

MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN SENEGAL: AN EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS USING MATCHED DATA ON SENEGALESE MIGRANTS AND THEIR ORIGIN HOUSEHOLDS (Acronym: MIDDAS)

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OVERVIEW

Context

The increasing levels of international migration and remittances have led to a wide debate in both origin and destination countries on how to increase the benefits of migration while reducing its potential costs at the same time. However, one has to acknowledge that very little is known about the forces driving migration flows, especially from the South, and about the role of human mobility as a factor of development. The main objective of this research project is to contribute to fill this knowledge gap by analyzing the links between migration, remittances and development in the case of Senegal.

Partners



Scope of Work and Key Research Areas

The originality of the project holds in part in the data that will be collected and on which will be based subsequent analyses. While most existing analyses examining the links between migration and development use either data on migrants in destination countries or data on migrant households in origin countries, the objective here is to collect original quantitative data on a sample of **Senegalese migrants in France, Spain, Italy, Guinea and Mauritania**, whom origin households have already been surveyed in Senegal, through the Poverty and Family Structure Survey (PFSS) conducted in 2007. This survey, designed and coordinated by two members of the Project Team in collaboration with the Senegalese National Statistical Institute (ANSD) is a nationally representative survey on a sample of about 2,100 households that records, among other things, all the migrants, be they internal or international migrants. Tracking questionnaires recording addresses and/or phone numbers of the migrants were filled in by residing household members in order to allow migrant tracking surveys in main destination countries.

Such **matched data** will allow the Project Team to work on numerous questions that are not treated by the existing literature or in a non-satisfying way, such as: the role of origin households and communities in migrants' behavior; the role of migrants' networks abroad in

remittance behavior; the impact of remittances on origin households; migrants' status in informal networks; informational asymmetries between the migrants in destination countries and their households in Senegal; etc. In addition, homogeneous data on migrants originating from the same country but residing in different destination countries, either in Europe (France, Italy and Spain) or in Africa (Mauritania, Guinea), will allow the Project Team to examine these various issues with a **comparative approach** and to provide insights on the question of whether the behavior of Senegalese migrants strongly varies by destination country or not. To allow rigorous quantitative analyses, **sample size will be increased up to 300 migrants in all five selected destination countries** following a sampling strategy that is detailed below.

Project Team

The team is led by Flore Gubert (IRD, DIAL). Members of the core team are Pr. Philippe De Vreyer (University of Paris Dauphine and DIAL), Sylvie Lambert (Paris School of Economics and INRA, LEA), Anne-Sophie Robilliard (IRD, DIAL), two doctoral students (Isabelle Chort and Jean-Noël Senne) and one research assistant (Claire Bernard).

In Senegal, the main partners are the Senegalese Statistical Institute (ANSD), and Cheikh Anta Diop University through the Institut de Formation et de Recherche en Population, Développement et Santé Reproductive (IPDSR) and his Director, Papa Sakho.

Timeframe and Budget

With regards to the timeframe, the objective is to have the fieldwork in France, Spain and Italy completed by the end of year 2008, and the fieldwork in Africa by June 2009. The questionnaire to be administered to the migrants is currently being tested and a final version should be ready soon.

Partial funding has been committed by the French National Research Agency (ANR) in December 2007 for a three-year period. Additional funding has been received from the French Development Agency to finance the African part of the project.