



**Development Research Centre on**

**Migration,  
Globalisation  
& Poverty**

# Why migration, globalisation and poverty?

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- Migration as a problem:
  - consequence of development failure
  - unwelcome consequence of globalisation or development
- Migration as a livelihood
  - Positive impact on well-being
  - Direct and indirect benefits for migrants and communities
  - Benefits and costs not evenly distributed

**DAILY**  
**STAR**  
THE NEWS  
THE GOSS  
THE PICS  
THE SPORT  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2005 SIMPLY THE BEST 7 DAYS A WEEK 35p

# ASYLUM SEEKERS EAT OUR DONKEYS



**Police hunt rustlers  
after 9 are snatched**

PINING: Surviving donkeys

## An alternative view

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“Migration makes a substantial contribution to economic growth, helps fill gaps in the labour market, including key public services such as health and education, and increases investment, innovation and entrepreneurship in the UK.”

*‘Making Migration Work for Britain’, p5*



Or ...

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“Countries and international organisations increasingly perceive migration as a phenomenon whose positive impacts in development terms can be substantial, provided that appropriate policies are in place.”

*EU COM (2005) 390, p2*

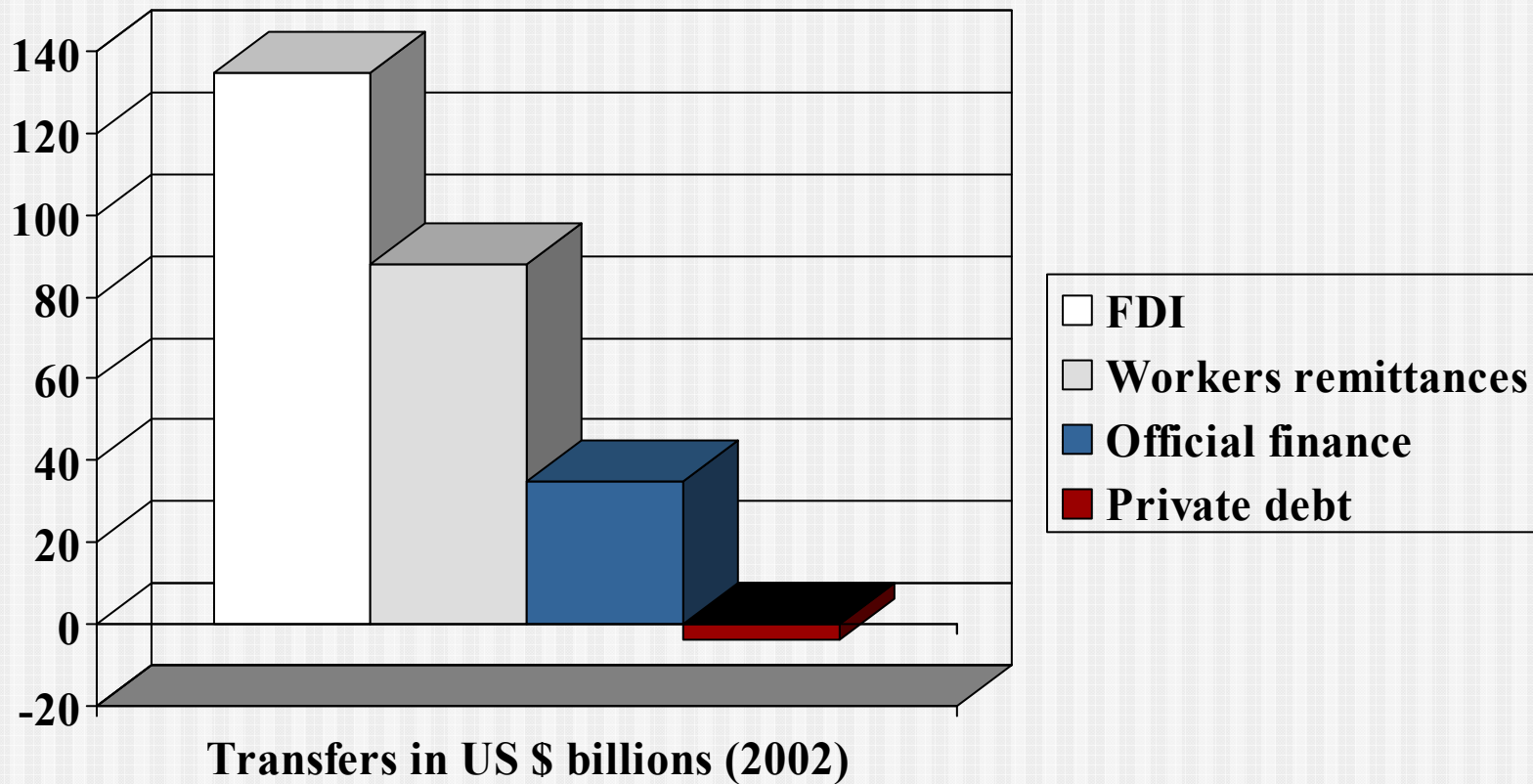
## Or ...

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“The role that migrants play in promoting development and poverty reduction in countries of origin, as well as the contribution they make towards the prosperity of destination countries, should be recognized and reinforced. International migration should become an integral part of national, regional and global strategies for economic growth, in both the developing and developed world.”

Global Commission on International Migration, 2005,  
p4)

# Global remittances in context



## Some key questions

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- What is the nature of the relationship between migration and poverty?
  - (and what determines this relationship)
- What can and should we do to maximize the benefits and minimize the risks and costs of migration to the poor?
- How coherent are migration and development policies?
  - (and how could they be made more coherent?)



## Why a ‘Migration DRC’?

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- Explore how to maximise the benefits of migration for the poor, whilst minimising the risks and costs:
  - Opportunity to develop sustained and in-depth research in the field
  - Contribute new insights and critical understanding through new empirical studies and synthesis of existing research
  - Strengthen capacity of all six DRC partners
  - Promote policy dialogue

## Four key countries

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- Albania
- Bangladesh and India
- Egypt and Middle East
- Ghana, Nigeria and Burkina Faso
  
- Studies with global scope on:
  - disaggregated migrant stocks, effects of temporary mobility, structure of highly-skilled migration, forced migration and rights, sustainable return

# Impacts of migration on poverty and livelihoods

- Many existing studies show migration *is* a livelihood strategy
- New surveys expensive and not always necessary
- Strategy: focus on specific under-researched issues
  - Children as migrants, temporary work migrants, those left behind
  - Migration as social protection
  - Investments in health and education

# Changing dynamics of migration



- Increasing acceptance that migration not simply ‘caused’ by poverty
- Not so clear what the structure of migration choice is for the poor
- Strategy:
  - Use existing data to explore choice
  - Add analysis of links between international and internal migration
  - Targeted work on forced migration and rights



# New approaches to international migration

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- Many studies calculating numbers, costs
- Less attention to dynamic effects of / impacts on training, labour markets, circulation, return
- Strategy: targeted work on
  - Dynamic effects of circulation of the highly skilled
  - Improved understanding of temporary mobility
  - Dynamic effects of return

## Some highlights

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- Influential work on female migration from Bangladesh
  - Lowering of restriction on female mobility
  - New work on opportunities in global nursing labour market
- New conceptualisations of child migration
  - Contribution to understanding relationship between childhood migration, education and work
- Global Migrant Origin Database
  - Underpinned analysis in *Global Economic Prospects 2006* - \$356bn benefit from 3% rise in temporary mobility to 2025

# New structure



## Migrations

Temporary work migration

Global labour mobility

Child migration

Skilled migration

Forced migration

Return migration

Each type of migration and key theme represented by a set of individual projects

## Key themes

Modelling causes & consequences

Links between migrations

Poverty and livelihoods

Social protection

Gender & Generations

Health & Education

Rights

## What policy can we influence?

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- Policies that regulate or manage migration
  - ensure understanding of impact
- Policies that impact migrants
  - revealing, challenging & promoting migrants rights
- Sectoral and cross-sectoral policies that may be influenced by migration
  - support and promote pro-poor policy through dissemination of knowledge and understanding

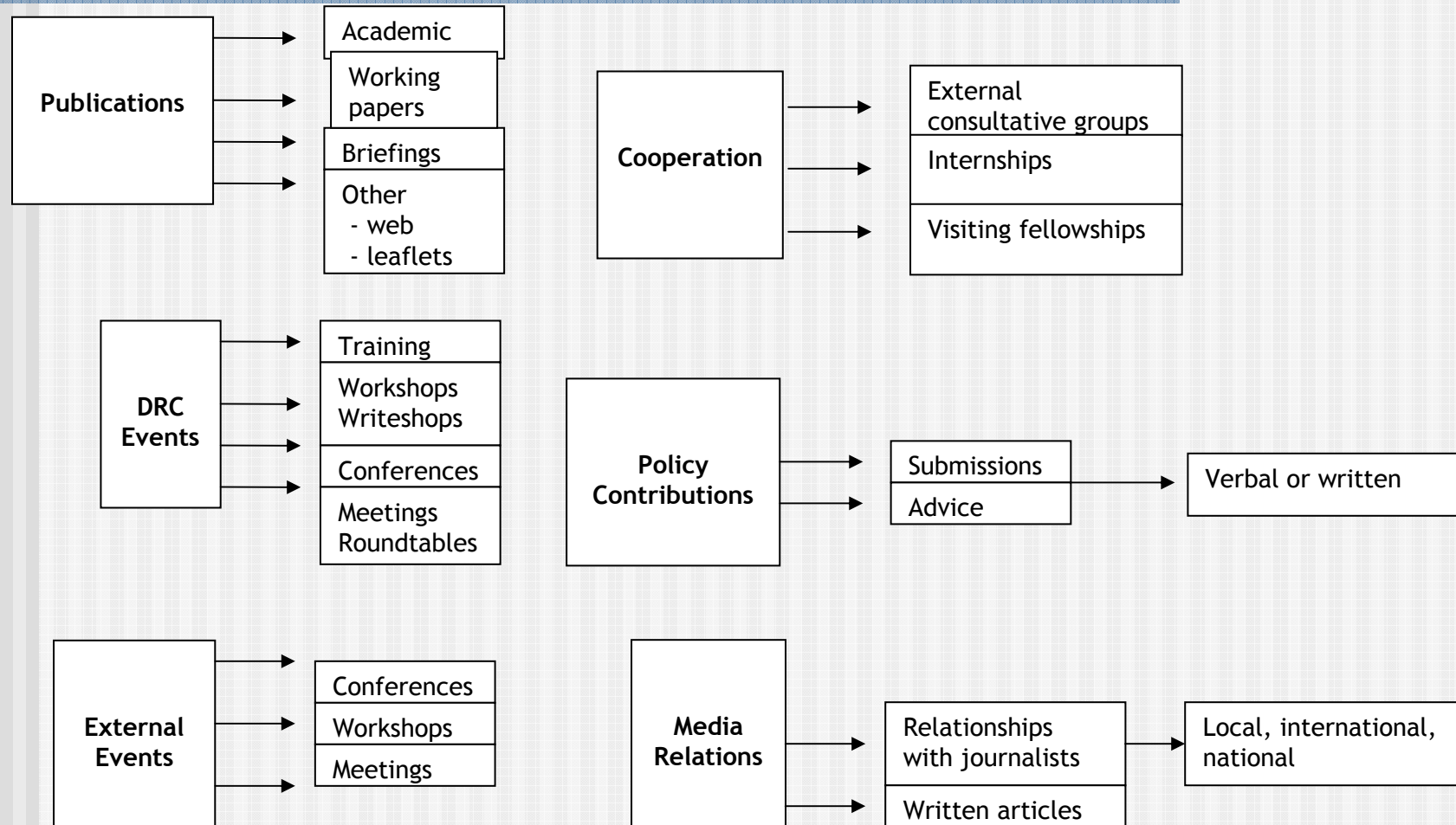


# Where can we influence policy?



- Locally
  - Migrating and non-migrating poor
  - Civil society and local government
- Nationally
  - DFID, London and in-country
  - Other ministries in Whitehall
  - Government ministries and NGOs in partner countries
- Internationally
  - Regional and international organisations
  - World Bank, IOM, EU, AU, ILO, UNHCR

# How can we influence policy?





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