Workshop on Future Trajectories of International Migration

Preliminary Event Program

03-06 October 2011,
Population Program, Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado at Boulder

This is the first of a series of five "MetaExpert" meetings which aim at developing storylines and numerical assumptions about fertility, mortality and migration for the new IIASA-Oxford expert argument-based population projections by level of education. Each MetaExpert meeting is intended to bring together a smaller focused group of experienced researchers to develop science-based and transparent assumptions.

The overall aim of this meeting is to define the three sets of assumptions for the migration component of the global population projections. The development of these assumptions shall be informed by the recently conducted argument-based online questionnaire, in which respondents were asked to gauge the validity and impact of a wide set of arguments that could affect the future of migration. So far the migration module of the questionnaire generated 107 responses out of 535 total responses from members of international population associations.

The program outlined below is our best judgment of how to achieve our aim. As this is the first of a series, we are very much learning-by-doing and are flexible to take onboard suggested changes throughout the meeting. Initially, we intend to present the overall objectives and our current research and baseline data. These are followed by a series of round table discussions which aim to critically review the current thinking on future trends in migration, including the questionnaire results. We then proceed to define three storylines that describe alternative future migration trajectories. This is followed by discussions to set numerical assumptions of future immigration and emigration related to each storyline. If we find the time to do so, we will also discuss migration flows by level of education. We will discuss countries in turn for each continent.

Monday 03rd October 2011

7.00 – 9.00 Welcome & Group Dinner, Hotel St. Julien.

Tuesday 04th October 2011

8.30 – 9.00 Coffee, tea and light breakfast available

9.00 – 10.45 Presentations by members of the organizing team

Toward a New Set of Science-based World Population Projections by Age, Sex, and Level of Educational Attainment for individual Countries (approx. 10 min)
Bill Butz

The aim of the workshop, intended outcomes (with an example from the fertility module) and first results of the online questionnaire on migration (approx. 20 min)
Nikola Sander & Guy Abel

Developing the baseline data on migration flows based on World Bank bilateral stock matrices (approx. 20 min plus discussion)
Guy Abel

Towards a better understanding of the intensity and spatial patterns of international migration, 1960-2010 (approx. 15 min)
Nikola Sander

10.45 – 11.15 Morning tea

11.15 – 12.30 Roundtable discussions on defining scenario storylines to describe alternative futures of migration at the global level
Chair: Bill Butz

12.30 – 1.45 Lunch

1:45 – 3.30 Roundtable discussions on defining scenario storylines to describe alternative futures of migration at the global level, continued

3.30 – 4.00 Afternoon tea

4.00 – 5.30 Roundtable discussions on numerical assumptions about immigration and emigration by country
Round 1: America

7.00 – 9.00 Group Dinner, Boulder Cork Steak House

Wednesday 05th October 2011

8.30 – 9.00 Coffee, tea and light breakfast available

9.00 - 10.45 Roundtable discussions on numerical assumptions, continued
Round 2: Africa; Round 3: Europe

10.45 – 11.15 Morning tea

11.15 – 12.30 Roundtable discussions on numerical assumptions, continued
Round 4: Asia; Round 5: Oceania

12.30 – 1.45 Lunch

1.45 – 3.00 Roundtable discussions on the educational composition of migration flows

3.00 – 3.30 Afternoon tea

3.30 – 4.30 Roundtable discussions on the educational composition of migration flows, continued

4.30 – 4.40 Conclusion