

UNIDO's contribution to the request for inputs to the UN Secretary-General's report on the Global Compact for a Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Proposed input on the opportunities that inclusive and sustainable industrialization provide in the context of migration:

Exploring the close link between migration and economic development is a foundation for an effective approach to the challenges of today's unsafe and irregular human displacement. However, this link is not straightforward.

The relationship between industrialization and migration reflects this complexity. Industrial development and, in particular, capital-intensive manufacturing sectors contribute mostly to net employment growth¹. In addition, industrial development can reduce poverty and unemployment², improve quality of life³, and thereby raise the level of economic development of countries. By creating equal opportunities for women and men, youth and all other social groups, and doing so in an environmentally sound manner, inclusive and sustainable industrial development plays a crucial role in supporting economic growth and human development. It is a key instrument of change not only by adding economic value, but also by improving social and environmental factors.

Industrial development is therefore instrumental in giving people access to resources and opportunities that will enable them to make informed choices about migration. Creating economic opportunities through inclusive and sustainable industrialization is therefore in line with the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/RES/71/1), adopted on 19 September 2016, which states: *"Equally, we will address movements caused by poverty, instability, marginalization and exclusion and the lack of development and economic opportunities, with particular reference to the most vulnerable populations. We will work with countries of origin to strengthen their capacities"* (Para 12).

The importance of inclusive and sustainable industrialization is also reflected in several other agreements by the global development community. For example, it is part of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals – in particular Goal 9 on building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and fostering innovation. It also features high in the African Union's Agenda 2063, and in the United Nations General Assembly resolution on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) (A/70/L.49/Rev.1).

On the other hand, evidence also shows a positive impact of migration for the economy. In general, migration is found to have positive impact on labour markets, the fiscal economy and economic growth^{4,5}. Through this, we believe that migration also provides opportunities for

¹ Voulgaris, F., T. Papadogonas and G. Agiomirgianiakis (2005), "Job creation and job destruction in Greek manufacturing", *Review of Development Economics* 9(2).

² Mehta, P. (2016), *Role of industrial development in economic growth*, Economics Discussion.

³ Streimikiene, D. and N. Barauskaite-Jakubauskiene (2012), "Sustainable development and quality of life in Lithuania compared to other countries", *Technological and Economic Development of Economy* 18.

⁴ OECD, "Is Migration Good for the Economy?" Migration Policy Debates, May 2014 - <https://www.oecd.org/migration/OECD%20Migration%20Policy%20Debates%20Numero%202.pdf> (accessed 20 September 2017)

achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Migrants can contribute to industrialization in host countries with their human, social and economic capital, or to their countries of origin after voluntary return⁶.

Inclusive and sustainable industrial development can therefore be an effective measure to directly or indirectly prevent and mitigate negative consequences of unsafe and irregular migration. It does so by:

- Strengthening the resilience of migrants and communities and providing choices to stay or leave through regular channel;
- Mitigating environmental degradation and climate change that induce environment disaster and its displacement or migration consequences;
- Supporting the economic integration of migrants for the benefit of all both in host and home communities;
- Providing solutions to the economic, social and environmental impacts of population movements;
- Providing the conditions for sustainable return with consent in various contexts, including post-crisis situations.
- Involving the industry and the private sector in order to upgrade skills and create income and job opportunities to better manage migration flows.

Actionable commitments that may be included in the global compact on migration:

- Create an enabling environment to foster inclusive and sustainable industrialization, ensuring that no one is left behind in benefiting from industrial growth
- Stress the importance of multi-stakeholder and public-private partnerships for inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

⁵ Jaumotte, F, et.al, (2016) “Impact of Migration on Income Levels in Advance Economies” Spillover Notes, Spillover Task Force, International Monetary Fund - <https://blogs.imf.org/2016/10/24/migrants-bring-economic-benefits-for-advanced-economies/> (accessed 20 September 2017)

⁶ Follow-up Study on “the Role of UNIDO’s Training on the Economic Reintegration of Repatriated Refugees in Liberia”. http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/user_media/Research_and_Statistics/WP_2015/wp_10_2017.pdf ; Working paper: “Examining the impact of UNIDO’s training on the economic reintegration of repatriated refugees in Liberia” http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/user_media/Research_and_Statistics/WPs_2010/WP_12.pdf