1. BACKGROUND

On 18 October 2017, the Cities Alliance secretariat hosted an inception meeting in cooperation with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) to discuss the launch of a Joint Work Programme (JWP) on Migration and Cities. The meeting was held at the SDC headquarters in Bern.

The inception workshop of the JWP had the following objectives:

- To facilitate the exchange of knowledge and strengthen partnerships on Migration and Cities by bringing together Cities Alliance members, international and Swiss development partners with relevant experience.

- To build upon the Cities and Migration JWP discussion paper through a knowledge exchange of experts from various fields. The objective of the session was, framing of the JWP concept note which would then be discussed with Cities Alliance members at the General Assembly in Jinja, Uganda in December 2017.

- To further define the three thematic areas of the JWP:
  - Integration and social cohesion
  - The potential role of secondary cities
  - Better linking places of origins and destination

The workshop agenda, with each session’s format and presenters, as well as the participants’ list can be found in annexes 1 and 2.

2. OPENING REMARKS

Markus Reisle, SDC Head of Global Programme on Migration and Development, opened the meeting by welcoming all participants and expressing his anticipation for a lively knowledge exchange between experts of different fields on the topic of migration and cities. William Cobbett seconded the introductory words and provided a short introduction on the establishment of the JWP on Migration and Cities. The upcoming JWP on migration and cities will add up to the three Cities Alliance thematic guiding lenses already including Growth, Gender and Resilience. Cities Alliance has been focusing on this topic for years, including its 2015 Catalytic Fund Call for Proposals on Migration and Cities.
3. PRESENTATION ON MIGRATION, CITIES, AND DEVELOPMENT

Markus provided an introduction on the nexus of migration, development, and cities. He started his presentation by creating four categories of principles, along with implementation/measures to be considered when focusing on migration and development:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principles</th>
<th>Implementation/Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Persecuted people need to be protected – either within their place or country of origin, or in a safe third country (for instance, Switzerland). | • Strengthening asylum systems  
• Participation in EU Relocation Programme  
• Humanitarian Assistance  
• Measures against human trafficking |
| Sustainable development in a globalised economy requires flexible, safe and regular migration of labour forces. | • Promotion of fair and ethical recruitments and decent work and living conditions  
• Mechanisms for the recognition of qualifications  
• Promotion of economic, social and political integration (social cohesion) |
| Root causes of forced displacements can only be addressed with a holistic and long-term approach. | • Prevention of crisis and conflict  
• Promotion of policy coherence (across all policies)  
• Promotion of rule of law, human rights  
• Improving education and vocational training  
• Integrating migration-related issues into development plans |
| Global and national migration policies are based on functioning governance structures. | • Coherent regional and interregional migration policies and their implementation on national and local level  
• Global reference framework (e.g. Global Compacts) |

Through his presentation, Markus repeatedly raised the importance of finding holistic and long-term approach to migration while highlighting the positive effects of migration on the labour market. He talked about the importance of reducing the risks associated at all stages of the migration cycle by taking a human-rights based approach and employing the necessary sensitivity with regards to context, gender and associated conflict. According to him, this could be achieved through the improvement of available data on migration.

SDC has worked many years in the field of migration through various units and instruments:

• Global Programme on Migration and Development (GPMD)¹
  • Policy influencing at global and regional levels  
  • Innovation  
  • Knowledge/Advisory Services

¹ The GPMD is SDC’s thematic division which helps leverage the potential of migration for development. Defined in its 2018-2021 strategy, the GPMD works through three different approaches: policy dialogue, operational programmes, and evidence generation.
• Ambassador for Development, Forced Displacement and Migration

• Country and Regional Strategies (priority countries of SDC)
  ◦ Integration of migration into SDC’s intervention strategy
  ◦ Development programmes in the field of migration

• Humanitarian Assistance Programmes
  ◦ Programmes to save and protect lives, advocacy and prevention

• Multilateral Engagement
  ◦ Contributions to international organisations

On the nexus between Migration and Cities, SDC has collaborated with numerous constituencies including:
  ◦ The JMDI initiative: A Joint Migration and Development Initiative with IOM and UNDP;²
  ◦ Partnership with the ETH Zurich Research Institute;
  ◦ The Mediterranean City-to-City project;³
  ◦ The Mayoral Forum;
  ◦ And a Migration and Development Network.⁴

SDC is looking forward to broadening its knowledge and engagement on Migration and Cities through the Cities Alliance JWP.

“...a comprehensive understanding of the effects of migration and how they relate to migrants’ objective is needed!”
- Markus Reisle

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² The JMDI was introduced in 2012 to sensitize and mobilise a wide range of actors in order to establish a framework which supports the mainstreaming of migration issues into local development planning. It is funded by the European Commission and SDC, and implemented through the UNDP Brussels office in collaboration with IOM, ITC-ILO, UNHCR, UNFPA, UNITAR and UN Women.

³ The MC2CM project brings together cities to improve migration governance at local level.

⁴ The SDC Network on Migration and Development is a platform for practitioners and policy makers in the field of migration and development for knowledge exchange. Participants were invited to join its next event, the “Global Conference on Cities and Migrants” on the 16th and 17th of November 2017 in the city of Mechelen organized by IOM, UN-Habitat, and UCLG.
4. PRESENTATION ON MIGRATION IN GLOBAL AGENDAS

Cécile provided an introduction on the history of migration and global commitments on migration linking it to the role of cities. Global migration governance can be defined “as the norms and organizational structures that regulate states’ work and other actors’ responses to migration”. Major events have influenced the international discourse on migration so far, including:

- The International Conference on Population and Development: Chapter 10 (Cairo, 1994)
- The International Dialogue on Migration (2001)
- The International Agenda for Migration Management – Bern Initiative (2003)
- Regional Consultative Processes (1986 and continuing)
- UNGA High-Level Dialogues on International Migration and Development (2007, 2013)
- Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD, 2007)

By now, the topic of migration has found its entry in various important global frameworks, most significantly the Agenda 2030, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Sendai Disaster Risk Reduction Framework, the Paris Climate Change Agreement, and the New Urban Agenda (NUA). At the High-Level Summit of the UN General Assembly in New York September 2016, it was agreed to develop a Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration by September 2018. It was the first time that member states committed to reaffirm and fully protect the human rights of all refugees and migrants, regardless of their status.

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TIME:
09:35-10:00 am

SPEAKERS:
Cécile Riallant
(IOM, Senior Migration and Development Specialist)

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5 Numerous SDGs recognize migrants’ positive contributions to a country’s development and economy.

6 In the NUA, the development potential of migration is recognized; it is stated that cities need to facilitate the provision of rights and services to migrants. Further, the “Cities for all” and “Right to the City” frameworks support discourse around equal access to rights, spaces, and services for all denizens.
Cécile drew a link between migration and cities by underlying the fact that migration is primarily an urban phenomenon as more than 50% of international migrants live in ten highly urbanised countries. Consequently, local government planning needs to acknowledge the extent to which migration defines the landscape of cities. To develop the necessary policies, Cécile stressed on the importance of data collection and analysis with a focus on migration. She also called for cities to provide the necessary tools to face the challenges and harvest from the benefits related to migration. Ultimately, it is the local authorities’ reactions that will determine whether human mobility has a positive or negative effect on cities.

5. PRESENTATION ON APPROACH OF THE JWP ON MIGRATION AND CITIES

Julian briefly outlined the methodological approach of a JWP. A JWP is a multi-year partnership which deepens the institutional knowledge for strengthened programming in cities. JWPs perform a variety of roles, including acting as a coordination platform, a knowledge hub and a think tank able to advocate new thinking on key urban issues. Finally, JWPs absorb, analyse and disseminate key lessons from Cities Alliance’s operational activities. Julian outlined urbanisation and migration as two important processes shaping the world, as more than 1 billion people are currently on the move. Simultaneously, more than half of the world’s population live in cities today, with most urban growth taking place in informal settlements.

The second part of Julian’s presentation focused on the introduction of the three thematic lenses of the Migration and Cities JWP:

1. Integration and Social Cohesion
   According to him, while migration is generally addressed through national policies, the reality of integration is local and largely managed at the city level. Migration to cities brings both challenges and opportunities, where migrant aspirations for social and economic mobility can either be realised or destroyed through existing forms of exclusion and deprivation. The difference depends on a city’s policy response to migration and its

“Migration is primarily an urban phenomenon.”
- Cécile Riallant
ability to plan and develop practical solutions that consider how migration transforms, expands and diversifies the city and its inhabitants. These solutions and policy approaches often need to be found in very difficult circumstances.

In his presentation, Julian differentiated between two types of contexts:

- Migration in countries with low fertility and high growth economies. In this case the questions of social cohesion often polarize around the concepts of multiculturalism versus xenophobia.
- Migration in high fertility countries with low economic growth rates. In this case, the majority of global migratory movements take place in form of domestic migration. Conflicts arise mostly around economic sensitivity, growth of informal economy and settlements and competition for limited state resources.

2. The Potential Role of Secondary cities

In the current demographic transformations, the fact that most population growth is taking place in secondary cities - where backlogs and needs are greatest, and resources are weakest - is a vital developmental fact that has been poorly understood by national governments and development partners alike. Secondary cities have outdated and over-stretched infrastructure, unreliable transfers from the national fiscus, weak institutional capacity, incomplete and outdated data, restricted authority to generate revenue and wholly inadequate administrative capacity. The results of these constraints is evident in most developing countries where the bulk of urban growth is often informal, unplanned and incremental. It is not surprising, that migrants arriving in these cities either do not settle or contribute to the problem of urban degradation and inefficient and costly city growth. In this spirit, it is possible to imagine a different trajectory.

### FACTS AND FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Every 7 person in the world</th>
<th>Million Internal Migrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/7</td>
<td>763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Million Refugees</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41% Increased of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41% between 2000 and 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internally Displaced People</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: African Reporter, 2015
The most common form of migration is domestic migration. Domestic migrants represent 76% of the total migrants. According to Julian, secondary cities are often used as transit cities by migrants looking for economic opportunities. Though, in many cases, they do not have the mandates nor capacities\(^7\) to respond to the migrants needs.\(^8\) However, secondary cities if capacitated, have significant potential to transform and drive rural and regional development and have women and men, boys and girls benefit from it. This raises the question, of the scale of the potential impact on global human mobility, if the governance and economies of secondary cities were to be transformed would it result in the attraction of investment and generation of decent gender-responsive employment opportunities?

3. **Better linking places of origin and destination**

The source community of migrants is also strongly affected by migration, for example, through brain drain\(^9\) and remittances that migrants send back to their home communities. Research shows that remittances are currently mostly invested into direct needs and tend to decline over time. An idea for the JWP would be to investigate how places of origin and destination could be better linked, for example through investing remittances more effectively and exploring a reverse of brain drain.\(^10\)

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\(^7\) According to a study by IPE Triple Line conducted in cooperation with Cities Alliance, most African cities only work with 28% of the capacities needed to run a city effectively.

\(^8\) The informal economy creates 93% of new jobs in Africa. 61% of urban employment takes place in the informal sector, for women, this number raises to 92%.

\(^9\) In Kenya, 30-40 % annually of 600 graduated doctors leave the country.

\(^10\) For every skilled migrant returning to their home country, nine new jobs are created.
6. THREE PROPOSED STRATEGIC OUTCOME AREAS OF THE JWP

The rest of the day was dedicated to further discussion on the three JWP thematic lenses. It consisted of three parts:

1. A panel discussion with three experts on the different topic areas;
2. A group exercise with all participants, moderated by the three speakers;
3. The reporting back from the experts on the outcomes of the group exercise.

Methodology of the group exercise

The group exercise consisted of three rounds, 30 minutes each. The participants formed three groups:

1. Integration and Social Cohesion
2. The potential role of Secondary Cities
During the first round each group identified three main ideas/opportunities related to one of the three thematic lenses. During the second round, the groups moved to the next thematic lens and discussed the challenges to the ideas/opportunities that the previous group had provided. During the third round, the groups rotated again and suggested solutions on how the JWP could capitalise on the ideas/opportunities and overcome the challenges.

The rotating system ensured that each participant engaged with each thematic lens at different stages during the group exercise. At the end, the respective expert who led the discussion reported back on the outcomes of the group discussion to all participants. Participants were very positive about the exercise. They valued the groups' composition of experts from different fields for two reasons: first of all, the exercise provided a wide pool of knowledge from various sectors. Second of all, participants avoided the use of technical jargon which helped the discussion to concentrate on the most important issues.

The following sections of the report will outline the discussions topic by topic. Firstly, the expert’s insights from the panel discussion will be shared and secondly, the outcomes of the focus session, as presented at the end of the day by the experts, will be shared and visualised in form of diagrams.

The workshop participants broke into three groups to engage more deeply into discussions on the three thematic lenses.

Markus Reisle, SDCs Head Global Programme on Migration and Development, joined the discussions of the focus session.
Integration and social cohesion

Session Expert:
Marie-Jose Tayah (IDWF, Regional Coordinator)

Introduction:
Marie-Jose shared insights from the civil society by referring to her work as the Regional Coordinator of IDWF (International Domestic Workers Federation)\(^\text{11}\). IDWF recently conducted a survey to investigate domestic workers’ level of engagement in governance structures at the local, national and global level. The results of the survey demonstrated that domestic workers are mostly excluded from labour law and social protection. Migrant domestic workers do sometimes engage with local governance in their countries of origin but not in their host country. They often live in the employers’ home, which tends to make them invisible as workers. Even where they are covered by laws, they may not be covered in practice. In the Philippines, for example, there are strong domestic workers unions which engage with municipalities and raise awareness on workers’ rights at the local level. However, those who migrate abroad, either do not participate or are not included in these activities.

Political participation at the local level can play an important role in fostering integration. This can create a platform for discussion for foreign domestic workers allowing them to build alliances with other nationalities and organisations. IDWF’s survey indicates that cross-sectoral partnerships, for example, between home-based worker organisations and non-domestic workers can be a successful way to promote social cohesion\(^\text{12}\).

Discussion Outcomes:
THE IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC SPACES AS KEY AREAS TO FOSTER INTEGRATION

The first idea discussed in small group was the importance of public spaces as key areas to foster integration. According to the group, public spaces should be accessible and affordable for migrants. In addition to that, services delivered in/through public spaces should not distinguish between different groups - migrants/non-migrants, ethnic groups, etc.

\(\text{IDWF is a membership-based global organization of domestic and household workers. It currently has 65 affiliates from 54 countries, mostly trade unions, associations, networks and worker’s cooperatives, thereby representing 500,000 domestic/household worker’s members. Most of the workers are from of East Asian origin and have migrated to the Middle East for economic reasons. IDWF’s aim is to develop the capacity of workers’ organizations and to build a movement to improve the living standards of domestic workers.}\)

\(\text{The example of Lebanon was provided where women’s groups and workers’ unions collaborated in migrant community centres on advocating for workers’ rights.}\)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPPORTUNITY</th>
<th>1) INCLUSIVE PUBLIC SPACES</th>
<th>CHALLENGES</th>
<th>SOLUTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Creating inclusive public spaces is of importance to foster integration</td>
<td>Public spaces often not accessible for migrants or inclusive of their needs</td>
<td>Migrants are excluded from planning process, or are not participating out of lack of interest, time, or resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Community-visioning exercises, inclusive of migrant voices, to identify and shape public spaces</td>
<td>Better use of existing public spaces</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As illustrated in the above figure, three challenges were identified regarding the degree of inclusivity of public spaces. Firstly, public spaces are often inaccessible to migrants or inclusive to their needs. In addition to this, competition for resources in public spaces does not promote cohesion and integration between different groups. Secondly, migrants may be excluded from the planning processes. This may be due to the lack of data or to the lack of inclusion of migrant’s perspective in the policy making process. Consequently, their needs may not be taken into consideration.

On the other hand, in some case, migrants deliberately choose not to participate to planning processes due to lack of interest, time, resources or language issues. Thirdly, the structures of the public spaces might be informal and not recognized by the local authorities.

In order to overcome these challenges, the audience suggested to ally with local authorities to promote community-visioning exercises to identify and shape public spaces as well as identify the needs of the communities. They also suggested to try to make better use of existing public spaces and institutions to foster social cohesion. Finally, they suggested to build upon public-private partnerships to better plan public spaces and create employment opportunities.

EXPANDING SOCIAL NETWORKS

The second round of discussion focused on the importance of expanding social networks. Most of the times, newcomers when arriving integrate into existing migrant’s communities. In order to promote social inclusion, it is necessary to go beyond these networks/communities and build broader partnerships with other sectors and local communities.
Two challenges were identified as difficulties that may arise for migrants to expand social networks. First, there might be cultural hostilities from the host communities against migrants/foreigners. Second, migrants may prefer to stay with their own communities as their sense of belonging and perceived obligation may be built from their community of origin.

Proposed solutions were to encourage different platforms of dialogue, particularly to the host community to challenge existing biases and promotes a mindset of tolerance. Another solution was for local authorities to establish policies that reach and integrate new migrant’s communities.

PROMOTE A PARADIGM SHIFT TOWARDS THE PROMOTION OF INCLUSIVE POLICIES

The third discussed idea took place around the topic of the need for inclusive policies to be implemented at the local level. Local policies should promote migrants access to housing, formal work, public services and other basic needs.
Three challenges were identified by the group. Firstly, the lack of incentive that may arise from local governments. Secondly, the lack of capacities and mandates of the authorities to sufficiently support migrants at the local level. Thirdly, the existence of cultural biases against migrant’s communities.

Solutions to overcome these challenges were proposed. On the one hand, policy makers should be supported by sufficient, adequate and available data related to migrants needs, movements, and area of vulnerability. Capacity building support should be provided to local authorities, including integration training on recognition of migrant’s skills and culture. On the other hand, migrants need to be aware of the local area they are entering in terms of work needs and housing policies.

The potential role of secondary cities

Session Expert
Julian Baskin (Cities Alliance, Head of Programme Unit)

Introduction:
Julian highlighted the interconnectivity between cities, rural areas and migratory flows from the urban planning perspective. Migration is often depicted as a collective phenomenon, though it consists of many different individual household decisions, incentives, and pathways. Building on his earlier reasoning regarding rural-urban migration, Julian advocated for strengthening the role of secondary cities. If secondary cities offered the necessary employment opportunities and social services, people would no longer move because they are forced by existential needs but because they are attracted by the liveability of the city. He reasoned that changing the nature of secondary cities would also change the nature of migration.

Discussion Outcomes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPPORTUNITY</th>
<th>1) LINKING RURAL AND URBAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harvest economic opportunities for city residents and commuters from rural areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHALLENGES</th>
<th>SOLUTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No-clear definition of a secondary city (could be anything from small to big city)</td>
<td>Establishing a framework which encourages investments into the city and ensures their reinvestment in order to create long-term employment opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenge of attracting investment, and ensuring reinvestment, into the city</td>
<td>Challenges in governance structure to (i) closely link rural and urban areas, (ii) ensure pro-poor engagement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROMOTE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES BY LINKING RURAL AND URBAN AREAS

Secondary cities can present economic opportunities for city residents and commuters from rural areas. However, there need to be a clear understanding on how to harvest these opportunities and create employment by attracting private, public and international sector investment to secondary cities.
Several challenges were identified by the group during the discussion. First of all, there is not clear definition of what is a secondary city. It could be anything from a small town with a close connection to the hinterland to a big city with weaker linkages to rural areas. In addition to this, an important challenge is how to attract investments in secondary cities, and particularly, how to ensure money reinvestment into the city. Finally, it seemed complicated for the group to imagine a governance structure which can closely link rural and urban areas.

The provided solution to these challenges was to provide a clear definition of what we mean by secondary cities. Additionally, it was suggested to create a framework which would encourage investment and reinvestment into the city so that long-term job opportunities could be created.

LIVEABILITY: THE COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF SECONDARY CITIES

Secondary cities have the potential to provide the logistics, services and supply chain hubs to support national economic growth. These cities should be able to capitalise on their comparative advantage as they can provide an attractive option for migrants, offering better value amenities which can offset the loss of cultural and social facilities afforded by larger agglomerations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPPORTUNITY</th>
<th>2) LIVEABILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Capitalising on comparative advantage of a secondary to capital city (e.g. small size, peaceful environment, smaller informal-settlements and sector, better trading opportunities)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| CHALLENGES | When there are not enough financial resources to provide for residents’ basic needs, on which basis could and should local authorities prioritise liveability? |

| SOLUTIONS | Secondary cities investing into housing, health, education and public sector for secondary cities in order to distinguish themselves in their lifestyle and opportunities from capital and to attract new residents on motion of liveability |

“Changing the nature of secondary cities will also change the nature of migration.”

- Julian Baskin
One important challenge was identified by the team regarding the comparative advantage of secondary cities. In a position, where there are not enough financial resources available to provide residents basic services, on what basis could and should local authorities prioritise on liveability?

The response to this challenge was that secondary cities have the potential to offer a different lifestyle in comparison to capital cities. Their direct comparative advantage could lie for example, in their smaller size, more peaceful environment, smaller informal settlements and sector, or better trading opportunities. If they were able to invest into housing, health, education and public sector, they could increasingly distinguish themselves from the capital cities and attract new residents.

**NEED FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT CAPACITY BUILDING**

Within the decentralisation process, the federal government should provide municipalities with the mandates, funds and capacities to implement changes. This would allow secondary cities governments to establish inclusive policies.

Some challenges were identified regarding local governance capacity building. First of all, in the decentralisation process, mandates are often given to municipalities without taking into account whether the local authorities have the capacities to fulfil these mandates. In addition to this, in many cases national governments have little incentive to provide local authorities with more capacity. They might be lacking capacities themselves. Finally, local leadership may not act towards inclusive policies.

Consequently, it is important to make sure that the institutional capacities of local governments are developed in a way that allow them to fulfill the mandates they were granted with by the federal governments.

**Better linking places of origins and destination**

**Session Expert:**
Loren Landau (African Center for Migration and Society, Director)

**Introduction:**
Loren shared numerous academic insights on processes which need to be acknowledged when working in the field of migration. He predominantly concentrated on how migration flows challenge our constitutional set ups:
while people are no longer constrained to one place, politics of citizenship and service provision most of the times are. Migratory flows raise some essential questions, of which the following two key points were highlighted:

- What does it mean to invest in the future when people are migrating? If a municipality empowers its residents to migrate for economic reasons, this often translates into a loss for the municipality in terms of workforce, tax income and knowledge, but into a gain for the individual’s life quality. How could one re-evaluate city performances to make these successes count?

- Many political participatory systems are only accessible for nationals or official residents, and municipalities only plan for and with those groups. A vast number of people which fall outside official residential categories, such as migrants, are excluded from the political sphere. How can we introduce political participation, particularly at the local level, inclusive for all and not only for official residents or nationals?

To approach both issues, authorities need to be provided with improved data on migration dynamics and be presented with the incentives to use this knowledge when available. Migration cannot only be addressed at the national or local governance level but also needs to be cross-sectoral.

**Discussion Outcomes:**

**NEED FOR STRENGTHENING MOBILITY SYSTEMS**

Not only places of origin and destination but also transit-routes need to be considered into the migration analysis. Consequently, systems of circulation should be developed with the objective of supporting more informed decision-making in order to reduce the precarity of people on the move.

The first identified issue was that data collection on migration tends to be quantitative and demographic. However, there is little available knowledge on reasons behind migration and on migrants’ vulnerabilities and needs. Moreover, even when data exists, there is little incentive for local government to use these in planning processes. Finally, because of the lack of inclusive policies, international and national jurisdictions often tend to push people into irregular paths of migration.

The solutions raised by the group to overcome these challenges included the need for improvement of qualitative data collection and analysis, mainly regarding social areas, among others: the obstacles for people moving, the resources migrants bring to the host society, how people use migration as a way out of poverty, etc. Additionally, there is a need to train and incentivise policy makers to make use of available data. Finally, best practices on how to support migrants should be collected transnationally.
PLANNING FOR MULTIPLE PLACES

Migrants have the potential to connect different places. Consequently, cooperation between authorities should be fostered to allow planning management to consider the overall benefits of migration flows.

1) STRENGTHENING MOBILITY SYSTEMS

**OPPORTUNITY**

Developing system of circulation which support people better informed decision-making and which reduce precarity

**CHALLENGES**

- Mostly quantitative and demographic data collection on migration, not understanding social context
- Lack of incentives for local governments to use data in planning process
- International and national jurisdictions forcing people into irregular paths of migration

**SOLUTIONS**

- Qualitative data collections and analysis
- Incentivising data usage for policy makers
- Capacity building of policy makers to better support migrants
- Collecting best practices of migrant support policies

2) PLANNING FOR MULTIPLE SPACES

**OPPORTUNITY**

Cooperation between various spaces that migrants bring into connection; planning for overall benefits and not only for one’s own locality

**CHALLENGES**

- National/xenophobic agendas hindering cooperation
- No value seen by authorities to invest in a person whose resources will benefit another municipality when the person migrates
- Little forums for engagement between municipalities

**SOLUTIONS**

- Building solidarity by using alternative categories of identification (e.g. not citizenship but parents, workers, students)
- Highlighting negative consequences of status quo (not supporting migrant communities)
- Research demonstrating how and why migration is positive in long and short term for host community
The main challenge hindering cooperation is the existence of xenophobic political agendas. This includes the lack of incentive for local governments to invest in people whose resources will benefit another municipality when the person migrates. As a result, there are currently very few forums for engagement between different municipalities.

As a response to this issue, research should be used to demonstrate how and why migration could benefit cities and host communities in the long and short run. At the same time, the negative consequences of maintaining a status-quo that would not support migrant communities should be highlighted. Opportunities and needs to build solidarity must be identified. For example, by using networks of alternative categories of identification beyond the national narrative including workers and student's categories.

RESCALING INSTITUTIONS

There is an opportunity to rethink our institution functions. Space-bound service provision and entitlement including pension, social security and voting rights work against mobile population needs.

Access to rights and services are mostly granted at the national level rather than at the local level and may exclude different groups, such as migrants. In addition to this, there may be a mismatch between the mandates and the capabilities of local governments to implement inclusive policies.

One way to re-think our institutional configuration would be to conduct an audit on the existing frameworks across different sectors which currently exclude migrant rights, in order to see how this could be reorganized. This would allow to reflect beyond the traditional factors which we perceive to limit people in their movement – boarders, question of citizenship, etc. - and evaluate the real institutional obstacles which stop migrants from using their mobility for their own benefits; including working licenses, housing, better health care services, better education, etc.
Markus and William closed the meeting. They thanked the participants for joining the inception workshop and the preceding day on cities in the global agenda. These words were echoed by Pio Wennubst, Assistant Director General of the SDC, who shared his excitement for the collaboration with Cities Alliance. William expressed the Cities Alliance’s appreciation of the vivid participation in the workshop whose results will inform the new JWP as it evolves. Over the next few months, the programme and its activities will be fleshed out, with a possible launch in early 2018.13

More information, full session presentations and picture on the workshop are available on the SDC, Cities Alliance Shareweb: https://www.shareweb.ch/site/Migration/Network%20Activities/Pages/2017-SDC-and-CA-Meetings-Switzerland.aspx
## ANNEX 1. AGENDA

**Lead facilitator:** Clare Short, Chair of the Management Board, Cities Alliance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
<th>PRESENTERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 9:00</td>
<td>Welcome coffee and registration</td>
<td></td>
<td>Markus Reisle, Head Global Programme on Migration and Development, SDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:10</td>
<td>Welcome remarks by SDC and CA</td>
<td><strong>Objective:</strong> Setting the context of SDC and Cities Alliance Partnership, and launch of Joint Work Programme</td>
<td>William Cobbett, Director, Cities Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10 - 9:35</td>
<td>Presentation on migration, cities and development</td>
<td><strong>Objective:</strong> Introduction to the concept of migration and development, with a particular focus on cities.</td>
<td>Markus Reisle, Head Global Programme on Migration and Development, SDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:35 - 10:00</td>
<td>Presentation on migration in global agendas</td>
<td><strong>Objective:</strong> Introduction to the history of migration and global commitments on migration. Link the global agendas and the role of cities.</td>
<td>Cécile Riallant, Senior Migration and Development Specialist, IOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 - 10:25</td>
<td>Presentation on proposed approach of the Joint Work Programme on Migration &amp; Cities</td>
<td><strong>Details:</strong> <em>Presentation (15’): History of migration dialogue; current status of the migration debate at global level, including its relevance for cities; how to reach international commitments on migration from the city level; case studies of good practices from cities to be highlighted</em> <em>Q&amp;A (10’)</em></td>
<td>Julian Baskin, Head of Programme Unit, Cities Alliance</td>
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<td>10:25 - 10:55</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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| 5     | Panel: Introduction to the proposed Joint Work Programme Thematic Lenses | **Objective:** The objective is to break the ice, stimulate discussion and more detailed ideas on the 3 thematic lenses expected for the JWP in the draft Concept Note in consultation with Cities Alliance members and partners in plenary.  
**Details:**  
- Introduction of session objective and methodology (5’)  
- Inputs from panelists on each of the 3 thematic lenses (10’ each)  
- Q&A (15’)  
**Thematic Lenses:**  
1. Integration and Social Cohesion  
2. The Potential Role of Secondary Cities  
3. Better Linking Places of Origin and Destination | Moderator: Clare Short, Chair of the Management Board, Cities Alliance  
Panelists:  
Marie-Jose Tayah, Regional Coordinator IDWF  
Julian Baskin, Head of Programme Unit, Cities Alliance  
Loren Landau, Director, African Center for Migration and Society, ACMS |
|       |                                                                         |                                                                                           |-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6     | Introduction to focus session methodology                               | **Objective:** Introduce the Focus Session Group Work (methodology and other details).  
**Details:**  
- Division of participants into three groups  
- Indication of rooms for each group  
- Q&A | Florence Lozet, Programme Analyst, Cities Alliance |
|       |                                                                         |                                                                                           |-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7     | Focus Session (Group Work) on the 3 thematic lenses of the JWP          | **Objective:** Facilitate the exchange of knowledge on the designated topic. Identify entry points for the JWP  
**1st Round (30 minutes)**  
- Group A > Table 1: Integration and Social Cohesion  
- Group B > Table 2: The potential Role of Secondary Cities  
- Group C > Table 3: Better linking Places of Origin and Destination  
**2nd Round (30 minutes)**  
- Group A > Table 3: Better linking Places of Origin and Destination  
- Group B > Table 1: Integration and Social Cohesion  
- Group C > Table 2: The potential Role of Secondary Cities  
**3rd Round (30 minutes)**  
- Group A > Table 2: The potential Role of Secondary Cities  
- Group B > Table 3: Better linking Places of Origin and Destination  
- Group C > Table 1: Integration and Social Cohesion | Table 1: Integration and Social Cohesion  
Lead: Marie-Jose Tayah, Regional Coordinator IDWF  
Co-Lead: Claudia Paixão, Advisor Migration & Development, HELVETAS  
Table 2: The Potential Role of Secondary Cities  
Lead: Julian Baskin, Head of Programme Unit, Cities Alliance  
Co-Lead: Florence Lozet, Programme Analyst, Cities Alliance  
Table 3: Better Linking Places of Origin and Destination  
Lead: Loren Landau, Director, African Center for Migration and Society, ACMS  
Co-Lead: Andrea Haefner, Intern, Cities Alliance |
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<tr>
<td>8 15:20</td>
<td>Reporting back from focus group session</td>
<td>Objective: Highlight of recommendations for city-level actions and global level advocacy by consolidating the ‘opportunities’, ‘challenges’ and ‘solutions’ from each analysis of the Focus Session Group Work. Details: • Reporting back (15’) • Q&amp;A (15’)</td>
<td>Federico Silva, Senior Programme Specialist, Cities Alliance Markus Reisle, Head Global Programme on Migration and Development, SDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 15:50</td>
<td>Way Forward and Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Objective: Wrap up and summarize points of discussion. Agreement on next steps and action points.</td>
<td>Pio Wennubst, Head of Global Cooperation SDC William Cobbett, Director, Cities Alliance</td>
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## ANNEX 2. PARTICIPANT LIST

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<tr>
<th>#</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Abbad</td>
<td>Lamine</td>
<td>UCLG</td>
<td>Project Officer</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Aeberhad</td>
<td>Peter</td>
<td>Caritas</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Baskin</td>
<td>Julian</td>
<td>Cities Alliance</td>
<td>Head of Programme Unit</td>
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<td>Majid</td>
<td>City of Jinja</td>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>Jinja, Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Nitin</td>
<td>ETH Zurich</td>
<td>PhD Researcher</td>
<td>Zurich, Switzerland</td>
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<td>Bhavnani</td>
<td>Ravi</td>
<td>IHEID</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Geneva, Switzerland</td>
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<td>Michael</td>
<td>WIEGO</td>
<td>Operations Director</td>
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<td>Jennifer</td>
<td>ETH Zurich</td>
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<td>Hans-Peter</td>
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ANNEX 3. MEDIA RESOURCES OF THE EVENT

**YouTube**

Videos
A series of videos with impressions and reflections from some of the participants. Watch playlist >>

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**flickr**

Photos
A collection of photos from the multiple activities of the event. Watch photos >>

---

**twitter**

Tweets
A list of tweets (not-curated) shared during the event, using the hashtag #MigrationCities. See Twitter thread here >>

---

**Shareweb**

SDC Network on Migration & Development

Event’s webpage
An info-page about the event including full presentations, videos, photos and other background resources. Visit page >>

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**Article**

A short reflective article was published in the aforementioned Shareweb in December 2017. See here >>