



**International Conference
HARNESSING MIGRATION, REMITTANCES AND DIASPORA CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR FINANCING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

May 26-27, 2015

Venue: Conference Room 11 of the Conference Room Building, United Nations Headquarters
405 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017

DAY 1 May 26, 2015

9:00–9:30 am Registration

9:30–9:50 am **Welcome Remarks**

Mahmoud Mohieldin – Principal of the GMG, Corporate Secretary and President’s Special Envoy, World Bank

*Alexander Trepelkov – Director, Financing for Development Office, UN DESA**

9:50–10:00 am Road map of the conference

Dilip Ratha, Chair of the GMG, Lead Economist, Head of the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD), World Bank

10:00–11:30 am **Session 1: Contributions of migration to economic development**

This panel will provide an overview of interlinkages between migration and economic development, including contributions of migrants to fiscal accounts in destination countries, innovation, skills and transfer of technology.

Moderator: **Dominique Favre**, Deputy Assistant Director General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

- *Migration and economic development*
Robert Lucas, Professor of Economics, Boston University
- *Fiscal contributions of migrants in destination countries*
Thomas Liebig, Principal Administrator, International Migration Division, OECD Directorate for Employment, Labor and Social Affairs
- *Certification programs for migrant workers*
Himanshu Aggarwal, CEO and Co-founder, Aspiring Minds

Coffee Break 11:30–11:45 am

11:45–1:00 pm **Session 2: Reducing migration costs, including recruitment costs**

This session will discuss different initiatives aimed at reducing migration costs, as indicated in the UN Secretary General's eight-point agenda for action put forward at the Second UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. Migration costs include the fees paid by migrant workers to recruitment agencies and their intermediaries. High recruitment fees are a major drain on migrants' incomes and remittances, and can result in poorer human development outcomes for migrant workers and their families. Reducing these costs can generate significant savings in their hands.

Moderator: **Michelle Leighton**, Chief, Labor Migration Branch, ILO

- *Reducing labor migration costs, with a key focus on the savings from recruitment costs: Policies, practices, potential*
Manolo Abella, Centre on Migration Policy and Society, University of Oxford
- *Reducing migration costs of trafficking and smuggling*
UNODC*
- *Facilitating intra-EU labor mobility of low skilled workers: lessons for developing countries*
Ioannis Vrailas, Ambassador, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the EU to the UN in New York

Lunch 1:00–2:30 pm

(Light lunch for all participants)

2:30–3:45 pm **Session 3: Delivering the post-2015 agenda: The big data revolution on migration**

Measurement of migration and its interconnections with development is an integral element of the post-2015 development agenda. The session will explore ways in which the potential of big data can be harnessed for migration and remittances. Examples of ways in which big data is already being used to document trends in migration and displacement, and remittance flows will be presented.

Moderator: **Frank Laczko**, Head of the Migration Research Division, International Organization of Migration (IOM)

- **Patrick Gerland**, Chief, United Nations Population Division - Mortality Section, UN/DESA
- **Emmanuel Letouzé**, Director and co-Founder of Data-Pop Alliance on Big Data and development (Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, MIT Media Lab and ODI)
- **Linus Bengtsson**, Director and co-founder of Flowminder

Coffee Break 3:45–4:00 pm

4:00–5:30 pm **Session 4: Migration data for development**

This session will provide a forum to present practical guidance on the measurement of international migration developed by the GMG Data and Research Working Group. This session will also include a discussion of the challenges of appropriate data disaggregation and its cost as well as the need for new data to monitor issues linked to such human rights principles as accountability and participation.

Moderator: **Mina Mashayekhi**, Head, Trade Negotiations and Commercial Diplomacy Branch, UNCTAD

- *The GMG Migration Handbook*
Ann Singleton, University of Bristol
- *The SDG indicators*
Bela Hovy, Population Division, UNDESA

Panel: GMG Agencies (ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNDESA, UNFPA, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNODC, WB, WHO)

5:30–6:00 pm **Summary of Day 1**

Cocktail 6:30–7:30 pm

Venue: ONE UN New York
44th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenues

DAY 2 May 27, 2015

Breakfast 9:00–9:30 am

9:30–11:00 am **Session 5: Leveraging remittances for financial inclusion**

This session will discuss how developments in remittance markets are facilitating financial inclusion in developing countries. This session will present some initiatives that are trying to bring financial access and services to the unbanked populations and the regulatory challenges they face.

Moderator: **Sonia Plaza**, Senior Economist, co-chair diaspora KNOMAD, World Bank

- *Remittances and financial inclusion using a global social community*
Jerry Ross, Advisory Board Chairman of GlobeOne
- *Cross-border remittances through hubs: HomeSend*
Max Chion, Head of Product Platforms for Emerging Payments, Group Executive Emerging Payment Products, MasterCard
- *Remittances services for fragile countries*
Abdirashid Duale, CEO, Dahabshiil Group

Coffee Break 11:00–11:15 am

11:15–12:45 pm Session 6: Reducing remittance costs: Market opportunities and challenges

The aim of the session is to provide an overview of the recent developments in the remittances industry and discuss commercial challenges as well as regulatory barriers to reducing remittance costs.

Moderator: **Peter Bonin**, Team Leader, Sector Project Migration and Development, Centre for International Migration and Development, GIZ

- *Y. Sudhir Kumar Shetty, President, UAE Exchange*
- *Rajesh Agrawal, CEO and Founder, Xendpay*
- *Jeremy Stoss, CEO, Afrimarket*

Lunch Break 12:45–2:00 pm

2:00–3:15 pm Session 7: New technologies for efficient delivery of migrant remittances

This session will explore new ways of delivering cross-border remittances more efficiently, using the frontiers of technology.

Moderator: **Eva Ackerman-Borje**, Ambassador, Government Offices of Sweden

- *Carey Kolaja, Vice President of Global Product Solutions, PayPal*
- *Amy Ludlum, CFO, BitPesa*
- *Joyce Kim, Executive Director, Stellar*

Coffee Break 3:15–3:30 pm

3:30–5:15 pm Session 8: Mobilizing diaspora savings and diaspora philanthropy, and leveraging remittances for bond financing

This session will discuss several innovative tools for leveraging diaspora resources for development financing. How can countries mobilize diaspora savings via diaspora bonds? How can remittance channels be leveraged to mobilize diaspora philanthropy, for long-term development as well as for supporting recovery and reconstruction in the aftermath of natural disasters? How can diaspora remittances finance healthcare in Africa? How can remittances contribute to debt sustainability and sovereign credit ratings? How does future-flow securitization of remittances work for raising international bond financing?

Moderator: **Dilip Ratha**, Lead Economist and Head, KNOMAD, World Bank

- *Diaspora bonds*
Jwala Rambarran, Governor, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
- *Credit rating*
Joydeep Mukherji, Senior Director & Analytical Manager, Standard & Poor's

- *Future-flow securitization of remittances*
- *Diaspora philanthropic contributions*
*Speaker, World Bank**
- *Remittances for financing health insurance in Africa*
Mirjam van Reisen, Secretary of the Board, The Philips Foundation

5:15–5:45 pm **Way forward and closing**

Peter Sutherland, Special Representative of the Secretary General for International Migration

Kaushik Basu, Senior Vice President (Development Economics) and Chief Economist, World Bank

*To be confirmed