DIRECTOR’S NOTE

The last six months has continued to be busy for researchers across all partner institutions in the Migration DRC, with work on social protection, child migration and the mobility of health professionals all being presented to external audiences, and new projects initiated in these and other areas. Our work has continued to emphasise cross-fertilisation between research, training and capacity building activities, ranging from UN and government level to engagement with local and migrant communities. We hope you enjoy reading about our work, and will contact us with comments, as well as innovative suggestions.

Richard Black
Director

DRC HIGHLIGHTS

Skilled Migration

Ron Skeldon drafted the position paper for DFID for the round table discussions on Skilled Migration at the Global Forum on Migration and Development. The paper, entitled ‘Highly Skilled Migration: Balancing Interests and Responsibilities,’ is available at http://www.migrationdrc.org/research/typesofmigration/RT+1+1+Background+paper+en.pdf. Ron also attended the civil society day in preparation for the Global Forum in Brussels on 9 July. Here in the UK, Saskia Gent, the Migration DRC’s Policy Officer, attended a consultation meeting on the Global Forum on Migration and Development in DFID on 12 June.

Earlier in June, Ron was at the University of Hong Kong to give a seminar at the Public Health Research Centre and Medical and Health Research Network on ‘The Migration of Health Professionals: Can or Should it be Managed?’

Child Migration

Workshop on Independent Child Migrants
12 September 2007, Central Hall, Westminster, London

The Migration DRC, with funding from DFID, the Innocenti Research Centre, and NAI-SIDA, hosted a one-day workshop in London on 12 September addressing the policy debates and dilemmas in relation to independent child migrants. There were about 60 attendees, including policy makers, NGOs and academics working in the field of child migration from across Europe and Africa. The three substantive issues discussed included ‘Migration Projects: Children on the Move for Work and Education’, ‘Migration and Trafficking’ and ‘Legal Issues and Criminalisation’. Details and a full report of the event will shortly become available at www.migrationdrc.org/news/reports/icm/index.html.

Rockefeller Grant: Quantitative Data Framework on Child Migration

The Sussex Centre for Migration Research (SCMR) are delighted to have received a small grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to develop an easily accessible data resource – a web directory – to assist researchers who wish to quantify and analyze child migration flows within and between countries or regions. The project aims to identify migration-related information in nationally representative household surveys that relates to children, especially where this might be useful to analyse the micro-level causes and consequences of autonomous and non-autonomous child migration.

The directory will include censuses, and nationally representative data such as Living Standards Measurement Surveys and Demographic and Health Surveys. Freely available to the research community will be an outline of what information is available in each dataset about migrant children, what ages of children are covered, and what types of children’s movements are captured. The research is led by Ann Whitehead, with Adriana Castaldo as Research Fellow and Gunjan Sondhi as Research Assistant.
Child Poverty and Social Exclusion

Ann Whitehead was invited to this UNICEF-organised high level policy and advocacy meeting on 19 July in Tuscany, Italy, to help keep children’s concerns at the centre of the debates around the UN Millennium Agenda. The high level expert roundtables at this meeting focused on (i) addressing child poverty and deprivation; (ii) preventing social exclusion amongst migrant children; and (iii) promoting local good governance for children’s rights.

Child Migration Workshop

The Jacobs Foundation in Zurich, Switzerland, with funding from the Rockefeller Foundation and Princeton University, held a workshop over 25-26 July to conceptualise and frame discussions on child and youth migration, and identify data gaps and researchers working in the field. Ann Whitehead represented the Migration DRC at this event.

Migration and Development

Mainstreaming Migration into Poverty Reduction Strategies

DFID has engaged Ann Whitehead in a consultation to prepare a document on how to get governments to recognise the contribution migration can make to poverty reduction. This is an outcome of DFID’s recognition that migration can make a positive impact on poverty reduction and impact upon the millennium development goals at regional, international levels, and that a failure to recognise the impact of migration could have dire consequences. A first draft of the document is to be discussed in Uganda and Nepal, and Ann is visiting Uganda in October to discuss the document.

Other Migration and Development Engagements

Ron was in Lisbon to attend the OECD annual meeting of the Working Party on Migration over 13-14 June, where he presented the paper on Migration and the Labour Market in Asia and Europe: Highlights of the Discussions at the Tokyo Workshop (16 March 2007). He also attended a seminar on the Integration of Migrants hosted by the Government of Portugal on 15 June.

Back in the UK, Ron was invited to present a paper at the Wilton Park WP854 event on Human Trafficking: How Best to Stem the Flow over 28-30 June 2007. Ron’s presentation provided a Southeast Asian perspective on trafficking.

A small specialist meeting focusing on new research from the World Bank on international migration was held on 16 July entitled ‘International Migration, Economic Development and Migration’, with contributions from Caglar Ozden, Maurice Schiff and Alan Winters. Ron Skeldon and Adriana Castaldo represented the Migration DRC at this event held in London.

On September 10, Meera Warrier provided a module on ‘Moving out of Poverty: Exploring the Migration-

Development Connection’ on the IMA course, ‘Issues in Development’ at the Institute of Development Studies. The course was attended by about 20 government officials working in South Asia and Africa.

Ron presented an address on a migration phase in development studies at a conference on Migration and Development at the Department of Human Geography and Regional Development, University of Ostrava in September, and a paper on migration and development at the international conference on Migration and Development at Lomonosov Moscow State University, where he was also co-organizer, with Svetlana Sobolova, of the session on the socio-economic context of migrations.

African Migrations

MAFE Award

In early September, the Sussex Centre for Migration Research (SCMR) and the Centre for Migration Studies, University of Ghana, received the welcome news that, in partnership with eight other institutions, coordinated by INED, they had won an FP7 award to take forward some of the key themes that have emerged from the Migration DRC’s work. The project, ‘Migration between Africa and Europe’, aims to enhance understanding of the causes and consequences of African migration in order to improve policies in this area. The project will collect unique longitudinal, representative and multi-level data from six countries and use it to provide insights into the changing patterns and determinants of migration and circulation between Africa and Europe, as well as on the socio-economic changes associated with international migration. Participating in this research will be Richard Black, Saskia Gent, Rachel Sabates-Wheeler (all in the Migration DRC) and Peter Quartey (Centre for Migration Studies, University of Ghana).

AEGIS Panel

The Nordic Africa Institute (Dorte Thorsen) and the Migration DRC (Ann Whitehead) jointly convened a panel on ‘Generations of Migrants in West Africa’ at the second biennial AEGIS (Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies) conference in Leiden over 11-14 July. The theme of the conference was ‘African Alternatives: Initiative and Creativity beyond Current Constraints’. The purpose of the NAI-Migration DRC panel was to shift attention away from movement into Europe to migration flows and immobilities within West Africa in order to explore the long-term impact of migration on families and of transformations in migrant families on individuals. The ten papers on this panel examined the relations between work and consumption, between migrants and their descendants, migration as a rite of passage, gender dynamics between migrants and those staying at home, and transnational relations. By linking detailed historical and ethnographic material with life histories the papers demonstrated the ways in which increasing or decreasing living standards both at migration destinations and at the place of origin prompted new
Mobilities or expectations of mobility, be it physical or social, across generations and genders. A range of countries were covered, including Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Mali and Senegal.

**Migration Dynamics in Africa**

Our Ghanaian partners, John Anarfi (ISSER) and Stephen Kwankye (RIPS), both from the University of Ghana, together with Dorte Thorsen, represented the Migration DRC at the African migrations workshop, ‘Understanding Migration Dynamics in the Continent’ co-organised by the new Centre for Migration Studies at the University of Ghana in Legon, and the International Migration Institute, Oxford. The aim of the workshop, held over 18-21 September, was to bring together junior and senior researchers from all over Africa in order to map the current state of migration research there, identify strengths, gaps and priorities for future research and prepare outlines for projects to be developed into concrete funding proposals.

**Development by African Diasporas**

Meera Warrier represented the Migration DRC at a workshop, ‘New Perspectives on Policy Options for Development by African Diasporas’ at University College London on 21 September, which disseminated findings of a three-year ESRC-funded research project examining the relationship between development, migration and hometown associations in Cameroon, Tanzania and the UK. The meeting was attended by representatives from the UK government, African diaspora communities and umbrella organisations studied by the research, and academics.

**New Survey Data Catalogue for Migration Studies**

The Migration DRC has revised and updated its catalogue of household survey datasets that contain information about migration in developing countries. The catalogue has been revised to be both more user friendly, and to enhance the content. This new version contains more information about data modules and about the relevant content of key outputs. It is also searchable by survey type, country and year and now contains information on Integrated Surveys. View and use the new catalogue at [http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/resource_guides/Migration_Nationalsurveys/index.html](http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/resource_guides/Migration_Nationalsurveys/index.html).

**Remittances**

Russell King and Juli Vullnetari have been successful on a UN-INSTRAW bid for a project entitled, ‘Gender and Remittances: Building Gender-Responsive Local Development’, due to run from October 2007 to October 2008. Examining gender and remittances in the context of Albania, SCMR, represented by Russell and Juli, will constitute part of a six-country comparative project coordinated by INSTRAW, which examines the gendered impact of remittances on local development in the Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Morocco, the Philippines and Senegal, apart from Albania.

**OTHER ENGAGEMENTS BY DRC PARTNERS**

C R Abrar (RMMRU, Bangladesh) and John Anarfi (ISSER, Ghana) were in London to represent the DRC at a DFID-organised ‘Learning Event’ over 17-18 September, preparatory to DFID’s designing their new research strategy for 2009-14. Sussex was represented by Ann Whitehead and Meera Warrier.

Ron Skeldon was in Korea for the Social Science Research Council (New York) meeting on Korean Migration and Development, 1-3 June, at Incheon Memorial Hall, Korea University. Ron is on their International Advisory Board.

**MIGRATION DRC PEOPLE**


**Interns**

Several new internships began (and some ended) over the last six months. Darren Middleton is on sabbatical from the Coventry Refugee Centre to do an internship with RMMRU, Bangladesh. At Sussex, we hosted Gunjan Sondhi, who worked on the Migration in National Surveys project, compiling a catalogue of Household Surveys which gathered data concerning migration. On completing her internship, she has been offered a three-month Research Assistant position on a Rockefeller-funded study to identify children’s migration streams in national and household-level surveys. Jane Rice completed her MA in Anthropology and Social Research from the University of Aberdeen, and joined Sussex as an intern, providing administrative and research support on the child migration policy workshop.

We have had tremendous success recruiting interns to our partners in CESS, Albania. Luciano Canova was the first to intern at CESS. Luciano is completing his PhD at the Catholic University of Milan about the definition and measurement of wealth and vulnerability with a focus on Albania, and was in Albania as an intern July-September. He described it as a 'great experience', saying also that the research was of a high quality, and there was a 'very good social environment'. He found the internship particularly useful as it fed into his current doctoral work on Albania.

Natalia Dylawerska was next to join CESS. She is writing her dissertation on the repercussions of migration in both host and sending countries, and used the internship opportunity to compile information about Albanian migrations. And now, Emily Pearce from the University of North Carolina takes up the internship for the autumn. Her
dissertation is on external governance and democracy promotion in the former communist states.  

**Luciano on his Internship with CESS:**

The internship was really interesting…. I had the possibility of working with Ilir on a project about the evaluation of potential and return migration, basically doing some quantitative analysis and contributing to writing the research report. Besides, I was involved in the writing of research proposals… and I had the opportunity of meeting lots of people working in international organisations…, local institutions… and NGOs.

**RMMRU Policy Briefs:**

1: ‘Coping with Riverbank Erosion Induced Displacement’  
2: ‘Accessing Rights as Citizens: The Camp-based Urdu-speaking Community in Bangladesh’

All our briefings are available to download from [www.migrationdrc.org/publications/briefing_papers.html](http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/briefing_papers.html)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**


**IASFM 11th Conference**

6-10 January 2007  
AUC, Cairo

The 11th IASFM (international Association for the Study of Forced Migration) conference will be hosted by the Forced Migration and Refugee Studies Program of the American University in Cairo from 6-10 January 2008. IASFM brings together academics, practitioners and decision-makers working on forced migration issues. The Migration DRC will be hosting a special panel at this event entitled, ‘From Refugees to Diasporas’. It will examine the role played by refugee populations in engaging in their homelands following the end of conflict situations, thus focusing on a group and a condition largely bypassed in discussions on developing countries’ engagement with their diasporas. Amongst the papers to be presented are: ‘Transnationalism or Integration? Solutions for Afghan Refugees in the USA by

**The second communications workshop for DFID-funded research programmes was held on 2 August 2007, looking particularly at monitoring and evaluation and communications-related issues.** Meera Warrier and Saskia Gent represented the Migration DRC at this event.

**Policy-Related Publications**

**Migration, Education and Socio-Economic Mobility**

6-7 November 2007  
University of East Anglia, Norwich

Migration has been a key channel for mobility – an opportunity to earn money, see a new place, experience new cultures, gain skills and accumulate consumption goods. The decision to migrate however involves a range of trade-offs in terms of allocation of household funds, sale of assets, child work (and/or withdrawal from school) etc., which need a detailed analysis from the perspective of net gains in terms of socio-economic mobility. Three themes will be explored in the course of this two-day workshop: (i) Economic mobility: gendered schooling choices and migration strategies; (ii) social mobility, migration and gendered educational choices; and (iii) implications for social policy. Further details are available at [http://www.migrationdrc.org/news/drc_events.html](http://www.migrationdrc.org/news/drc_events.html).

**Migration, Poverty Reduction and Development**

6 December 2007  
London

The Migration DRC is planning the fourth in a series of training and discussion workshops for Whitehall and voluntary sector staff. The workshop will offer cutting edge thinking on a range of important migration and development topics including the effect of UK policies on development, how migration can be integrated into poverty reduction strategies and how partnerships can be used to improve the development outcomes of migration.
Ceri Oeppen, a DPhil student at Sussex; and ‘Mobilising the Ugandan Diaspora’ by Nalu Binaisa, also a DPhil at Sussex.

Rights-based Approach to Refugees/ Migrants and Development
13-23 January 2008
AUC, Cairo

FMRS is offering a 10-day intensive course on ‘Refugees and Migrants: A Rights Based Approach to Development.’ The course will be taught in Arabic and will take a practical approach to issues of migrants and forced displacement by exploring strategies to ensure migrants’ and IDPs’ development and possible integration in their host countries. The course will apply a framework of international human rights and humanitarian standards as tools for improving the lives and living conditions of all categories of displaced persons and will engage a diverse group of participants from the Middle East and North Africa; lawyers, policy makers, government officials, representatives of NGOs and interested academics.

Working Papers

WP-T19, 'Migration, Legal Status and Poverty: Evidence from Return to Ghana' by Rachel Sabates-Wheeler, Claudia Natali and Richard Black

WP-T20, 'On Migration and the Policy Process' by Ron Skeldon

WP-T21, "If Only I Get Enough Money for a Bicycle!" A Study of Childhoods, Migration and Adolescent Aspirations Against a Backdrop of Exploitation and Trafficking in Burkina Faso' by Dorte Thorsen

WP-T22, 'Patterns of Extra-Territorial Voting' by Michael Collyer and Zana Vathi

Our latest country papers include:

WP-C11, 'Migration and Poverty Reduction in Tajikistan' by Larissa Jones, Richard Black and Ron Skeldon

WP-C12, 'Migration and Poverty Reduction in Kosovo; by Zana Vathi and Richard Black

All our working papers are available to download as PDF files from www.migrationdrc.org/publications/working_papers.html

Research Reports

Migration of Skilled Nurses from Bangladesh by Salahuddin M Aminuzamman (available at http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/research_reports/Migration_of_Skilled_Nurses_from_Bangladesh.pdf)

Student Migration from Bangladesh to the UK by Penelope Anthias (at www.migrationdrc.org/research/projects/Student_Migration_from_Bangladesh_to_the_UK.pdf.

Papers in the pipeline include:

'Coping Strategies of Independent Child Migrants from Northern Ghana to Southern Cities' by Stephen O. Kwankye, John K. Anarfi and Cynthia Addoquaye Tagoe

'Independent North-South Child Migration in Ghana: The Decision Making Process' by Stephen O. Kwankye, John K. Anarfi and Cynthia Addoquaye Tagoe

'Beyond Rights: Integration between Liberians and their Ghanaian Neighbours in the New Buduburam Community' by John K Anarfi and Kobina Graham

'Highly Skilled Migration from Albania: An Assessment of Current Trends and the Ways Ahead' by Etleva Geredjenji, Ilir Gedeshe and Ron Skeldon

Other Publications/ Presentations by DRC Members


