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SPECIFICS OF MIGRATION TENDENCIES IN REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY

This article examines the main points of migration processes related to the international migration, and also, analyzes the causes and consequences of migration. In addition, the article studies the relationship between migration and development and its impact on the socio-economic situation in countries of origin and destination.

Globalization, demographic aging in developed countries, the development of the global labor market, the formation of a stable demand for migrant labor, a huge flow of migrant remittances – all this today gives international migration, especially international migration, a whole new meaning. International migration is an integral part of the modern world order. Today, migration is an important phenomenon, related to powerful economic forces: large differences in wages and employment opportunities, and also increase in income. However, it should be taken into account that migration presents both challenges and opportunities for both receiving and sending countries.

Migration currently also has a significant impact on the socio-economic progress of countries located in Central Asia. Currently, the countries of Central Asia have the potential to solve numerous social problems, replenish budgets and improve the financial situation of people through labor exports. The experience of many countries demonstrates the practical potential of labor migrants to improve the living standards of a significant part of the population and contribute to the economic development of the country. Analyzing the migration situation in Central Asian countries can help identify important patterns that are critical for formulating development-oriented migration policies.

Key words: Regional interdependence, international and intraregional migration, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, socio-economic consequences, Central Asia, economic development.

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Аймақтық өзара тәуелділік аясындағы көші-қон үдерістерінің ерекшелігі

Бұл мақалада халықаралық көші-қонға баса назар аудара отырып, көші-қон үдерістерінің негізгі сәттері талданады, сондай-ақ көші-қонның себептері мен салдары қарастырылады. Сонымен қатар, мақалада көші-қон мен даму арасындағы байланыс және оның шыққан және болған елдердегі әлеуметтік-экономикалық жағдайға әсері басты назарда болады.

Жаһандану, дамыған елдердегі демографиялық қартаю, әлемдік еңбек нарығының дамуы, мигранттардың еңбегіне тұрақты сұраныстың қалыптасуы, мигранттардың ақша аударымдарының ағындары – осының барлығы бүгінгі таңда халықтың халықаралық көші-қонына, әсіресе халықаралық көші-қонға мүлдем жаңа көзқарас қалыптастырады. Бүгінгі таңда көші-қон негізінен қуатты экономикалық күштеріне байланысты маңызды құбылыс болып табылады: жалақы мен жұмысқа орналасу мүмкіндіктеріндегі үлкен айырмашылықтар, күтілетін кірістің артуы. Алайда, көші-қон қабылдаушы және жіберуші елдер үшін қиындықтар мен мүмкіндіктерді білдіретінін ескеру қажет.

Бүгінгі таңда көші-қон Орталық Азияда орналасқан елдердің әлеуметтік-экономикалық прогресіне айтарлықтай әсер етеді. Қазіргі уақытта Орталық Азия елдерінің көптеген әлеуметтік мәселелерді шешуге, бюджеттерді толықтыруға және жұмыс күшін экспорттау есебінен адамдардың қаржылық жағдайын жақсартуға әлеуеті бар. Көптеген елдердің тәжірибесі халықтың едәуір бөлігінің өмір сүру деңгейін арттыру және елдің экономикалық дамуына жәрдемдесу үшін еңбек мигранттарының практикалық әлеуетін көрсетеді. Орталық Азия елдеріндегі көші-қон жағдайын талдау дамуға бағытталған көші-қон саясатын қалыптастыру үшін шешуші маңызы бар заңдылықтарды анықтауға көмектеседі.

Түйін сөздер: аймақтық өзара тәуелділік, халықаралық және аймақтық көші-қон, көші-қон жөніндегі халықаралық ұйым (ХҚҰ), Қазақстан, Қырғыз Республикасы, Тәжікстан, Өзбекстан, әлеуметтік-экономикалық салдарлар, Орталық Азия, экономикалық даму.

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Специфика миграционных процессов в контексте региональной взаимозависимости

В данной статье проанализированы ключевые моменты миграционных процессов с упором на международную миграцию, также рассмотрены причины и последствия миграции. Кроме того, в статье основное внимание уделено взаимосвязи между миграцией и развитием и её влиянию на социально-экономическую ситуацию в странах происхождения и пребывания.

Глобализация, демографическое старение в развитых странах, развитие мирового рынка труда, формирование устойчивого спроса на труд мигрантов, большие потоки денежных переводов мигрантов – все это на сегодняшний день придает международной миграции населения, особенно международной миграции, совершенно новое звучание. Сегодня миграция является важным явлением, во многом обусловленным мощными экономическими силами: большими различиями в заработной плате и возможностях трудоустройства, увеличением ожидаемого дохода. Однако следует учитывать, что миграция представляет собой как проблемы, так и возможности как для принимающих, так и для отправляющих стран.

Миграция на сегодняшний день также оказывает значительное влияние на социально-экономический прогресс стран, расположенных в Центральной Азии. В настоящее время страны Центральной Азии имеют потенциал для решения многочисленных социальных проблем, пополнения бюджетов и улучшения финансового положения людей за счет экспорта рабочей силы. Опыт многих стран демонстрирует практический потенциал трудовых мигрантов для повышения уровня жизни значительной части населения и содействия экономическому развитию страны. Анализ миграционной ситуации в странах Центральной Азии может помочь выявить важные закономерности, которые имеют решающее значение для формулирования миграционной политики, направленной на развитие.

Ключевые слова: региональная взаимозависимость, международная и внутрирегиональная миграция, Международная организация по миграции (МОМ), Казахстан, Кыргызская Республика, Таджикистан, Узбекистан, социально-экономические последствия, Центральная Азия, экономическое развитие.

Introduction

Economics has always been and continues to be a significant motivator for migration. According to Ravenstein's well-known migration rules, economic concerns are the primary drivers of migration. International migration is a common means for individuals to achieve material advancements in their lives. The benefits of relocating to more developed countries were widely acknowledged for a significant portion of the 20th century. This facilitated the growth of industrial economies and met the expanding labor demands of the West. Currently, global migration is an essential component of the modern global order.

Traditionally, the word "migration" was understood as the movement of people from one place to another, in a word, relocation to a new place. And now, in the conditions of globalization and interdependence, this term has acquired a new,

broader meaning associated with work, study, tourism and other activities.

Migration is a crucial and objective characteristic of the modern world. Economists have shown that nations that do not participate in migration or the global labor market are relegated to a peripheral position in terms of global development. Meanwhile, nations engaged in global migration are inevitably impacted by its social, cultural, demographic, and economic aspects, which can have positive and negative consequences.

Literature review

Migration is an integral part of human life, and people, due to various circumstances, always move. Economic, political and social aspects often act as the main mechanisms of migration. For example, when studying migration processes, Kok gives the following definition: "It is defined as the movement of people associated with a change in their usual

place of residence across an administrative boundary, such as a village, city, region or country” (Kok, 1999). . And according to Shaw’s definition (Shaw, R.P. 1975), “migration is the relatively constant movement of people over significant distances.” There are two types of migration: internal, when migrants move within their own country; and international migration – a situation in which migrants live outside their country of birth for at least one year. Skeldon Ronald (2017) argued that migration in general, and international migration in particular, is a complex concept because “its measurement depends entirely on how it is defined in time and space.”

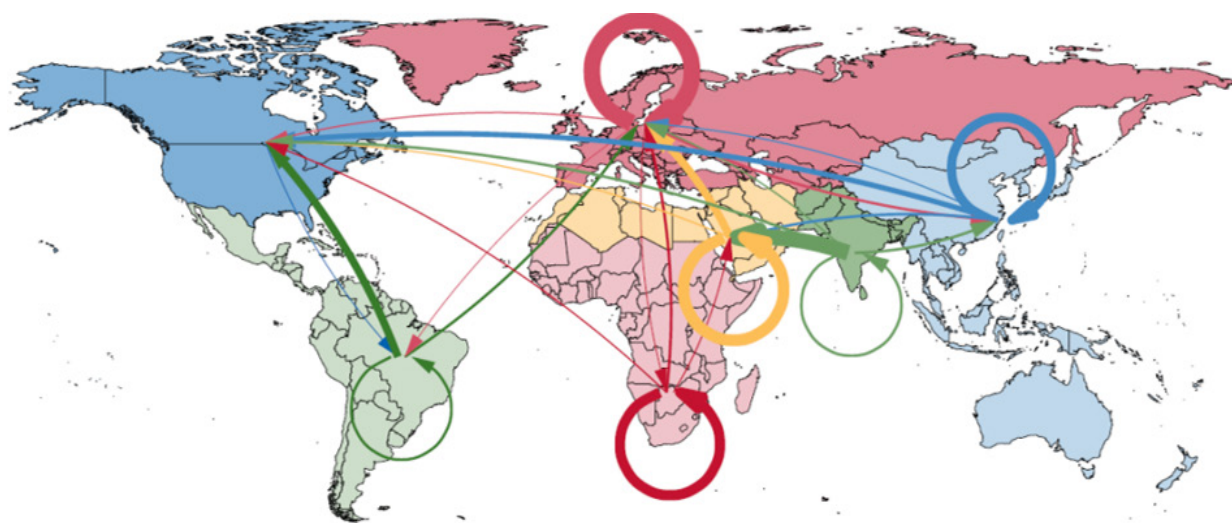
The International Organization for Migration (IOM) gives a slightly different definition of migration: “migration is the movement of people from their place of usual residence, either across an international border or within a state, to a new place of residence”.

The above definitions of migration indicate the versatility of this concept and that today international migration is becoming an important part of the modern world order. In the modern world, migration is a priority policy

for improving the financial situation of people. It is also noted that economics was initially the driving force behind migration. One of Ravenstein’s famous laws regarding migration confirms this statement: «the main reason for migration is economic factors». Economic difficulties and geopolitical crises leading to a lack of decent work are leading to an increase and diversity of migration movements.

Causes and consequences of migration

Let’s start by looking at the evolution of international migration in recent years. Many analysts, when considering the issue of increasing migration flows, pay great attention to migration from the countries of Africa, the Middle East, Asia to the countries of Europe and North America, noting the interregional nature of migration processes, although today most of the migration processes in the world are intraregional in nature. That is, migrants mainly choose the country of their region to move and live. Thus, we can say that large regional migration centers are emerging in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the European Union (Figure 1).



Source: IMF (2020)

Figure 1 – Migration flows between 2010 and 2020

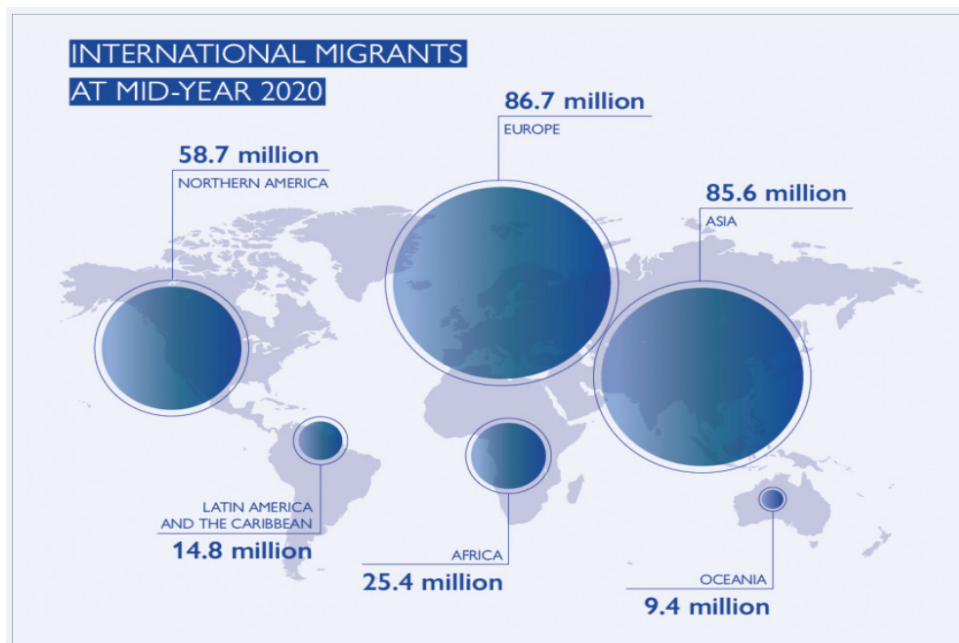
However, much international migration occurs over long distances, particularly from emerging and developing countries to advanced economies. Over the past 30 years, the share of migrants from developing countries to advanced economies has increased from 4 to 9 percent of the population of

advanced economies (IMF WEO 2020), and this has generated strong social and political reactions and increased attention to the phenomenon.

According to the UN, in 2020, about 281 million people lived outside their country of birth for one year or more, still only 3.6% of the

world's population (United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division 2020). Emigration is an integral part of the world of globalization. Before the global pandemic of 2020, tens of millions of people crossed borders, totaling three billion border crossings per year. The largest concentration of international migrants is found in Europe (86.7 million), including Russia, followed by Asia (85.6 million) and North America (58.7 million) (International Migrant Stock 2020).

Migration as a social phenomenon has its own specifics related to the geographical factor. When studying this phenomenon, two main aspects should be taken into account: firstly, migration is a change of residence, which is expressed in the fact that migration is displayed as a complete type of territorial movement within a certain geographic area. Secondly, migration also refers to the movement of people within one country, regardless of the target orientation, duration and other factors.



Source IOM (2021)

People migrate due to certain factors that force them to migrate to other countries. Everett Lee, one of the scientists who made significant contributions to migration theory and, in particular, to the “push-pull model,” identified four groups of factors that influence people to migrate:

- First, factors that are related to the area of origin;
- Second, factors related to the destination area;
- Third, source factors or push factors that force migrants to leave the country;
- Fourth, personal factors.

Thus, origin or push factors force migrants to leave their country. And conflicts and economic instability contribute to international migration. Moreover, as noted by Tessema and Ngoma (Tessema, Moussi T. and Alex M. Ngoma, 2009), deteriorating economic conditions and lack of peace, political

stability and good governance are the main factors causing migration of people from most developing countries. Speaking about the consequences of migration, it can be noted that the movement of people has a significant impact in several directions. Firstly, migrants receive high incomes, thereby improving their well-being. Secondly, we can say that migrants influence labor markets, productivity, innovation and, ultimately, the demographic structure of the country. Third, migrants can have a significant impact on their countries of origin. This means that the outflow of a huge number of people can lead to a loss of human capital and a shortage of personnel. But in the same context, migration can create a large flow of remittances to countries of origin, and ultimately create the conditions for increased trade and connectivity associated with foreign direct investment and technology.

Migration and development

Remittances, return migration and diaspora engagement (King, R., Collyer, M. 2016) are the three main mechanisms through which migration affects the development of countries from which migrants originate. Migration processes can impact the development of the communities from which they originate and exit via return migration. This connection between migration and development has been a topic of discussion in development programming since the 1960s. Migrants may acquire new skills and knowledge abroad, which they can then invest in upon their return home. The development implications of economic remittances are the most extensively researched aspect of the migration-development nexus. Remittances are known to significantly improve living standards in the regions where migrants come from, going beyond traditional development assistance. In addition to economic transfers, migration facilitates the movement of social transfers – knowledge, ideas, practices, identities and social capital. Circular migration is gaining prominence on national agendas as a strategy to utilize migration for the advancement of domestic human capital. It is increasingly entangled with development programming discussions centered on the advantages of return migration. Return migration may have a more significant impact on local industrial and technological development. This is because migrants can act as catalysts for innovation and change, applying newly acquired knowledge, competencies and entrepreneurial thinking that strengthen the economies of their home countries. The participation of diasporas in the development of their country of origin appears to be a voluntary mechanism that intertwines migration and economic development. During the period of transnationalization, and then the globalization of international relations, migrants contribute to the formation of economic ties, which can encourage them to return to their countries of origin and initiate political and social changes. Governments of sending countries are increasingly focusing on creating platforms for ongoing interaction with migrants, mentoring programs and partnerships.

India is the most striking example of this phenomenon. Recognizing the wealth of knowledge and resources that diasporas possess, over the past decade the Indian government has invested heavily in developing relationships with its compatriots living abroad. The Ministry of Indian Affairs, established in 2004, demonstrates the government's commitment to establishing long-term partnerships with its citizens living abroad. India currently has a

diaspora outreach system called Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (PBD), which translates to Non-Resident India Day.

Today it is the most influential platform for diaspora participation, created to develop a sense of a “global Indian family”. PBD is an annual gathering of Indian diaspora communities where representatives of the Indian government bring together Indians living abroad, the President presents a prestigious award for the achievements of an individual migrant or an organization led by Indian migrants, discusses issues faced by Indian migrants, and builds a diaspora of community networks. In this case, given the demographic potential of India, as well as the fact that migration has become one of the parts of Indian foreign economic activity, this, accordingly, requires the development of certain initiatives and programs on the part of the government, which is PBD.

Migration processes in CA

When we talk about migration processes in Central Asia, it should be noted that migration patterns in the countries of the region are diverse and of a special nature. Diversity is reflected in the socio-economic composition (age, gender, education of migrants), length of stay (short-term and long-term) and motives (employment, family reunification, education, ethnic return) (IOM, 2015).

The UN Population Division estimates that the total number of migrants from Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic in the Russian Federation reached 2.2 million in 2019 (Europe and Central Asia). According to UN DESA (2020), Russia receives 78% of migrants from Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan and 58% of migrants from Uzbekistan. Kazakhstan is quickly becoming a sub-regional powerhouse thanks to its growing economy, while Russia remains the undisputed center of gravity. UN DESA (2020) reports that 76% of all migrants from Uzbekistan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan transit through Russia and Kazakhstan combined.

Significant migration from Central Asian countries to Russia is associated with a number of factors. This is due to the seasonal and informal nature of the traffic, which is estimated to be three times larger. The Russian Federation attracts a significant volume of permanent migration, which is often overshadowed by large volumes of temporary migration brought in by workers from Central Asia on a seasonal basis. The reasons for migration are socio-economic in nature, which is reflected in wages.

Real wages in the Russian Federation are twice as high as in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic. Migrants from Central Asia are attracted to Russia by the visa-free regime, high demand for low-skilled labor, sociocultural proximity and familiar administrative procedures. There is a large body of literature describing the social, economic and political consequences of migration for countries receiving migrants, including the economies and laws of these countries. One of the significant factors influencing migration to the Russian Federation from the countries of Central Asia is the countries' belonging to a single post-Soviet geopolitical space, i.e. factor of sociocultural proximity, the Russian Federation's need for labor resources. The impact of the migration process on the socio-economic conditions of migrant-supplying countries has been poorly studied. There is a large gap between these two areas of research, which contributes to increasing interest in the issue of remittances from migrants to their families.

Affiliation with intergovernmental unions is an additional determinant of pronounced migration fluxes. Membership in the Commonwealth of Independent States fosters greater integration among Russia, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. However, the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) is a more significant impetus for migration in the region. The region's migration system is a confluence of social, cultural, economic, and political elements that attract migrants from Central Asia to Russia, contributing to the stability of migration movements.

The outbreak of hostilities in Ukraine and the announced mobilization in Russia did not lead to an end to the migration flow to Russia. During the two years of the war, the number of Central Asians (mostly Tajik citizens) who received Russian citizenship did not lead to a decrease in them. The adoption of the law on military mobilization led to an increase in return migration, that is, Russian citizens who did not want to be mobilized were forced to seek asylum in Central Asian countries, especially in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan. The increase in the number of Russian citizens in the region led to the expected processes, in addition to the problems of rising rental prices in large cities of the region, this led to difficulties in the labor market since most Russians were of working age.

In addition to the Russian direction, migration processes are also taking place on a regional scale. First, we are talking about labor migration, in particular Kazakhstan, which is becoming an attractive market for migrant workers and seasonal

workers from border countries. Today, Kazakhstan's foreign labor market is mainly filled with citizens of China, India, and Turkey. Unlike in Russia, migrant workers or seasonal workers do not have difficulties adapting to Kazakh society. Although there are signs of phobia in the local community towards people from Central Asian countries.

The increase in the flow of Chinese labor to Kazakhstan has often led to an increase in the protest movement among local workers. While Chinese citizens are mainly employed in enterprises where the share of Chinese capital is an impressive part, the citizens of the region, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan, are employed in agricultural enterprises and the construction sector. The attractiveness of migrant workers from the above-mentioned countries is primarily justified not only by the cheapness of labor but it must be borne in mind that those who are engaged in construction have fairly good skills, which, combined with the low price, is the reason for the growing popularity of workers from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.

The events of August 2021 led to the fact that Afghan citizens who are in educational institutions in Central Asian countries, primarily in Afghanistan, faced the problem of extending their stay visas. The issuance of visas was complicated by the fact that the new Afghan Government was not recognized by the countries of the region. Graduates who did not want to return to Afghanistan were forced to leave Kazakhstan. In this case, Kazakhstan was most of all considered as a transit point for further penetration into the countries of the European Union. In recent years, the number of Afghan citizens who have received a residence permit in Kazakhstan has increased significantly, the main share was made up of representatives of the Afghan religious and ethnic minority represented by Hazaras, as well as a small proportion of ethnic Kazakhs, and the latter can take advantage of preferential status from "Kandas" (fellow tribesman).

Another important issue related to migration within the region may be the problem of climate migration. The countries of the region, which are experiencing quite serious problems with drinking water today, find themselves in a difficult situation. The construction of the Kush Tepa Canal in Afghanistan will lead to serious problems. Difficulties may arise in the areas of the Amu Darya. Lack of water or limited use of water can lead to a reduction in acreage. Given that agriculture is the main activity, it can be assumed that this may become a factor in large-scale migration.

It is worth noting that the region has become hostage to complex geopolitical processes related to Afghanistan, the war in Ukraine, and the strengthening of the Chinese presence in the region.

Based on the above, it should be noted that the problems of internal migration in the region will increase and will be more related to environmental problems, and the region will also remain as a transshipment point for further migration to Russia and the countries of the European Union.

Solving migration problems requires careful study and analysis, as well as the active assistance of regional countries in regulating it.

Migration and specifics of the local market

As has been said many times, migration today is one of the important attributes of the modern world. It has been proven that countries that are not part of migration processes and do not participate in these processes ultimately remain on the fringe of global development. And the countries that are directly involved in these processes are faced with its economic, social, cultural and demographic consequences; these same consequences can have positive and negative contexts.

Currently, the Central Asian countries have the potential to solve numerous social problems, replenish budgets and improve the financial situation of thousands of people through labor exports. It is noted that labor migration must be regulated and that appropriate measures must be taken to stimulate and limit migration processes. Global experience shows that migrants contribute to economic growth and development. Labor migration is an effective strategy for preventing social upheaval caused by poverty.

Modern external labor migration is considered as an effective solution to numerous social problems in Central Asian countries. It has both positive and negative aspects of impact. In terms of the positive, first of all, it can be noted that migrants receive high incomes, thereby improving their well-being, and

with the help of migrants, cash flow increases. Just like political effects, migrants can influence their countries of origin. This means that exodus of huge numbers of people could lead to a loss of human capital and staff shortages. But in the same context, migration can create a large flow of remittances to countries of original and ultimately create the conditions for increased trade and linkages associated with foreign direct investment.

Conclusion

Thus, we can say that migration processes are caused by economic forces: an increase in people's incomes, an increase in the standard of living of society. In this context, we see how much influence migration has on the socio-political and economic life of society, since it has the specificity of forming new development trends. Destination countries may face problems in local markets due to lower wages in the short term, and migration flows may displace local workers, which in turn may increase crime rates, lead to financial costs and ultimately weaken the country's social policies. But there is also another side to the coin; Migration can also have positive sides. For example, migrants can significantly improve productivity by creating new opportunities for local workers, as well as stimulate international trade and make a positive contribution to the long-term fiscal balance. Integrating migrants into the local labor market can result in achieving their full productive contribution and limiting their potential burden on public finances, which can subsequently significantly reduce crime rates in society. But we should not forget that large flows of migrants can lead to negative consequences for countries of origin. This means that this can lead to brain drain, that is, the loss of necessary human capital and decreased competitiveness in the labor market. And at the same time, migration can create a flow of remittances, which are an important source of income for migrant families.

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