



Migration in the Global South: Perspectives from Eastern Africa

Plenary: South-South Migration
The Promise of Migration:
Inclusion, Economic Growth and Global Cooperation
International Metropolis Conference
Dr. Linda Adhiambo OUCHO
African Migration and Development Policy Centre

Structure

- Overview of migration in Global South
 - What do we know?
 - Realities of South South Migration
- Why we should be interested in South South Migration
 - Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
 - Changing patterns of Migration in the global South
- Migration Strategies at Continental, Regional and National Level
 - African Union, Regional Economic Communities and Member States
 - Migration and Inclusive Africa Growth (MIAG)

Migration in Eastern Africa

- Migration is as old as time
- It has changed as a result of political, economic, social, cultural and environmental factors
- Historically migration in East Africa prior to colonialism was not controlled by policies but controlled by access to resources
 - Nomadic movements of the Dinka, Nuer, Maasai,
 - Trade relations
- Pre-colonial migration was driven because of need and some of the dynamics limiting migration of certain groups e.g. women, youth were not there



Types of Migration in Eastern Africa

- They have changed as a result of colonial influence and after include:
 - Internal Migration
 - Rural – Urban – dominant form of migration to date driven by economic factors primarily
 - Rural – rural – seasonal migration
 - Urban – urban – associated with movement of skilled migrants
 - Urban – rural: recent phenomenon, commonly associated with retirees, but a few young people migrating to provide services and resources
 - Forced Displacement
 - Internally Displaced Populations
 - Asylum seekers and Refugees
 - Human Trafficking/ Migrant Smuggling
 - Labour migration
 - Immigrants
 - Regional migration within and between the 8 Regional Economic Communities
 - Global north: European (British, Spanish, Polish, German) and Asia (India, China)
 - Emigration
 - Out-migration to other countries

Myths vs Realities on Migration in the Global South

- There are increased flows of African migrants leaving the continent via the Mediterranean Sea
 - People are leaving, but the numbers are less than those migrating regularly within the continent

Preferred destinations of potential emigrants by region of origin

34 African countries | 2016/2018

34-country average

29% Another country in the region



7% Elsewhere in Africa



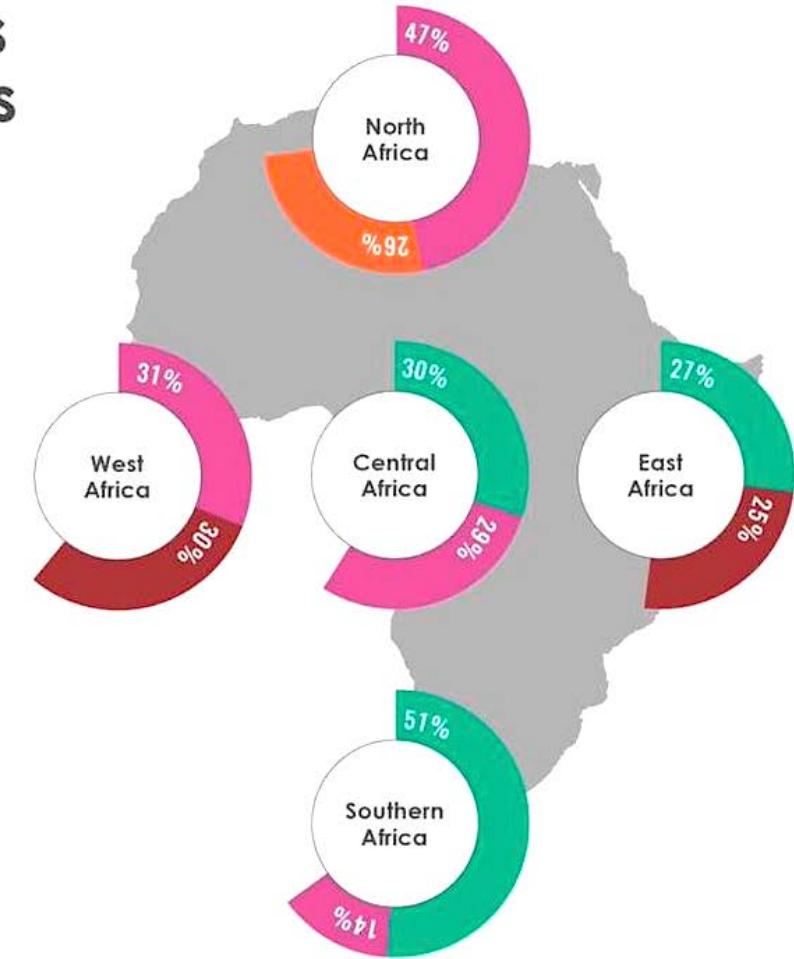
27% Europe



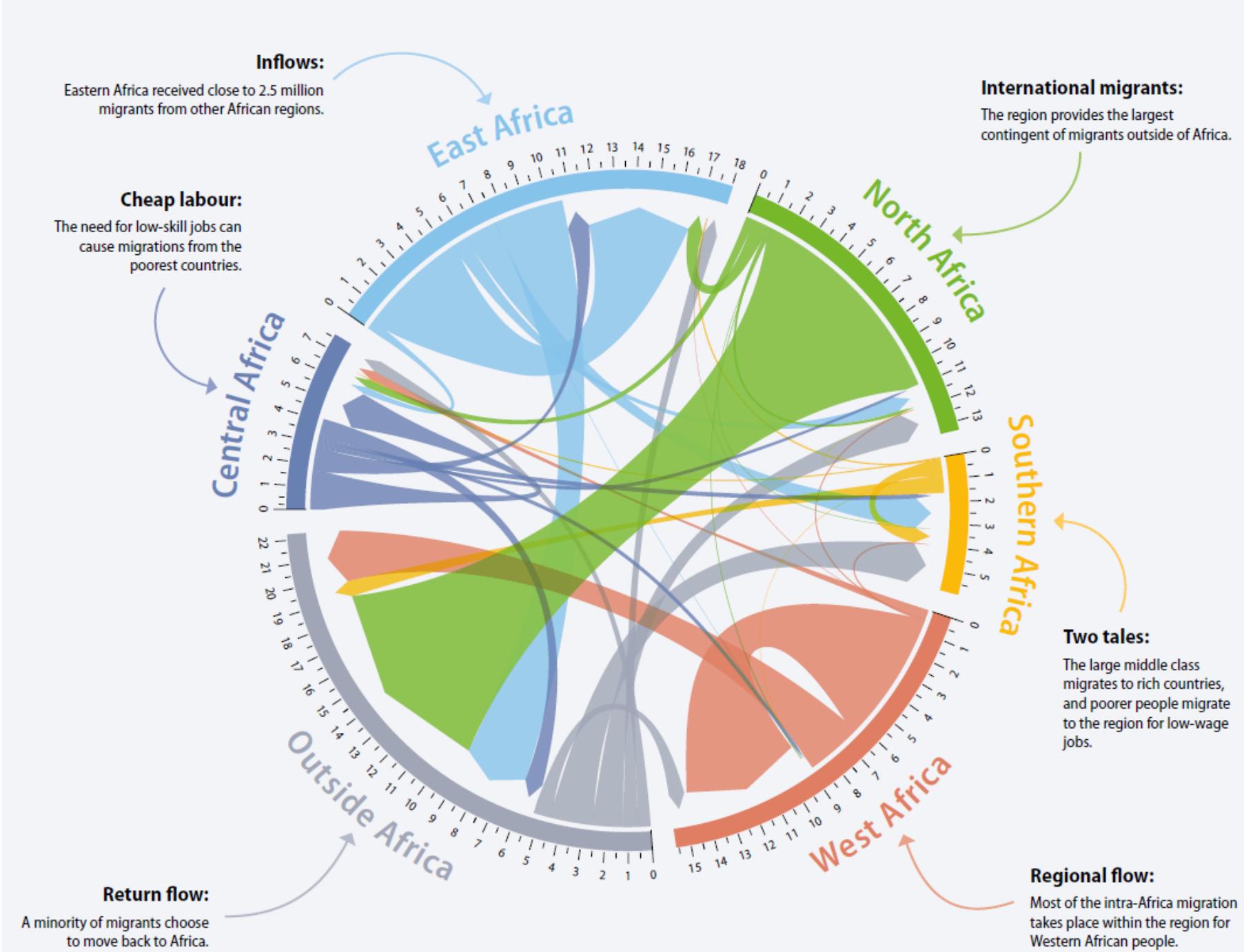
22% North America



13% Some other country/region



North Africa: Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia. **West Africa**: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo. **Central Africa**: Cameroon, Gabon, São Tomé and Príncipe. **East Africa**: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda. **Southern Africa**: Botswana, eSwatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe



Myths vs Realities on Migration in the Global South

Migrants are forced out of
the continent due to
insecurity, conflict and
environmental disasters

Table 1: Reasons for considering emigration | by country | 34 countries | 2016/2018

		Find work	Poverty/ hardship	Education	Travel/ tourism	Business prospects	Join family	Democracy/ freedoms	Peace/ security	Better services	Other
High HDI	Botswana	54%	22%	4%	4%	3%	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%
	Gabon	22%	26%	15%	9%	4%	2%	5%	5%	4%	7%
	Mauritius	55%	8%	1%	7%	4%	9%	10%	0%	2%	3%
	Tunisia	47%	24%	3%	2%	0%	2%	4%	3%	1%	11%
Medium HDI	Cameroon	35%	24%	10%	7%	6%	2%	3%	6%	2%	2%
	Cabo Verde	64%	15%	4%	5%	2%	5%	1%	0%	3%	1%
	eSwatini	60%	20%	4%	3%	2%	2%	3%	1%	3%	1%
	Ghana	52%	22%	6%	4%	8%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Kenya	40%	40%	7%	1%	4%	4%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Morocco	53%	13%	10%	6%	7%	3%	4%	0%	1%	1%
	Namibia	38%	12%	18%	5%	8%	3%	3%	0%	10%	3%
	São Tomé/P	49%	20%	7%	11%	1%	8%	0%	0%	3%	0%
	South Africa	40%	17%	2%	7%	6%	3%	5%	8%	4%	4%
	Zambia	39%	14%	8%	11%	17%	6%	1%	0%	1%	2%
Low HDI	Benin	43%	39%	3%	5%	2%	4%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	Burkina Faso	37%	38%	3%	4%	3%	11%	0%	1%	1%	1%
	Côte d'Ivoire	35%	39%	5%	5%	6%	1%	2%	4%	0%	1%
	Gambia	39%	33%	15%	2%	3%	4%	1%	1%	2%	0%
	Guinea	54%	22%	3%	2%	6%	1%	3%	4%	2%	3%
	Lesotho	73%	14%	3%	0%	0%	2%	4%	1%	2%	0%
	Liberia	29%	38%	13%	9%	3%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%
	Madagascar	59%	17%	5%	4%	1%	4%	1%	3%	1%	1%
	Malawi	40%	51%	1%	2%	3%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%
	Mali	26%	57%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	3%	1%	3%
	Mozambique	39%	26%	3%	6%	5%	2%	3%	1%	4%	4%
	Niger	29%	56%	2%	1%	4%	6%	0%	0%	1%	1%
	Nigeria	35%	31%	6%	5%	10%	2%	2%	1%	5%	4%
	Senegal	54%	26%	7%	2%	5%	2%	1%	0%	1%	2%
	Sierra Leone	36%	39%	10%	5%	3%	3%	1%	0%	1%	1%
	Sudan	30%	51%	2%	3%	4%	2%	4%	0%	2%	1%
	Tanzania	34%	29%	3%	10%	15%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
	Togo	35%	47%	3%	2%	2%	1%	4%	4%	1%	1%
	Uganda	50%	20%	2%	10%	9%	1%	4%	1%	1%	0%
	Zimbabwe	63%	27%	2%	0%	2%	2%	1%	0%	2%	0%
Average		44%	29%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%
		No. 1	No. 2	No. 3							

Changing Patterns of Migration

- Migration patterns changing due to political, environmental, social, cultural and economic conditions in host, transit and destination countries
 - Common attraction is economic, but other aspects such as social and well being of the migrant and/or their family matters
 - Existing research presents a picture of youth needs focused more on immediate economic gratification
 - Direction of migration is changing slowly, to urban-rural migration i.e. identifying income generating opportunities in underdeveloped areas; but also in response to high cost of living in cities
 - Gender is key to understand migration in general especially in the the decision to migrate and the migration experience
 - Women no longer limited to not migrate – transnational migration patterns, transnational mothering BUT women more likely to maintain connections with their place of origin
 - Women are active actors in the migration process that often take a silent role for the benefit of the household – decision making is no longer male centered
 - Very little is known or assumed about gendered migration in Africa, E. Africa and Kenya as tied to existing knowledge on the culture of migration.
 - How can we move beyond this using **EVIDENCE** to change perceptions, **POLICY** and **PRACTICE**?

Youth and Migration in Eastern and Southern Africa



- Reality:
 - Migrants (especially internal migration), tend to be younger driven by political, economic, social and environmental factors → depending on country;
 - In search of opportunities: employment
 - increased interest in self-employment → is the environment designed to accommodate their interests?
 - Digital era → information informs decisions + peer pressure
 - Is the household still relevant in the decision to migrate
 - Life stage of youth determine whether to MOVE or STAY
 - Married tend to migrate less than single or widowed persons
 - Women migrate whether they have children or not as have a support system (extended family) to care for children → informal social network
 - Youth are more likely to migrate to neighbouring countries for opportunities esp. in East Africa
 - Migration will continue persist as long as there is opportunity. Governments need to be in a position to respond to using evidence and forecasting mobility.

Why South South Migration (SSM)



- South-South migration is often under-researched
 - Is/was there interest in understanding it and from whom?
 - How useful/important is the information to the stakeholders? i.e. the government, NGOs, communities?
 - How is it understood by governments in the global south and north?
- Media's role is shaping public perceptions and opinions on SSM
 - What happens to the real evidence?
 - How is it being interpreted in the media and by people in general?
 - How is it used in politics?
- Why it is important?
 - Migration contributes to development (directly/indirectly)
 - Countries learning to harness migration → changing their perception on migration and increasing understanding of intra-regional migration

Continental, Regional and National Response to Migration

African Union

- Developed certain guiding documents focused on understanding, managing migration. E.g. Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA) (MPFA)
- Africa Free Continental Trade Area
- Free Movement Protocol

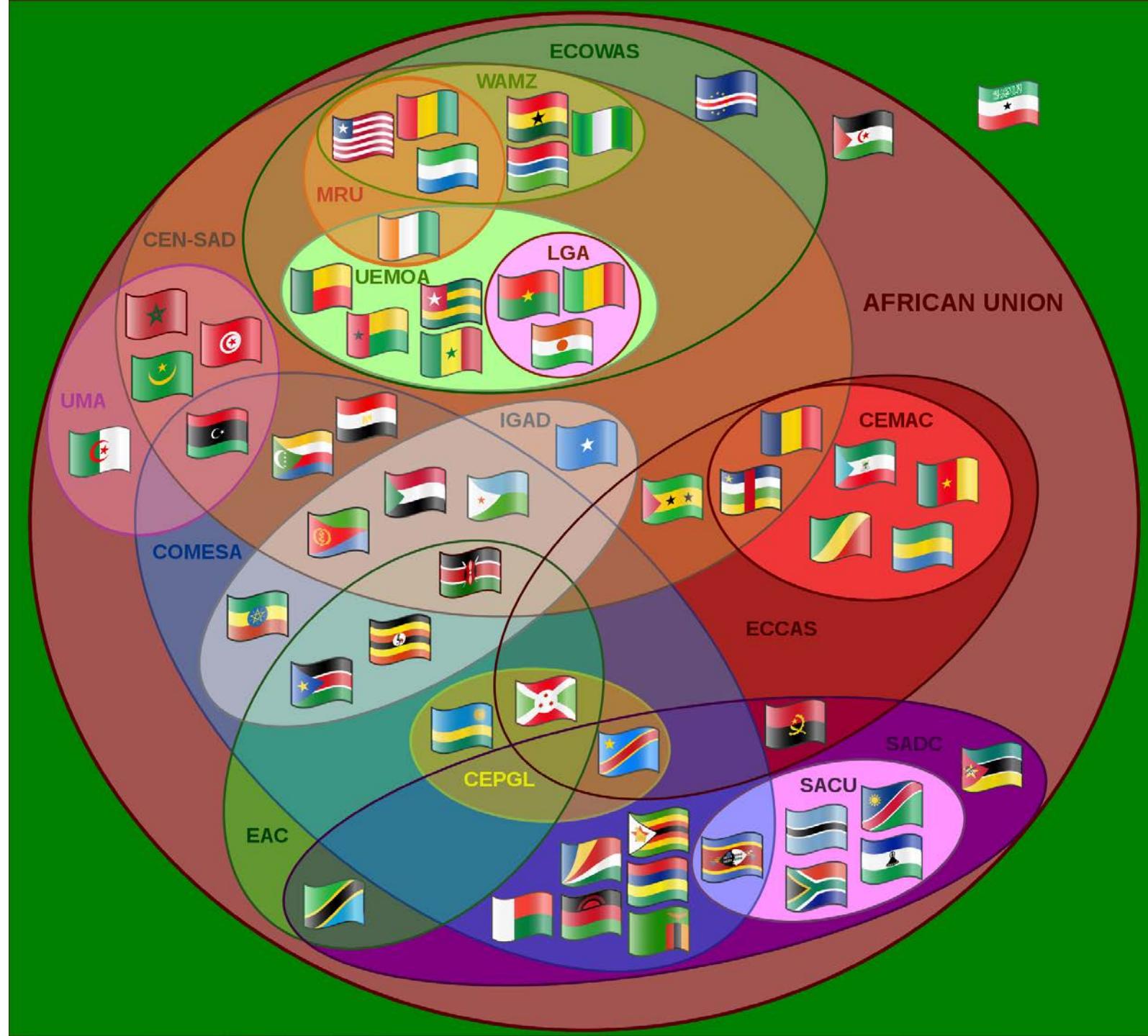
Regional Economic Communities (RECs)

- ECOWAS, CEN-SAD, IGAD, COMESA, EAC,
- Policies in practice in ECOWAS, IGAD, EAC
 - Free movement protocol in ECOWAS and EAC (selected countries); countries); IGAD RMPF,
- Limitations based on individual country needs

National

- Countries are developing policies that respond to the existing migration needs;
- Existing studies are bringing to light the importance of:
 - understanding migrants (internal, international, displaced)
 - how they contribute to development
 - Managing relations between migrant and host communities (integration/assimilation challenges)





Differing Perspectives on South South Migration

- South South migration dynamics differ
 - West African migration is different from East Africa, as free movement within the RECs has yet to be actualized in East Africa whereas in West it has been operational for XX years
 - In East Africa Community, where there are 7 Member states with a recent application from the Democratic Republic of Congo, has been experiencing challenging implementing the free movement protocol;
 - SADC region, have had a protocol in place on free movement, but has yet to be ratified;
- Legal frameworks are in place but some not operational yet SSM still occurs
 - Need to provide more evidence on importance of migration for development and to ensure the process is inclusive
- Differences = Alternative perspectives on the same phenomenon + best practice + lessons learned
 - Evidence within the continent that can be used to inform policy in practice at local (decentralized level), national, regional and continent.

Migration and Inclusive African Growth

Can migration lead to inclusive growth?





Inclusive Growth (IG)

- Migration and Inclusive African Growth (MIAG),
 - Network of African based institutions in partnership with Open University investigating specifically the role of DIASPORA and RECENT IMMIGRANTS contribution to IG.
 - Diaspora have social and financial remittances that can grow and economy and contribute to other forms of development e.g improving health standards, reducing poverty? What TYPE of evidence do we have and how does it translate to KNOWLEDGE and POLICY in PRACTICE?
 - Immigrants have skills, knowledge and networks that can improve the way system operate and increase productivity and possibly impact, but what evidence is out there and what initiatives exist that are using migration as a means of achieving IG?
 - Unpacking what Inclusive Growth is using evidence approach
 - Considering the impact of south south migrants contribution to sector development
 - How have their contributions been harnessed to alleviate poverty; increase access to education through innovation and technology
 - Is there evidence of a TRICKLE DOWN EFFECT?

Evidence Café and Inclusive Growth

MIAG Group A	Stories – Experiential	Interpretive – Opinions, reports	Policies/Procedures	Empirical/Research
<input type="checkbox"/> Data	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment Creation [link to Socialization – mutual gain]	<input type="checkbox"/> Opinions <input type="checkbox"/> Kenyans consider some migrants as interfering with their system of doing business. <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants bringing in foreign, unwelcome cultures <input type="checkbox"/> Refugees – Refugee secretariat: DATA <input type="checkbox"/> UNHCR	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of complete diaspora data <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of integrated data management systems (migration data) <input type="checkbox"/> Data dissipated and [illegible] <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign direct investment <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in foreign investment <input type="checkbox"/> WORK PERMITS <input type="checkbox"/> Technology transfer\immigration department <input type="checkbox"/> KenInvest <input type="checkbox"/> Registrar of companies	<input type="checkbox"/> Data on remittances from the diaspora <input type="checkbox"/> Proper source of migrant place of origin <input type="checkbox"/> Kenya missions abroad <input type="checkbox"/> Diplomatic missions accredited to Kenya <input type="checkbox"/> CRIMES DATA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration pisces system <input type="checkbox"/> Interpol <input type="checkbox"/> Other security agencies – Police, KWS, ATPU <input type="checkbox"/> National crimes research centre
<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributions migrants bring to Kenya: Evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper reports <input type="checkbox"/> Government reports <input type="checkbox"/> Research reports <input type="checkbox"/> Stories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese migrants pushing Kenyans out of the informal sector <input type="checkbox"/> Mushrooming of informal settlements & businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Media	<input type="checkbox"/> Stories – Experiential <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Creation [link to Socialization – mutual gain] <input type="checkbox"/> UNHCR Report refugee affairs secretariat <input type="checkbox"/> 10M	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning documents for e.g. voting, investment <input type="checkbox"/> GOK laws	<input type="checkbox"/> Dissemination of research findings <input type="checkbox"/> Data analysis and reports <input type="checkbox"/> Need for crime info sharing across agencies
<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/> Responsible media reporting <input type="checkbox"/> Acculturation & Assimilation <input type="checkbox"/> Socialization [link to Employment Creation – mutual gain] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Good things people don't forget <input type="checkbox"/> Bad things people don't forgive <input type="checkbox"/> Media stories	<input type="checkbox"/> Rare publication of reports -> no access	<input type="checkbox"/> Government staff <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge of how to use information for migrants	<input type="checkbox"/> Rare skills in research brought to kenya by migrants