those global-local interactions that undermine quotidian aspects of human security of marginalized groups.



## Appendix A: List of Participants and Contributors to the final Workshop

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## Appendix B: Day-to-day programme for Final Dissemination Workshop

### DAY 1: February 14<sup>th</sup> 2013

Participants are requested to sign up for one of the breakout sessions. The following tentative themes for the breakout sessions may be considered: 1) Feminist economics and migration studies: emerging issues and new directions; 2) Gender, youth, and migration: assumptions, knowledge gaps, and cooperation; 3) South-South migration: changing realities, and issues for research and policy; 4) Re-scaling border controls: social, legal, and human implications.

8:30-9:00      **Arrival:** Coffee & Tea, Registration

#### OPENING CEREMONY

- 09:00–09:05      **Welcome:** S. Irudaya Rajan, Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum
- 09:05–09:15      **Inaugural Address:** K. C. Joseph, Honourable Minister for Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala  
(Book release: Diaspora in Kerala's Development)
- 09:15–9:30      **Keynote Address:** Ranjana Kale, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, (MOIA).
- 09:30–09:40      **Special Address:** Leo de Haan, Rector, Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University.
- 09:40–10:00      **Introduction to Project MGSJ:** Ramata Molo Thioune, Senior Project Manager, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada; Thanh-Dam Truong, International Institute of Social Studies.
- 10:00–10:15      **Introduction to the Workshop:** Des Gasper, International Institute of Social Studies.

#### GROUP PHOTO

10:15–10:30      Coffee & Tea Break

#### PANEL I: Gender and Migration in an Age of Globalization

Moderator:      Des Gasper, International Institute of Social Studies (ISS)

10:30–11:45 Panelists:

1. Thanh-Dam Truong, ISS: Revisiting the "Gender Lens" in Migration Studies
2. Indu Agnihotri, CWDS: The under recording of women's migration for work in India
3. Ruth Pearson, University of Leeds: Migration and social reproduction: women workers in the global economy

11:45–12:15 Discussants:

1. Fabio Baggio, Scalabrini International Migration Institute, Italy
2. Malu Marin, ACHIEVE Inc. The Philippines

12:15 –12:30      Questions and Answers:

12:30–13:30      Lunch to be served on Campus

## **PANEL II: Social Reproduction, Gender and Migration: Local-Global Interactions**

Moderator: Mr. S. Krishna Kumar, Former Secretary Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.

13:30–14:30 Panelists:

1. Sulistyowati Irianto, University of Indonesia: From Breaking the Silence to Breaking the Chain of Social Injustice: Indonesian Women as Migrant Domestic Workers in the United Arab Emirates
2. Aly Tandian, Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Sénégal: From Temporary Work in Agriculture to Irregular Status in Domestic Service: The Transition and Experiences of Senegalese Migrant Women in Spain (*time for translation from French into English taken into account*).
3. Kyoko Kusakabe, AIT, Bangkok: Burmese Female Migrant Workers in Thailand: Managing Productive and Reproductive Responsibilities

14:30–14:45 Discussants:

1. Chantana Wungo, Asian Research Centre for Migration, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
2. Linda Oucho (African Migration Development and Policy Centre, Kenya)

14:45–15:00 Questions and Answers

15:00–15:15 Break Coffee & Tea

### **Panel II Continued**

Moderator: Ramata Molo Thioune, International Development Research Centre – Canada (IDRC).

15:15–15:45 Panelists:

1. Thanh-Dam Truong (on behalf of Bach Duong Le and Thu Hong Khuat): Transnational Marriage Migration and the East Asian Family-Based Welfare Model: Social Reproduction in Vietnam, Taiwan, and South Korea
2. Neha Wadhawan, CDS (on behalf of Aster Georgo Haile and Dr. Karin Astrid Siegmann: Masculinity at Work: Intersectionality and Identity Constructions of Migrant Domestic Workers in the Netherlands) with a commentary based on Wadhawan's doctoral research Nepal.

15:45–16:00 Discussants:

1. Indrani Mazumdar, Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Dehli
2. Rhodora Abano, Center for Migrants Advocacy, Philippines

16:00 –16:15 Questions and Answers

RECAP: Des Gasper

\*18:00 (ISS Rector meets ISS Alumni) Group Photo with the Rector

18:30 Cultural Programme at CDS

20:30 Welcome Dinner at CDS

## DAY 2: February 15<sup>th</sup> 2013

8:30–9:00 Arrival: Coffee & Tea

### **PANEL III: Women and Internal Migration: Visibility, Rights, and Livelihood Security**

Moderator: Leo de Haan, Rector, International Institute of Social Studies (ISS)

9:00–10:00 Panelists:

1. Indrani Mazumdar/ Indu Agnihotri: Traversing Myriad Trails – Tracking Gender and Labour Migration across India
2. Des Gasper (on the behalf of Yu Zhu and Liyue Lin: From 'Integration into Cities' to 'An Integrated Society': Women Migrants' Needs and Rights in Fujian Province, China

10:00 –10:15 Discussants:

1. Malika Basu: Gender Community, Solution Exchange United Nations – India
2. Marina Faetanini, UNESCO, India.

10:15 –10:30 Questions and Answers

10:30–10:45 Break Coffee & Tea

### **Panel III Continued**

Moderator: Fabio Baggio, Scalabrini International Migration Institute, Italy

10:45–11:30 Panelists:

3. Claudia Mora, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Chile (on the behalf of Eréndira Serrano Oswald): Migration, Woodcarving and Engendered Identities in San Martín Tilcajete, Oaxaca, Mexico.
4. Marta Rojas and Maria De Vargas: Strategic Invisibility as Everyday Politics for a Life with Dignity: Guatemalan Women Im/migrants' Experiences of Insecurity and Practices of Controlling the Mexican's Southern Border (*Spanish-English translation time taken into account*)

11:30 –11:45 Discussants:

1. Aly Tandian, Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Sénégal
2. Ruth Pearson, University of Leeds, UK

11:45 –12:00 Questions and Answers

RECAP: Thanh-Dam Truong

12:15 –13:15 Lunch on Campus

### **PANEL IV: Intersectionality in Migration and the Complexity of Gender**

Moderator: Papa Dembe Fall (Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire – IFAN, Senegal)

13:15 –14:30 Panelists

1. Maria Lourdes Marin and Mara Quesada-Bondad: Intersectionality, Structural Vulnerability, and Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services: Filipina Domestic Workers in Hong Kong, Singapore, and Qatar.
2. Codou Bop: Complexity of Gender and Age in Precarious Lives: Malian Men, Women, and Girls in Communities of Blind Beggars in Senegal (*French-English Translation Time Taken into account*)
3. Stefania Donzelli and Maria De Vargas: The Politics of Media Representation of SubSaharan African Migrants during the 2011 Libyan war: The Intersectionality of Migration, Masculinities and Human Security

14:30–14:45 Discussants

1. Nitin Kumar, International Organization for Migration, New Dehli
2. Amita Shah, Gujarat Institute of Development Research (GIDR), India

14:45–15:00 Questions and Answers

15:00–15:15 Break Coffee & Tea

15:15 – 16:30 Parallel breakout sessions with chairs and rapporteurs

The tentative themes for the breakout sessions are:

- 1) Feminist economics and migration studies;
- 2) Gender, youth and migration;
- 3) South-South migration;
- 4) Re-scaling border controls

**Free evening**

## **DAY 3: February 16<sup>th</sup> 2013**

8:30–9:00 Arrival: Coffee & Tea

### **PANEL V: Liminal Legality, Citizenship, and Migrant Rights Mobilization**

Moderator: Des Gasper, International Institute of Social Studies (ISS)

9:00 –10:00 Panelists:

1. Claudia Mora: Migrants' Citizenship and Rights: Limits and Potential for NGOs' Advocacy in Chile
2. Kamowan Petchot: The Right to Education for Migrant Children in Thailand: Liminal legality and the educational experience of migrant children in Samut Sakhon
3. Claudia Mora (on the behalf of Cecilia Menjívar and Susan Bilber Coutin: Challenges of Recognition, Participation, and Representation for the Legally Liminal: A Comment)

10:00 –10:15 Discussants

1. Codou Bop (GRFELS, Senegal)
2. Sulis Irianto, University of Indonesia

10:15–10:30 Coffee & Tea Break



## **PANEL VI: Migration Regimes, Masculinities, and Public Action**

Moderator: A Didar Singh, Former Secretary, MOIA

10:30 -11:10 Panelists:

1. Des Gasper (on the behalf of Roy Huijsmans): Gender, Masculinity, and Safety in the Changing Lao-Thai Migration Landscape
2. Carlos Sandoval-García: Public Social Science at Work: Contesting Hostility Towards Nicaraguan Migrants in Costa Rica.

11:10–11:25 Discussants:

1. Kyoko Kusakabe, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok Thailand.
2. Sarat Kumar (IOM India)

11:25–12:30 Breakout sessions

12:30 –13:30 Lunch on Campus

## **Plenary Session: Looking Forward and Closing**

Chairs: Closing Remarks

13:30 -13:35 Pulapre Balakrishnan

13:35- 13:40 Indu Agnihotri

13:30 –14:30 Reports by the Chairs of the Breakout Sessions

14:30–14:45 Closing words:

Ramata Molo Thioune, S. Irudaya Rajan, and Thanh-Dam Truong

Farewell Dinner at the Beach.

We will leave Ruby Arena Hotel by Bus at 17:00 to Kovalam – a small beach resort outside of Trivandrum – where the party will be held.

## Appendix C: Final Dissemination Workshop Evaluation

### 1. Name three things you enjoyed most during the workshop

- ☐ Presentations
- ☐ Informal exchanges
- ☐ Working group
- ☐ Sharing of research experiences
- ☐ Availability of organizers
- ☐ Association of Young Researchers
- ☐ Meeting other migration and gender researchers , both those involved in the original project and new (to me) people
- ☐ thinking about theoretical insights
- ☐ talking about links between research findings and policy
- ☐ the essence of the paper discussed
- ☐ the discussion
- ☐ the friendship and togetherness among the participants
- ☐ Networking with the other participants
- ☐ The breakout sessions on various themes
- ☐ The presentations of the research
- ☐ The venue at CDS
- ☐ Receiving the documents by Dropbox
- ☐ The general organization of the workshop
- ☐ Variety of contents under the main theme
- ☐ Participants bringing diversity of issues and experiences from different regions
- ☐ inputs
- ☐ Breakout session
- ☐ Great food

### 2. Name the three things you enjoyed least during the workshop

- ☐ Long final words
- ☐ acquire new knowledge
- ☐ Know the position of Indian political authorities on migration
- ☐ make known to others the migration of women from Senegal
- ☐ not very interactive format
- ☐ too little time for small groups
- ☐ breakfast
- ☐ accommodation
- ☐ I felt the agenda was too crammed; not enough free time
- ☐ The distance between the hotel and the workshop presented some difficulty
- ☐ Some of the presentations were too long or not focused enough
- ☐ Inadequate drinking water provided at the venue
- ☐ Too much inputs thought
- ☐ Too short time for breakouts – i would have wanted to join the other breakouts too
- ☐ I prefer open forum to discussants – greater audience participation. If you want discussants' feedback, you can write them to feedback. Sorry I am not academic.

3. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest), please rate each of the following logistic items:

- Support with travel arrangements... 9
- Accommodation (hotel)... 8.37
- Meals ... 8.25
- Venues (at CDS)... 8.62
- Social and cultural activities ... 8.18

Please clarify your previous answer with a few arguments

- Overall, excellent organization. Very good balance.
- a bit long during the first day
- the dance evening went on too long.
- too long cultural programme
- I would have liked some organised visits to relevant organisations e.g. migrant support groups
- Great fun, though a bit long the first night
- the social and cultural activities allowed the company to know more welcomed us
- the availability of the hotel staff is very remarkable
- The conference venue was good, and the email connectivity excellent. The support for travel arrangements was fine except re the visa. It would have been useful to have been told from the outset which kind of visa to apply for as I wasted a lot of time and effort going for a conference visa only to be told by CDS that they did not have the required research clearance.
- the hotel was OK except when I asked for things a team of young men smiled and said yes of course but then did not do them (e.g. provide coat hangers....)
- I did not like the hotel where we had the final dinner
- It was just only a technical problem: like the leakage of the sprayer in the toilet. I asked the hotel person to repair, and they did not do it.
- Thanks so much for all of the support!
- Overall pretty good, though security could be improved
- Delicious, but there could have been more variety
- Venues Lovely, though a bit secluded
- The hotel was far from the venue for the workshop
- little disappointed with the weak Wi-Fi of the hotel but it's ok
- In CDS the Wi-Fi goes on and off

4. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest), please rate each of the following items on the program:

- Program (structure, length) ... 8.1
- Contents of the program... 8.87
- Quality of debates and exchanges ... 8.5
- Quality of facilitation ... 8.56

- Quality of discussants ... 8.37

Please clarify your previous answer with a few arguments

- The only observation is related to some chairs, who did not join the entire workshop.
- Sometimes chairs did not follow most of activities
- Freely, people took the floor to express their views on various issues under the program. This has contributed to the quality of the discussions
- As I said above it would have been better to have had more interaction. I would have liked the conference room to have been set out in small round tables and these small groups could have discussed the papers before going into a plenary. As it was the formal discussants took up a lot of time and there was too little time to exchange views with other participants
- Excellent for the whole program and content.
- As I mentioned, I felt the days were too crammed and due to lax facilitation the presentations and discussions went too long. This cut away any down time built in to the program and made it difficult to maintain focus and enthusiasm.
- As far as content, it would have been beneficial to have more practicable recommendations discussed in addition to the broader research, i.e., for the policy perspective.
- Programme: Too much input including discussants – prefer more interaction with all
- it was very limited by time for debates

5. Please name concrete achievement(s) you attribute to this workshop

- ✓ Deeper understanding of migration patterns in regions beyond Latin America.
- ✓ Complexities around the interplay between migration and gender.
- ✓ Pending task around issues of justice?
- ✓ expand our network of partners
- ✓ discover India as a rich laboratory of social studies
- ✓ Rehearsing of findings from the project/book.
- ✓ Inter-regional comparisons
- ✓ More insight re internal and South -South migration
- ✓ This workshop provide the good quality of the research scholarly
- ✓ The research are rich with new knowledge and data
- ✓ Met great contacts
- ✓ Came away with a better understanding of issues related to gender and migration
- ✓ Ideas for further research and collaborations
- ✓ Nice opportunity to discuss the issue of social protection
- ✓ Studies from different parts of the South
- ✓ Getting all this learnings from all over to inform our (CMA's) advocacies
- ✓ Networking
- ✓ Breakout session exploratory knowledge exchange proposal

6. Do you think the objectives of the workshop:

- were achieved 5
- have been partially met 2
- other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- NR 1

Please clarify your previous answer with a few arguments

- As I mentioned before, the objectives were achieved in an outstanding way.
- Discussions during the meeting and when drawing conclusions can measure the participants' satisfaction.
- Not many policy makers people and the location right at the South of India was not good for international dissemination - though would have been better if there were more policy makers from the Gulf States.

7. When organizing a following workshop, here are the aspects that should be maintained:

- Short presentations.
- an advance circulation of papers.
- exchanges between participants
- Encourage speaking
- encourage the participation of young researchers
- Mix of research and policy people
- the program and the arrangement of the program
- Sending the conference documents some days before
- The interesting variety of issues under the main theme
- Should be as participatory as can be so as to maximize everyone's presence and also maximize exchange
- Comfortable accommodations and local food
- Time for checking out the local scene and a little shopping

8. When organizing a following workshop, here are the aspects that should be changed:

- Perhaps an additional session of working groups.
- More participatory and interactive format
- the accommodation: clean and neat (not necessary expensive)
- Break after the session in order to return home before cultural events for example
- The programme was a bit tight so leaving little room for discussion

9. How do you assess your own participation and contribution during this workshop?

- ➡ I kept attention on most of presentations. I wrote a good number of notes.
- ➡ I got a very productive insight in to Indian society.
- ➡ Good participation about debate on South-South migration
- ➡ Better understanding of migration in India and the situation of women
- ➡ I participated as much as I could though I was very tired and found the change in hours made it difficult to concentrate all the time. I would perhaps have liked a later start to Day 1. Also I would have liked more notice and discussion about the plenary paper I had to give.
- ➡ I have done well my function as presenter and discussant.



- ➡ Unfortunately, I didn't get the dropbox ahead and so could not prepare my discussion. Had to rely on my own experiences to feedback.
- ➡ Great opportunity to learn more about gender and migration in the South.
- ➡ Appreciate a lot visiting South India
- ➡ I think I was ok. I participated in the small group discussion and made a presentation as well as responded to questions about the chapter.

10. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest), please rate the workshop on the whole (\*please add relevant comments):

### 8.56

- In general, we can say that the workshop objectives were achieved, the only thing to be regretted is the non-availability of get crafted at the workshop.
- As perfection is elusive and the good parts far outshone the less than good.
- Organizers always ready to give a hand.
- Documents available on time

11. **Do you have any additional comments?**

- A very big thanks!!
- Congratulation to the whole team ISS and CDS.
- I think it would be good if the UN people stopped asking for dedicated platforms and learned how to use the www - by search engines etc. the way that scholars have to. Dedicated platforms go against the spirit of open access.
- I would also like to express my appreciation of all the efforts that Maria DeVargas put into making our stay friendly and comfortable - in addition to the academic and formal programme.
- Looking forward to have further collaboration with this community members in the near future, to learn and share more about the migration studies conceptually and practically

## Appendix V: PROPOSAL FOR FOLLOW-UP TO MGSJ PROJECT FINAL WORKSHOP

In the final weeks of the Migration, Gender and Social Justice (MGSJ) project during March-April 2013 we wish to build-on the discussions through the project (2010-13) and in particular at the final workshop held in February 2013, at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, India), and draw on unspent funds remaining within the project, to prepare for follow-up work by hiring short-period researcher inputs in the following two broad and connected areas:

1. South-South migration, including climate change and migration
2. Transformations of borders, including social protection for migrant workers

For both of these broad areas two or three researchers will be commissioned, to allow parallel work on a set of sub-areas during the limited time-window that is available (to April 22, 2013).

The work that will be involved is as follows, and will lead in each case to preparation by the commissioned researcher of:

- A literature survey & review: an annotated bibliography guided by MGSJ questions and concerns, together with an overview essay;
- the overview essay will comment on the overall shape of the available work in the area concerned, and identify questions arising and gaps apparent, including in relation to MGSJ concerns;
- identification of existing ongoing research programmes and research-practice networks, calls for proposals, and other possible opportunities, including for maintaining and extending the linkages with policy practitioners that were included in the MGSJ project and the final workshop.<sup>22</sup>

This set of reports will lay a basis for preparation of later collaborative research plans, including exploratory workshops and research bids, involving members of the research network brought together for the MGSJ project and the final workshop, as well as others.

Attention to this set of areas reflects major issues raised by the MGSJ work and selected by participants in the final workshop and discussed in breakaway groups and in the reports from the groups. Attention to women migrants and gender themes, as in the MGSJ project, will be a major aspect in each case.

- *1.1. South-South migration* had already become equal in scale to South-North migration (as conventionally measured) some years ago and is likely to rapidly exceed it. Women are very prominent in such movements. However due to the domination of research agendas by the concerns and perspectives of Northern funders, South-South migration is relatively greatly understudied. South-South migration was the subject in most of the component studies in the MGSJ project,<sup>23</sup> even though it was not explicitly discussed as

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<sup>22</sup> Including with UNESCO Social and Human Sciences office in New Delhi, India; the African Migration and Development Policy Centre in Nairobi, Kenya; Scalabrini Migration Center in Quezon City, the Philippines (for a complete lists of ideas, please see the final report of the workshop),

<sup>23</sup> In terms of the chapters of the book resulting from the MGSJ project, the following eleven chapters are on 'South-South' migration: 2. Indonesia-UAE; 4. Burma-Thailand; 10. Guatemala-

such until the Trivandrum workshop. A large discussion group examined the theme on two days, and prepared preliminary ideas for possible follow-up, which should now be explored through a survey of available literature.

- 1.2. One of the largest components of migration during coming decades is likely to be related to *climate change*. This is especially so for South-South migration, much of which is likely to be climate-driven, given 1. The greater expected impacts of climate change in tropical and sub-tropical areas and in low-income countries, 2. The economic dynamism in much of the South, and 3. The intensive anti-immigration policy regimes in much of the North. The Bangladesh-India border is a likely example of a major locus of such migration. While there is growing research on climate change and migration, and there are some current or likely calls for proposals, relatively little has yet connected closely to the issues of differential impacts on men, women, children, family organization, etc. A survey of available literature is proposed.
- 2.1. *Transformations of borders* in various ways are a theme that has become evident during the MGSJ project, and was discussed on two days by a second large group at the February 2013 workshop, to identify in a preliminary way questions for follow-up research. Borders are transforming in various ways: physically, the gate-keeping functions to control and exclude migrants are now dispersed across numerous locations, including within the routines of daily life in the country of in-migration; legally, there are now huge grey zones of 'legal liminality'; culturally and psychologically, borders of diverse sorts are being constructed and deconstructed. Illumination of the new meanings and practices of borders is a research priority, to update the conceptual apparatus that we bring to considering migration and thus to re-orient subsequent research in a way that does fuller justice to contemporary and emerging systems. A survey of available literature is now requested.
- 2.2. *Portability of social protection* is the key needed transformation to respect the human rights of the migrants whom the global economic system requires and generates. This theme too leads directly out of the studies undertaken in the MGSJ project, including for intra-national as well as inter-national cases. We propose now a short survey of the available literature, including special attention to the particular situations and needs of various categories of women migrants, and to organization of and by migrant workers, to identify likely areas for further work.

In each area the work will be done by a commissioned researcher: in most cases a junior researcher working under the guidance of a senior researcher at the Institute of Social Studies, or possibly in one or two cases at the Centre of Development Studies Trivandrum. However, in all cases a senior staff member at ISS will be connected to the work; these senior staff inputs do not require MGSJ funding. The commissioned work will be remunerated by an agreed lump sum amount.

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Mexico; 12. Philippines-Hong Kong & Qatar; 13. SSA-Libya; 14. Mali-Senegal; 15. Peru-Chile; 16. South-Gulf; 17. Burma-Thailand; 19. Laos-Thailand; 20. Nicaragua-Costa Rica; in addition to chapters 7-8 on internal migration in India and China.

TOPIC	RESEARCHERS <i>and tentative time allocations</i>
SOUTH-SOUTH MIGRATION – 1	Ms. Beatriz Campillo [Supervised by Prof. D. Gasper] – 3 weeks; & A researcher affiliated to CDS Trivandrum (selected by Prof. S. Irudaya Rajan, perhaps on Bangladesh-India migration) – 3 weeks
SOUTH-SOUTH MIGRATION-2: <i>CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION</i>	Ms. Maria DeVargas [D. Gasper] – 2 weeks; & another researcher ( <i>Perhaps a researcher affiliated to CDS Trivandrum (selected by Prof. S. Irudaya Rajan): 3 wks</i>
TRANSFORMATIONS OF BORDERS – 1	Ms. Stefania Donzelli, 3 weeks. [In consultation with Dr. Thanh-Dam Truong / Dr. H. Hintjens / Prof. D. Gasper at ISS.]
TRANSFORMATIONS OF BORDERS – 2: <i>PORTABLE SOCIAL PROTECTION</i>	Mrs. Nurulsyahirah Taha – 4 weeks [Supervised by Dr. Karin Siegmann, and Dr. Mahmood Messkoub]

*Institute of Social Studies, The Hague*  
*March 13, 2013*