



MiWorc LABOUR MIGRATION NEWSLETTER

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Coordinated by the African Centre for Migration & Society, University of the Witwatersrand

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Dear Stakeholders,

We are pleased to share with you the second issue of the Migrating for Work Research Consortium (MiWorc) Labour Migration Newsletter.

Following the first issue, we received several responses with inquiries on the various work packages and some opportunities for funding. We would like to thank all those who responded to the newsletter, and encourage the rest of you to contact us with any comments or queries you may have.

Some of the key highlights in this issue include the extension of the programme deadline to July 2014 and a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the ILO for financial support for Work packages 2 and 3.

Work is well under way in Work Packages 1, 2, and 3 and will begin in Work package 4 on Social Rights Portability in March 2013.

We take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and wish you all a relaxing end-of-year break.

Warm regards,

The Editorial Team

Partnership and Organisational Structure

Formalisation of partnerships

All partners and associates have successfully formalised the terms of references and contracts for this partnership. MiWorc seeks to respond to the gap in labour migration knowledge; we believe that bringing together policymakers, researchers and stakeholders is vital for responding to this gap through devising a way forward. We are pleased to inform you that we have formalised a Memorandum of Understanding with the ILO for support for



Work Packages 2 and 3 of the programme. We are glad that the research programme is generating great interest for further funding, and look forward to securing greater interest from development partners and stakeholders.

Our stakeholders' reach is also constantly expanding. Our nascent relationship with the National Labour & Economic Development Institute (NALEDI) through the participation of ACMS researchers as reviewers of its regional programme on migrant labour holds promising prospects for regional networking.

Kristine Alsvik (ILO, Geneva) visited ACMS in October and met with Zaheera Jinnah and Aurelia Segatti to explore possibilities for partnership with the ILO's Research Department. MiWORC documents were sent to Ms Alsvik for information.

Extension of the programme

We are pleased to inform you that the EU-SA Delegation granted us an extension for the research programme until the end of July 2014. This extension provides sufficient time to complete the research and engage with stakeholders on the findings and implications.



Research Update

WP1: Policy review

Christopher Nshimbi, a post-doctoral fellow working with WP1 coordinator Lorenzo Fioramonti, has been interviewing various stakeholders, including government officials. There have been challenges in accessing some public officials for the interviews. Although invitations for interviews on labour migration policies have been sent out to various government departments (the Department of Home Affairs (DHA), Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) and Department of Labour (DoL), only a few responses have been received. We have appealed to our partners and associates to assist in accessing some of these government officials

Lorenzo and Christopher met with ILO migration specialists, Kristine Alsvik (ILO, Geneva) and Christina Holmgren (ILO, Pretoria) to discuss the SADC Migration Policy Review under Work Package 1 and ILO's partnership in the project. They have also made advances in anticipating dissemination of their research by identifying forums to discuss the research project and findings. Of note Christopher Nshimbi met with ILO Deputy Director in Pretoria, Joni Musabayana, to discuss the relevance of WP1 for SADC Regional Labour Migration Workshop that has been scheduled for March 2013.

WP2: Improving the quality of statistical data on foreign labour in South Africa

Following the call advertised in September, we are pleased to inform you that MiWORC was successful in appointing Deborah Budlender, an independent consultant, to conduct the review of existing data sets and methodologies. Deborah has started work in collaboration with the WP2 Advisory Committee, and more specifically with Statistics South Africa colleagues from the Labour Market Division who have been working on the development of a new module on migration within Stats SA's Quarterly Labour Force Survey. The first draft of her review will be made available in March 2013.



WP3: Qualitative studies of regional low and high-skilled migration to South Africa

Zaheera Jinnah, Tesfalem Araia and Aurelia Segatti are undertaking reviews of the literature and policy for WP3. A list of key informants is currently being compiled for the research interviews.

Naturally, the research design and planning process of this work package will take long because of the broad scope of the WP and the size of the team involved in the research design and planning process.

Janet Munakamwe and Miriam Di Paola have been hired as research assistants. Janet Munakamwe has started the desktop research and will soon be assisted by Miriam Di Paola. Two intern students from the International Human Rights Exchange programme of Wits University have also been working on the project. A consultation meeting has been scheduled for 14th December where the team will discuss their progress on research, review the concept note, clarify and consolidate their specific roles and responsibilities, identify possible problem areas and finalize and adopt a work plan for the WP.

WP4: Migrants' social rights portability

We are pleased to inform you that WP4 generated great interest a number of those who received the first issue of the newsletter. The Southern African Trust and NEPAD (Regional Integration and Trade Department of the African Development Bank) contacted us showing interest in the project, and proposing funding opportunities for the programme.



Dissemination and Capacity Building Activities

Dissemination

Stakeholder mapping for the work packages has begun. A stakeholder contact database has been compiled and being updated for the four work packages. MiWORC seeks to involve all those working on labour migration throughout the research process. After the first issue of the newsletter was dispatched, we received requests from interested parties requesting to receive the newsletter. We would like to thank all those who took the time to share the first issue of the MiWORC newsletter. We encourage you to share this newsletter with all interested parties.

We also thank all those who sent us emails in responses to the newsletter. We would love to hear from you on the topics that interest you and aspects of the research you look forward to receiving.

We are currently working with a graphic designer to develop various templates for the programme's use. These templates will provide consistent branding for the programme and will be shared with you once they are finalized.

Capacity building

We would like to thank the Migrating Out of Poverty, RPC for funding Sharon Mina Olago to participate in a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) programme. The programme is based on action learning, and will form a strong basis for reporting for MiWORC. The workshop begins on the 21st of January, 2013, and will be hosted at the Community Development Resource Association (CDRA) offices in Cape Town.



Events

- Christopher Changwe Nshimbi participated as observer and presented the concept and components of MiWORC to the SADC Technical Working Group on Labour Migration Committee in Pretoria, **6 - 7 December 2012.**
- Zaheera Jinnah and Christopher Changwe Nshimbi participated in the Joint Technical Sub-Committees meeting on SADC Employment and Labour Sector Programmes on invitation by the ILO in Pretoria, **5 December 2012.**
- Aurelia Segatti attended an expert round table within the framework of the launch of a new World Bank initiative, **KNOMAD** (Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration & Development) and participated in its low-skilled migration working group in Geneva. For more information visit <http://blogs.worldbank.org/peoplemove/> and <http://go.worldbank.org/22403EWE80>, **3 - 4 December 2012.**
- Lorenzo Fioramonti and Christopher Nshimbi participated as observers and presented the concept, components and progress report on WP1 to SADC Technical Working Group on labour migration committee meetings in Pretoria, **23 November 2012.**
- Zaheera Jinnah and Aurelia Segatti attended the EU-SA Development Cooperation Consultation meeting hosted at the EU Delegation offices in Pretoria, **2 November 2012.**
- Thami Bikitsha of the Department of Labour attended the Decent Work Country Programme meeting hosted by NEDLAC in Johannesburg, **17 October 2012.**
- Christopher Nshimbi met with ILO Deputy Director in Pretoria, Joni Musabayana, to discuss the relevance of the Regional International Migration and its Impact on the South African Labour Market: Data, policies and livelihoods research project for SADC Regional Labour Migration Workshop scheduled for March 2013, **9 October 2012.**
- Zaheera Jinnah & Aurelia Segatti attended the NALEDI Southern African Migration Project launch workshop, NALEDI, Johannesburg, **4 - 5 October 2012.**



- Lorenzo Fioramonti & Christopher Nshimbi met with ILO migration specialists, Ms Kristine Alsvik (ILO, Geneva) and Ms Christina Holmgren (ILO, Pretoria) to discuss the SADC Migration Policy Review under Work Package 1 and ILO's partnership in the project, **25 September 2012**.
- Thami Bikitsha attended a course on Employment Policy at the *International Training Centre of the ILO* in Italy, **17 - 29 September 2012**.

Upcoming events

- Bob Deacon will give a keynote speech at the Regional Governance of Migration and Socio-Political Rights: Institutions, Actors and Processes conference, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) Geneva, **14 - 15 January, 2013**.



Comparative Regional Integration Studies

Contacts

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