

# WORLD MIGRATION REPORT 2015



Migrants and Cities:  
New Partnerships  
to Manage Mobility

## MIGRANTS AND CITIES: NEW PARTNERSHIPS TO MANAGE MOBILITY

Open Cities: Migration and Development,  
Successes, Opportunities, and Challenges

March 7-8, Gdansk, Poland

June Lee,  
International Organization for Migration



International Organization for Migration (IOM)



# Migration mega-trend: One in Seven

- 7 billion population: **1 billion migrants**



- **250 m International**

**760 m Internal**

- **Urbanization: 50% +**

**Feminization: ca. 50%**

→ **International migration is set to grow even faster than in the past quarter-century.** (Intelligence Council on Global Trends 2030, Dec. 2012 issue)



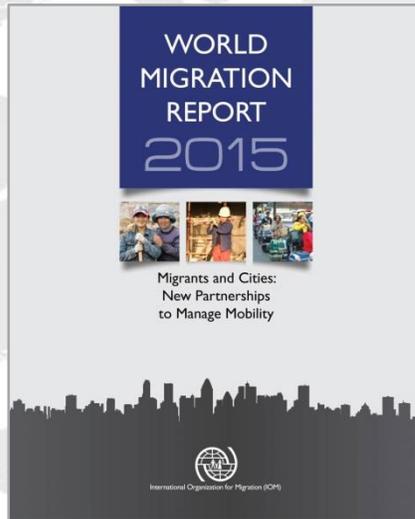
# International Organization for Migration: Mission

**Humane and orderly migration to benefit migrants and societies**

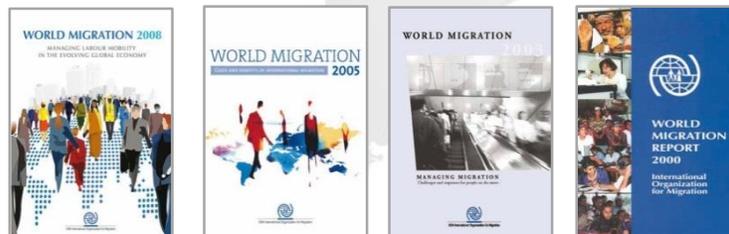
- Help Govt's address migration challenges and opportunities
  - **Advance comprehensive understanding of migration issues**
  - Promote social & economic development through migration
  - Uphold migrants' dignity & well-being
- **Cooperation with all actors involved in migration**



# World Migration Report (WMR) Series



- WMR 2015 Migrants and Cities: New Partnerships to Manage Mobility
  - Eighth report in WMR series
  - Focus on the migration dynamics at sub-national level
- IOM's flagship publication
- Available at [www.iom.int/cms/wmr2015](http://www.iom.int/cms/wmr2015) for free download





# Why migrants and cities?

- Migrants, a significant part of urban populations
- Migrants & the global urbanization and social transformation
- Cities aim for sustained and inclusive growth

**→ Migration governance should be at the frontline of urban planning and sustainable development.**



# Contributions of the WMR 2015

## The WMR 2015...

...**explores** how migrants shape cities, and how migrants' life is shaped by cities,

...**considers** how migrants help to build and revive cities with their resources and ideas, both in the origin and host country,

...**identifies** innovative examples of how some cities are seeking to manage the challenges of increased global mobility and social diversity,

...**highlights** new policy developments in urban partnerships among migrant groups, local governments, civil society and the private sector, and

...**underlines** the need for a global agenda for migration and urbanization.



# **Migration and Urban Diversity**

**Urban Migration and Economic Development**

**Urban Partnerships to Manage Mobility**

# Migration and Urban Diversity

## General overview

- Global diversification of migration destinations
  - New growth centres in East Asia, South Africa, Brazil, India
  - South-South migration
  - Gateway cities to secondary cities
  - Peri-urbanization
- 
- Much urban growth fast and unplanned
    - In Asia and Africa



New centres of international migration growth   
 Sources of international and/or internal migrants   
 Traditional centres of international migration growth

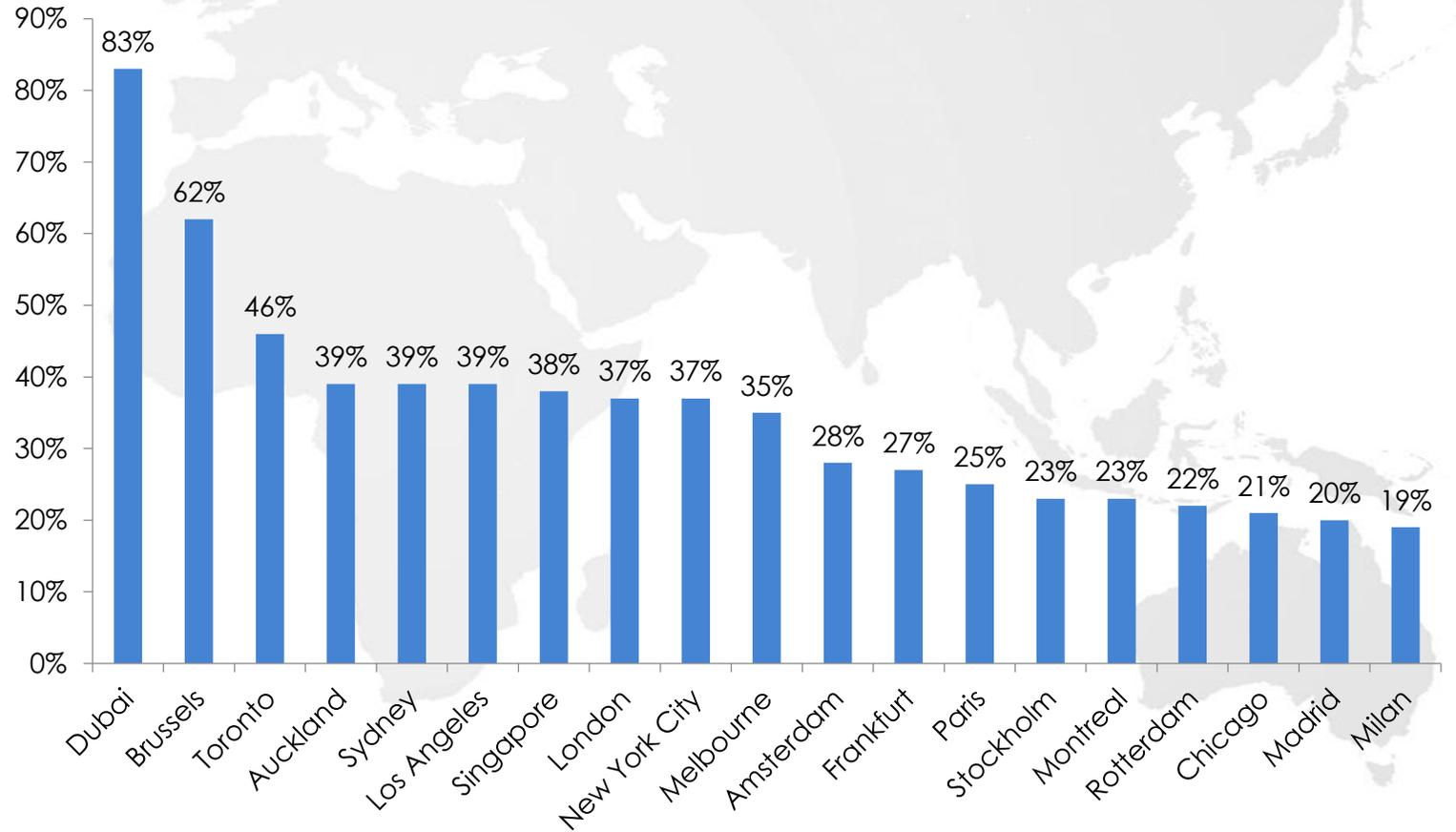
Source: Adapted from R. Skeldon, 2013.

# Diversity of Urban Settings



## Global Cities

- Vital role in the international economic system
- Top 20 global cities in Europe, Asia-Pacific, and the Americas
- International migrants concentrated
- Not all cities equipped for mobility and diversity



Percentage of foreign born population in major cities

Sources: See WMR 2015, p. 73.

# Diversity of Urban Settings



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## Secondary Cities

- More migrants move to secondary cities in developed countries
- Not equipped with policy, governance and administration to take diversity advantages



## Depopulated Cities and Rural Areas

- Industrial decline
- Aging population
- New international migration flows change population composition

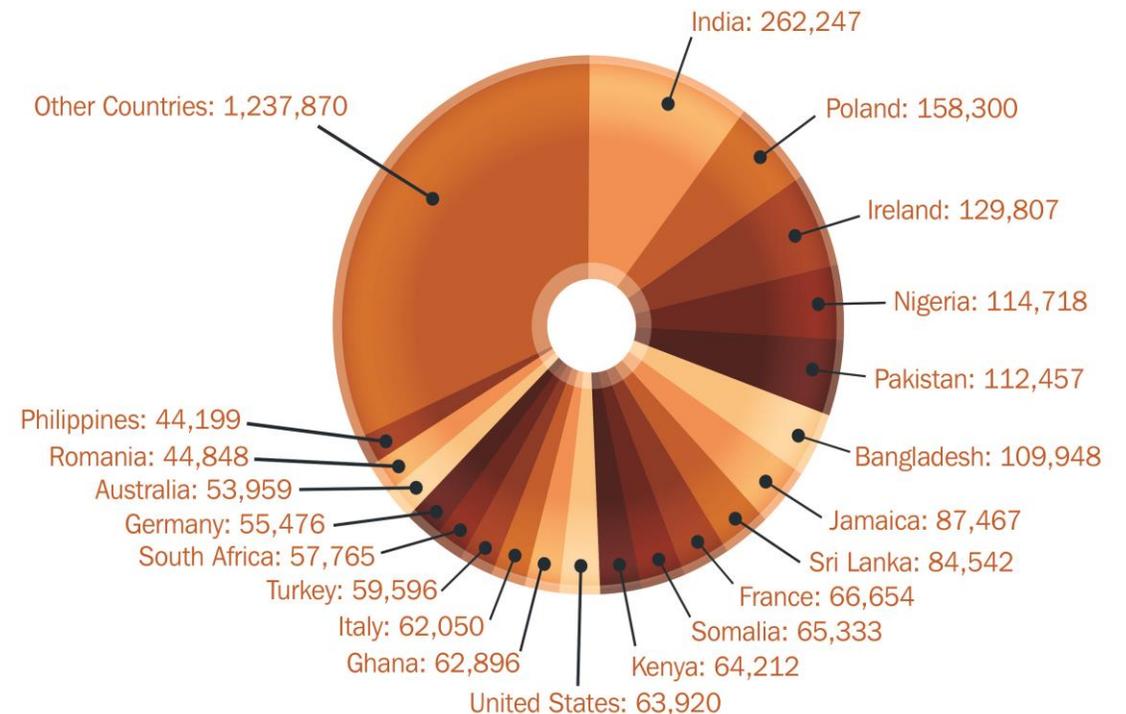


# Diversity within Cities

## Developed countries

- ‘Super-diversity’ – e.g., foreign-born population in London (2011)
- Challenges of urban diversity: residential segregation
  - BUT: Positive effects of ethnic clustering
- Need to redesign incentive structures of integration in highly diverse societies

Total foreign-born population: 2,998,264  
Foreign-born population %: 37





# Cities Welcoming Immigrants

It can be argued that the most forward-thinking U.S. cities are viewing immigrant retention and inclusion as a path to creating successful and sustainable places.

The U.S. has over **41 million** foreign-born residents, representing **13%** of the total population.





# Why do localities, especially cities, seek immigrants?

- Reverse Demographic Decline
- Increase competitiveness – more skilled workers (H1B and F Visas)
- Stimulate entrepreneurship – the diversity advantage argument
- Reduce Poverty and Support Housing Markets
- Respond to the Failure of the Federal Government to implement immigration reform
- Address needs of public safety and access to services (local identification cards)

**Integration of diverse groups is not easy, and cities need to purposefully develop inclusive strategies and policies if they are to function well.**



Migration and Urban Diversity

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# Urban Diversity and Economic Advantage



## Migrants

- increase productivity
- create jobs
- counter population decline
- raise housing values
  
- BUT: Diversity-leveraging policies needed



## Cities

- in **need of both skilled and low-skilled** migrant workers
  - BUT: regional & local variations in demand for migrant skills and labour
- **Challenges:** local labour market insertion
- **Role of local governments and the private sector**
  - City governments as policy maker/mediator/employer/customer
  - Private sector providing skills training, employment opportunities, business support



# Urban Diversity and Economic Advantage

- **Migrant entrepreneurs**
  - Contribution to social integration and local economic growth
  - A heterogeneous group
  - Often: Self-employment due to lack of other options
  - Needed: Urban policies & programmes to provide information, networking opportunities, training and recruitment services

## Example

**Information Provision** – local business opportunities and procedures; cities, chamber of commerce, business assoc. labour union, etc.

**Networking** – in person or on-line

**Training** – for start-ups; market research, business plan development, admin supports

**Investment & Partnerships** – business incubator/angels

*WMR 2015, p. 141*

# Partnerships for Urban Development

## Decentralized development approaches

- City-city relationships
- Twinning arrangements
- Diaspora-led initiatives



## Example

### Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI)

- Aiming at integrating migration into local development planning by empowering **local authorities** in partnership with civil society
- Migrant contributions to local development depend, to a large extent, on the relationship they establish with local actors
- Cities with strong and long lasting migratory connections also have an interest in cooperating and possibly in coordinating their actions along the migration continuum.



# Migrant Inclusion and Urban Governance

- Strong correlation between effective provision of services and urban development in all major emerging economies
- Needed: **Holistic policy instruments and governance arrangements**
  - Example: local migrant communities' participation in integrative community development/co-development between cities of origin and destination

## Example

Cities are at the centre of a shift in the debate on multiculturalism to a more inclusive approach to community building and public participation. In Berlin's «socially integrative urban development», monitoring such social conditions as employment and housing for all residents is implemented as part of neighborhood management.

*WMR 2015, p. 166*



Migration and Urban Diversity

Urban Migration and Economic Development

**Urban Partnerships to Manage Mobility**



# Urban Partnerships to Manage Mobility

- Urban governance: coordinating complex interconnections
- **Migrants** contribute to the cities' complex interconnections through
  - **sustained global communication**
  - **institutional linkages**
  - **exchange of resources among migrants, homelands and wider diasporas**
- Migrants: key players in city development, growth, resilience and sustainability
- Needed: Multi-level governance coordination (between local, regional, state, federal levels)
- **Cities** creating own plans for integration

# Potential for Partnerships

- Cities nested in various relations
- Vertically:
  - Supranational Organizations
  - National governments
  - Neighborhoods
  - (Migrant) population
- Horizontally:
  - Other cities
  - Private sector
  - NGOs





# Multilevel Governance for Migrant Inclusion I

- **Policy fragmentation:** mismatch between migrant numbers/characteristic and needs/capacities of host cities
- Needed:
  - **National:** coordination between national migration policies and local needs/capacities and multi-stakeholder approach to migrant inclusion on local labour market
  - **International:** policy coordination in both countries of origin and destination

## Example

“In some countries like Australia and Canada, the federal and state governments **jointly select and adjust the flow of migrant workers to the needs of the communities**, under state-nominated or provincial visa programmes.”

*WMR 2015, p. 167*



# Multilevel Governance for Migrant Inclusion II

## Shared financing of migrant inclusion

- Migrant inclusion facilitated locally with public funding
- Helpful: devolution of financial, budgetary, administrative authority and flexibility
- Matching local government's responsibility with financial support

### Example

“One innovative approach to financing municipal inclusion policies is participatory budgeting. It is widely practiced by over 1,700 local governments in more than 40 countries, especially among low-income countries. Besides improving basic services, engaging urban dwellers in participatory budgeting can help create new spaces of dialogue between local authorities and urban dwellers, thus establishing a joint decision-making process.”

*WMR 2015, p. 174*



# Multilevel Governance for Migrant Inclusion III

## Pragmatic initiatives on urban citizenship

- Local governments around the world adopting similar practices
- Political commitment for urban policies embracing diversity
  - Mayoral office / local council

### Examples

The **province of Buenos Aires** approved laws guaranteeing every child the right to schooling and all people access to public services, regardless of their legal status.

**New York City** issues municipal identification cards to undocumented immigrants to enable them to open bank accounts, sign apartment leases, receive library cards and gain access to other services.

**Dublin** permits all residents, including non-citizens, to vote in local elections.



# Strategies for Inclusion and Retention

- **Outreach:**
- **Data:**
- **Leadership:**
- **Participation:**

# Partnerships for City-making

- Mutual benefit: Migrants ↔ Cities
- Important: **understanding relationship between positioning of cities** within global system and **ability of migrants** to forge a place within specific localities
- **Migrants as city-makers** help their adopted cities to achieve global profile
- Needed: **opportunity structures**





**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

VISIT THE WMR 2015 WEBPAGE AT  
**[WWW.IOM.INT/CMS/WMR2015](http://WWW.IOM.INT/CMS/WMR2015)**