



Migrating out of Poverty

RESEARCH PROGRAMME CONSORTIUM



Our focus Our work is organised around three themes:

Income and Remittances • The Migration Industry • Gender and Generation

Income and Remittances

To understand whether migration improves the living standards of migrant-sending households our household surveys compare families with and without migrants. These surveys provide useful profiles of migrants, allow us to compare migrant-sending households with the broader population, and allow us to draw comparisons across countries.

The Migration Industry

The migration of an individual usually involves a range of actors including their own social networks, brokers, border control agencies, training and certification institutions and even NGOs and religious organisations. These entities, collectively known as the “migration industry”, have grown due to the tightening of restrictions on legal options for migration and their increasingly complex procedures. This has different impacts on the welfare, rights, freedom and economic status of migrants and the research on this theme aims to gain deeper insights into these dynamics in different cultural contexts. An improved understanding of the infrastructure that facilitates migration enables us to make suggestions to reduce exploitation and maximise benefits.

Gender and Generation

There is a common misconception that migration is an adult male issue. Within this misconception women and child migrants are considered at risk of atrocious exploitation, and children of female migrants are seen as left-behind and suffering from a lack of maternal care. Our research reveals the importance of looking beyond the migrant. We build evidence to understand the nuances of social relations in migrant families and analyse the responsibilities and freedoms migration involves for migrants and for those staying behind. This more detailed analysis of how gender and generation intersect helps us unpack what factors motivate the migration of particular social categories and helps us reveal the immediate and long-term impact of migration and the shifts to which it may lead.

Migrating out of Poverty is a research consortium funded by the UK Department for International Development and coordinated by the University of Sussex. We currently work with partners in Ethiopia, Ghana, Senegal, South Africa, and Zimbabwe and have also worked with partners in Bangladesh, Kenya and Singapore.

Our aim

Migrating out of Poverty aims to generate high-quality evidence on the causes, processes and consequences of the movement of people to inform policy and practice for addressing inequality and poverty.

Keep up to date with our work:



migratingoutofpoverty.dfid.gov.uk



@MigrationRPC



[/migratingoutofpoverty](https://www.facebook.com/migratingoutofpoverty)



migratingoutofpoverty.blogspot.co.uk

Dr Priya Deshingkar

Research Director

p.deshingkar@sussex.ac.uk
01273 873239

The Migration Industry

**Dr Dorte Thorsen**Qualitative research and
gender analysis theme
leader

d.thorsen@sussex.ac.uk
01273 678374

Gender and Generation

**Dr Julie Litchfield**Quantitative research
theme leader

j.a.litchfield@sussex.ac.uk
01273 678725

Income and Remittances

**Dr Robert Nurick**

Executive Director

r.i.nurick@sussex.ac.uk
01273 873368



Professor L. Alan Winters
CEO, Chair of the Executive
Committee

I.a.winters@sussex.ac.uk
01273 678332



Priya researches migration, poverty and development with a focus on precarious occupations, debt-migration, trafficking, slavery, labour rights and agency. She has worked in South and Southeast Asia as well as East, West and Southern Africa. Her current work on the migration industry has resulted in increased awareness of the multiple and conflicting roles that brokers play, the need to move away from a discourse that demonises them and which portrays migrants as victims without agency.

Dorte is an anthropologist with particular expertise in poverty and inequality, family economies, gender and inter-generational relations, child labour and child migration, non-formal education, employment relations in the urban informal economy, social protection, migration, and violence against migrants. Her research interests revolve around African migrations and rural and urban livelihoods in West Africa.

Julie is a development economist, working extensively on poverty and inequality in developing countries. Her interests in income distribution include these strands: the meaning and measurement of poverty and inequality, including statistical analyses of welfare distributions in developing and developed countries; the analysis of the causes of poverty and inequality, and the analysis of relationships between poverty and migration. Her recent work focuses on migration and conflict.

Robert's research focuses on undocumented migration in South-East Asia. His current research aims to promote safe and regular migration into Thailand from neighbouring countries, and includes partner NGOs based in the region working to protect migrants' rights. He has experience training and mentoring community researchers in the UK in participatory action research for organisations including Sure Start, Healthy Living Centres, local councils and the NHS.

Alan is a leading specialist on the empirical and policy analysis of international trade, especially in developing countries. His current work is focused on migration, trade and poverty, growth and China and the World Trading System. His interests include a wide variety of topics such as regional trading arrangements, non-tariff barriers, European integration, transition economies' trade, international labour migration, agricultural protection, small economies, pricing behaviour and econometrics.