



BACK TO THE FUTURE: MIGRATION GOVERNANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF MEGATRENDS

SESSION IV. INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY AND URBANIZATION IN AN
INCREASINGLY INTERCONNECTED WORLD

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INTRODUCTION

- Back to the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)
- The future of migration governance in the context of megatrends
 - **Demographic shifts:** Population aging and the future of societies
 - **Development:** Uneven development and inequality
 - **Democracy:** Conflict as a driver of (forced) migration
 - **Digital and technological transformations:** The future of work
 - **Disasters and climate change:** Migration as adaptation, climate change as a migration driver

THE 1994 ICPD AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

- The gender dimensions of migration
 - Acknowledgment of the participation of women and girls in migration
- The rights of migrants
 - Ratification of several international instruments since 1994
- The migration and development nexus
 - 2006 and 2013 High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development
 - Inclusion of migration targets and indicators in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Global cooperation on international migration
 - Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
 - Global Compact on Refugees

HOW INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION HAS CHANGED SINCE CAIRO FROM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE?

- The 1994 ICPD raised awareness on the role of women in migration
 - Female migration has been substantial for some time
 - Gender-based surveillance and gender-based violence likely to be migration drivers for women
 - Concentration of women in the care sector (domestic work, caregiving, nurses)
 - Policy dilemma for origin countries
 - Demand for domestic work vs. protection
 - Right to work vs. protection
- Trafficking is gendered –“especially women and children” – belated recognition of the trafficking of men and boys and other forms of trafficking

HOW INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION HAS CHANGED SINCE CAIRO FROM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE?

- Remaining gaps to address
 - Gender-disaggregated data on migration, a staple recommendation, but largely ignored
 - Conceptual clarity over gender-related terms (e.g., gender=women and girls, gender mainstreaming, gender neutral, gender responsive, gender sensitive, etc.)
 - Addressing knowledge gaps on the gender dimensions of migrant workers in other sectors and other types of migration (e.g., high skilled migration, student migration)

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MAJOR CHALLENGES IN THE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE OF MIGRATION?

- Global agreements are non-binding and open-ended
- The scope of governments to regulate migration has not kept pace with online recruitment and transactions
 - Emergence of new modes of recruitment (some are legitimate), including irregular migration and trafficking (e.g., recent spate of cyber trafficking in Southeast Asia)
- How to address the drivers of migration, or promote sustainable reintegration (e.g., lessons from the pandemic)
- Fostering partnerships between origin and destination countries
 - To share responsibility in providing protection to migrants at all phases of the migration process
 - To address gaps in social protection (highlighted during the pandemic)

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MAJOR CHALLENGES IN THE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE OF MIGRATION?

- The megatrends are here to stay, all of which have migration implications
 - Spotlight on population aging
 - Migration looms *as one of various strategies* to avert population decline, to meet labor needs, and to sustain economic growth
 - Migration as a solution should not result in inequality between origin and destination countries.
- The collection of data for evidence-based policy-making
 - Improving the collection of administrative data
 - World Migration Survey

THANK
YOU!
