Negative Brief: Reform the E.U. Trust Fund for Africa

By “Coach Vance” Trefethen and Katherine Baker

***Resolved: The European Union should substantially reform its immigration policy.***

Case Summary: The European Union Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) is a foreign aid program that is part of the EU’s immigration policy. EUTF’s goals are all centered on reducing migration from Africa to Europe. It’s supposed to address the “root causes” of why people leave Africa to move (legally or illegally, regularly or irregularly) to Europe in search of better lives. AFF plan will reform EUTF under the argument that it doesn’t work to reduce migration and doesn’t improve the lives of the poor in the countries it’s supposed to be helping. This brief shows why EUTF is good and why it’s not a problem for EUTF to focus on migration instead of general “development aid.” In addition, since AFF’s reforms would have the effect of smoothing or encouraging migration from Africa to Europe, the Disadvantages show why that would be bad.

Negative Brief: EUTF 3

MINOR REPAIRS 3

Minor repairs would solve: 1) Better partnerships. 2) Clearer goals & benchmarks. 3) Manage expectations 3

HARMS / SIGNIFICANCE 4

1. EUTF is successful at reducing poverty and the need for migration 4

EUTF benefits refugees, migrants and potential migrants 4

EUTF is working. Example: Gambia 4

EUTF is creating jobs. Example: Uganda 4

EUTF is working on economic development. Example: Tunisia 5

Green Employment and Enterprise Opportunities in Ghana 5

Green businesses and Covid-19 response 5

EUTF food & nutrition success: Helped 937,000 vulnerable people 5

Supporting teachers and education 6

2. EUTF successful at helping migrants 6

EUTF is protecting and assisting migrants. Example: Libya 6

Migrant Protection and Reintegration program in 26 African countries 6

Improving Migration Management in the Horn of Africa 6

3. EUTF upholds human rights 7

EUTF integrated border & migration management improving human rights in Libya 7

4. Stopping smuggling & human trafficking 7

EUTF is stopping smugglers and traffickers 7

5. EUTF effective at solving migration problems 7

EUTF good model for migration challenges 7

EUTF improvement in coordination and collaboration 8

6. A/T “EUTF not doing enough humanitarian work” 8

That’s not its primary job. EUTF is an emergency fund to handle the migration crisis, not just humanitarian aid 8

Don’t need to worry about EUTF: There’s massive “foreign aid” / “development aid” funding available in other EU non-migration programs 8

AFF’s concerns about solving poverty in poor countries are understandable, but there’s a good reason why the focus is on migration: Because solving all the root causes is just too complex and overwhelming 9

EUTF is working on both economic development AND migration policy. And improving it! 9

Large amounts of funding spent on non-migration objectives like economic development and conflict prevention 10

7. EUTF isn’t “Failing” 11

Too early to tell: It will take 30 years or more of sustained effort at creating alternatives to migration 11

SOLVENCY 12

1. More study needed 12

Most research on African migration is too limited. We can’t develop good policy without better understanding of it 12

Widespread agreement that we don’t have enough data on Africa/Europe migration 12

DISADVANTAGES 13

1. Brain drain 13

Link: AFF plan wants EUTF to spend less on blocking migration and more on encouraging safer migration from Africa to Europe 13

Link: Increased migration from poor countries = brain drain (the smarter, professional types are likely to migrate) 13

Link: Brain drain from Africa harms Africa 2 ways: 1) lose talented people; 2) increased cost of education spending to replace them 13

Impact: Massive social costs to African countries. 13

Impact: Long term loss of economic development in poor countries 14

2. Remittances 14

Link: Viewing migration as a tool for development, leading to more migration from Africa, leads to higher remittances sent back to Africa 14

Impact: Remittances = laziness, dependency, and unemployment 14

Impact: Poor countries receiving remittances get stuck in a lower-growth economy 15

Impact: Bosnia study finds long term effects of remittances = overall negative effect on the economy, higher unemployment 15

Impact: Bosnia Study finds remittances cause: brain drain, slower economic growth, more government corruption, lazy reliance on “free aid” 15

Impact: Remittances create a disincentive to work, leading to economic damage 16

Impact: Remittances fuel and incentivize government corruption in the receiving country. Example: Bosnia 16

3. Family breakdowns 17

Link: AFF encourages or eases migration from Africa to Europe 17

Individuals who go abroad to work cause strain and harm to their families 17

Nigerian immigrant in Belgium says: “We were much happier and united” before he migrated to Europe 17

4. Subverting human rights in Africa 18

Link: AFF wants to encourage more migration from Africa to Europe 18

Impact: Migrants from Africa get radicalized in Europe and then undermine democracy/human rights with their influence back in Africa 18

Works Cited 19

Negative Brief: EUTF

MINOR REPAIRS

Minor repairs would solve: 1) Better partnerships. 2) Clearer goals & benchmarks. 3) Manage expectations

Elizabeth Collett and Aliyyah Ahad 2017 (with the Migration Policy Institute Europe, an international research organization) “EU MIGRATION PARTNERSHIPS – A work in progress” December 2017 <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/TCM-EUMigrationPartnerships-FINAL.pdf>



HARMS / SIGNIFICANCE

1. EUTF is successful at reducing poverty and the need for migration

EUTF benefits refugees, migrants and potential migrants

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (The European Commission (EC) is the executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

The EUTF for Africa benefits 26 African countries among the most fragile and affected by instability, forced displacement and irregular migration. The main beneficiaries are refugees, migrants and potential migrants, internally displaced persons, returnees and the local communities hosting them, and other vulnerable or marginalised populations, such as victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants, youth, women and children. Civil society actors such as community or women’s organisations are also supported.

EUTF is working. Example: Gambia

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (The European Commission (EC) is the executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

Helping young people to find and create jobs closer to home In the Gambia, the Youth Empowerment Project aims to contribute to economic development and thus reduce migration pressure by improving the skills and employability of potential and/or returning migrants. The programme directly supports the development and diversification of the local economy by (i) enhancing employability and self-employment opportunities of youth, with a focus on vocational training and the creation of micro and small-sized enterprises (MSMEs), and by (ii) creating and improving employment opportunities in selected sectors, such as agri-business, eco-tourism, the creative industries or information technologies. Since its formal launch in February 2017, the programme has supported 2,000 youths, enhanced capacities of eight training institutions and assisted more than 650 MSMEs.

EUTF is creating jobs. Example: Uganda

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (The European Commission (EC) is the executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

Bringing host communities and refugees closer With almost 1.2 million refugees, Uganda is now the largest refugee country in Africa and the third largest refugee hosting country in the world. The Support Programme to Refugee Settlements and Host Communities (SPRS-NU) has created almost 4,000 jobs and provided professional training and/or skills development to more than 2,000 people from both refugee and host communities. The programme supports the objectives of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) strategy that Uganda has been piloting.

EUTF is working on economic development. Example: Tunisia

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (The European Commission (EC) is the executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

The EUTF for Africa has been working towards mobilising human talent and financial capacity of Diasporas network. The project «Développement des opportunités d’emploi et d’investissement à travers la mobilisation de la diaspora» has started working with the Tunisian Diaspora in Europe to raise awareness about existing opportunities to invest in the socioeconomic development of Tunisia.

Green Employment and Enterprise Opportunities in Ghana

European Commission Press Release, 2020. (The European Commission (EC) is the executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.) “The EUTF launches GrEEn, a project to create green jobs for at least 5,000 people in Ghana” 19 MAY 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eutf-launches-green-project-create-green-jobs-least-5000-people-ghana_en>

“Boosting Green Employment and Enterprise Opportunities in Ghana – (GrEEn)”, is a four-year action aimed at creating greater economic and employment opportunities for youth, women and returning migrants by promoting and supporting sustainable, green businesses. The project, implemented under the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa, will create jobs for at least 5,000 people in Ghana. With trainings and financial support for green businesses such as plastic waste recycling, clean cookstove production and distribution, as well as organic horticulture and compost production, the GrEEn project is expected to promote and support the growth of climate resilient local economies in two regions in Ghana: the Ashanti and Western regions. Ghana’s economic growth has not translated into sufficient productive employment opportunities, particularly for the youth who represent a large part of the population. Faced with the challenge of responding to economic, social and environmental changes, the youth often resort to migration in search of livelihood opportunities.

Green businesses and Covid-19 response

European Commission Press Release, 2020. (The European Commission (EC) is the executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.) “The EUTF launches GrEEn, a project to create green jobs for at least 5,000 people in Ghana” 19 MAY 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eutf-launches-green-project-create-green-jobs-least-5000-people-ghana_en>

Additionally, there will be support for the incubation and acceleration of selected Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) with the potential to green their business models in sectors such as agriculture, energy and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the project will use a flexible approach to adapt its interventions to the preparedness, response and recovery to COVID-19 through the GrEEn framework.

EUTF food & nutrition success: Helped 937,000 vulnerable people

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (executive branch of the European Union) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

Strengthening resilience of vulnerable communities through food and nutrition security Launched in 2017, the programme “Renforcement de la résilience des communautés vulnérables à l’insécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle” has already supported 151 constituencies, addressing the basic needs of 937,934 vulnerable people. It also allows beneficiaries to diversify their livelihoods and create economic opportunities to better cope with potential shocks.

Supporting teachers and education

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

Supporting teachers and education South Sudan still faces great uncertainties with large numbers of people in need of assistance and basic services in health and education. The IMPACT programme is helping to keep children in school by providing more than 28,000 primary teachers in almost 3,000 schools with salary supplements across all states of the country. These salary supplements aim to encourage teachers to remain in service and increase their attendance.

2. EUTF successful at helping migrants

EUTF is protecting and assisting migrants. Example: Libya

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (executive branch of the European Union, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

Protecting and assisting vulnerable and stranded migrants in Libya This initiative is one of many others supported by the EUTF for Africa to offer viable alternatives to the arbitrary detention system in Libya and prevent the deadly journeys that many refugees and migrants take along the Central Mediterranean Route. A Gathering and Departure Facility (GDF) has been set up in Tripoli to bring vulnerable refugees to a safe environment while UNHCR seeks durable solutions, such as refugee resettlement, family reunification, or evacuation to emergency facilities in other countries. This is the first centre of its kind in Libya.

Migrant Protection and Reintegration program in 26 African countries

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (executive branch of the European Union.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

The EU/IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in Africa Launched in 2016 through the EUTF for Africa, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative aims to strengthen mechanisms to protect and assist migrants along the Central Mediterranean migration route, ensuring that migrants’ rights are respected, and that the migration process is safer and better governed. Initially launched in 14 countries of the Sahel and Lake Chad region and Libya, it now covers 26 African countries across three regions for a total budget of EUR 350 million.

Improving Migration Management in the Horn of Africa

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (executive branch of the European Union.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

Improving Migration Management in the Horn of Africa The Better Migration Management programme aims to improve migration management in the Horn of Africa, and in particular to address trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants. Through the programme, thousands of migration and border officers or front line officers have been trained to address these issues more effectively. More than 1,000 representatives of police, prosecution and judiciary in Eritrea, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Djibouti have been trained to improve the investigation and prosecution of trafficking and smuggling cases

3. EUTF upholds human rights

EUTF integrated border & migration management improving human rights in Libya

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (executive branch of the European Union,.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

Support to integrated border and migration management in Libya The EUTF for Africa supports capacity development of the Libyan Coast Guards, the establishment of the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre, and the development of the integrated border management in the south of Libya. Human rights training is a key component to guarantee that the Libyan authorities targeted by this action comply with human rights standards in their operations. Through the first phase of the programme, 44 crew members of the coastal guard received practical and theoretical training, among other activities.

4. Stopping smuggling & human trafficking

EUTF is stopping smugglers and traffickers

European Commission, Contextually dated 2018. (executive branch of the European Union.) “EUTF FOR AFRICA” No date given, but references an agreement the board of EUTF made in September of 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/sites/euetfa/files/facsheet_eutf_long_online_publication_05-09-2019.pdf>

Dismantling criminal networks in Niger Joint investigation teams bring together 12 Nigerien police officers and six European counterparts (Spanish and French). To date, the teams have been investigating cases in Niamey, in Agadez and Zinder, shared best practices and introduced new modern investigation techniques. As a result, the volume and quality of cases has improved: 246 smugglers and traffickers have been prosecuted and 29 human trafficking networks have been dismantled.

5. EUTF effective at solving migration problems

EUTF good model for migration challenges

David Kipp, 2018. (Research Division: Global Issues Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs. Areas of Expertise: Development cooperation, Justice and Home Affairs in the EU, Migration policy) “From Exception to Rule – the EU Trust Fund for Africa” 13 Dec 2018. <https://www.swp-berlin.org/en/publication/eu-trust-fund-for-africa/>

From the perspective of the European Commission the Trust Fund offers a good model for future deal­ings with highly differentiated refugee and migration challenges in the African countries of origin, transit and destination. The Trust Fund structure permits the Commission to respond rapidly and flexibly to highly dynamic migration flows. Previously separate EU funding lines for external relations, home affairs, development cooperation humanitarian aid and neighbourhood policy are now brought together in a single instrument for the first time.

EUTF improvement in coordination and collaboration

David Kipp, 2018. (Research Division: Global Issues Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs. Areas of Expertise: Development cooperation, Justice and Home Affairs in the EU, Migration policy) “From Exception to Rule – the EU Trust Fund for Africa” 13 Dec 2018. <https://www.swp-berlin.org/en/publication/eu-trust-fund-for-africa/>

An interim stocktaking after the first two and a half years shows that the EUTF has been able to improve both coordination among EU institutions and their collaboration with the member states. The substantive contribution of the Trust Fund is harder to assess, given that diverging priorities have been applied in practice. Most of the funded development projects have been in countries of origin and desti­nation south of the Sahara and in the Horn of Africa, while a second set seek to improve migration manage­­ment in transit countries like Libya and Niger. The latter also include security-related measures such as equipment and training for the Libyan coastguard.

6. A/T “EUTF not doing enough humanitarian work”

That’s not its primary job. EUTF is an emergency fund to handle the migration crisis, not just humanitarian aid

David Kipp, 2018. (Research Division: Global Issues Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs. Areas of Expertise: Development cooperation, Justice and Home Affairs in the EU, Migration policy) “From Exception to Rule – the EU Trust Fund for Africa” 13 Dec 2018. <https://www.swp-berlin.org/en/publication/eu-trust-fund-for-africa/>

The growth in numbers of arriving refugees and irregular migrants has greatly increased the pressure on the Commission to address the problems affecting cooperation with migration-relevant third countries. New and rapidly applicable instruments for funding refugee- and migration-related support for partner countries are seen as key. These include above all the European Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa created at the end of 2015, which has become a central component of the EU’s migration cooperation with African countries. Today the EUTF for Africa is one of four EU trust funds established for emergency external action since the possibility was created in the 2013 Financial Regulation. Originally the EUTF was conceived only as an instrument for humanitarian support for countries in the Sahel and Lake Chad region. But after demand arose – in connection with the European Agenda on Migration – to boost dia­logue with as many migration-relevant countries as possible, the instrument was incrementally expanded to include a total of twenty-six African countries at the latest count.

Don’t need to worry about EUTF: There’s massive “foreign aid” / “development aid” funding available in other EU non-migration programs

Elizabeth Collett and Aliyyah Ahad 2017 (with the Migration Policy Institute Europe, an international research organization) “EU MIGRATION PARTNERSHIPS – A work in progress” December 2017 <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/TCM-EUMigrationPartnerships-FINAL.pdf>



AFF’s concerns about solving poverty in poor countries are understandable, but there’s a good reason why the focus is on migration: Because solving all the root causes is just too complex and overwhelming

Elizabeth Collett and Aliyyah Ahad 2017 (with the Migration Policy Institute Europe, an international research organization) “EU MIGRATION PARTNERSHIPS – A work in progress” December 2017 <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/TCM-EUMigrationPartnerships-FINAL.pdf> (Note: EUTF is one of the funding/implementation mechanisms for the “Partnership Framework,” so this evidence does apply contextually to EUTF, and is explained later in the same article)



EUTF is working on both economic development AND migration policy. And improving it!

David Kipp, 2018. (Research Division: Global Issues Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs. Areas of Expertise: Development cooperation, Justice and Home Affairs in the EU, Migration policy) “From Exception to Rule – the EU Trust Fund for Africa” 13 Dec 2018. <https://www.swp-berlin.org/en/publication/eu-trust-fund-for-africa/>

The EU institutions could expand their reach through the EUTF for Africa. It creates an instrument for co­operation with all African countries of origin, transit and first destination, which is usually divided between neighbourhood policy (North Africa) and devel­opment cooperation (rest of Africa). The EUTF has without doubt improved the fragmented funding of the external migration policy, because the participating EU institutions have to improve their coordination. In the Commission the Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) is responsible for implementing the EUTF. Its influence is visible both in the Fund’s strategy documents and in the implementation of most of the projects in the Horn of Africa. DG DEVCO has to coordinate with the Commission’s Cabinet and the Directorates General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (DG ECHO), for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) and for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME). The latter seeks to strengthen engagement in North Africa and where possible to tie EUTF funding to migration-related demands, such as improved cooperation on repatriation of rejected asylum seekers.

Large amounts of funding spent on non-migration objectives like economic development and conflict prevention

David Kipp, 2018. (Research Division: Global Issues Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs. Areas of Expertise: Development cooperation, Justice and Home Affairs in the EU, Migration policy) “From Exception to Rule – the EU Trust Fund for Africa” 13 Dec 2018. <https://www.swp-berlin.org/en/publication/eu-trust-fund-for-africa/>

Classical development cooperation approaches are especially prevalent in countries of origin for example. This is clearly demonstrated by the allocation of EUTF funds to the six participating West African states (as the source of half of all the arrivals registered in Italy in 2016 and 2017): Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal. Here 42 percent of the funds were was spent on employment programmes, 18 percent on strengthening resilience, 21 percent on migration management and 19 percent on improv­ing governance and preventing conflict.This con­trasts with the distribution in transit countries like Burkina Faso, Chad, Djibouti, Libya, Mauritania and Niger, where the largest share goes to migration management (35 percent), followed by programmes for improving governance and preventing conflict (25 percent), promoting employment (22 percent), and strengthening resilience (17 percent).

7. EUTF isn’t “Failing”

Too early to tell: It will take 30 years or more of sustained effort at creating alternatives to migration

Elizabeth Collett and Aliyyah Ahad 2017 (with the Migration Policy Institute Europe, an international research organization) “EU MIGRATION PARTNERSHIPS – A work in progress” December 2017 <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/TCM-EUMigrationPartnerships-FINAL.pdf>



SOLVENCY

1. More study needed

Most research on African migration is too limited. We can’t develop good policy without better understanding of it

Dr. Franzisca Zanker 2019 (Senior research fellow at the Arnold-Bergstraesser Institute, Germany; PhD in Political Science from Eberhard-Karls University) 8 May 2019 “Managing or restricting movement? Diverging approaches of African and European migration governance” COMPARATIVE MIGRATION STUDIES <https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9>

When it comes to migration governance in and with African countries, research tends to be geographically and thematically limited, focusing only on one region or type of migration category, e.g. forced versus ‘voluntary’ (usually labour) migration (e.g. Brachet, [2010](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#ref-CR4); Rwamatwara, [2005](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#ref-CR28)). Moreover, whilst the literature on migration patterns in Africa repeatedly highlights the fact that most African migration is inner-African, this is not reflected in the literature on the topic, which largely focuses on ‘South-North’ migration (Flahaux & De Haas, [2016](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#ref-CR17)). Thus, a research gap exists in considering migration governance between Europe and Africa and especially within Africa. Understanding the rhetoric and practices of migration patterns of both continents is fundamental to improve their relationship and future cooperation.

Widespread agreement that we don’t have enough data on Africa/Europe migration

Dr. Franzisca Zanker 2019 (Senior research fellow at the Arnold-Bergstraesser Institute, Germany; PhD in Political Science from Eberhard-Karls University) 8 May 2019 “Managing or restricting movement? Diverging approaches of African and European migration governance” COMPARATIVE MIGRATION STUDIES <https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9>

Before considering the two approaches of easing and controlling migration in more detail, a few more general remarks on the understanding of migration. One policy area which everyone seems to agree on is the lack of reliable data and the need to build up better information and data on migration, including so-called migration observatories (e.g. B3, see Additional file [1](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#MOESM1) for all the document codes).

DISADVANTAGES

1. Brain drain

Link: AFF plan wants EUTF to spend less on blocking migration and more on encouraging safer migration from Africa to Europe

It’s in their mandates

Link: Increased migration from poor countries = brain drain (the smarter, professional types are likely to migrate)

**[Note: This article is referring in context specifically to migration from Africa to Europe, as you can tell by the title of the article]**

Dr. Franzisca Zanker 2019 (Senior research fellow at the Arnold-Bergstraesser Institute, Germany; PhD in Political Science from Eberhard-Karls University) 8 May 2019 “Managing or restricting movement? Diverging approaches of African and European migration governance” COMPARATIVE MIGRATION STUDIES <https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9>

On the former, migration has become increasingly accepted as a ‘tool’ for development. Resulting from this is for example the importance of remittances, especially in Africa (Lavenex & Kunz, [2008](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#ref-CR21); Van Criekinge, [2016](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#ref-CR29)). Thus, policies in this direction will seek to ease mobility (and lower transaction costs of remittances). Yet, a positive migration-development nexus is by no means widely accepted in practice. The relationship between migration and development is circular and highly complex, incorporating both positive and negative impacts (e.g. Clemens, [2014](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#ref-CR9)). Out-migration may lead to more remittances, but also brain-drain of professionals.

Link: Brain drain from Africa harms Africa 2 ways: 1) lose talented people; 2) increased cost of education spending to replace them

Prof. Brij Maharaj 2013 (prof. of geography at Univ. of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa) The African Brain Drain: Causes, Costs, and Consequences, Oct 2013 <https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-81-322-1047-4_7>

The trend is for such professionals from developing countries to fill the gaps in the labour market in developed countries. Africa has not been immune to these trends and losing skilled migrants has serious implications for development. The aim of this chapter is to present an overview of the African brain drain in terms of causes, costs, and consequences. More specifically, the chapter reviews the scale and extent of the problem, analyses the factors influencing the African brain drain, briefly examines the impact of remittances, and considers policy options to stem the tide. This has two major impacts on African economies: losing the most talented and skilled personel and increased expenditure on education and training to compensate for those who have left.

Impact: Massive social costs to African countries.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Feldman 2012 (U.S. Army Reserve, is an Africa analyst and the Africa team leader with the Foreign Military Studies Office at Fort Leavenworth) Nov/Dec 2012 MILITARY REVIEW <https://community.apan.org/cfs-file/__key/docpreview-s/00-00-03-09-44/2012_2D00_12_2D00_01-Africas-Brain-Drain_2D00_Its-Impacts-on-Security-and-Stability-_2800_Feldman_2900_.pdf>

AFRICA IS BLEEDING. Much of its lifeblood, composed of well-educated individuals who could help tackle its toughest problems, is flowing away. This hemorrhaging of engineers, doctors, teachers, nurses, businesspersons, scientists, and others with extensive training constitutes Africa’s brain drain. In a continent where relatively few attend elementary school, let alone college, these individuals on whom society has often spent a disproportionate amount of its resources to educate are taking their precious skills elsewhere. The impact has been enormous. Many hospitals and health centers cannot function because the African doctors and nurses have gone to Europe or America. Schools often lack qualified teachers. The list of projects and programs deferred because capable individuals are not available seems endless.

Impact: Long term loss of economic development in poor countries

Prof. Soma Rani Sutradhar 2020 (assistant professor, Department of Economics, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Bangladesh) 31 Jan 2020 “The impact of remittances on economic growth in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka” [International Journal of Economic Policy Studies](https://link.springer.com/journal/42495) <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42495-020-00034-1>

Remittances provide a way of poverty reduction and economic development when immigrants send remittances to the home country. On the other hand, this type of migration to abroad could damage the development process when the home country loses highly educated and skilled workers which is called brain drain. Thus, losses of human capital may affect economic growth negatively as reflected in the neoclassical growth theory.

2. Remittances

**“Remittances” are money sent by immigrants living in Europe (now making more money) back home to their poor relatives in Africa. It sounds like a good thing, but it turns into a bad thing. The poor relatives in Africa develop a “welfare” mentality, and sit back and wait for the free money to arrive and make no effort to better themselves or their country. In addition, governments in poor countries don’t have to try very hard to improve their nation, since their people are being supported by “free” money from elsewhere.**

Link: Viewing migration as a tool for development, leading to more migration from Africa, leads to higher remittances sent back to Africa

Dr. Franzisca Zanker 2019 (Senior research fellow at the Arnold-Bergstraesser Institute, Germany; PhD in Political Science from Eberhard-Karls University) 8 May 2019 “Managing or restricting movement? Diverging approaches of African and European migration governance” COMPARATIVE MIGRATION STUDIES <https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9>

On the former, migration has become increasingly accepted as a ‘tool’ for development. Resulting from this is for example the importance of remittances, especially in Africa (Lavenex & Kunz, [2008](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#ref-CR21); Van Criekinge, [2016](https://comparativemigrationstudies.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40878-019-0115-9#ref-CR29)). Thus, policies in this direction will seek to ease mobility (and lower transaction costs of remittances).

Impact: Remittances = laziness, dependency, and unemployment

Amela Trokić 2011. (Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration and is currently pursuing her Master’s Degree. She is also an IPMA certified Project Manager with extensive international work experience in Bosnia, Canada and Turkey. Originally a native of Bosnia) The Negative Long Term Effects of Remittance Inflow in Bosnia and Herzegovina <http://www.analyticalmk.com/files/2012/02/Amela%20Troki_.pdf> (article is undated and was probably written in 2012, but contains references to material published in 2011 and none later, so we can only be sure it was written as of 2011)

From a social aspect, remittances can cause those receiving them to become psychologically dependent on them, and therefore cause them to feel less obliged to work. Although remittances are meant to act as a reserve or provide supplementary financial aid to a household income or as a potential investment in entrepreneurial ventures, as previously mentioned remittances have been mostly used for consumption purposes. In this way, not only are they not contributing to greater job creation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but in some ways they are worsening the situation. The recipients of remittances become more or less reliant on these payments and, expecting them to arrive on a regular basis, do not bother to look for a job or even to invest the money in ventures within Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is evident from the rising unemployment rate, nearing 44 percent in 2011 according to the CIA World Factbook.

Impact: Poor countries receiving remittances get stuck in a lower-growth economy

[Ralph Chami, Ekkehard Ernst, Connel Fullenkamp, and Anne Oeking](https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2018/09/is-there-a-remittance-trap-chami.htm#author) 2018 (**RALPH CHAMI** is an assistant director in the IMF’s Institute for Capacity Development. **EKKEHARD ERNST** is chief of the macroeconomic policy and jobs unit at the International Labour Organization. **CONNEL FULLENKAMP** is professor of the practice of economics at Duke University. **ANNE OEKING** is an economist in the IMF’s Asia and Pacific Department.) Is There a Remittance Trap? Sept 2018 <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2018/09/is-there-a-remittance-trap-chami.htm>

Consumption spending is a driver of short-term economic growth, which in turn should also lead to longer-term growth as industries expand to meet the increased demand. But research that digs deeper into the remittance-growth nexus increasingly suggests that remittances change economies in ways that reduce growth and increase dependence on these funds from abroad. In other words, there is increasing evidence of a remittance trap that causes economies to get stuck on a lower-growth, higher-emigration treadmill.

Impact: Bosnia study finds long term effects of remittances = overall negative effect on the economy, higher unemployment

Amela Trokić 2011. (Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration and is currently pursuing her Master’s Degree. She is also an IPMA certified Project Manager with extensive international work experience in Bosnia, Canada and Turkey. Originally a native of Bosnia) The Negative Long Term Effects of Remittance Inflow in Bosnia and Herzegovina <http://www.analyticalmk.com/files/2012/02/Amela%20Troki_.pdf> (article is undated and was probably written in 2012, but contains references to material published in 2011 and none later, so we can only be sure it was written as of 2011) (Notes: 1) “Dutch Disease” refers to an event in the Netherlands where large natural gas deposits were discovered offshore in 1959. It created a sudden revenue boom, but ended up causing harm because they drove up the exchange rate value of the currency and harmed other sectors of the economy. It proves that a sudden influx of free money is not necessarily a good thing. 2) “Bosnia & Herzegovina” is the full name of one country, not two countries. It is sometimes shorthand to refer to it as simply “Bosnia.”)

Unfortunately, Bosnia and Herzegovina is already showing signs of this and is very likely to suffer from the “Dutch disease” – when “the inflow of remittances causes a real appreciation, or postpones depreciation, of the exchange rate, restricting export performance and hence possibly limiting output and employment”. Such negative long term economic effects, some of which can already be seen such as Bosnia and Herzegovina’s limited exports and high unemployment, are only one portion of the overall negative effects that remittance inflows into Bosnia and Herzegovina have on the country.

Impact: Bosnia Study finds remittances cause: brain drain, slower economic growth, more government corruption, lazy reliance on “free aid”

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The effects of these remittance inflows have often been considered positive, although much analysis and data is lacking most notably due to the country’s poor post-war bureaucratic system. Regardless, many citizens left in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been depending and living with aid from remittance inflows causing many to argue that remittances drastically helped boost the war torn (Bosnian war) economy because of this. However, upon further analysis of not only the economic situation of Bosnia and Herzegovina but the social one, one comes to see the detrimental patterns that have formed. Not only have remittance inflows slowed economic growth and productivity by helping reinforce an already corrupt government reliant on such inflows, but also by forming a nation reliant on “free aid”, unwilling to better the situation in their home country but rather search for ways to migrate elsewhere.

Impact: Remittances create a disincentive to work, leading to economic damage

[Ralph Chami, Ekkehard Ernst, Connel Fullenkamp, and Anne Oeking](https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2018/09/is-there-a-remittance-trap-chami.htm#author) 2018 (**RALPH CHAMI** is an assistant director in the IMF’s Institute for Capacity Development. **EKKEHARD ERNST** is chief of the macroeconomic policy and jobs unit at the International Labour Organization. **CONNEL FULLENKAMP** is professor of the practice of economics at Duke University. **ANNE OEKING** is an economist in the IMF’s Asia and Pacific Department.) Is There a Remittance Trap? Sept 2018 <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2018/09/is-there-a-remittance-trap-chami.htm>

The effect of remittances on work incentives makes this problem worse, by increasing the so-called reservation wage—that is, the lowest wage at which a worker would be willing to accept a particular type of job. As remittances increase, workers drop out of the labor force, and the resulting increase in wages puts more upward pressure on prices, further reducing the competitiveness of exports. Resources then flow away from industries producing tradable products that face international competition toward those that serve the domestic market. The result: a decline in the number of better-paid, high-skill jobs, which are typical in the traded sector, and an increase in low-skill, poorly paid jobs in the nontraded sector. This shift in the labor market encourages higher- skilled workers to emigrate in search of better-paying jobs. Meanwhile, the cost of living for most families rises along with domestic prices, and the loss in competitiveness means that more products must be imported, hurting economic growth. This in turn increases the incentive for family members to emigrate so that they can send money home to help relatives shoulder the burden of the higher cost of living. To make matters worse, remittances are often spent on real estate, causing home prices to rise and in some cases stoking property bubbles. This provides a motive to emigrate for young people seeking to earn enough to buy a home. The result of all this is a vicious circle of emigration, economic stagnation, rising cost of living, and more emigration.

Impact: Remittances fuel and incentivize government corruption in the receiving country. Example: Bosnia

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However, corrupt government in Bosnia and Herzegovina prefers remittances to keep the educated population in the country. In fact, if the educated population leaves they are more likely to find financial success outside of Bosnia and Herzegovina and send remittances to their family left in the country and as a bonus the corrupt government is left with a less educated and often older population which is much easier to manipulate. Furthermore, many politicians openly state how they rather have Diaspora who sends money into the country as oppose to the displaced Bosnian population returning. This critical political environment only heightens the negative long term effects of remittances and further initiates the brain drain occurring in Bosnia and Herzegovina

3. Family breakdowns

Link: AFF encourages or eases migration from Africa to Europe

That’s one of the goals of their plan.

Individuals who go abroad to work cause strain and harm to their families

Adediran Daniel Ikuomola 2015 (postdoctoral fellow at the School of Social and Government Studies North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa) 20 Sept 2015 “Unintended Consequences of Remittance: Nigerian Migrants and Intra-Household Conflicts” <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2158244015605353>

According to the [Human Rights Watch (2007)](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2158244015605353), reported increase in cases of child neglect in developing countries has been attributed and blamed on the decision by women to migrate overseas. Similarly, the absence of motherly attention through migration exposes children and male companions (husbands and fathers) to a lot of vices capable of breaking down family values and bond. A situation which might hamper proper upbringing of children, left in the hands of single parents with too much responsibilities to enforce shared morally correct behaviors. Although a number of studies have revealed the effect of migration on the family and household ([Emmett, 2001](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2158244015605353); [Thomas, 1987](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2158244015605353)), especially its impact on women, children, and the aged, this study through the narratives of female migrants in marital union prior to their journey abroad shows that husbands left behind are also affected, notwithstanding male figure at home controlling and disbursing remittances to other members of the family.

Nigerian immigrant in Belgium says: “We were much happier and united” before he migrated to Europe

Adediran Daniel Ikuomola 2015 (postdoctoral fellow at the School of Social and Government Studies North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa) 20 Sept 2015 “Unintended Consequences of Remittance: Nigerian Migrants and Intra-Household Conflicts” (ellipses in original) <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2158244015605353>

As described above, financial misfortune was capable of creating unhealthy rivalry among migrants’ relatives. It is often not uncommon for family members in sub-Saharan Africa to accuse one another directly or indirectly for misfortune, ill health, and failures ([Fisiy, 1998](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2158244015605353); [Schnoebelen, 2009](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2158244015605353)). Russel, a Nigerian migrant from Belgium, noted that there was much unity and love in his family prior to his leaving the country: “. . . We were much happier and united in poverty than it is now, with all the money from abroad”:
. . . In 2008, I made necessary arrangement for my nieces to join me abroad, so as to reduce the burden on me. I never knew this was going to disunite my siblings. Barely a year, the younger niece was sending money and other material things to his dad (my brother), unlike the other. This became a source of envy for my sister (a widow). She felt her own daughter was being witch hunted, by my brother and other relatives. A time came I was informed she (my sister) had packed out of the family house to a rented apartment. They were accusing one another of witch-hunting themselves. To avoid being dragged into the quarrel I did not visit home for two years. In 2012, my sister became hypertensive and within six months she had stroke. Today she is still bed ridden. The family is tearing apart. I always tell people that we were much better, happier and united in poverty than it is now with the wealth and luxury. (Russel, Interview, 2013)

4. Subverting human rights in Africa

Link: AFF wants to encourage more migration from Africa to Europe

It’s in their plan.

Impact: Migrants from Africa get radicalized in Europe and then undermine democracy/human rights with their influence back in Africa

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Feldman 2012 (U.S. Army Reserve, is an Africa analyst and the Africa team leader with the Foreign Military Studies Office at Fort Leavenworth, KS. He has published numerous articles on terrorism, the environment, and health in Africa and serves as a subject matter expert on these topics for various Department of Defense activities) Nov/Dec 2012 MILITARY REVIEW <https://community.apan.org/cfs-file/__key/docpreview-s/00-00-03-09-44/2012_2D00_12_2D00_01-Africas-Brain-Drain_2D00_Its-Impacts-on-Security-and-Stability-_2800_Feldman_2900_.pdf>

Some individuals who left nations that oppressed them for what the Western world would consider extremist religious views found the freedom of Europe and America the perfect place to incubate their radical and sometimes violent beliefs. Free to associate with like-minded individuals and use social media without restrictions, they advocate movements such as the introduction of sharia or attacks on Western-backed governments in their native lands. Ironically, they use the freedom they now enjoy in Europe and America to undermine the possible transition to more democratic and tolerant nations in Africa. Egypt is an excellent example of this situation. Although Mubarak was removed, his regime was replaced by the Muslim Brotherhood, a group that might be less tolerant of the Coptic Christians present in the predominantly Muslim nation.

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