Getting it Right: New Design Principles for Innovative Migration Policies

Workshop on New Design Principles for Innovative Migration Policies at the 11th International Metropolis Conference, Lisbon, 5th October 2006

Presentation by: Michael Jandl
Workshop: New Design Principles for Innovative Migration Policies

Organizers
Jeroen Doomernik – IMES
Michael Jandl – ICMPD

Presenters
Teun van Os van den Abeelen – ACVZ
Theo Veenkamp – DEMOS
Ray Silvius, Robert Annis – Brandon University, CAN
Richard Bedford - University of Waikato, NZ
Vasantha Krishnan, Bev Hong – Dep.of Labour, NZ
Sandra Pratt - European Commission
Christian Schmalzl – Austrian Ministry of Interior
Workshop Agenda II: 15:00 – 16:30

- Introduction to the workshop
- Review and Discussion of “State-Centred” Innovative Approaches
- Example: A new European Employment Migration Policy
- Review and Discussion of “Migrant-Centred” Innovative Approaches
- Example: Managing migration with the people flow approach
- Taking stock: New Design Principles for Innovative Policies
Workshop Agenda I: 17:00 – 18:30

16:30-17:00 Coffee break

- The Rural Immigration Experience .. in a Canadian Community

- Transitions to Residence .. in Australia and New Zealand

- How the European Union can shape innovative migration policies

- Migration Policy Making and Innovation: the view from the Nation State

- Summary and Outlook
Innovative Concepts: Antecedents

- Joint ICMPD/IMICSOE workshop in March 2006 in Vienna
- 24 Participants (13 researchers and 11 policy-makers from 6 countries and several IOs)
- 11 innovative concepts were introduced
- Stimulating presentations + Lively discussion
- Production of Policy Brief, Conference Report (available at www.imiscoe.org and www.icmpd.org) and a forthcoming book
Innovative Approaches

Temporary Migration Programmes (Jeff Crisp)
- Renewed interest in TMPs in many countries despite problems (non-return,..)
- Prerequisites:
  - Clearer delineation of length and terms of contract
  - Job protection for nationals
  - Equal treatment on the labour market
  - Better regulation of recruitment agents
  - Rigid inspections and employer sanctions
  - Portable pensions and savings schemes
- Conclusion: More TMPs will entail greater regulation of national labour markets
Review of “State-Centred” Innovative Approaches

In-country refugee processing arrangements (Judith Kumin)

- An issue of protection
  - Moral obligation of states to provide protection and to offset progressively strict controls
  - Prevents migrants from taking the risk of dangerous journeys with smugglers
  - Traditional resettlement schemes problematic

- In-country selection schemes exist (US, CAN)

- Problems:
  - Requires a minimum level of cooperation with country of origin
  - Difficulty of drawing up a list of eligible countries
Innovative Approaches

The Development-Visa Scheme (Michael Jandl)
- Sell legal entry permits (fixed term) at prevailing smuggling prices
- New Mechanism needed:
  - EU-wide coordination
  - Annual visa quotas (total and per EU-country) and prices
  - Payment is up-front, then divided into 3 parts:
    - 1/3 development projects in source country
    - 1/3 return premium
    - 1/3 DV social security scheme (re-imburseable if unused)
  - Strict enforcement and exclusion scheme (fingerprints)
- Advantages: Benefits for all sides (except smugglers); less smuggling; better control
Review of “State-Centred” Innovative Approaches

Pricing entrance fees for migrants (Holger Kolb)
- Charge fixed price for immigration rights, based on costs of consumption of public goods
- This (very high) price will lead to an efficient (self-)selection of migrants
- Otherwise, only minimum conditions for buyer
- Externality costs (public goods) are covered
- Immigration bureaucracies will be reduced
- There are precedents (e.g. US investor scheme)
Review of “State-Centred” Innovative Approaches

A New European Employment Migration Policy
(Thun van Os van den Abeelen)

- Proposes a new system of temporary employment migration
- Includes:
  - An enhanced return mechanism
  - Education and occupational training
  - A sizeable financial return incentive
  - Assistance for productive investment after return to home country
Possible “State-and Migrant Centred” Innovative Approaches

Co-development policies (Jonathan Chaloff)
- Circular migration fosters co-development
- Secure residence status allows circular movements (back and forth rights)
- Policy options:
  - Investment in community and migrant networks
  - Capacity building and training to identify active migrants
  - Strengthen institutions in home countries
  - Focus on specific groups and limited areas (trans-local links)
- Conclusion: Search for best practice models for benefit of both sending and