

Mapping
**NEPAL CENSUS INDICATORS 2001
& TRENDS**



SUMMARY

Human Development
Report 2009

Overcoming barriers:
Human mobility and development



State of Statistical Data on Migration and Selected Development Indicators

Nadia Schoch

NCCR North-South Dialogue, no. 24

2010

dialogue

The present study was carried out at the following partner institutions of the NCCR North-South:



Universität Zürich

University of Zurich



Development Study Group Zurich (DSGZ)
Department of Geography



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

The NCCR North-South (Research Partnerships for Mitigating Syndromes of Global Change) is one of twenty National Centres of Competence in Research established by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). It is implemented by the SNSF and co-funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the participating institutions in Switzerland. The NCCR North-South carries out disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research on issues relating to sustainable development in developing and transition countries as well as in Switzerland.

<http://www.north-south.unibe.ch>

State of Statistical Data on Migration and Selected Development Indicators

Nadia Schoch

NCCR North–South Dialogue, no. 24

2010

Citation

Schoch N. 2010. *State of Statistical Data on Migration and Selected Development Indicators*. NCCR North-South Dialogue 24. Bern, Switzerland: NCCR North-South.

Editing

Stefan Zach, z.a.ch gmbh, Switzerland

Cover

Left: From the cover page of *Mapping Nepal Census Indicators and Trends*. (Source: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Mountain Environment and Natural Resources Information Systems (ICIMOD/MENRIS), Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). 2003. *Mapping Nepal Census Indicators and Trends*. Kathmandu: ICIMOD). *Right:* From the cover page of the *Human Development Report (HDR) 2009*. (Source: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2009. *HDR 2009. Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development*. New York: UNDP).

Distribution

The PDF version of this paper can be downloaded from: <http://www.north-south.unibe.ch> under "Publications"

© by the author and the NCCR North-South

Contents

1	Introduction	7
2	Migration data	9
2.1	Who counts as a migrant?	9
2.2	Collecting migration data	10
2.2.1	Status data – migrant stock	10
2.2.2	Event data – Flow of migration	11
2.2.3	Comparability of migration statistics	11
2.3	Main global data providers for international migration data	12
2.3.1	Tabulations of empirical data (Santo Tomas and Summers 2009: 6f.)	12
2.3.2	2.3.2 Tabulations based on estimates (Santo Tomas and Summers 2009: 7)	13
2.4	Regional data	14
3	Data on remittances	17
3.1	Definitions	17
3.2	Data sources and their quality and comparability	18
3.3	Main global data providers for remittances	18
4	Data on development	21
4.1	Selected development indicators	21
4.2	Data sources and their quality and comparability	22
5	Visualisation of statistical data on migration and indicators for development	25
6	Summary	29
7	References	31
	Appendix 1: Maps in landscape format	33
	Appendix 2: Overview of datasets screened for this study	36
	Acknowledgements	41

Figures

Figure 1: Asia: emigration.	25
Figure 2: Asia: emigration and remittances.	26
Figure 3: Asia: emigration and secondary education.	27

Tables

Table 1: Who qualifies as a migrant: foreign population by country of birth or by nationality?	10
---	----

1 Introduction

The last few years have seen growing interest in international migration. While immigration policies are intensely debated in countries of the global North, the global South's interest focuses on emigration in combination with remittances, brain drain/gain and circulation and the links between migration and development. With increasing attention given to these issues, the call for statistical data on international migration and its effects in source as well as in host countries gets ever louder. Despite the growing interest in taking a global view of the patterns of international migration and its impacts, there is still a lack of comprehensive and reliable data on flows of migration, and statistics continue to be poor. But only with an enhanced database will it be possible to capture the dimensions of migration and pursue its development with a view to implementing policy adaptations and initiating specific projects (cf. Parsons et al. 2007: 3).

In most countries it is national statistical offices and other relevant institutions that provide data pertaining to migration. One has to be aware of the fact that, due to disparities in legislation, the efficiency of registration systems and the statistical methodologies used to collect and process the data, some of the available statistics are poor and not internationally comparable. Further, some countries, especially in the global South, completely lack data on migration and/or development. Therefore, there is a great need to improve the statistics on migration and development, as we are still unable to answer fundamental questions about the interaction of migration and development. The lack of adequate migration data is seen as one of the biggest obstacles to defining policies and to maximising the benefits of migration (cf. Raymer 2007: 210; Santo Tomas and Summers 2009: 3f.).

Within the framework of the NCCR North-South programme, migration studies are being conducted in South and Central Asia, particularly in Nepal, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, but also in Switzerland. The availability of comparable data greatly varies between the countries. This paper is the result of a three-month study on the availability and quality of migration data both globally and for Central and South Asia. The research was financed by the University of Zurich and is affiliated to the ongoing NCCR North-South research project on migration, multilocality and development led by S. Thieme. I particularly wish to thank S. Thieme and U. Müller-Böker for all the support they gave me. Besides analysing data availability and quality in the countries mentioned, the possibilities of data visualisation were explored.

In this paper, both data availability and challenges regarding the use of data on migration, remittances and selected development indicators are outlined. Further, some proposals to visualise the data on migration and development for Asia are integrated. The appendix contains a list of online sources where relevant data can be accessed.

2 Migration data

Working with international migration data involves dealing with major data-related obstacles. The main obstacle is that information has to be combined that was obtained from independent sources which may each be based on a different conceptualisation of migration and provide data of varying quality (Raymer 2007: 210). To overcome these problems, it is important to understand how the national statistical offices or other responsible bodies produce their statistics. It is crucial to know the sources of data as well as the definitions of the terms “migration” and “migrant”. It thus gets apparent that differences between the countries occur at all stages and comparability remains difficult (Kupiszewska and Nowok 2007: 53).

The following sections focus on different definitions of migration, where the data on migration come from, challenges regarding the use of such data, accessibility and the most important global databases on migration.

2.1 Who counts as a migrant?

There are various possibilities of defining and recording a migrant. They may be recorded in terms of:

- Country of birth,
- Country of citizenship,
- Last country of previous residence,
- Duration of time spent away from birthplace or last place of previous residence,
- Purpose of stay (visa type), and
- Etc.

The United Nations (1998) defines a migrant as “any person who changes his or her country of usual residence”. This means that residence can refer to a change both of residence and of residential status. As the UN is regarded to have the most complete global databases on migration (foreign-born or foreign nationality), it makes sense to use the UN definition of a migrant in this context. Not only are there varying definitions of migration, however, but the respective definition-based methods of data collection on the national level complicate the issue as well. The different criteria for recording a person raise the question of who counts as a migrant.

The migrant population in a country is mostly equated with the number of foreigners. This can be recorded either by country of birth (foreign-born) or by foreign nationality (foreign population). The following example from Parsons et al. (2007: 6) regarding country of birth (birthplace) and country of citizenship (nationality) shows that it really matters which definition of migrant is chosen and what kind of data are collected, as the outcome for the number of migrants varies enormously. The foreign population in this example is counted by country of birth or by nationality.

Table 1: Who qualifies as a migrant: foreign population by country of birth or by nationality?

	UK-born UK nationality	UK-born Irish nationality	Irish-born UK nationality	Irish-born Irish nationality
Residing in UK	Does not qualify as a migrant	NOT foreign population in UK by country of birth	Foreign population in UK by country of birth	Foreign population in UK by country of birth
		Foreign population in UK by nationality	NOT foreign population in UK by nationality	Foreign population in UK by nationality

To address this problem, most censuses following the 2000 census have included both questions (country of birth and nationality). Further, the timing criterion has to be considered. According to the United Nations, long-term international migrants should be defined as persons who have lived in a country for a period of one year or more, but in reality, the timing criteria vary considerably between countries, from three months to one year (Raymer 2007: 211). The UN differentiates between long-term and short-term migrants: “long-term” is defined as staying more than one year, “short-term” means that a migrant stays one year or less (UN 2004: 4f.).

As described above, there are various possibilities of defining but also of recording migrants. This is a major obstacle in internationally comparing data on migration, as both definitions and systems of recording data vary. Which data are gathered depends on the institution collecting the data and varies between the countries. This renders any analysis and comparison of international migration data very difficult (Raymer 2007: 211).

2.2 Collecting migration data

Today, there are two main types of migration data: those that capture events and those that capture changes in residential status. The former provide information on migration flow, the latter information on migrants themselves. Event data are typically gathered in *population registers* and contain information on the origin, destination and timing of migration. Data that give information on migration status typically derive from *population censuses* or surveys and contain information on place of residence at a particular time (Raymer 2007: 211).

2.2.1 Status data – migrant stock

Population censuses are used to survey the entire population at one point in time and are usually considered the most comprehensive record of the total population completed by a national statistical committee. The limited scope of questions facilitates comparability across countries. However, even though virtually every country in the world conducts censuses, one has to be aware of the fact that they are carried out on different dates within the census rounds. For the 2000 round, for example, that covered nearly all countries, censuses were conducted between 1995 and 2004. However, all these censuses are declared as forming part of the 2000 census round. In censuses, migrants are commonly defined either as “foreign-born” or as “foreign population”, as

recommended by the UN. The UN supports the national statistical committees with international recommendations on census data collection and processing. In recent years, as described above, both sets of data have increasingly been obtained. The census data from the last round, that is the 2000 round, are considered to be the most comparable data on migration on the global level (Parsons et al. 2007: 7ff.).

Apart from censuses, population registers provide an alternative for calculating migrant stocks. Population registers record births, deaths and changes of residence in a population and therefore offer quite different data. Only few countries maintain population registers, though (Parsons et al. 2007: 7f.).

2.2.2 Event data – Flow of migration

Today, to the best of my knowledge, there is no global source for flow data enabling immigration or emigration to be related to a specific period of time (such as movements over the last 2 years) (cf. Parsons et al. 2007: 4/7; Santo Tomas and Summers 2009: 5). This applies to data on the flow of migrants, which are usually more difficult to collect, as no single source of data can provide all the information required. A combination of several sources such as border data, permits or registers is called for. For example, migrants might change their mind about their stay while they are in their country of destination, adjusting their status from visitor or short-term migrant to long-term migrant or vice versa. At the moment it is impossible to capture such changes in status and it is very difficult to build up a system that can monitor such changes (UN 2004: 6). Further, it would require close collaboration between the migrants' countries of origin and of destination.

2.2.3 Comparability of migration statistics

As mentioned above, the comparability of migration data across countries is complicated by various discrepancies in data collection practices. For instance, surveys are conducted at different moments in time (the 2000 census round was carried out between 1995 and 2004), migration is defined differently, there are different categories of people, the questions asked are not standardised. Further, the poor training of census takers can be an obstacle, as the non-response level of migrants is often high and a number of mistakes go undetected. Another difficulty in counting migrants is the exact date in the year when a survey is conducted. As seasonal migration affects specific seasons only, the numbers of migrants can vary considerably in the course of the year. Another problem with collecting data on migration is how to measure illegal (or irregular) migration. The omission of illegal immigrants is a common problem with official migration figures (Parsons et al. 2007: 8).

The best way to harmonise data on migrant stocks and flows of international migration globally would be to standardise the census questionnaire. This would imply that in censuses across the world the same definitions would be used and the same standard questions regarding migration would be asked. However, as a century of largely ignored recommendations from the UN regarding such standardisation of censuses

shows, a harmonisation of the data situation cannot be achieved overnight and still has a long way to go. At least, one can see some progress made in the right direction. The UN urges governments to include comparable questions on international migration on their 2010 census forms. This would at least include questions on country of birth, country of citizenship, country of residence one year ago or five years ago and year of arrival in the current country of residence (Santo Tomas and Summers 2009: 4f.). At the moment, data from Europe, USA and much of Oceania are of adequate quality while data from parts of Asia and much of Africa are more questionable (Parsons et al. 2007: 9).

2.3 Main global data providers for international migration data

In the last few years, several attempts have been made to enhance the availability of comprehensive migration data, and progress has been made in terms of coverage and quality. In many countries of the global South, various UN organisations support the national statistical committees in organising and implementing data collection.

In the following sections, several migration data sources are listed. The author aimed to pick the best migration data sources, in which a wide range of countries are included and which offer transparency regarding original data source and quality, though the list does not claim to be exhaustive. It is divided into sources that provide empirical data (data deriving from surveys) and sources that provide estimated data (estimates based on empirical data).

2.3.1 Tabulations of empirical data (Santo Tomas and Summers 2009: 6f.)

- *United Nations Population Division (UNDP)*:¹ The UNDP has created the “Global Migration Database”, which includes all publicly available tabulations on the international migrant stock by sex, age and country of birth and of citizenship. This is equivalent to data on immigration by country, while data on total emigration per country are not available in this data source. The UNDP has also published a separate database, “International Migration Flows to and from Selected Countries”, which compiles data on immigration and emigration flows in 15 countries.²
- *Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 2008*:³ The OECD has published the “Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries”, an extensive set of tabulations which provides information on sex, age structure, occupations, fields of study and other traits of the foreign-born population in 28 destination countries.

¹ <http://esa.un.org/unmigration>

² Accessible at <http://www.unmigration.org>

³ <http://www.oecd.org/els/migration/DIOC>

- *Eurostat*: Eurostat, working with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the UN Statistics Division, collects and disseminates data on migration flows and migrant stocks as part of a Joint Annual Questionnaire on International Migration. The burden on national data suppliers is reduced through the use of an agreed joint standardised questionnaire, which increases the comparability of statistics published by different organisations.

2.3.2 Tabulations based on estimates (Santo Tomas and Summers 2009: 7)

- *Development Research Centre (DRC) on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty*:¹ The DRC on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty at the University of Sussex has published the “Global Migrant Origin Database” (Parsons et al. 2007). Estimates of migrant stocks between 226 pairs of countries based on the 2000 census round are provided. Sums of emigrants and immigrants per country can be made. The data set is accessible online in four different versions; it is regarded as a comparatively good basis for researchers and policy makers and is referred to frequently (UNDP, WB, IFAD) (Parsons et al. 2007).
- *United Nations Population Division (UNDP)*:² The UNDP has compiled the “Trends in Total Migrant Stock” database, with estimates of the international migrant stock by sex for all countries and territories in the world from 1960 to 2005, in 5-year intervals. This shows the number of immigrants per country.
- *World Bank (WB)*: The WB has created tabulations of the foreign-born in OECD countries by country of birth, level of education and sex for two points in time (Docquier and Marfouk 2005; Docquier et al. 2007).

The UNDP is considered the most comprehensive provider of global data on international migrant stocks (immigrants per country). Data are usually collected from the national statistical authorities and the UNDP disseminates these official figures (United Nations 2004: 2). Out of a global total of 230 countries in 2008, 221 had data on their international migrant stock. These data are based on the number of foreign-born (as furnished by 179 countries) or on the number of foreign citizens (as furnished by 42 countries) (United Nations 2009). The 9 countries furnishing no information are the People’s Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, Eritrea and Somalia as well as some small island states and city states. All the data provided by the UN are generally accompanied by metadata so as to enable an assessment of the quality of both data and data sources.

¹ Santo Tomas and Summers (2009: 6ff.) have listed further migration data sources for specific countries or regions

² <http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/index.html>

The World Bank, too, has a good database for migration and remittances, which is highly transparent and grants easy access to information. The data generally derive from UN sources, though.

2.4 Regional data

All the sources mentioned above provide data on the national level. To obtain data on a lower level, the national statistical authorities have to be contacted directly. However, this is not an easy task, especially in countries of the global South. There it is advantageous to be on site to visit the different authorities in person, but there is no guarantee that data on migration exist and, if they indeed exist, that they are released. Further, the data on migration always reflect the quality of the censuses, registers or surveys conducted in the respective country and these are generally (exceptions will confirm the rule) rather poor in countries of the global South.

In the following sections, the data availability for Nepal, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Pakistan is analysed.

Nepal: The Central Bureau of Statistics in Nepal collects data on international migration on the district level. The most important source of migration data is the population census, which is considered the only reliable source. Further, there is the Nepal Living Standards Survey, which is carried out periodically and collects data on migrant population stock, country of origin, reason for migration and status of children away from home. There are also some non-governmental agencies providing information on migration (cf. KC 2008: 292f.).

Although Nepal has data on migration, the statistics are not consistent due to changes in the questionnaire contents. Further, coordination among the main stakeholders is poor. In the past, the research focus was on reducing fertility and mortality, and migration was given less attention and was hence less well understood. However, interest in migration data has increased and to improve the quality and reliability of statistics on international migration, it will be important to continue including migration questions in the 2011 census. A major data gap in Nepal concerns irregular migration (KC 2008: 306f.).¹

Raw data (unprocessed data from primary data collection listed in tables) on migration are not accessible on the Central Bureau of Statistics website, but reports can be purchased which include data tables with figures on migration. However, these reports provide a selection of data: they have already been processed and are therefore summarised and categorised. On the spot, raw data on migration can be purchased at the various statistical offices.

¹ KC (2008) provides a very good overview of existing migration data and the related challenges in Nepal. The paper is the outcome of an initiative of the Migration Information System in Asia (MISA) and the Scalabrini Migration Centre (SMC).

Kyrgyzstan: The National Statistical Committee of Kyrgyzstan collects and provides data on international and internal migration on the oblast level. On the spot, raw data on migration can be purchased from the Statistical Committee in Bishkek and in the oblast centres, but one has to go through a rather bureaucratic process. Further, there are statistical publications on migration at periodic intervals, which can be purchased as well.

Tajikistan: The National Statistical Committee of Tajikistan collects and provides data on international and internal migration on the oblast level. On the spot, it is very difficult to obtain raw data on migration. Publications prepared by the Statistical Committee, which include some data on migration, can be purchased, but raw data are not provided.

Pakistan: Three government agencies collect information on international migration in Pakistan: the Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment, the Ministry of Interior by recording passport control information and the Pakistani mission abroad working under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There is no coordination between these agencies. The population census is the basic source of data on international migration and the next was planned to be held in 2009 but was delayed until further notice due to technical problems. Data are collected on date of migration, nationality and country of origin. The data on immigrants are regarded as being of high quality, but the data are generally considered limited. Currently, only government agencies collect and analyse data on migration, and coordination between departments is poor (Gazdar 2008).¹

¹ Gazdar (2008) provides a very good overview of existing migration data and collection methods in Pakistan. The paper is the outcome of an initiative of the Migration Information System in Asia (MISA) and the Scalabrini Migration Centre (SMC).

3 Data on remittances

Remittances to countries of the global South rose by 800 percent between 1990 and 2008 to over US\$ 280 billion (Santo Tomas and Summers 2009: 1). Therefore, migrants' remittances are considered to play an important role in reducing poverty at the local, regional and national levels. As a result, remittances receive increasing attention from politicians and analysts. However, here as well, the data situation is relatively poor and there is a need for improved data on remittances (IOM no year: 1; UNSD 2005: 2, IMF 2009: 1).

In the following sections, the term “remittances” will be defined, and the challenges regarding remittances data will be detailed. Further, the main global data providers for remittances data are named.

3.1 Definitions

The UN defines remittances as “a ‘concept’ that measures the economic impact of migration on the home economy and has the aim to capture the net receipt of transactions between the migrant and the related household in the home country” (UNSD 2005: 3).

The IMF, the UN data source and main provider for remittances data, collects data on remittances which consist of the sum total of ‘personal transfers’ and ‘compensation of employees’. To differentiate between personal transfers and compensation of employees, it is important to know the residence status of a migrant.

Compensation of employees: “refers to the income of border, seasonal, and other short-term workers who work in an economy where they are not resident, and to the income of resident workers who are employed by a nonresident entity” (IMF 2009: 19). The gross income from seasonal or other short-term migrant workers (abroad for less than a year), for example, would be included in this category, as well as the income from border workers who work but do not reside in a neighbouring country. It also includes wages and salaries earned by the local staff of foreign institutions, such as embassies and international organisations and companies based abroad but operating locally (IMF 2009: 18f.).

Personal transfers: “consist of all current transfers in cash or in kind made or received by resident households to or from nonresident households. Personal transfers thus include all current transfers between resident and non-resident individuals. Therefore, personal transfers are a subset of current transfers. They cover all current transfers that are sent by individuals to individuals” (IMF 2009: 20). It is recognised that remittances are, in general, related to migration and that sender and receiver often are relatives living in different countries. Though migration and the relationship between sender and receiver do not explicitly form part of the definition, it is acknowledged that personal transfers are often made by migrants sending money to support their families in the country of origin (IMF 2009: 21).

There are several formal, semi-formal and informal money transfer channels which can be used to effect remittances. Many such channels are described in the IMF publication on remittances (2009: 7–16).

3.2 Data sources and their quality and comparability

The biggest obstacle to improving data on remittances concerns identifying the nature of money flows which often involve small transactions by private individuals using various transfer channels many of which are personal or informal. The small amounts of individual transactions mean that these transactions often go undetected by typical data sources systems (IMF 2009: 2). Further, especially remittances made through informal channels are difficult to cover, as they are beyond financial regulation and supervision (IMF 2009: 4ff.). To obtain comprehensive data on remittances, the menu of channels used in a country has to be known. In many countries, banks and other financial institutions have to report international transactions to central banks or other national financial authorities, which in turn report to the IMF. However, reporting practices vary between countries, which has significant implications on the coverage of statistics on remittances (IMF 2009: 16). Therefore, efforts are being undertaken to introduce an international transactions reporting system (ITRS) for collecting data on remittances, in that the remittances service providers, household surveys and so on directly furnish information to the ITRS. An ITRS would form part of the broader institutional data collection framework of many countries (more information on this issue in IMF 2009: 25ff.).

3.3 Main global data providers for remittances

- *International Monetary Fund (IMF)*:⁸ provides data on remittances (personal transfers and compensation of employees) within the Balance of Payment (BoP) statistics. This database is only accessible following registration and against a fee (after a 5-day free trial).
- *World Bank (WB)*:⁹ The remittances data available on the World Bank website derive from the IMF. As the IMF provides information on remittances only against a fee, the WB data are a good alternative, especially as the webpage on remittances and migration is well structured and transparent and offers regularly updated data together with metadata.
- *International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)*:¹⁰ The remittances data provided by IFAD are estimates and represent higher figures than those from the IMF. The data are calculated on the basis of three parameters: migrants, the percentage of migrants remitting money home and the average amount of remittances they send home each year. The data on the number of migrants derive from the Global Migration Origin Database of the University of Sussex. The percentage of

⁸ <http://www.imfstatistics.org/bop/>

⁹ www.worldbank.org/prospects/migrationandremittances

¹⁰ <http://www.ifad.org/remittances/maps/index.htm>

migrants remitting money home is obtained from survey studies and by extrapolation in cases where data are missing. Data for the annual amount of remittances derive from three different sources: first from survey data of migrants sending or families receiving remittances, second from payout locations and third from money-transfer companies. The problem of missing data was overcome by extrapolation (IFAD 2009)

4 Data on development

Migration today, as mentioned above, is often linked with the topic of development. Increasingly questions are raised as to how migration and development interrelate, and the attention given to this topic has grown in international policy agendas in recent years. One of the central questions addressed at the moment is whether migration can be ‘managed’ in order to achieve development goals. How can migration, for example, contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals of reducing poverty? Can migration reduce poverty through migration outcomes such as remittances, skill transfer and entrepreneurship, or does it rather create new problems such as brain drain, exploitation of people, exposure to health risks and increasing inequality?

The aim of researchers and policy makers today is to identify appropriate ways of how to maximise the development benefits of migration and minimise its negative effects. In this respect, it has to be recognised that migration can have both foreseeable and unforeseeable consequences for development. Further qualitative as well as quantitative research is urgently required, and improved data on migration and development are of high importance to address such questions and to elaborate policy recommendations and implementations (Black and Sward 2009; Skeldon 2008; HDR 2009). At the same time, the quality, coverage and accessibility of such data have to be improved to establish an enhanced evidence base.

In the following sections, some development indicators which are considered important in relation to migration are described and the data sources for these indicators are named.

4.1 Selected development indicators

With a view to raising new questions and finding interlinkages between migration and development, some development indicators considered important were selected to oppose and/or link to migration patterns.

- *Human Development Index (HDI)*
- *Human Poverty Index (HPI)*
- *Gender-related Development Index (GDI)*
- *Gross domestic product (GDP)*
- *Population below national poverty line*
- *Employment per sector*
- *Education / school enrolment*
- *Foreign direct investment compared to remittances and development aid (WB)*
- *Access to media*
- *Mobility, public transport system, infrastructure*

4.2 Data sources and their quality and comparability

Most of these indicators are found on the UN Statistical Division and/or World Bank websites. The data are generally gathered by the national authorities and forwarded to the UN Statistical Division or World Bank. Further, the UN encourages and assists national authorities in gathering a diverse range of data. The UN uses many of these indicators to measure the progress made in the pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals, in addition to the national human development reports, and therefore national authorities have been sensitised to gathering relevant data sets for some years now. Nevertheless, the data sets have to be appraised with caution as the above-mentioned obstacles regarding comparability arise across countries due to differing definitions and methods in collecting and interpreting data. Generally, however, the UN and WB provide reasonable metadata to each data set on their websites. The source of data is described and the limitations regarding their use are usually pointed out transparently and comprehensibly.

- *United Nations (UN)*:¹¹ The United Nations has one of the largest freely accessible databases on the global level. Data can be queried per indicator or by country. The various UN organisations each have their own databases, but most of the data can be accessed through the UN data webpage or via the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). Data are available on topics such as population, human development, development assistance, education, labour, food and agriculture, gender, health, industry, information and communication technology, national accounts, energy, environment, refugees, tourism and trade. Detailed metadata are provided.
- *World Bank (WB)*:¹² The World Bank, too, has a very large database on the global level which is easily accessible and clearly arranged. However, much of the data material derives from the UN. The data sets are provided per indicator and by country. Data are available on broad topics such as agriculture, aid, childhood development, debt, education, environment, finance, GDP/GNI, gender, globalisation, governance, health, information technology, infrastructure, industry, labour and employment, macroeconomics and growth, population, poverty, rural development, social development, trade, urban development, private and public sector and purchasing power parity. Detailed metadata are provided.
- *International Monetary Fund (IMF)*:¹³ The International Monetary Fund publishes worldwide data on IMF lending, exchange rates and other economic and financial indicators. This includes data on national accounts, inflation, trade, employment and unemployment, government finances, balance of payments, external debt, commodity prices, energy, food and agricultural raw materials and metals. Further, the IMF provides data on remittances (see section 3). Detailed metadata are provided.

¹¹ <http://data.un.org/> and <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>

¹² <http://go.worldbank.org/45B5H20NV0>

¹³ <http://www.imf.org/external/data.htm#data>

- *Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)*:¹⁴ The OECD provides data on member states and some selected countries of the global South. Data are available per indicator or by country. Data are published on demography and population, agriculture and fisheries, development, economic projections, education, environment, finance, globalisation, health, industry and services, information and communication technology, international trade and balance of payments, labour, national accounts, prices and purchasing power parities, productivity, public sector, taxation and market regulation, science, technology and patents as well as social and welfare statistics. Detailed metadata are provided.
- *Asia: Asian Development Bank*:¹⁵ The Asian Development Bank publishes data on Asian countries. Data are available online on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, on poverty and development indicators, on the environment and on technical assistance. Both data source and metadata are referred to in the tables provided.
- *Europe: Eurostat*:¹⁶ Eurostat is the statistical office of the European Union and provides data for all EU member states with the aim of enabling comparisons between countries and regions. The data are available online and include data on economy and finance, population and social conditions, industry, trade and services, agriculture and fisheries, external trade, transport, environment and energy, science and technology, structural indicators, sustainable development indicators and employment and social policy indicators. Data are available per indicator. Detailed metadata are provided.

¹⁴ http://www.oecd.org/statsportal/0,3352,en_2825_293564_1_1_1_1_1,00.html

¹⁵ <http://www.adb.org/Statistics/default.asp>

¹⁶ <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/themes>

5 Visualisation of statistical data on migration and indicators for development

Visualising statistical data by giving overviews of patterns and relations among data was intended to simplify access to such data, in contrast to dealing with numerical data only. Such visualisation is to provide an overview and possibly facilitate new insights into linkages or patterns on the topic in question. On the other hand, the visualisation of data may support a result obtained from research.

While working with statistical data on migration and development indicators, various ways of visualising such data were analysed (in a rather basic way, from a non-specialist’s point of view). In the following sections, three options for visualising migration data for Asia are listed. Migration data were compared to selected development indicators. The migration data derive from the Global Migrant Origin Database of the DRC on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty. The other data were obtained from the World Bank and the UN. The data sources are specified within the maps, which were created using ArcGIS and Adobe Illustrator. All 3 maps are also available in larger format in Annex 1.

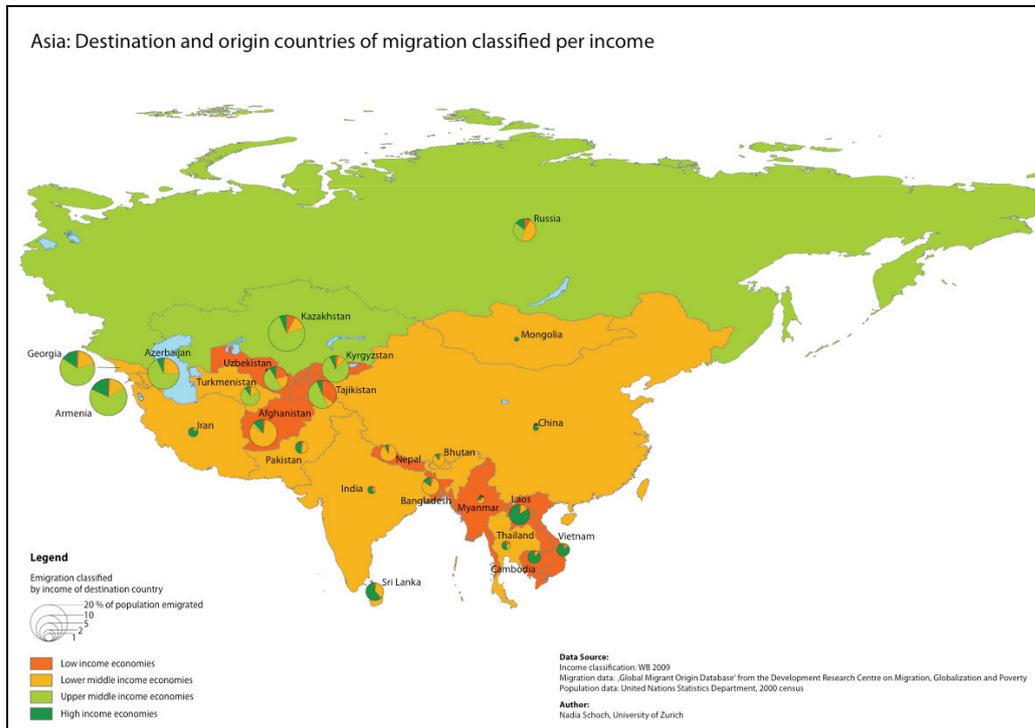


Figure 1: Asia: emigration.

The first map for Asia (Figure 1) visualises the importance of South–South migration, which is high-lighted in recent migration reports (cf. Ratha and Shaw 2007; HDR 2009). The destination and origin countries of migration were classified per income

(WB classification 2009, The World Bank 2009). The extent of the circle shows the percentage of population absent per country. The colours within the circle indicate the percentage of emigrants according to the income class of the destination country. This map illustrates that for many countries of the global South, lower middle and upper middle income economies are very important destinations for migration. Exceptions include Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and Sri Lanka, since a relatively large share of these countries' emigrants go to high income economies. Further quantitative and qualitative data on emigrant qualifications, employment or reasons for migration could shed more light on the factors shaping this varying pattern.

The second map for Asia (Figure 2) shows the percentage of population absent per country compared to remittances as a percentage of GDP per country. The extent of the circle indicates the GDP per country in US dollars. Unfortunately, data for some countries were not available (Afghanistan, Bhutan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Myanmar). This map allows differing patterns to be observed. On the one hand, in the countries with a relatively high percentage of emigrants and low GDP, remittances make up a high share of the GDP (e.g. Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal). On the other hand, in some of the countries with relatively high numbers of emigrants, remittances do not account for very high shares of the GDP (e.g. Kazakhstan, Georgia, Armenia). By contrast, in some countries with a low percentage of emigrants, a fair part of the GDP derives from remittances (e.g. Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh). To better understand these patterns, it would be useful to know where the remittances came from. However, such statistical data do not exist.

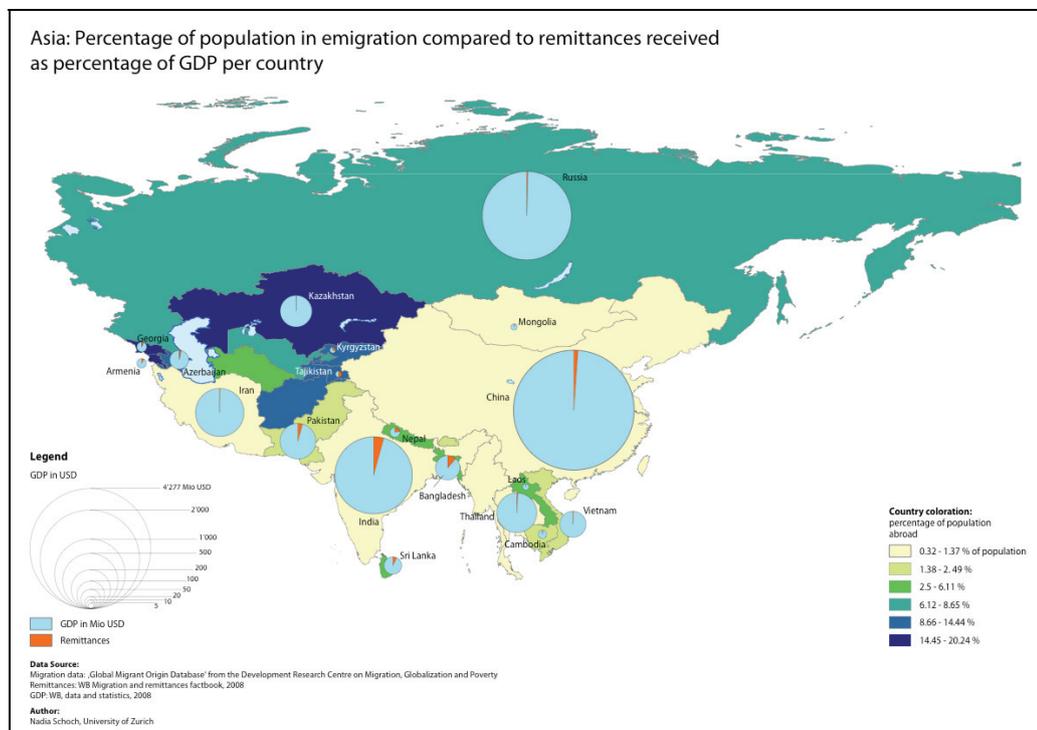


Figure 2: Asia: emigration and remittances.

The third map (Figure 3) combines data on emigration per country with data on the enrolment in secondary education per country. What attracts attention is that the countries with higher numbers of people in secondary education also have relatively high numbers of emigrants as a percentage of population (except Afghanistan and Iran). However, such interpretations have to be treated with caution, as it is not known what educational level the emigrants have or if there is any relation between educational level and emigration at all. However, this could also form an initial position for valuable further research on this topic. Today, the educational level of emigrants or immigrants is not registered.

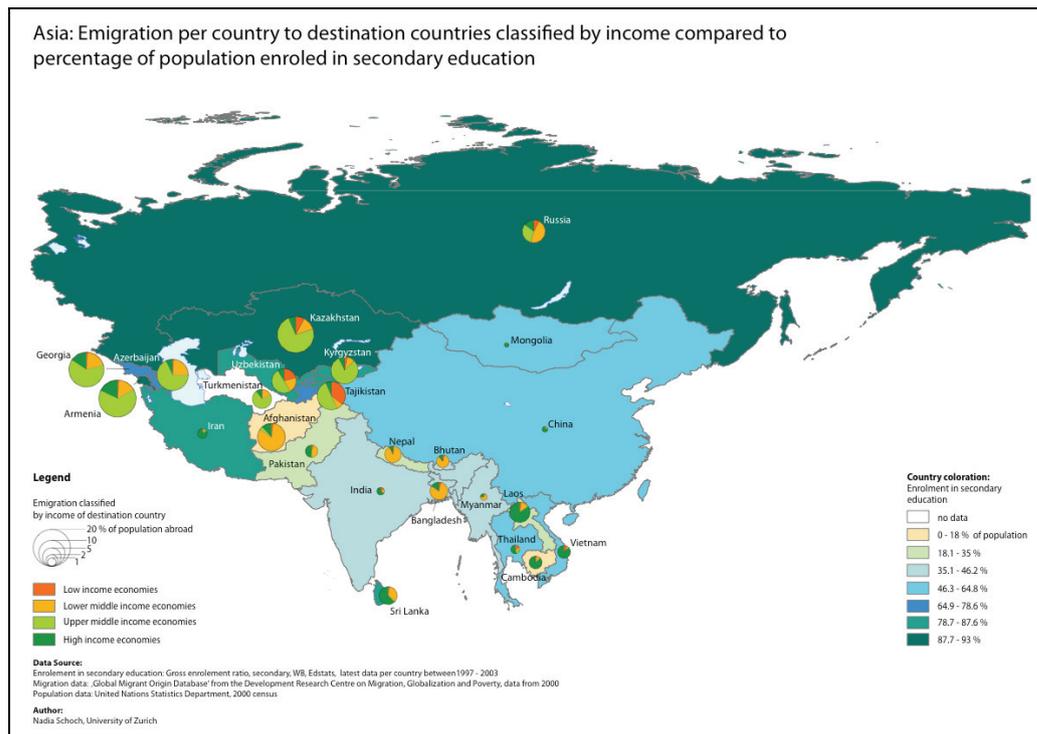


Figure 3: Asia: emigration and secondary education.

These examples, shown in larger format in Annex 1, show that visualising statistical data can simplify access to such data in providing an overview of patterns which are complicated and time-consuming to analyse in numerical statistics. When analysing a visualisation, though, as with numerical statistics, one has to be aware of the sources and quality of data. Any visualisation will only reflect the quality of the underlying data. A visualisation which combines different data sets may also tempt readers to jump to conclusions and link factors which are not necessarily interrelated. Further, visualisation usually involves generalisation and carries the risk of manipulating readers (e.g. in the examples above where classes are formed). Therefore, one has to be careful with regard to both preparing and reading visualisations and remain aware of their limitations and possibilities. But still, visualising data can be a valuable approach which allows data to be seen from a new perspective, displaying patterns which were previously overlooked. Therefore it may give rise to new research questions or emphasise the importance of a gained insight by visualising the same.

6 Summary

Migration and its interlinkages to development have become a topic of great interest today, especially in countries of the global South. Policy makers and development organisations see a huge potential in migration as a strategy to reduce poverty and promote development in the source countries of migration. However, there are critical voices as well that point out new problems arising with increased migration both for source and for destination countries.

To better understand the interlinkages between migration and development and the various effects of migration on source and destination countries, good data are of high importance to enhance the evidence base. In this respect, visualisations of statistical data can help to discover new patterns and generate new research questions, and can also simplify access to statistical data.

To date, there are many difficulties regarding migration and development data, especially in terms of comparability of such data among different countries. Problems include different definitions, data collection methods, data collection times and, very basically, inadequate knowledge and therefore poor performances of the people who collect the data, especially in countries of the global South. Accordingly, data on migration and development are of low quality if not totally lacking for some countries. Consequently, on the one hand, account has to be taken of the quality of the data available, how they were collected and processed, and it has to be carefully considered what kind of conclusions can be drawn from such data. On the other hand, there is a great need for improved data, both quantitative and qualitative, on the topic of migration and development. As this paper shows, efforts have indeed been undertaken in the last few years to improve migration and development data. However, there is still a potential and need for further improvement to be able to understand the interlinkages and to address the issue of migration in such a way as to enhance development and reduce poverty.

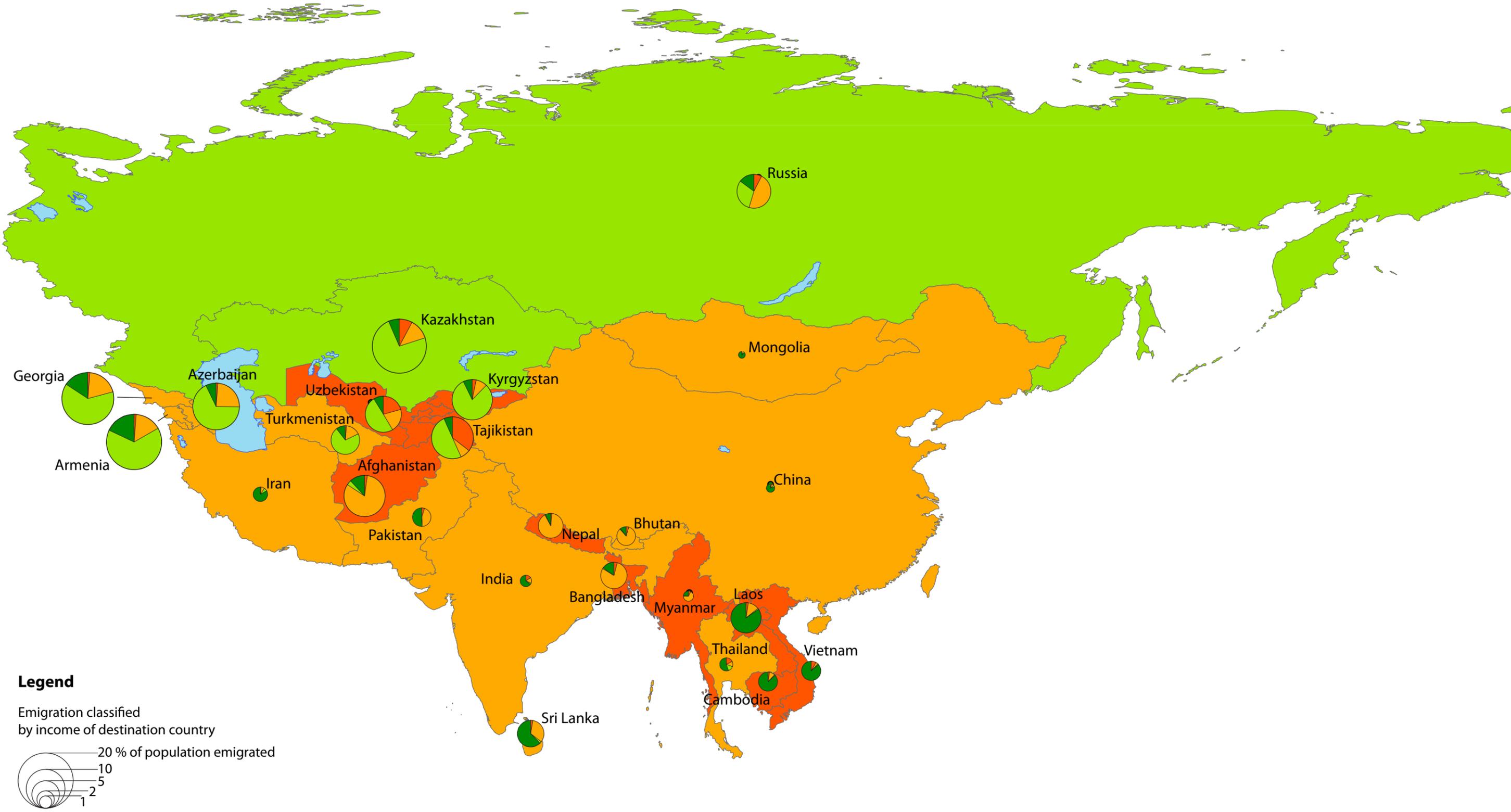
7 References

- Black, R.; Sward, J. 2009. *Migration, Poverty Reduction Strategies and Human Development*. Human Development Research Paper 2009/38. No place: United Nations Development Programme.
- Docquier, F.; Lowell, B. L.; Marfouk, A. 2007. *A Gendered Assessment of the Brain Drain*. Discussion Paper No. 3235. Bonn: Institute for the Study of Labor.
- Docquier, F.; Marfouk, A. 2005. International Migration by Educational Attainment, 1990–2000. In: M. Schiff; Ç. Özden (eds.). *International Migration, Remittances, and the Brain Drain*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank, pp. 151–200.
- Gazdar, H. 2008. Pakistan. *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*. Vol. 17: 311–324.
- HDR [Human Development Report] 2009. *Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development*. New York: United Nations Development Programme.
- IFAD [International Fund for Agricultural Development]. 2009. *Estimating Global Remittance Flows: A Methodology*. <http://www.ifad.org/remittances/maps/index.htm>. Accessed on 10 December 2009.
- IMF [International Monetary Fund]. 2009. *International Transactions in Remittances. Guide for Compilers and Users*. Washington, D.C.: International Monetary Fund.
- IOM (The International Organization for Migration). No year.: IOM and Remittances. *Definition, Scale and Importance of Remittances*. Info Sheet. Geneva: The International Organization for Migration.
- KC, B. K. 2008. Nepal. *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*. Vol. 17: 287–309.
- Kupisewska, D.; Nowok, B. 2007. Comparability of statistics on international migration flows in the European Union. In: J. Raymer; F. Willekens (eds). *International Migration in Europe: Data Models and Estimates*. West Sussex: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
- OECD. [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development]. 2008. *A Profile of Immigrant Populations in the 21st Century: Data from OECD Countries*. Paris: OECD.
- Parsons, C. R., R Skeldon, TL Walmsley, LA Winters. 2007. *Quantifying International Migration: A Data-base of Bilateral Migrant Stocks*. Policy Research Working Paper 4165. Washington, D.C.: The World Bank.
- Ratha, D.; Shaw, W. 2007. *South–South Migration and Remittances*. World Bank Working Paper No. 102. Washington, D.C.: The World Bank.
- Raymer, J. 2007. Obtaining an overall picture of population movement in the European Union. In: J. Raymer; F. Willekens (eds). *International Migration in Europe: Data Models and Estimates*. West Sussex: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
- Santo Tomas, P. A.; Summers, L. H. 2009. *Migrants Count: Five Steps Toward Better Migration Data. Report of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy*. Washington, D.C.: Centre for Global Development.
- Skeldon, R. 2008. *Migration and Development. Paper for the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on International Migration and Development in Asia and the Pacific*. Bangkok, Thailand: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.
- The World Bank. 2009. *World Bank Country Classifications*. <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications>
- UN [United Nations]. 1998. *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration*. Statistical Papers Series M, No. 58, Rev. 1. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division. New York: United Nations.
- UN [United Nations]. 2004. *United Nations Demographic Yearbook Review. National Reporting of International Migration. Implications for international recommendations*. Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division. New York: United Nations.

- UN [United Nations]. 2009. *International Migrant Stock: The 2008 Revision*. Data sources and methodology for estimating the international migrant stock. <http://esa.un.org/migration/index.asp?panel=4>. Accessed on 25 November 2009.
- UNSD [United Nations Statistics Division]. 2005. *Issue Paper: Definition of Remittances and Relevant BPM5 Flows*. Paris: United Nations Statistics Division.

Appendix 1: Maps in landscape format

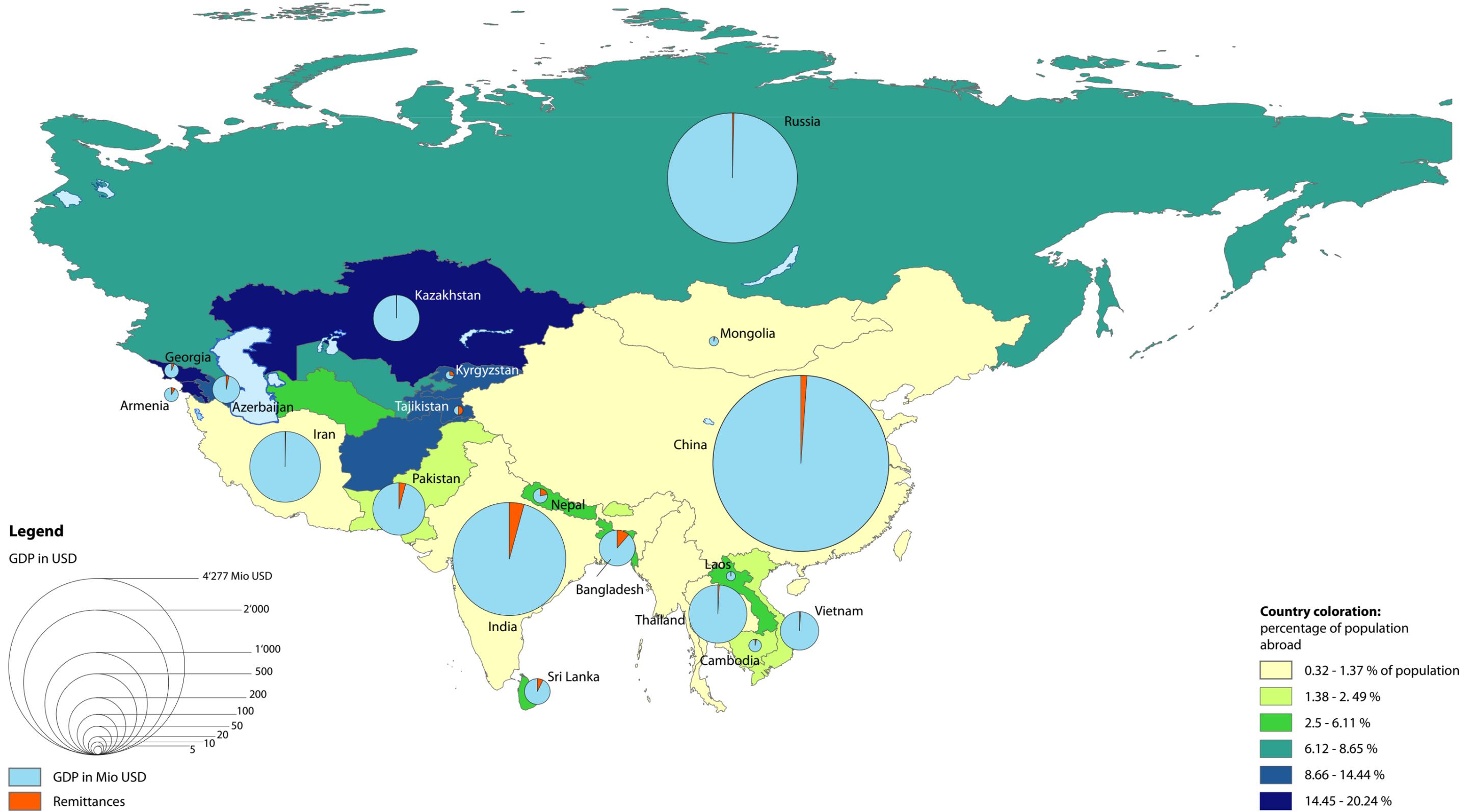
Asia: Destination and origin countries of migration classified per income



Data Source:
Income classification: WB 2009
Migration data: 'Global Migrant Origin Database' from the Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalization and Poverty
Population data: United Nations Statistics Department, 2000 census

Author:
Nadia Schoch, University of Zurich, 2010

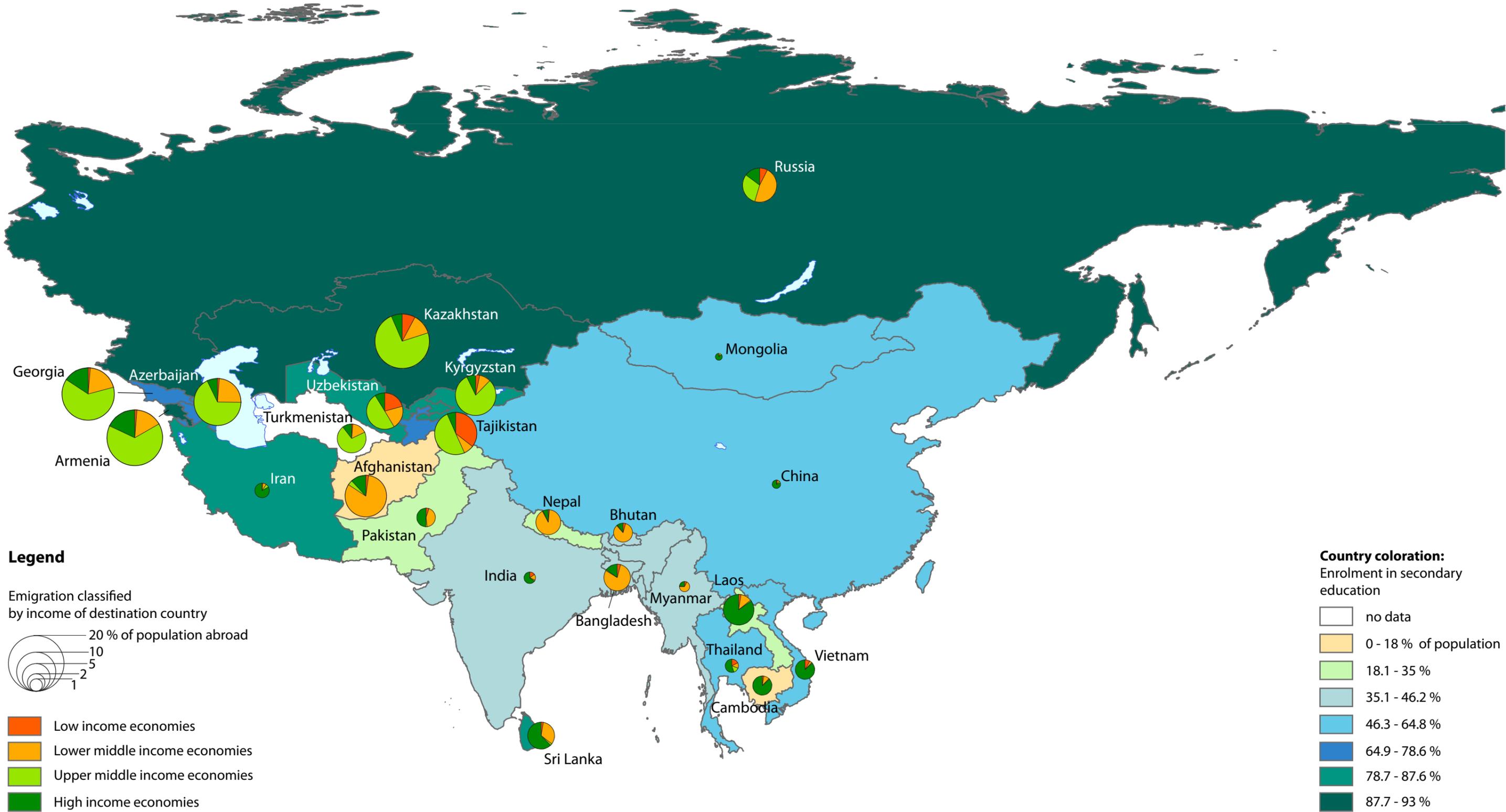
Asia: Percentage of population in emigration compared to remittances received as percentage of GDP per country



Data Source:
 Migration data: 'Global Migrant Origin Database' from the Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalization and Poverty
 Remittances: WB Migration and remittances factbook, 2008
 GDP: WB, data and statistics, 2008

Author:
 Nadia Schoch, University of Zurich, 2010

Asia: Emigration per country to destination countries classified by income compared to percentage of population enrolled in secondary education



Data Source:
 Enrolment in secondary education: Gross enrolment ratio, secondary, WB, Edstats, latest data per country between 1997 - 2003
 Migration data: 'Global Migrant Origin Database' from the Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalization and Poverty, data from 2000
 Population data: United Nations Statistics Department, 2000 census

Author:
 Nadia Schoch, University of Zurich

Appendix 2: Overview of datasets screened for this study

Institution	URL	Topics	Data per	Data form	Data source	Data quality	Access
UN data	http://data.un.org/	Education, energy, environment, food and agriculture, health, Human Development Report, industry, information and communication technologies, labour, national accounts, population, refugees, trade, tourism	Data per country	Excel, maps, reports, country sites	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
World Bank (WB)	http://www.worldbank.org/	Agriculture, infrastructure, labour and employment, population, poverty, rural, urban and social development, governance, education, information technology, globalisation	Data per country and region	Excel	Various	Described, comprehensible	Online
OECD	http://www.oecd.org/statsportal/0,3352,en_2825_293564_1_1_1_1_1,00.html	Agriculture and fisheries, demography and population, development, education and training, economic projections, finance, globalisation, information and communication technologies, industry and services, labour, national accounts, social and welfare statistics, transport, prices and purchasing power parities, etc.	Data per country or per indicator for OECD member states and some other countries	Excel, interactive maps and graphs	Metadata available	Metadata describe recommended use and limitations	Online, registration required for some data
IMF	http://www.imf.org/external/data.htm#data	National accounts (GDP), monetary (inflation), people (unemployment rate, employment, population), government finance	Data per country or region and country sites	Excel, interactive maps	Various, noted	Described in 'about dataset', description of data collection in 'Standards & Codes'	Online
Development Research Centre (DRC) on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty	http://www.migrationdrc.org/	Migration, emigration, internal migration, return migration, child migration, high skilled migration	Data per country and different surveys per country accessible	Excel and reports	Various, noted, data set on emigration from UN but processed by DRC	Described, comprehensible: http://www.migrationdrc.org/research/type/sofmigration/global_migrant_origin_databases.html	Online
Eurostat	http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/themes	Economy and finance, population and social conditions (population, health, education, labour market, living conditions and welfare), industry, trade and services, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, external trade, transport, environment and energy, science and technology	Data per country, region and city	Excel and maps	National statistical committees in collaboration with Eurostat	Described, comprehensible	Online
ADB	http://www.adb.org/Documents/Books/Key_Indicators/2008/Country.asp	Population, labour force, national accounts, production, energy, price indices, money and banking, government finance, external trade, balance of payments, international reserves, exchange rates, external indebtedness	Data per country	Excel and reports	Various, often national statistical committee	Described, comprehensible	Online
GMG (Global Migration Group)	http://www.globalmigrationgroup.org/	Migration and development projects and activities, migration and development-related policy research, linkages between migration, gender and development	Reports about activity of GMG members (ILO, IOM, UNESCO, OHCHR, UNCTAD, UNDP, UN-DESA, WB, UNODC, UNITAR, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA)	Reports	Various, noted	-	Online
Global Forum on Migration and Development	http://www.gfmd-fmmd.org/	Migration and development	Different session papers on migration and development	Reports	Various, noted	-	Online
HWMI, database on irregular migration --> EU	http://irregular-migration.hwmi.net/	Irregular migration	Estimates of irregular migration in the EU and in selected EU member states	Tables and reports	Estimates	Described, comprehensible and transparent quality of estimates rated in 4 classes (high, medium, low quality and low quality with plausibility warning)	Online
CIA Factbook	https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/xx.html	People (age structure, population growth, net migration rate, urbanisation, sex ratio, infant mortality rate, life expectancy, HIV/AIDS, ethnic groups, literacy), economy (GDP, labour force by occupation, unemployment rate, population below poverty line, inflation rate, exports, imports, debt, stock of direct foreign investment), communications (telephones, radio, television, Internet users), transportation (airports, railways, roadways, ports)	Global data or per country	Tables per country	?	Not comprehensible	Online
IFAD remittances forum	http://www.ifad.org/events/remittances/maps/	Migration, remittances, rural remittances	Global data or per country and region	Tables and reports	Various, noted	-	Online
MPI (Migration Policy Institute), USA	http://www.migrationinformation.org/datahub/wmm.cfm	Migration, remittances	Global data or per country, but not for all countries of the world (no data for South and Central Asia)	Excel and maps	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible http://www.migrationdrc.org/research/type/sofmigration/global_migrant_origin_databases.html	Online
World Mapper	http://www.worldmapper.org/index.html	Migration, transport, population density, export, import, unemployment, people below poverty line, education, health, communication, etc.	Data per country and region	Excel and maps	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
Demographic and health surveys	http://www.measuredhs.com/accesssurveys/	Survey data, HIV data, geographic data	Data per country and region	?	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
Scalabrini Migration Centre, Asian Migration Atlas	http://smc.org.ph/ama/about-ama.php	Migration in Asia	Data per country	Reports	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
Scalabrini Migration Centre, Migration Information System In Asia	http://smc.org.ph/misa/	Immigration, emigration, remittances, migration by occupation	Data per country, only South-east, East and South Asia	Tables per country	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online

World Bank

Institution	URL	Topics	Data description	Data form	Data source	Data quality	Access
Remittances data	http://go.worldbank.org/QOWEWD6TA0	Remittances	Remittances as a share of GDP, yearly remittances	Excel	WB staff estimates based on the IMF's Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook 2008	Described, comprehensible	Online
South-South migration working paper	http://go.worldbank.org/U4RXL56V20	Migration & remittances	South-South migration, South-South remittances, seasonal migration, irregular migration, top 20 migration corridors in the former Soviet Union	Reports	Censuses, population registers, etc. -> see p. 37f.	Described, comprehensible	Online
Key development data & statistics	http://go.worldbank.org/1SF48T4OLO	Various	World view, people (income share held by lowest 20%, life expectancy, education, etc.), environment, economy (GDP, agriculture, industry, services, etc.), states and markets (Internet users, roads (paved), etc.), global links (net migration, remittances received, foreign direct investment, official development assistance and official aid)	Excel	World development indicators database (April 2009)	Described, comprehensible	Online
Migration and Remittances Factbook 2008	http://go.worldbank.org/QGUCPJTOR0	Migration & remittances	Country data, emigration, immigration, migration as % of population, skilled emigration, destination, remittances (inflow, outflow)	Excel	UNDP, IMF	Described, comprehensible, data notes on website	Online
Data by topic	http://go.worldbank.org/LJW2UB0S10	Various	Agriculture, aid, childhood development, debt, education, environment, finance, GDP/GNP, gender, globalisation, governance, health, information technology, infrastructure, industry, labour and employment, macroeconomics and growth, population, poverty, PPP, private sector, public sector, rural development, social development, trade, urban development	Excel	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
Topics in development: migration and remittances	http://go.worldbank.org/OIK1E5K7U0	Remittances	Remittances prices worldwide, remittances country corridors	Tables			Online
Migration and remittances in Europe and Central Asia	http://go.worldbank.org/E3DJ4L4R00	Migration & remittances	Remittances, migration stocks	Maps, figures			Online
The World Bank Group, world development indicators	http://devdata.worldbank.org/wdi2005/Tables6.htm	Migration & remittances	Data per country	Tables	UNDP	Described, comprehensible	Online

United Nations

Institution	URL	Topics	Data per	Data form	Data source	Data quality	Access
<i>United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</i>	http://www.grid.unep.ch/data/index.php	Environmental data, population (net migration, GDP)	Data per country and region and global data	Excel (geospatial data), maps,	Various, noted	Described, metadata available	Online
<i>UN World Urbanization Prospects</i>	esa.un.org/unup/	Urbanisation	Data per country	Excel	Census, sometimes estimates	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>UN World Migrant Stock</i>	http://esa.un.org/migration/index.asp?panel=1	Migration per sex, refugees	Data per country and region	Excel	Census, sometimes estimates	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>UN World Population Prospects</i>	http://esa.un.org/unpp/	Population, net migration	Data per country and region and global data	Excel	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>UN Demographic Yearbook</i>	http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/dyb/dybcens.htm	Migration, various indicators	Data per country	Excel	Census	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>UNDP, Human Development Reports, statistics</i>	http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/data/	HDI, life expectancy, literacy, GDP per capita, HPI, health, flows of aid, unemployment, employment per sector, GDI	Data per country	Excel, maps	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>International migration</i>	http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/index.ht	Migration and development	Data per country, empirical and	Excel, reports	Census	Described, comprehensible	Online, login
<i>UNESCO Institute for Statistics</i>	http://www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?ID=2867_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC	Education, science, culture (broadcast, Cinema, journalists, libraries, newspapers), communication	Data per country	Excel, tables, reports	Various, raw data presented here or used for calculating indicators are essentially based on data provided by UNESCO member	Metadata available	Online
<i>UNICEF</i>	http://www.unicef.org/statistics/index_countrystats.html	Basic indicators, nutrition, health, HIV/AIDS, education, demographic indicators, women, child protection, rate of progress	Data per country, region or indicator	Excel	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) programme, demographic and health surveys	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>WHO</i>	http://www.who.int/research/en/	Demographic and socioeconomic statistics, mortality and health status, diseases, health service coverage, risk factors, health systems	Data per country and region	.csv	Household surveys, census, civil registration, metadata available	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>WHO Global Health Atlas</i>	http://apps.who.int/globalatlas/	Demographic and socioeconomic statistics, mortality and health status, diseases, health service coverage, risk factors, health systems	Data per country and region	Maps, graphs, Excel	UN data	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>IOM</i>	http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/lang/en/pid/1	Country facts (population, GDP per capita, PPP, HDI, remittances, net migration, international migrants as %, women as % of international migrants, % of	Data per country and region and global data	Country sites, reports	Various, WB, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, HDR	Described, comprehensible --> source and	Online
<i>ILO</i>	http://laborsta.ilo.org/	Total and economically active population, employment, unemployment, hours of work, wages, labour cost, consumer price indices, household income and expenditure, international labour	Data per country	.xml, .csv	UN data	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>ILO Asian Programme on the Governance of Labour Migration</i>	http://www.ilobkk-migration.org/	Migration in Asia, return migration, gender equality, labour market development, using remittances, etc.	Selected countries	Reports	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>ILO database on international labour migration statistics</i>	http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/migrant/info/ilm_dbase.htm	Migrant population by country of origin, employed persons by sex, by country of origin, by occupation, inflows of employees, outflows of nationals by sex, by	Data per country	.csv	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online

International Monetary Fund

Institution	URL	Topics	Data per	Data form	Data source	Data quality	Access
<i>IMF, World Economic Outlook database (April 2009)</i>	http://www.imf.org/external/data.htm#data	National accounts (GDP), monetary (inflation), people (unemployment rate, employment, population), government finance	Data per country	Excel	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>IMF Data Mapper</i>	http://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/index.php	World Economic Outlook (inflation, GDP, people, current account), balance of payments statistics (export, import, direct investment, reserve assets), etc.	Data per country	Excel, interactive maps	Comprehensible	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>Joint External Debt Hub</i>	http://www.jedh.org/jedh_home.html	Debt	Data per country	Excel	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible	Online
<i>IMF balance of payments statistics</i>	http://www.imfstatistics.org/bop/	Remittances	Data per country	Excel	Various, noted	Described, comprehensible, paper on remittances	Online, registration required

OECD

Institution	URL	Topics	Data per	Data form	Data source	Data quality	Access
OECD, <i>statistics portal</i>	http://www.oecd.org/statportal/0,3352,en_2825_293564_1_1_1_1_1,00.html	Agriculture and fisheries, demography and population, development, education and training, economic projections, finance, globalisation, information and communication technologies, industry and services, labour, national accounts, social and welfare statistics, transport, prices and purchasing power parities, etc.	Data per country (OECD member states and some other countries), data per indicator	Excel, interactive maps and graphs	Described	Metadata describe recommended use and limitations	Online, registration required for some information
OECD <i>Factbook, interactive graphs</i>	http://puck.sourceoecd.org/vl=8167417/cl=18/nw=1/rpsv/factbook2009/index.htm	Population and migration (net migration, unemployment of foreign-born women, etc.), macroeconomic trends, economic globalisation, prices, energy, labour, science and technology, environment, education, public finance, quality of life, inequality	Data per country (OECD member states and some other countries), data per indicator	sdmx-ml file, interactive graphs	Described	Metadata available, but not clear where estimates and where empirical data	Online
OECD <i>Factbook, interactive maps</i>	http://stats.oecd.org/ocdfactbook/	Population and migration (net migration, unemployment of foreign-born women, etc.), macroeconomic trends, economic globalisation, prices, energy, labour, science and technology, environment, education, public finance, quality of life, inequality	Data per country (OECD member states and some other countries), data per indicator	Interactive maps	Described	Metadata available, but not clear where estimates and where empirical data	Online

Acknowledgements

This paper presents the results of a study on the state of data on migration and selected development indicators. The study was carried out at and funded by the University of Zurich. I would like to thank Dr. Susan Thieme and Prof. Dr. Ulrike Müller-Böker for enabling this study and for their supervision, steady support and valuable advice. This research was related to the research projects on migration, multilocality and development led by S. Thieme, with support from the National Centre of Competence in Research North-South (NCCR North-South), funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the participating institutions in Switzerland.

About the Author

Nadia Schoch received an MSc in Geography from the University of Zurich, Switzerland. Her MSc thesis focused on labour migration and its effects on animal husbandry in rural Kyrgyzstan. After finalising her Master's she worked as a research assistant at the Human Geography Department, after which she joined "Pakka", a fair-trade food company based in Zurich.

NCCR North–South Dialogue Series

- 1 *Human and Animal Health in Nomadic Pastoralist Communities of Chad: Zoonoses, Morbidity and Health Services.* Esther Schelling. 2002¹, rev. 2007²
- 2 *Understanding Institutions and Their Links to Resource Management from a New Institutionalism Perspective.* Tobias Haller. 2002¹, rev. 2007²
- 3 *Dialogue Workshop Methodology: Adapting the Interactive Problem–Solving Method to an Environmental Conflict.* Simon A. Mason. 2003¹, rev. 2007²
- 4 *The Globalisation Discourse.* Norman Backhaus. 2003¹, rev. 2007²
- 5 *Reforming Agriculture in a Globalising World – The Road Ahead for Kerala.* K.N. Nair, Vineetha Menon. 2004¹, rev. 2007²
- 6 *Simen Mountains Study 2004.* Eva Ludi. 2005¹, rev. 2007²
- 7 *“Should I Buy a Cow or a TV?” Reflections on the Conceptual Framework of the NCCR North–South.* Christine Bichsel, Silvia Hostettler, Balz Strasser. 2005¹, rev. 2007²
- 8 *An Overview of Different Vulnerability Approaches and Definitions.* Martin Cassel–Gintz. 2006¹, rev. 2007²
- 9 *Forestry in the Princely State of Swat and Kalam (North–West Pakistan).* Sultan–i–Rome. 2005¹, rev. 2007²
- 10 *Livelihood Strategies in North–West Pakistan.* Bernd Steimann. 2005¹, rev. 2007²
- 11 *The Critical Issue of Land Ownership: Violent Conflict, Somali Region of Ethiopia.* Ayele Gebre–Mariam. 2005¹, rev. 2007²
- 12 *Marginality: Concepts and Their Limitations.* Ghana S. Gurung, Michael Kollmair. 2005¹, rev. 2007²
- 13 *Political Ecology in Development Research.* Jon Schubert. 2005¹, rev. 2007²
- 14 *Ethiopia and the Nile: The Dilemma of National and Regional Hydro–politics.* Yacob Arsano. 2005¹, rev. 2007²
- 15 *Social Networks and Migration: Far West Nepalese Labour Migrants in Delhi.* Susan Thieme. 2006¹, rev. 2007²
- 16 *Conducting Field Research in Contexts of Violent Conflict.* Nathalie Gasser. 2006¹, rev. 2007²
- 17 *Bridging Research and Development: Capitalisation on Experience with Partnership Actions for Mitigating Syndromes.* Peter Messerli, Annika Salmi, Karl Herweg, Franziska Pfister, Thomas Breu. 2007
- 18 *Governmental Complexity in the Swiss Alps: Planning Structures Relevant to a World Natural Heritage Site.* Jöri Hoppler, Astrid Wallner, Urs Wiesmann. 2008
- 19 *PhD Reader: PhD Theses within the Framework of the Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) North–South.* NCCR North–South. 2008
- 20 *People and “Territories”: Urban Sociology Meets the Livelihood Approach in the South.* Luca Pattaroni, Vincent Kaufmann, Yves Pedrazzini, Jean–Claude Bolay, Adriana Rabinovich. 2008
- 21 *International Conference on Research for Development (ICRD 2008): Pre–conference Proceedings.* University of Bern, Switzerland, 2–4 July 2008. NCCR North–South. 2008
- 22 *People’s Choice First: A 4–Country Comparative Validation of the HCES Planning Approach for Environmental Sanitation.* Christoph Lüthi, Antoine Morel, Petra Kohler, Elizabeth Tilley. 2009
- 23 *Making Research Relevant to Policy–makers, Development Actors, and Local Communities: NCCR North–South Report on Effectiveness of Research for Development.* Claudia Michel, Eva Maria Heim, Karl Herweg, Anne B. Zimmermann, Thomas Breu. 2010
- 24 *State of Statistical Data on Migration and Selected Development Indicators.* Nadia Schoch. 2010

Migration and its interlinkages with development has become a topic of high interest for researchers as well as policymakers in the last few years. In the global South, topics such as emigration in combination with remittances, brain drain/gain and circulation, and the links between migration and development are the focus of interest. In the global North, the main focus of intense debate are immigration policies. Despite this increasing interest in migration and its various effects in source and host countries, both statistical data on migration and various development indicators are either relatively poor or completely lacking. However, data are needed to better understand the interaction of migration and development and to formulate new policies. There is also a great need for improved data. The present paper focuses on the availability and quality of globally comparable data on migration and selected development indicators, and describes the challenges and problems faced when working with such data.

The NCCR North–South Dialogue Series presents reflections on research topics of concern to programme members throughout the world

dialogue

NCCR
north
south