



# Migration Concept

*By: C. Sanford Wesseh*

# Presentation Outline

- ▶ Definition of migration
- ▶ Definition of common terms or concepts use in migration analysis
- ▶ Classification or types of migration
- ▶ Factors that influence migration
- ▶ Impact of migration

# What is migration?

- ▶ What is Migration?
  - a person that moves from one region, place, or country to another
  - a person who changes location
  - habitually moving from place to place especially in search of seasonal work; "appalled by the social conditions of migrant life";
  - Migration is moving from one place to another to change one's life situation. In this instance a person moving to another part of town is probably not migrating, but a person moving to another country for an extended period



# What is Migration? Con't

- ▶ Defining migration or who is a migrant is a problem but there is a general consensus that migration consists of only those spatial movements that involve a change of place of usual residence and crossing of political boundary.
- ▶ The concept of residence is of significance to the definition of migration for it combines the two elements on which the definition must hinge—length of stay and purpose of stay in the area of arrival.



# Who is a migrant?

- ▶ Defining precisely who is, and who is not, a migrant is extremely difficult.
- ▶ Is a student going to the U.S. from Liberia to study for a year a migrant, or is he just a visitor?
- ▶ Is a Liberian who works in Somalia a migrant?
- ▶ Is someone who leaves Logan Town for Rehab Community a migrant?
- ▶ The problem is essentially that being a migrant is not simply a matter of moving a certain length of time. It involves an attitude of mind—the concept of intention



# Who is a migrant?

- ▶ The fact that being a migrant involves future intentions about whether to stay creates many problems for statistics gatherers.
- ▶ Among other things, it means that the event of migration is not –clear –cut or precisely locatable in either time or space.
- ▶ There are four criteria that normally satisfied migration:
  - 1). Space/movement
  - 2). Residence
  - 3). Time
  - 4) Activities



# Characteristics of Migrants

- ▶ Not all ages tend to move equally. There is usually a big peak among young adults and few people move after age 45.
- ▶ Young child also move a lot as they are generally part of families headed by the mobile young adult
- ▶ Older children move less as parents are perhaps willing to disrupt their education
- ▶ There is sometimes a substantial sex differential to migration
- ▶ Males tend to dominate labour migration flows
- ▶ The unmarried tend to move more than the married, as they are generally younger and have fewer roots

# Definition of key terms or concepts

- ▶ Migration—it is a process of population movement, which implies relocation of residence involving the crossing of a political or administrative boundary over a relatively long period of time.
- ▶ Migrant—any individual who has had at least one prior residence in a different administrative unit from his/her current residence.
- ▶ Internal migration—migration that occurs when both place of departure and place of destination are within one country
- ▶ International migration—change of usual place of residence that involves crossing of national boundary
- ▶ Lifetime migrant—a person whose place of birth was in a different administrative unit from his or her current residence



# Definition of key terms or concepts

- ▶ Immigrant—a foreigner who is enumerated in the country of destination with respect to his or her place of residence or a person who comes to a country where they were not born in order to settle there
- ▶ Emigrant— someone who leaves one country to settle in another
- ▶ In-migrant— a migrant at a current place of residence
- ▶ Out-migrant—a migrant moving out of his or her place of origin
- ▶ Migration stream –a group of migrants having a common origin and destination
- ▶ Exodus –a sudden mass migration caused by some emergency or catastrophe

# Classification or types of Migration

- ▶ Migrations may be **temporary** or **permanent**.
- ▶ *Temporary migrations* may be *seasonal*, as migrant workers move in search of work, or *periodic*, as when a worker, usually male, moves to an industrial, urbanized area and sends money back to the women and children, perhaps over a period of a year or two. A good example of periodic migration is the movement of males from their homes in Botswana and Lesotho to work in the gold and diamond mines of South Africa.
- ▶ International (immigrant or emigrant)
- ▶ Internal migration– rural to urban, urban to rural, rural to rural and urban to urban

# Factors that influences migration

- ▶ Natural and man made disasters–war, flood, famine, etc
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Marriage
- ▶ Job or employment opportunities
- ▶ Political Conflict
- ▶ Insecurity



# Impact of migration

- ▶ Economic impact (e.g. Remittance, housing investment, income, living conditions, cheap labor, brain drain, etc): In 2004, Morocco received 4.2 billion U.S\$ in official remittance. Morocco was the fifth largest remittance receiver in developing world.
- ▶ Demographic impact (Depopulation of rural communities, decreasing population growth, etc)
- ▶ Pressure on basic social services (e.g., universities, public transport, public toilets, etc)
- ▶ Congestion of urban communities

*Thanks for listening!!!!*