



Irish Aid

Department of Foreign Affairs
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha



dsaIreland

a space for dialogue between development researchers
policy-makers and practitioners



The Migration- Development Nexus *Beyond the Impasse*

Ronaldo Munck

WHY MIGRATION MATTERS

- HUMAN RIGHTS CANNOT STOP AT NATIONAL BORDERS
- MIGRATION CAN BE HUGE BOOST TO GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT
- LOCATION NOW THE MAIN DETERMINANT OF SOCIAL INEQUALITY:

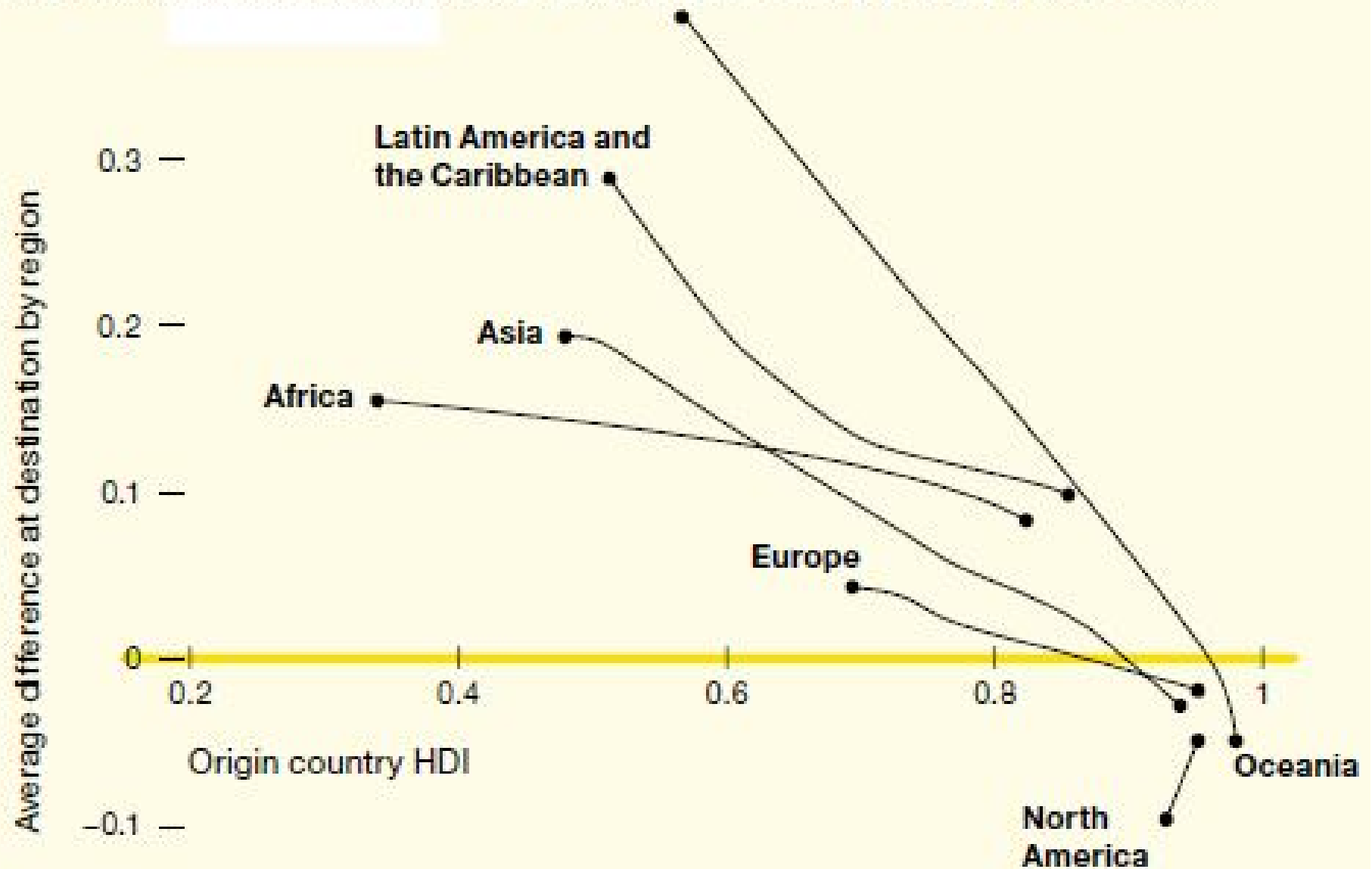
IN 1850 GLOBAL INEQUALITY ACCOUNTED FOR 50/50% BY BETWEEN COUNTRY AND WITHIN COUNTRY INEQUALITIES

IN 2000 85 % OF GLOBAL INEQUALITY DUE TO DIFFERENCES IN MEAN COUNTRY INCOMES AND ONLY 15% DUE TO INTERNAL CLASS DIFFERENCES

**PEOPLE MOVE FROM LESS
TO MORE DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES**

The poorest have the most to gain from moving...

Differences between destination and origin country HDI, 2000–2002

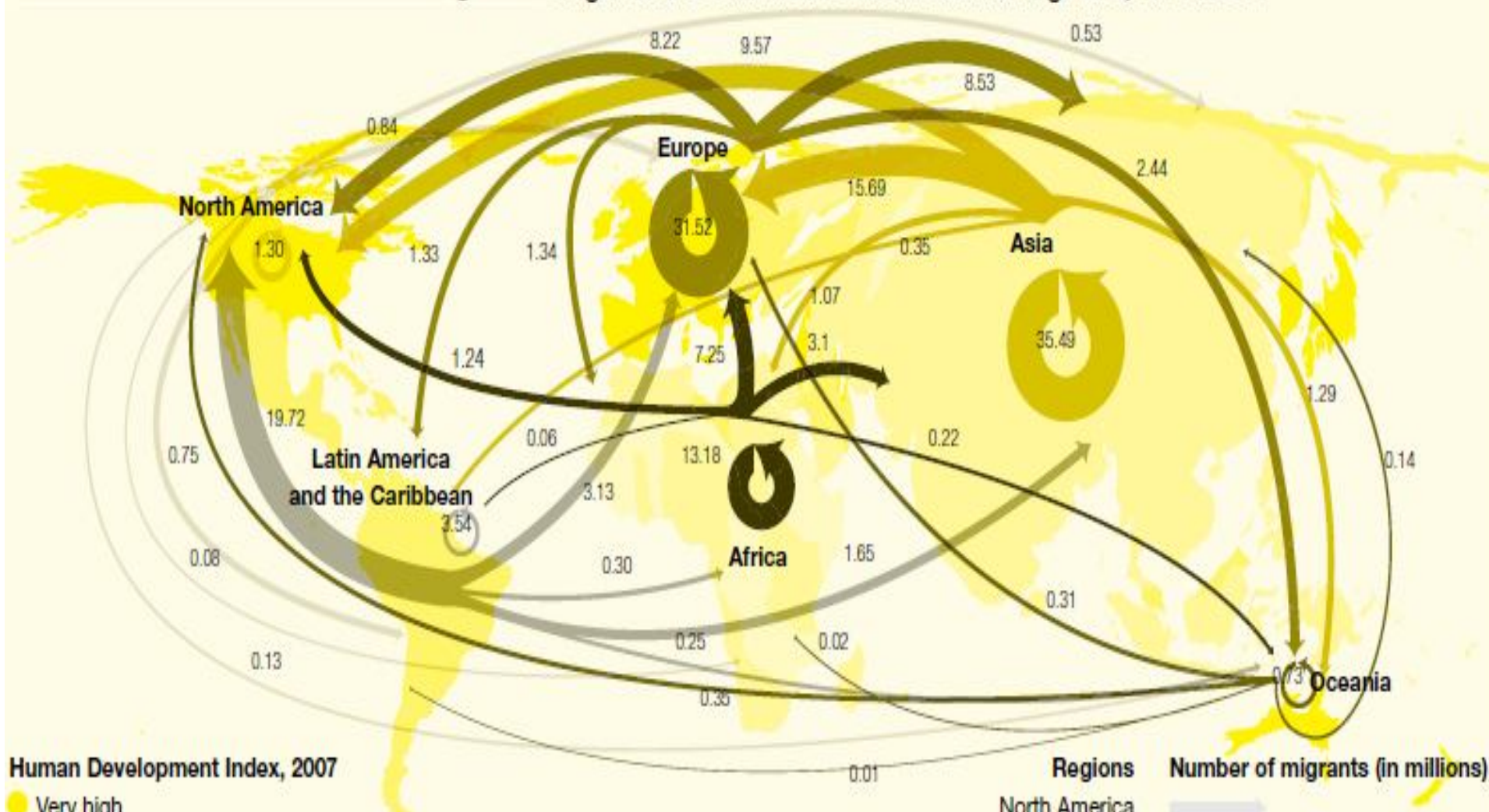


Source: HDR team estimates based on Migration DRC (2007) database.

Note: Averages estimated using Kernel density regressions.

**BUT MOST MOVEMENT
OF PEOPLE OCCURS
WITHIN REGIONS**

Most movement occurs within regions Origin and destination of international migrants, circa 2000



Human Development Index, 2007

- Very high
- High
- Medium
- Low

The size of countries is proportional to 2007 population.

Source: HDR team estimates based on Migration DRC (2007) database.

Regions	Number of migrants (in millions)
North America	
Europe	
Oceania	
Latin America and the Caribbean	
Asia	
Africa	

Intra-regional migration

MYTHS AND PERSPECTIVES



NEW YORK 1860

POPULATION
FALLS FROM 8 TO
5 MILLION
BETWEEN 1840
AND 1860. HALF
WENT TO US





20,000 CROSS
FROM AFRICA
TO EUROPE,
120,000 GO
TO MAHGREB

SAHARA 2000



Hola, Islamic Terrorists!
Here they come across our open border



MEXICO 2010

NORTH VIEW

SOUTH VIEW



THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES

1. MODERNIZATION THEORY

OPTIMISTIC

SOUTH GAINS

BRAIN GAIN

REMITTANCES POSITIVE

DEVELOPMENT/ MIGRATION POSITIVE CIRCLE

THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES

2. DEPENDENCY THEORY

PESSIMISTS

SOUTH LOSES

BRAIN DRAIN

REMITTANCES NEGATIVE

NEGATIVE CUMULATIVE CAUSATION OF UNDER-
DEVELOPMENT

THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES

3. BEYOND THE IMPASSE

ANTI-DETERMINIST

AGENCY COUNTS

NO OVERARCHING THEORY, COMPLEXITY AND
INDETERMINACY

HETEROGENEITY OF REAL LIFE MIGRATION-
DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

NEW APPROACHES: NEW ECONOMICS AND
LABOUR MIGRATION AND LIVELIHOODS
PERSPECTIVE. BOTH CENTRE HOUSEHOLD
STRATEGIES

MAPPING THE ISSUES



PARAMETERS OF MIGRATION

- **THE NEW MOBILITIES:**

CAPITAL/IDEAS/CULTURE/FINANCE/PEOPLE

- **FLEXIBILISATION OF LABOUR:**

GLOBAL LABOUR MARKET

- **THE RETURN OF INFORMALITY:**

BRAZILIANIZATION

- **THE 'PRECARIAT':**

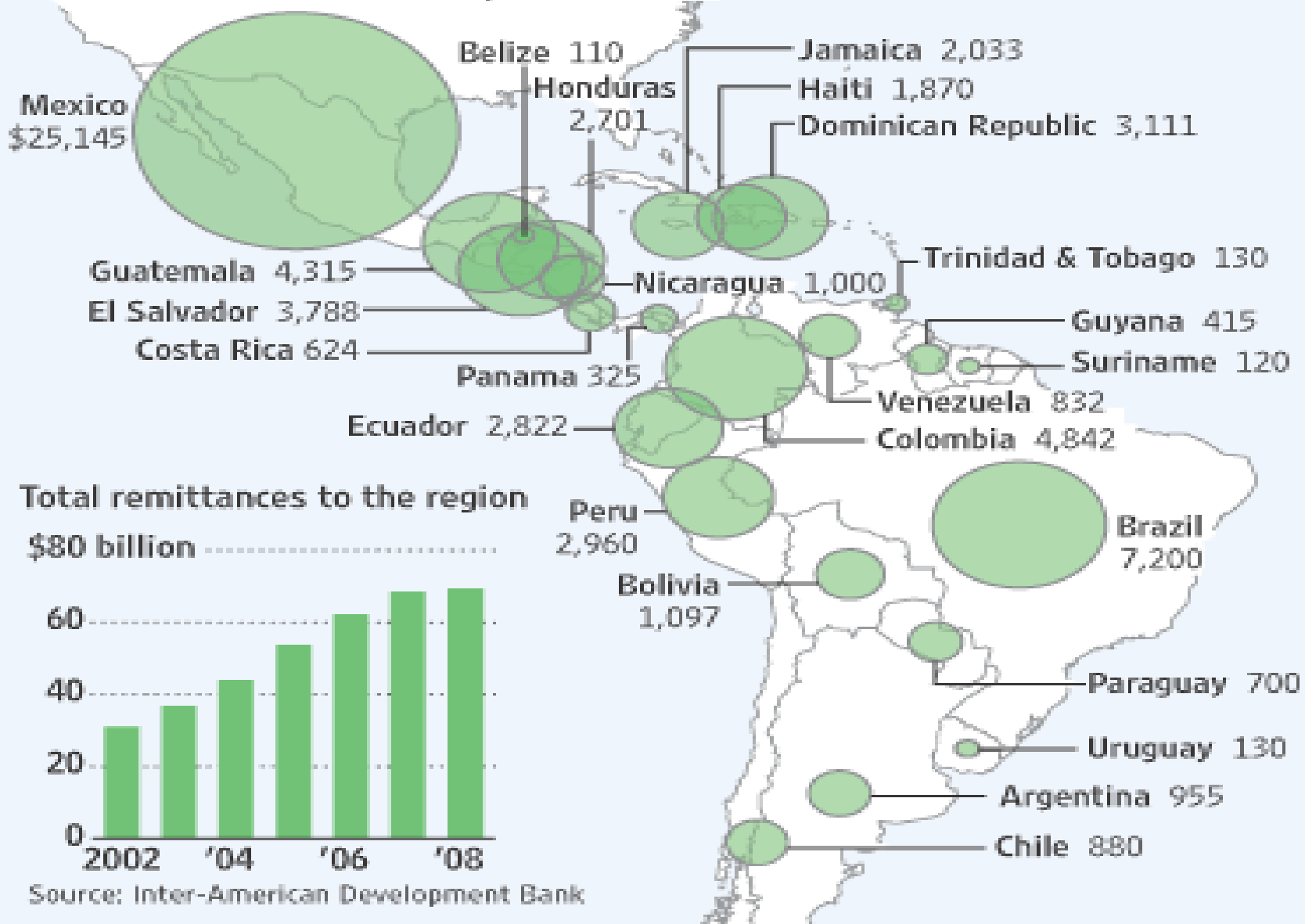
PRECARIOUS WORK, PRECARIZATION, MIGRATION
AND EXPLOITATION

THE REMITTANCES ISSUE

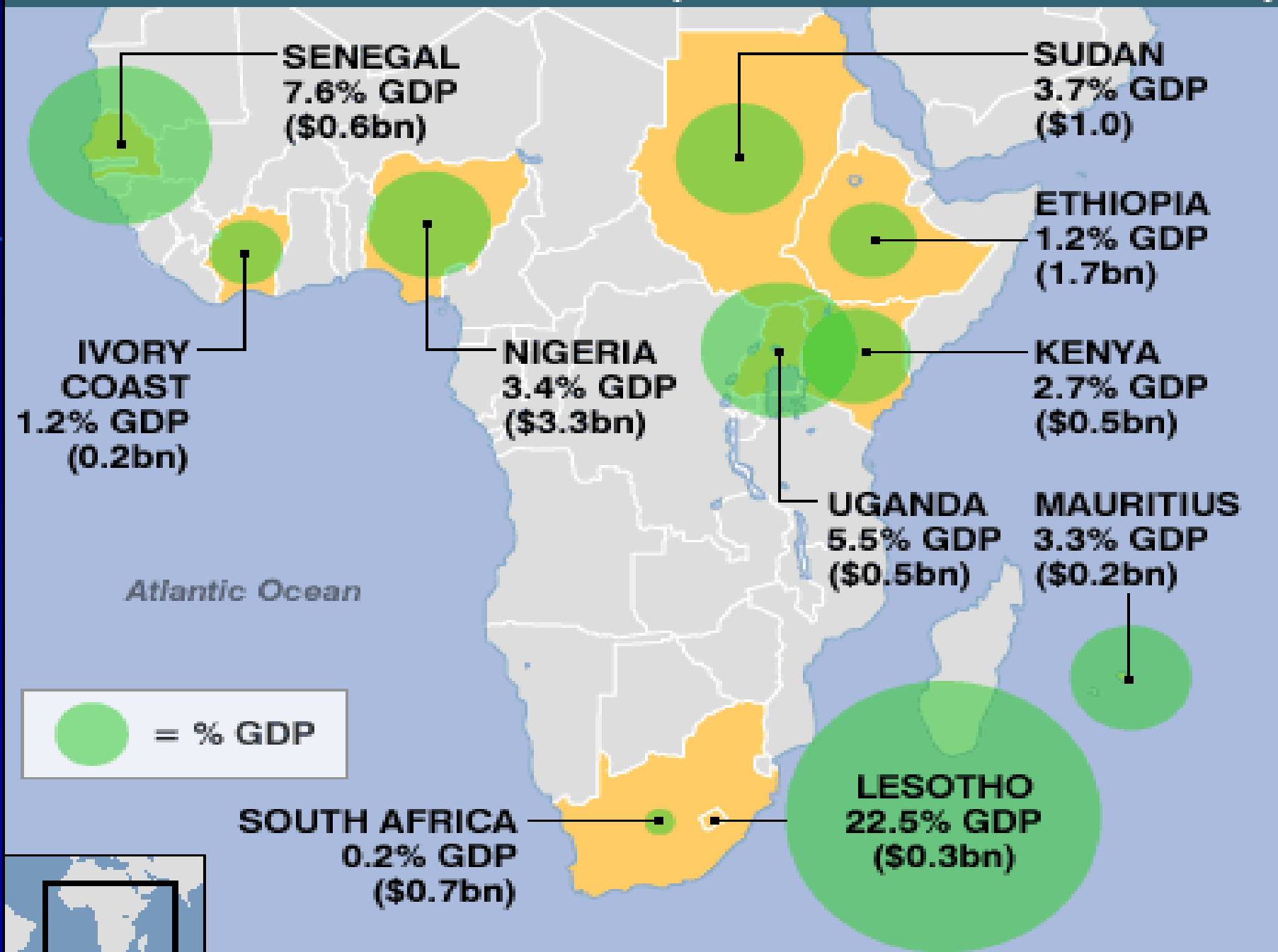
- GLOBALLY, THE WORLD'S 232 MILLION INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS ARE EXPECTED TO REMIT EARNINGS WORTH \$550 BILLION THIS YEAR. 3 TIMES GREATER THAN ODA?
- BUT IS IT ALL GOOD NEWS? OVERSEAS AID NOT NEEDED?
- WHAT ABOUT THE IMPACT IN TERMS OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT?

Vital Source

Money sent back to nations in Latin America and the Caribbean from around the world in 2008, in millions of dollars



CONTRIBUTIONS TO HOME ECONOMY (TOP 10 REMITTANCE RECIPIENTS)



SOURCE: World Bank 2005

REMITTANCES IN CONTEXT

- ONLY A DEPENDENT ELEMENT IN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS
- IMPACT IS CONTEXT DEPENDENT AND CAN BE NEGATIVE
- FOCUS ON UNEVEN DEVELOPMENT IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION
- DOES NOT ABSOLVE THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STATE

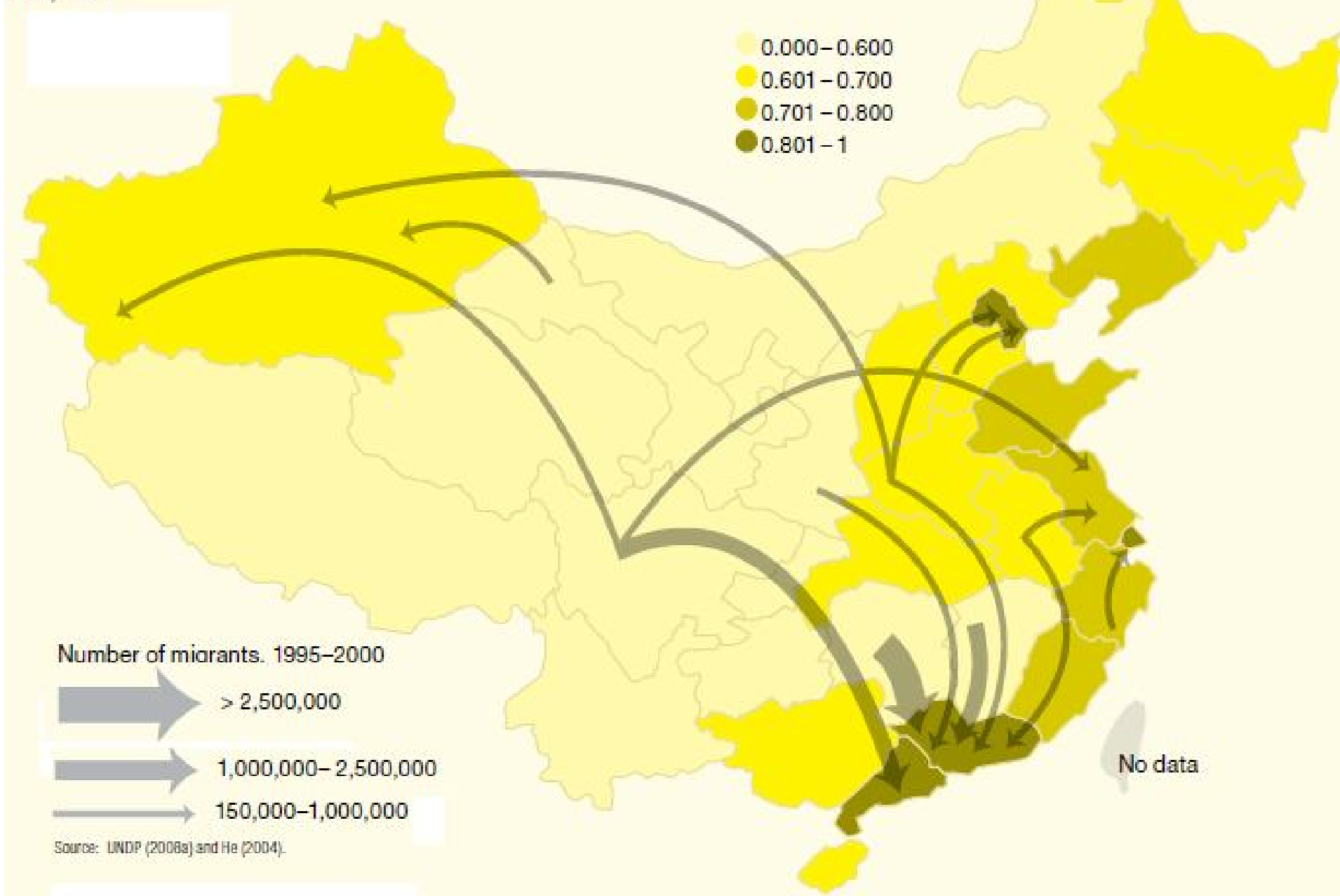
PARADIGM SHIFTS

- INTERNAL/INTERNATIONAL MIGRATIONS BLURRED
- DEVELOPMENT IMPACT OF BOTH IS SIMILAR AND NOT CONCEPTUALLY DIFFERENT
- INTERNAL MIGRATION IN INDIA AND CHINA IS DOUBLE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GLOBAL MIGRANTS

Migrants are moving to places with greater opportunities

Human development and inter-provincial migration flows in China, 1995–2000

HDI, 1995



TRANSNATIONALISM

- BEYOND METHODOLOGICAL NATIONALISM
- A WORLD OF FLOWS
- CIRCULAR MIGRATION

AGENCY

- MIGRANTS MAKE CHOICES
- MIGRANTS ARE WORKERS
- SOCIETY MAKES POLITICAL CHOICES

JUSTICE FOR JANITORS



BRINGING MIGRATION BACK IN

- MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT ARE INSEPARABLE; INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION RESPONDS TO SAME PRESSURES
- PART OF POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA IF WIDER DEVELOPMENT DEFINITION ADOPTED
- HIGH LEVEL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT 2013?