



Reflecting on migrants' contributions in an era of increasing disruption and disinformation

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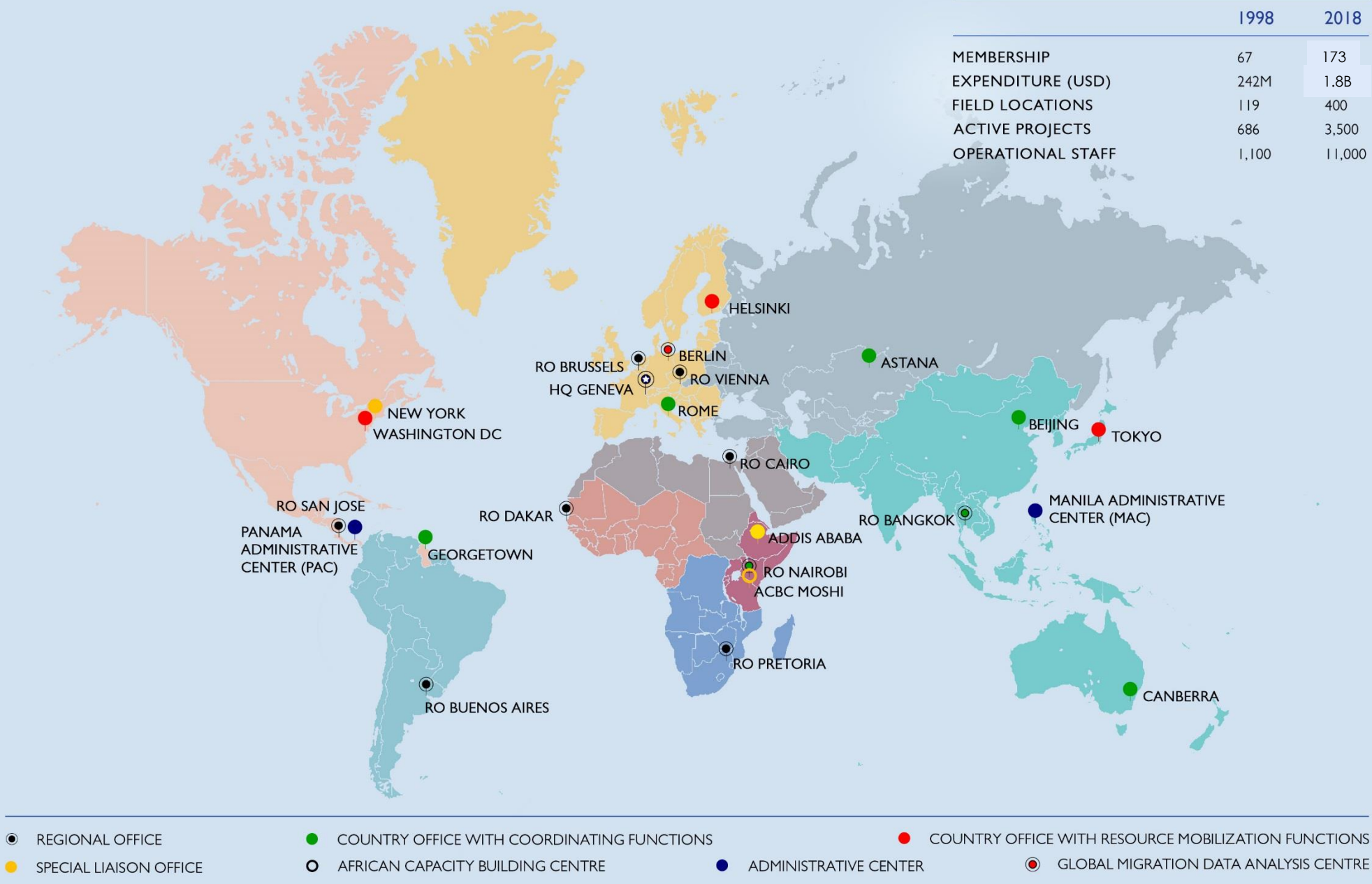
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Presentation outline

1. IOM context
2. Migrants' contributions – destination and origin
3. Disinformation impacts

Disclaimer: Views expressed are the presenter's and do not necessarily reflect those of IOM





Displacement and migration

Increasing disjuncture between contemporary forms of migration and the normative and legal frameworks that underpin protection regimes

- Migration patterns and processes have changed
- People with varying motivations and status often move together
- People can shift between categories or fit into more than one category
- Agency of refugees has increased

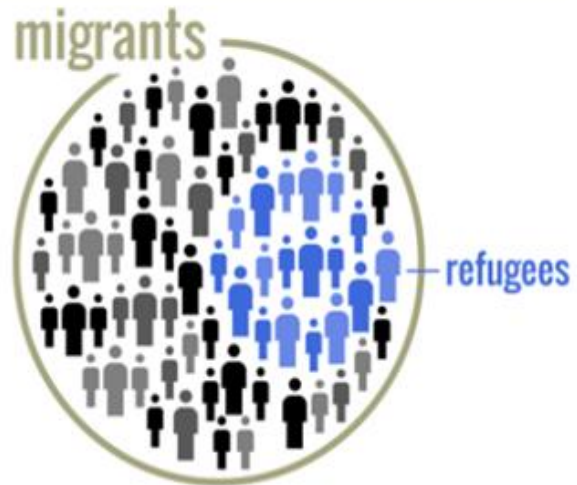
Sources: Crawley and Skleparis, 2017; Collyer and de Haas 2012.



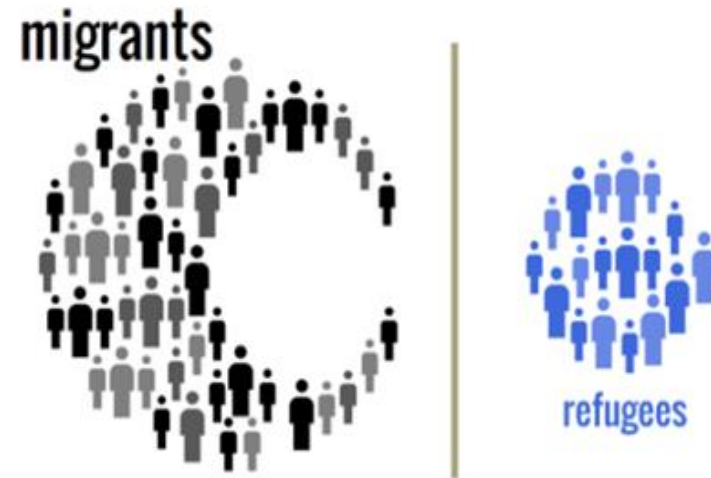
Photo: Muse Mohammed (IOM)

Refugees or migrants?

Inclusivist definition of migrants



Residualist definition of migrants



Source: Carling, 2019.

Why do we need a balanced discussion on migrants' contributions?

- Prominence of migration at national and international levels
- Polarization of public debates on migration
 - Rigorous and evidence-based analyses have diminished
- Increased disruption and disinformation influencing public debates and government policies on migration and migrants
- Migrants' contributions are often overlooked
 - Important to revisit migrants' contributions, while acknowledging the challenges that migration brings

Sources: GCIM, 2005; IOM, 2000; McAuliffe and Ruhs, 2017.

Next *World Migration Report*

‘Reflecting on migrants’ contributions in an era of increasing disruption and disinformation’ chapter in the forthcoming WMR 2020

- Authors: Dr Marie McAuliffe, Mr Adrian Kitimbo and Prof Binod Khadria
- Thematic chapter providing ‘state-of-the-art’ on the topic
- Other thematic chapters on:
 - Migrants in countries in crises
 - Environmental migration
 - Children and unsafe migration
 - Health and migration
 - Global governance

Focus tends to be on ‘challenges’ that migration can present because this is what policy and practice aims to ‘fix’

Sources: GCIM, 2005; IOM, 2000; McAuliffe and Ruhs, 2017.

What do we mean by contributions?

- Giving something: money, time, ideas, labour, material goods— in order to achieve something with other people
- Part of broader interactions and engagement with individuals, groups and institutions in society
- Can be **sociocultural, civic-political** or **economic**
- Ability to contribute depends on policy settings and rights afforded to migrants

Sources: Baldwin-Edwards, 2008; Kanko and Teller, 2014; Shah, 2009; Cambridge Dictionary, 2019; Goldin, 2018.

Sociocultural contributions

- Food and culinary traditions

 - Helps foster integration

 - Increases food diversity

 - Opportunities for social bonding

- Sport

 - Most evident in professional sport

 - Helps promote positive narratives on migrants (the Salah effect)

 - Helps with integration efforts (Australia, for example)



Photo: Muse Mohammed (IOM)

Sources: Pilcher, 2017; Oussedik, 2012, 55; Lal, 2006, pp.113-119; Atkinson, 2015; CMY, 2019.

Sociocultural contributions

- Music
 - Migrants are often over-represented in entertainment sectors
 - Contribute fresh ideas through music
 - Superdiversity
- Social remittances - new ideas, values & practices
 - Helps to change gender norms in countries of origin
 - Positively contribute to the empowerment of women and girls
 - Social remittances are not always positive

Kasinitz and Martiniello, 2019, pp. 858; Levitt, 1998; Levitt and Lamba-Nieves, 2010; Lafleur and Duchesne, 2017; Grabowska and Engbersen, 2016.

Civic-political contributions

- Engagement in governance and politics at all levels of government
- Volunteer work
- Migrants, including refugees, as agents of change in peacebuilding and reconstruction processes
- Diaspora engagement in political processes
- Bring back political ideologies (positive and negative) to countries of origin

Bradley, Milner and Peruniak, 2019; Jacobsen, Young and Osman, 2008; Milner, 2011.

Factors that enable/constrain migrants' civic-political contributions

<i>Global level</i>	<i>National level (origin and destination)</i>	<i>Local level (external and intragroup)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transportation and communication technology - International laws and treaties on human rights - International power politics, pressures, and conflicts involving immigrants' home country/region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geographic proximity between origin and destination - Structure and dynamics of the economy - State-national model of civic-political integration - Civic culture / practice of inclusion-exclusion (multiculturalism) - State of nation-building process - Immigration/emigration policies and citizenship - State-to-State bilateral relationship - Patriarchal/egalitarian gender relations in private and public spheres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Structure and dynamics of the economy - Civic culture / practice of inclusion-exclusion (multiculturalism) - Extent of residential segregation - Intergroup relations - Proportion of foreign-born - Immigrant/ethnic group size and residential concentration - Sojourn/diaspora mentality - Immigrant/ethnic group sense of civic entitlement - Internal organisation and leadership

Source: Adapted from Morawska, 2018.

Economic contributions: countries of origin

- Migrants' remittances
- Positive influence on human capital stocks
- Diaspora bonds
- Investing and starting new businesses
- Reduces information barriers and enhances trade between origin and destination countries
- Brain drain and brain waste remain concerns

de Haas, 2005; Mohieldin and Ratha, 2019; OECD/ILO, 2018; Beaton, Catão and Koczan, 2018.



Photo: IOM

Estimated total remittances to global top 10 receiving countries, 2004 to 2018

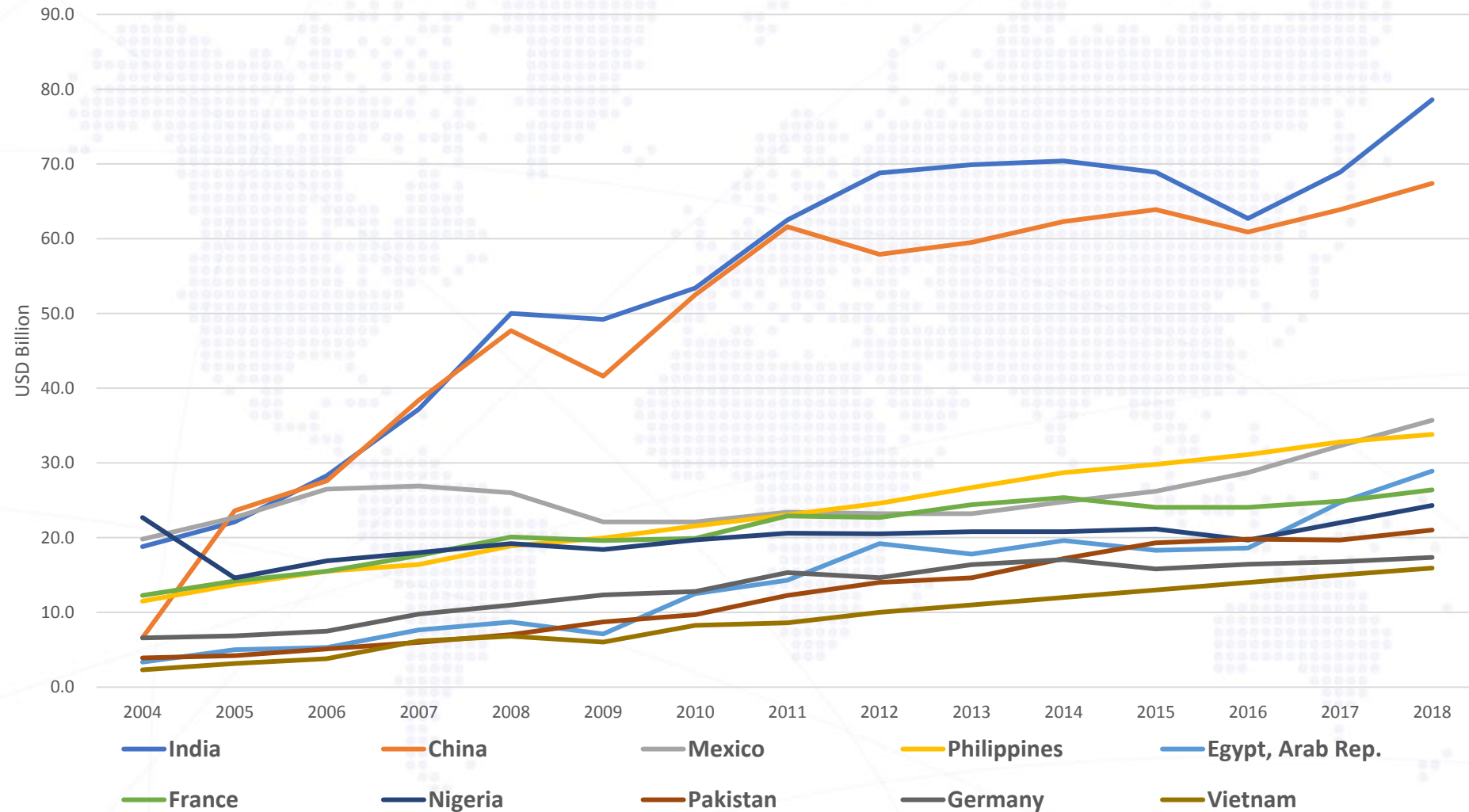




Photo: Alex Sergeev

Economic contributions: destination countries

- Help to address labour shortages
- Offset some of the challenges associated with shrinking populations
- Contribute to global economic growth
 - Added \$6.7 trillion to global GDP, or \$3 trillion more than if they had not migrated (MGI, 2016)
- Drivers of entrepreneurship and innovation
 - Migrants comprise nearly 30% of all entrepreneurs in the United States

Sources: Goldin, Pitt, Nabarro and Boyle, 2018; Khadria, 2012; Ruhs, 2013; The Kauffman Index, 2016; Barone and Mocetii, 2011.

New impediments to the recognition of migrants' contributions

- Transformation in transnational connectivity has changed the way public debates occur
 - Ability to self publish through social media
 - Use of social media to distort narratives on migration
 - Shifts in traditional media
- Immigration is increasingly become a political tool by parties
 - Anti-immigration has become a central theme in political messaging
 - Use of social media by far-right groups to alter public debates AND political decisions
 - 2015-16 flows of migrants (including refugees) to and through Europe
 - Lead up to the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration

Suiter and Cullotty, 2019; McAuliffe and Weeks, 2015; Grande, Schwarzbözl and Fatke, 2018; Abou-Chadi and Krause, 2018;; Mudde, 2019.

Thank you