Migration and Youth

FAO E-learning Academy Webinar

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Outlines

- Rural migration
- Drivers of migration
- Impacts of migration
- FAO’s work on migration
- Resources
Why does FAO work on migration?
MIGRATION IS CLOSELY LINKED TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND TO FAO'S GLOBAL GOALS OF ERADICATING HUNGER, FOOD INSECURITY AND MALNUTRITION, ELIMINATING POVERTY AND PROMOTING THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

AN ESTIMATED 40 PERCENT OF INTERNATIONAL REMITTANCES ARE SENT TO RURAL AREAS

MORE THAN 75 PERCENT OF THE WORLD’S POOR AND FOOD INSECURE LIVE IN RURAL AREAS, MOSTLY DEPENDING ON AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL-RESOURCE BASED LIVELIHOODS

RURAL AREAS HOST A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE WORLD’S FORCIBLY DISPLACED

FAO IS UNIQUELY PLACED TO SUPPORT MEMBER STATES IN ADDRESSING BOTH THE RURAL DIMENSIONS OF MIGRATION AS WELL AS ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR RURAL POPULATIONS & FOOD SYSTEMS

WHY DOES FAO WORK ON MIGRATION?
Migrants in food systems

- COVID-19 has highlighted the extent **food systems rely on migrants**, especially seasonal migrant workers.
- In many countries, migrant workers carry out a significant share of the farm work. They are employed in **production, processing and distribution across food and agricultural value chains**, e.g. during the planting or harvesting seasons as well as on fishing vessels, seafood processing.
- However, many migrant workers in food systems **do not enjoy decent work**.
- **Migrant women, youth and children** are particularly vulnerable to exploitation, as are undocumented migrants.
Rural migration

- FAO focuses on **rural migration**, including all movements from, to and between rural areas
- **International** and **internal** migration, including **seasonal** migration
- Across the **voluntary** and **forced** migration spectrum
- Intersection of migration and agricultural and rural development - each influenced by each other
Most international migrants move between countries located within the same region.

The majority of international migrants in sub-Saharan Africa (89 percent) originated from another country in the same region where they reside.
Internal migration (rural-rural; rural-urban; urban-rural) is larger than international migration.

- Around 1.3 billion people in developing countries have moved internally.
- Largest share of internal migration is rural-rural migration, in particular for women.
Why are people migrating?
Factors influencing the decision to migrate

Environmental, socio-economic and political factors

- Environmental factors
  - Rural poverty
  - Food (in)security
  - Access to income
  - Access to assets and resources
  - Access to decent jobs

- Political factors
  - Human rights abuses
  - Discrimination
  - Conflict

- Socio-economic factors
  - Inequality
  - Access to social protection
  - Access to education and training
Factors influencing the decision to migrate

An individual's decision to migrate is shaped by factors acting across three dimensions:

**INDIVIDUAL**
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Age
- Education
- Marital status
- Employment status
- Personal aspirations

**HOUSEHOLD**
- Household (HH) size
- Composition
- Assets base
- HH head (age, gender, education)

**EXTERNAL**
- Presence or lack of social networks
- Recruitment agencies
- Cost of moving
Lack of decent jobs in rural areas

- Lack of employment opportunities is one of the major drivers of migration

The case of Africa

- By 2050, Africa’s working age population will increase by 805 million
- In SSA, the youth population is expected to double by 2050. Around 10-12 million new jobs will have to be created per year in the region. Yet, only around three million formal jobs are being created annually
- Youth are overrepresented among the poor and working poor (close to 70% in SSA) and mostly work in the informal sector and in vulnerable jobs in agriculture
- The challenge for Africa is to generate enough employment to absorb its booming labour force, 60% of which will likely be in rural areas
- Boosting youth employment in agri-food value chains is key to rejuvenate the agricultural sector and provide sustainable alternatives to migration, making migration a choice not a necessity
What are the impacts of rural migration?
Challenges and opportunities
How does FAO work on migration?
FAO works along the migration cycle

- Policy coherence between migration and agriculture and rural development policies is essential to ensure safe, orderly, and regular migration and maximize its economic and social benefits
- Make migration a choice and not a necessity
FAO areas of work on migration

FAO works at global, regional and country level in **four main thematic areas** along the migration cycle to support countries in achieving the objectives of the **Global Compact for Migration** and the **Global Compact for Refugees**, and supporting internal migrants and IDPs.
Working through FAO core competencies

- Generating and disseminating **knowledge and evidence**
- Providing **policy support** and promoting **policy dialogue**
- Developing **capacities**
- Increasing evidence-based **advocacy and outreach**
- Facilitating strategic and multi-stakeholder **partnerships**
In action: global level work

• Participation in the **UN Network on Migration** (working groups on data, bilateral labour agreements, return & reintegration, access to services, climate change) & **National Coordination Mechanisms**

• Participation in other global fora, such as the **Global Forum on Migration and Development** (GFMD)

• **Public goods** (e.g. SOFA 2018; Atlas Rural Africa on the move; e-learning courses; data collection; webinars)

• **Partnerships and interagency collaboration** (e.g. IOM, IFAD, ILO, ADEPT, etc.)
FAO as a Knowledge-based Organization - Tools

**FAO Migration Framework**
- Guides the Organization’s work on rural migration and proposes innovative solutions
- Present FAO’s areas of work on migration, the key strategies for engagement and a set of supplementary tools

**Knowledge Materials**
- SOFA 2018: Migration, Agriculture and Rural Development
- Atlas on rural migration in SSA
- The linkages between migration, agriculture, food security and rural development
- Rural migration in sub-Saharan Africa: Patterns, drivers and relation to structural transformation
- Characteristics, patterns and drivers of rural migration in Senegal
- COVID-19 policy briefs

**E-learning**
- Migration & youth
- Migration & gender
- Migration & protracted crises
- Migration & climate change (soon)
- Migrant workers in agriculture (soon)

**Guidance Tools**
- FIRST Policy Guidance Note on Rural Migration
- Distress migration and youth in protracted crises - The JFFLS approach
In action: country level work

• Uganda: Youth-inclusive value chain development and investment of diaspora in agribusiness; Resilience and food security of refugees and host communities and refugees’ economic inclusion

• Kenya: Employment opportunities for rural youth as alternative to migration, while strengthening links with existing social protection programmes; Economic inclusion of refugees in local agricultural value chains while improving agribusiness environment

• Ethiopia and Tunisia: Youth employment in the agricultural sector to provide alternatives to migration while enhancing the positive impact of rural migration on areas of origin

• South Sudan: Resilience of refugee communities and enhanced food security

• Senegal: Entrepreneurship opportunities in agribusiness for young return migrants; support prospective and return migrants through orientation and coaching;

• Zimbabwe: Addressing the root causes of climate-induced migration and enhancing migration for climate change adaptation

• Egypt: Supporting women who stayed behind to minimize the negative impacts of migration and maximize the benefits

• Niger: Promoting gender-sensitive community solutions through Dimitra Clubs in refugee camps and settlements

• Central Africa Learning Route: Stakeholder capacities to adopt approaches supporting rural youth employment as alternative to migration and supporting migrant initiatives in destination areas

• Colombia: Local implementation of the national Refugee and Migrant Response Plan; community production centers for migrants and host communities and climate adaptation

• Guatemala: Addressing the adverse drivers of migration; Building the social cohesion of communities receiving youth returnees as a bridge to peaceful and effective reintegration

• El Salvador: Addressing the adverse drivers of migration; rural livelihood support for the reintegration of returnees

• Honduras: Addressing the adverse drivers of migration; Strengthening policy coherence and capacities on youth employment and migration

• Tajikistan: Matching grant programme for migrants and returnees investing in agribusiness; Empowerment of abandoned families for improved migration outcomes

• Moldova: Support to rural returnees in the context of COVID-19, in particular access to markets through digitalization

• Turkey: Support to Turkish and Syrian refugee women in Turkey to form small-scale agricultural production cooperatives; access to social protection for seasonal migrants in agriculture

• Iraq: Supporting the agricultural livelihoods of returnees and local communities; data on returnees livelihoods and reintegration

• Nepal: Support to women left-behind in rural areas of high male out-migration; support to returnees in the context of COVID-19

• Bangladesh: Enhancing the resilience of refugees and host communities through the restoration of ecosystems; Safe access to fuel and energy and improved livelihoods
Visit us:

FAO migration webpages:

Decent Rural Employment website:

Conflict and Peace Unit website:

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