
ALUM Research Workshop: Recommendations and Next Steps

Siracusa 2
April 25-26, 2017
(Draft only)

ALUM and the G-7

Informing the G-7 'human mobility' agenda

Solving the gap between policy and evidence, broadening the policy perspective

Italy

- New perspectives/partnership; Siracusa II paper
- Post-summit follow-up

Canada

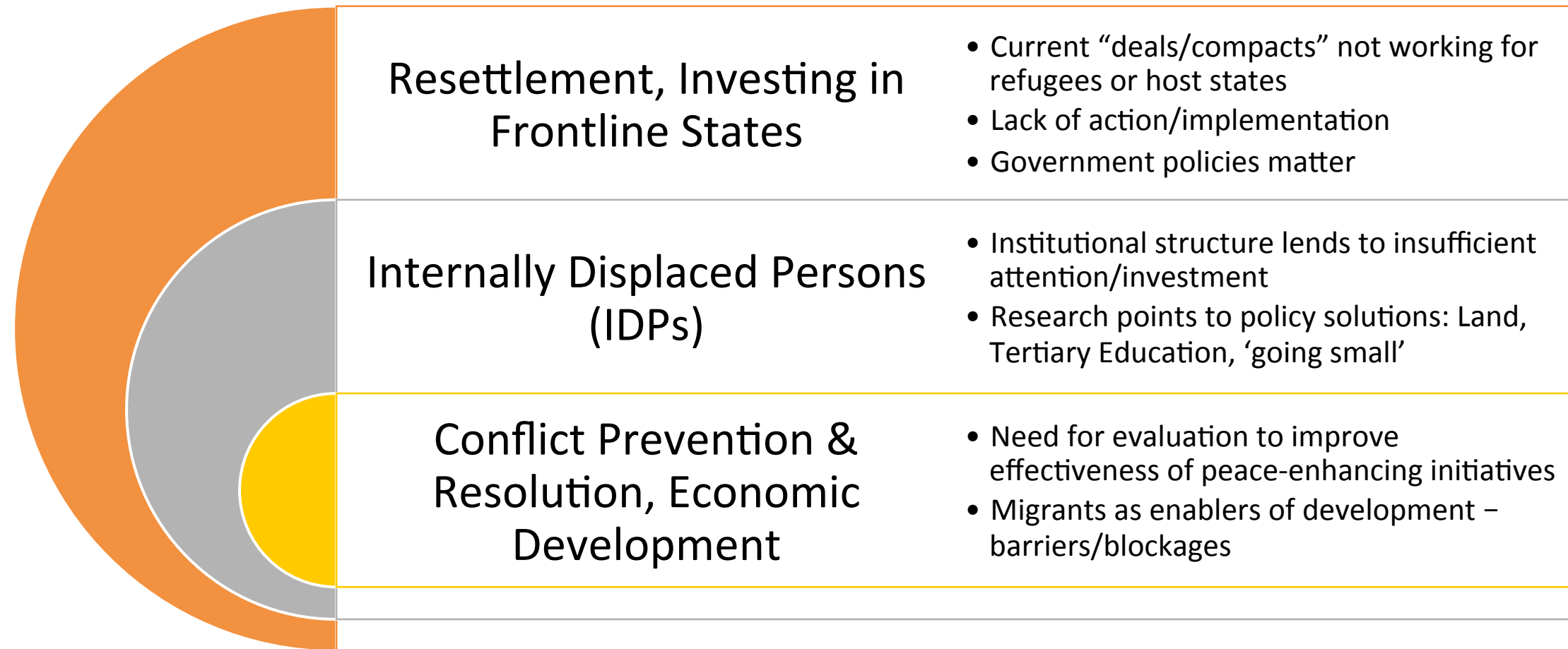
- Early dialogue with experts working group and Sherpa office
- Multiple channels of influence (G-7, Leaders' Summit, etc)

Beyond

- Evidence to inform policy solutions, principles, approaches
- Alliance of Leading Universities brings credibility and authority
- Feedback loops between academics and policy makers

Topic 1: Investment in Countries of Origin, Transit, and *Destination*

Policy issues, Unpeeling the Onion



Other issues: humanitarian-development gap; early warning/advance planning; multigenerational displacement

Topic 1: Investment in Countries of Origin, Transit, and Destination

Recommendations

- Recognize that the “crisis” is in front line states
- Overhaul deals and compacts; fix resettlement; address conditionality (how?)
- Support government policies that create opportunities for refugees (eg: KRG) (how?)
- Remove barriers that prevent private sector development cooperation to grow the missing middle
- Increase attention on internally displaced people. Institutional solutions. Best practices.
- Solve/prevent conflicts. Invest in evaluations of peace-enhancing initiatives.

Need More/Better/Different

Data

Evidence

Action

Communication

Language

Topic 2: Protection of children (countries of transit), hosting and integration of unaccompanied minors & vulnerable groups

- Enhancing **law enforcement cooperation** and **victims' protection** have to be the focus of the international action
- Be aware that the **fight against trafficking in human beings** has a transversal dimension, related broadly to organised crime and criminal organizations
- **Limited statistics** on the global movement of children and women is a major gap that hinders formulating child and gender-sensitive migration policies
- There needs to be better/more complex understanding of the differences in nationalities and gender between countries
- Recent refugee and mixed flows highlight the need for more attention to integration and settlement

Topic 2: Protection of children (countries of transit), hosting and integration of unaccompanied minors & vulnerable groups

The fight against victims' exploitation in different perspectives:

- Guaranteeing a better victims' protection in the countries of origin, in order to preserve their well-being and their intention to cooperate against traffickers
- Enhancing the legal frameworks with measures sanctioning those are benefiting of victims' services;
- Promoting actions in sensitive sectors to certificate economic activities in order to tackle human trafficking;
- Disrupting the business model of trafficking in human beings, addressing profits and financial assets.

Topic 2: Protection of children (countries of transit), hosting and integration of unaccompanied minors & vulnerable groups

Recommendations

- . States should not only to refrain from measures infringing on children's rights, but also take measures to ensure the **enjoyment of these rights and to realize the best interests of the child involved**.
- . States should reaffirm to fully respect the **non-refoulement obligations** deriving from international customary law and international refugee treaties. In particular, in situations where there is no responsible adult family member available, there is the need to adopt best practices in order to guarantee the respect of children's rights.
- . **For unaccompanied children, the following priorities should be taken into account:**
 - (i) Identification of an unaccompanied child immediately upon arrival at ports of entry or as soon as their presence in the country becomes known to the authorities;
 - (ii) Prompt registration of the child in a national register of missing children in accordance with the law on protection of personal data;
 - (iii) Recording the specific information on special needs of the child;
 - (iv) Attribution of personal identity documentation as soon as possible;
 - (v) Appointment of a legal tutor.

Topic 2: Protection of children (countries of transit), hosting and integration of unaccompanied minors & vulnerable groups

Recommendations

First contact services for unaccompanied minors should include psychologist and interpreter. The personnel should be working **independently from the police** to reduce negative effects on the child. Team of professionals should assess whether to transfer or not the minor to a special institution.

Implement a **comprehensive and victim-centered approach** and a coherent legal and policy framework in line with the 4P approach (Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, Partnership)

Ensure that **integration and job creation schemes** for migrants and refugees are better tailored to women and to children transitioning to adulthood

Devote more resources to the education of children (unaccompanied and in families)

Instruct IFIs and academics to develop jointly evidence-based best practices in relation to transit, reception centres and integration of women and girls.

Topic 3: Net contributions by migrants

Economic impact

- **Skilled migrants improve macroeconomic outcomes** (though causality remains a question) based on UK and US studies
 - ✓ Impact can depend, inter alia, on political integration prospects (easier pathway to citizenship fosters investment and employability)
- **Labour market impact minimal:** Job dislocation can occur in a given sector (partial studies), but natives typically shift to other sectors (Philippine nurses, ex-Soviet mathematicians).
 - ✓ Helps with ageing population related pressures longer term.
- **Impact on wages is negligible**, except in certain low skilled jobs.
- **Innovation: skilled migrants appear more innovative.** in the US produce 2X more patents, though due to concentration in science and technology. Pre-war large Jewish immigration revolutionised US sciences. Overall: at least small positive innovation spillover.
- **Immigrants are more risk takers and entrepreneurial** than average natives.
- **Impact on firm productivity depends on the sector:** immigration into low-tech industry reduces productivity in that sector, while that to high tech increases it (Israel for both).

Topic 3: Net contributions by migrants

Fiscal impact, housing, crime

- **Net fiscal contribution is positive** (even when not accounting for not having paid for education). Yet in an ageing population, society is not internalising this fact
- **Housing:** little impact though some market segments can be negatively affected - concentration in lower end
- **Impact on public services: mixed**
 - **Healthcare:** no systemic evidence on longer waiting times or lower quality in the UK; in fact better quality because of skilled labour and better native health conditions as shifting to physically less demanding jobs
 - But: concentration of large migrant influx into *already poor* health services exacerbates bad outcomes
 - **Education:** evidence on lowering quality and access to public services
- **Crime:** evidence of negative impact of undocumented migrants. However, as soon as legal status granted, crime rate drops to or below native average

Topic 3: Net contributions by migrants

Political impact

- **Democratic dividend with “political remittance”.**
 - Destination country and time matter
- Similarly positive **“gender remittance”**
- **But: serious perception issues**
 - No1 concern in EU polls and Brexit (even though UK had clear positive macro outcomes from migration)

Topic 3: Net contributions by migrants

Recommendations

- Invest in education
- Invest in reducing waiting time for legalisation and access to market. This helps economic integration & positive spillovers from migrant employment
- Address the few potential negative impacts head-on:
 - ✓ Healthcare (deprived areas)
 - ✓ Public education: quota system on access to both public and private
 - ✓ Legalisation cuts higher crime rate of undocumented immigrants
- “Old voter policies”. Net positive fiscal impact of migrants is not internalised in ageing societies. How to change this dynamic?
 - ✓ Specific policies that link benefits to demographics; fertility; labour market policies/housing
 - ✓ Communication challenge (see below)
- Ask IFIs (World Bank, IMF, OECD, MDBs) and academics to jointly:
 - ✓ Conduct more evidence-based research on critical gap areas and assist with funding
 - ✓ Develop best practices for labour market integration and associated incentives.

Topic 3: Net contributions by migrants

Communication needs dedicated efforts

- Support the re-balancing of the public narrative around human mobility that highlight the net positive impact, but recognizes negative outcomes and related policies to minimize those
 - ✓ Positive net positive economic impact facts, including migrants as consumers, entrepreneurs, job creators and innovators
 - ✓ Labour market needs due to demographics
 - ✓ Democratic dividend and gender dividend
 - ✓ Use history's positive as well as negative examples.
- Dedicate a special G7 PR team to work on innovative communication (and school education) strategy also with social media