

OVERVIEW OF LABOR MIGRATION IN THE REGION



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MIGRATION AND GLOBALIZATION



Practically all the countries in the world today are points of departure, transit or arrival of international migration and the main migratory flows start in developing societies and travel towards more developed countries.

Migration is an unanswered question to developing societies about their capacity to offer their citizens opportunities for progress and wellbeing; but it is also an unanswered question to developed societies concerning their capacity to accept foreigners and treat them decently.

SOME FIGURES

In 2005 an estimated 191 million people (nearly 3% of the world population) lived outside of their homeland or country of citizenship^[1]. This represents an increase of 9% since 2000 (175 million) and an annual growth rate of 1.8% during this period.

Last year the European region had the largest number of international migrants (64 million) and with regard to host countries the United States received a vast number of migrants (38 million).

Labour migration has increased in the OECD countries over the last decade. In most of these countries entire families migrate (family reunification) and immigrants represent a growing share of their labour force (from 1.5% in Japan up to 25% in Switzerland and Australia).

LOS MIGRANTES DE AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE

Up to 2005 some 25 million people migrated from Latin America and the Caribbean (4% of the total population) particularly towards the United States and Spain. They make up 13% of the world flow.

- ❑ Women
- ❑ Intra-regional migrants
- ❑ Youth
- ❑ Professionals
- ❑ Remittances

REMITTANCES 2005

- * 60 billion dollars.
- * 20 million households have received remittances.
- * Nearly 75% of remittances came from the United States.
- * Mexico is the main destination.
- * In some countries remittances represent more than 10% of the GDP and more than 30% of exports.
- * Practically two thirds of emigres send remittances to their families.
- * They represent less than 10% of the migrants income; however the percentage is much higher for the beneficiary households.

Remittances are proof of solidarity and also reveal the incapacity of our societies to retain and utilize a major source of entrepreneurship, labour and productive energy.

TOWARDS A DECENT MIGRATION

ILO Multi-Lateral Framework on Labour Migrations

1. Decent Work
2. International cooperation for labour migrations
3. Global basis of knowledge
4. Effective labour migration management
5. Migrant worker protection
6. Prevention of abusive migratory practices and protection against such abuse
7. The migratory process
8. Integration and social inclusion
9. Migration and Development

AMERICAS



By 2015 the Hemispheric Agenda for the Promotion of Decent Work intends to : *Improve the level of protection of migrant workers through the management of migrations.*

- Before 2010 to have a statistical information system on migrant workers to sustain the formulation of policies in this field.
- To make progress in using the general framework that the ILO must formulate upon the request of the International Labour Conference (ILC) and to ratify Conventions Nos. 97 and 143 in order to bring about an orderly management of the migratory process.
- Before 2010 all the migrant source and host countries must have a strategy and a plan of action for an orderly management of migration.

MEDIUM AND SHORT TERM



Migration will continue to be important over the next decade.

- ❓ By 2015 another 4 or 5 million Latin Americans could be added to those already living in the US. In that same year due to the estimated rate of growth of the population and to the estimated migratory flows towards the US, it could harbour a population of 60 million people with Hispanic roots. Therefore, more than 17% of the total population will have a Latin origin.
- ❓ Over the next ten years, Latin America and the Caribbean will receive between \$ 400 and \$ 450 billion dollars in remittances.
- ❓ Migration from developed countries to Latin America and the Caribbean is being recorded by demographic, climate and economic trends and this may grow considerably over the next decade.