

2009
Vol. 2 Nº 2

ISSN 2027-2340

Revista de Negocios Internacionales



UNIVERSIDAD
EAFIT[®]
Abierta al mundo

DEPARTAMENTO DE NEGOCIOS INTERNACIONALES

PEREZ-JARAMILLO, Juan David

Returning Migration

Revista de Negocios Internacionales. Vol. 2 Nº 2 Pp. 68 - 85

Returning Migration

JUAN DAVID PEREZ-JARAMILLO

ABSTRACT

The present paper studies the impact of returning migration in five cases. First, the recent case of Afghanistan is analyzed, then the Chinese case. The paper continues to evaluate the impact of returning migration in the Indian, the Irish and finally the Italian case. Specific policy recommendations for the phenomenon's occurrence in Colombia are drawn based upon the case analysis. The results suggest among others that effective mechanisms for management and monitoring migration flows should be created and the linkages of the Government with its Diaspora should be improved.

KEYWORDS

Migration, Diaspora, Remittances, Case Study

1. INTRODUCTION

The population's size and growth of any country is affected by international migration. According to a report issued by the United Nations, around one hundred million people emigrate every year (Venturini & De la Boca, 2003). The migration process can have different forms; it can be permanent migration, short term migration and refugees. The international migration can also be divided in two different forms, the distinction can be made between documented and undocumented migration (International migration, 2001). This process of migration has also been affected by different organizations of capital and labor (OECD, 2002).

The migration process has affected many countries around the world, over the past two decades, for example, around 5 million Afghans emigrated from their homeland, many of them migrated to western countries while other fled as refugees to neighboring countries like Pakistan (Nawa, 2002). China has experienced since the mid-1980s an important out-migration of its labor force (Murphy quoted in Zhao, 2001). The rapidly growing phenomenon of migration of highly skilled labor, it is also noticeable in the information technology sector, and in the lack of infrastructure and conditions for working in India, had also an impact on India's labor flows (OECD, 2002). During the 1950s an outflow phenomenon of Indian labor force began, it continued until the 1980s. The annual outflows were a mere 4,000 in 1976, reached a high of 275,000 in 1981 and declined after 1984 (Nayyar, 1994). Ireland and Italy have also been affected for this phenomenon. In Italy for instance, about 26 million people emigrated from 1861 to 1976 (Venturini & De la Boca, 2003).

According to Murphy quoted in Zhao (2001), migration all around the world has been an integral part of labor organization. He stresses that as the out-migration flow reached very high levels in the 1990s, return migration also became noticeable. This phenomenon has affected many countries around the world; it has led to the transformation of many manufacturing activities bringing different sectors to the fore. In the context of migration, this transformation has meant that, in contrast to the 20th century when labor flow was mainly unskilled, the outflow has been of highly skilled and professional labor (OECD, 2002). People return to their countries for several reasons. On one hand they could be seasonal migrants, who only go abroad for a specific period or they could be temporary migrants, who go to other countries for undefined period. The last are likely to go back to their countries of origin Cinel (1991: 2) indicates, due to "changes in political and economic conditions at home, undesirable changes in the countries of immigration, fulfillment of original goals (...)".

In Afghanistan, a country strongly affected by war, hundreds of emigrants have been going back to embrace again their home country now that the peace has apparently been secured (Bombardieri, 2002). As Murphy quoted in Zhao (2001) indicates, it is estimated that at least one third of Chinese out-migration went back to their country. There is also evidence of reverse brain drain occurring in India, as U.S.-trained Indian professionals are returning to their home country in increasing numbers to take advantage of new growth and employment opportunities (OECD, 2002). The economic development of Ireland in terms of GDP, employment, productivity, inflation, fiscal position and external balance in the last two decades have ranged from solid to strongly positive among developed countries; this performance has attracted immigrants to come to Ireland looking for an opportunity changing Ireland's history of emigration (Marin, 2004). According to Cinel (1991: 2) "Although accurate indicators are not available, we know that millions of Italians engaged on return migration...in absolute numbers, more Italians returned from the United States than any other national group".

In Afghanistan, just like in most of the other countries that have had this returning migration process, there is no institute or agency recording or keeping a track of the amount of returnees, but according to the International Organization for Migration, institute that is in charge of matching qualified Afghan emigrants with short and long term jobs inside the country, they have been receiving around 100 candidates per day (Bombardieri, 2002). Return migration has generated two different opposite views in the Chinese policy circle. One of the sides sees the return migration as a factor that exacerbates negatively the problem of surplus labor. While the other side sees it as a force of development that brings with it capital, technology and entrepreneurship besides the will to contribute to its native community (Zhao, 2001). In Italy the topic of returnees took place on an environment of concerns since after a long period of wars and diplomatic negotiations they finally became a nation in 1870. The return of those migrants with savings affected substantially the local economy (Cinel, 1991).

It is evident that there is a link between migration and the development of the country of origin of migrants. This phenomenon highlights the importance of understanding the effects return migration has on this developing process. Even more, the vast variety of migrants going from economic migrants, brain drain to refugees and asylum seekers stresses the need of identifying what are the effects that would have a return migration process on the origin country (Cassarino, 2004). This paper aims to give an inside of what is happening in Afghanistan due to the returning migration process, aims to look at the consequences derived from the return migration in China, to explore the effects that skilled active labor force had

on various sectors of the economy, and on the social and physical infrastructure of India, will describe some of the benefits and problems returnees brought to the country in Italy, mention the effect that had immigration in Ireland in terms of the benefits and the challenges, and according to these, give some recommendations to Colombia on what to do in order to handle a possible return migration process.

2. RETURNING MIGRATION

2.1 Afghanistan Case

Afghanistan has been at war ever since the Soviet invasion in 1979; it has been controlled, changed and ripped apart by a chain power succession of warlords and different political factions. The country's living standards have decreased over its 28 million of people, the life expectancy is 42 years, and many children die before the age of 5 (Grondahl, 2004). According to the same author, "Fighting, drought, lawlessness, disease and steady emigration have left Afghanistan one of the poorest countries in the world" (Grondahl, 2004:16).

Countless of Afghans fled their country due to the violence; the elite or skilled people fled after the Soviet invasion in 1979, some intellectual emigrated because the communists were targeting them. And some others, with the financial means, left trying to escape the conflict. Now since the US coalition defeated the Taliban regimen many of the émigrés have returned after years of exile (Dehghanpisheh, 2002). Some came from Western countries while other from Pakistan's camps (Nawa, 2002).

The returnees that came from Western countries boarded planes in the United States, Germany or Australia, the three hubs for the diaspora, and arrived to Kabul already with good and well paid jobs. From those who left the violence of their country behind many studied in foreign universities earning higher education's degrees. This provided them with an advantage over their counterpart that never left the country obtaining jobs as ministers, doctors, engineers, bureaucrats and teachers (Dehghanpisheh, 2002). The President Hamid Karzail has called for help to these skilled people; indicating that Afghanistan is in need of such skilled professionals since most of them either were killed or fled from the Soviets, the mujahedin or the Taliban (Dehghanpisheh, 2002). That is a reason why the local government is adjudicating the best employments to the recently returned immigrants (Docquier & Rapoport, 2008).

According to Dehghanpisheh (2002: 16) political power has been already amassed by Western exiles. Karzai recently appointed many foreign returnees to posts in his new cabinet. Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai replaced Hedayat Amin Arsala as Finance

minister, another returnee from the United States. Taj Mohammad Wardak who is an American citizen and have been resident of southern California for many years, was named Interior minister. Sharif Fayez and Seyed Makhdoom Rahin returned from Virginia to retained positions as ministers of Higher Education and Culture, respectively. Jahed Hamrah, who was once a Washington D.C. cabdriver, is now the general consul to Toronto.

Nonetheless the returnees that came from developed countries are a minority, only around 1,000 people; the great majority of Afghans that have returned to their homeland came back from refugees camps mostly in Pakistan. Compared to the skilled people, those that arrived to Afghanistan from refugees camps have a different fate; they have no qualifications or connections and some of them becoming therefore squatters or panhandling to make a living (Dehghanpisheh, 2002).

The fact that the returnees from developed countries are obtaining the best jobs is creating resentment among the Afghans that did not fled. "Local Afghans don't understand why Afghans coming from abroad, who didn't suffer all these years, should be rewarded with jobs," says Daiva Vilkelyte in Dehghanpisheh (2002, 16), a program coordinator for the International Organization for Migration. Some ex-mujahedin are offended by the fact that these returnees are enjoying the victory without having done anything for it. They indicate that even though some of them had to work in jobs like car washing, dog washing, etc. they were enjoying of a peaceful society and not in the struggled of the fight (Dehghanpisheh, 2002).

On the other hand, those returnees indicate that even though they came to take over the high powered and paid jobs in Afghanistan, they have given up their better paid jobs in other countries as well as their luxuries and comfort to help their homeland (Nawa, 2002). They have found that even with good jobs, they are experiencing more difficulties in Afghanistan than what they anticipated. Since they have spent many years in other countries and some of their attitudes have changed, the locals have accused them of being improper Muslims even mulhideen or nonbelievers (Dehghanpisheh, 2002). Even though they have been harassed they are still trying to adapt themselves to this situation, the problem of this is that many of them might not stay long enough to help with the change (Nawa, 2002 & Dehghanpisheh, 2002).

2.2 Chinese Case

Over the past years, governments and scholars have been worried about the process of brain drains that is taking place in many countries; this process is taking developing countries off their valuable human talent, as their best and brightest

people go to developed countries to study and after obtaining their qualifications opt to settle in the host country (Dickson, 2003). In spite of the authoritarian regime of the People's Republic of China, they have been as susceptible to this circumstance as the other countries. In recent years, however, tens of thousands of people trained abroad have been returning to China (Zweig, 2006).

On the mid- to late-1990s, the average increase on the number of return migration per year was around 13 per cent, but the rate has incremented abruptly since 2000. As Saravia and Miranda (2004: 608) indicate, this is also reflected in "a sustained drop in the number of doctoral students from China ... who planned to remain in the United States beginning in the late 1990s". The evidence for this flow of inward migration shows that changes and liberalization of central government policies and a race for foreign-trained scientists and academics have forged a progressive environment that motivates return migrants, while competition among universities, research laboratories and enterprises has given them excellent incentives. While institutions have been actively involved in encouraging returnees, the central Government has been setting policy guidelines, allocating funds, and molding an attractive socio-economic and political atmosphere (Zweig, 2006).

For the last 20 years, the perspective and way to recruit the returnees have varied among the different levels of Chinese government and organizations. Around the 1990s, the Chinese Government understood that, for it to make the science and technology better in the country, it had to allow its citizens to travel outside the country whenever they wanted, and afterwards compete in the global market place for them. This was made possible by improving the domestic environment so that it would be an attracting force to bring them back. At first the Chinese organizations, universities, research laboratories and state-owned enterprises were preoccupied about the new people coming back since they threatened those who had not gone overseas, but when the internationalization of them took place, it led them to appreciate what these people could contribute and make (Zweig, 2006).

While remittances are the flow of financial capital from host countries to origin countries, return migration is the flow of human capital as well as financial capital back to origin countries. Researches show that during the process of return migration, the returnees tend to bring with them money obtained while they were working abroad. This money becomes an important investment source that moves the economy of the country. They tend to invest greatly in production machines. A more detailed examination reveals that the investment in production machines is mainly in farm machines (Zhao, 2001).

Some of the returnees have been trained abroad and acquired good credentials.

Since recruiting this highly skilled labor force is the key object of China, it gives

them housing subsidies and built apartments as big as those owned by ministers of the central government (Zweig, 2006). Some other returnees also tend to set laboratories which include acquiring all the necessary equipment and hiring all the technical personnel needed increasing local employment. All these have dynamized the construction sector of China and propelled the acquisition of technology (Chen, 2008).

2.3 Indian Case

Since India had not a very structured systematic data on international migration, this issue did not have the economists and policy makers' attention in India. Nonetheless, it has been accepted that a constant outflow of skilled labor from the country had taken place. It began in the early 1950s and went on until the mid-1970s, on this first migration a large number of technically skilled and professionally qualified people migrated to developed and industrialized countries. The main destinations were the United Kingdom, Canada, Western Europe, Australia and, as the most popular, the United States. Then a second migratory phenomenon took place in the mid-1970s that continued until the early 1980s were it had its peak. The destination was mainly the oil-exporting Middle East (Nayyar, 1994)

High-skilled people migrate for different reasons. It might be temporary (Baldwin-Edwards, 2006; Beaverstock, 2005) or as a strategy for a more permanent settlement (Hazen and Alberts, 2006). Some of them move to developed countries looking for better education or doing research in high standards institutions and in high tech laboratories that are not available in their home countries (Hazen & Alberts, 2006). Some others migrate looking for better living standard (Cheshire & Magrini, 2006). While others are moved by desires of creating companies (Portes *et al*, 2002). According to Merriam (1970: 12), in the Indian case, the four most important reasons to emigrate were "Better opportunities for using professional skills; Lack of sufficient number of professional openings in India; Better standards of living in developed countries; and Desire to earn a high salary and hold an important position...".

The Indian migration of professionals' phenomenon was promoted by jobs positions available for trained engineers, physicians and scientists, the opportunity of obtaining better lifestyle, a lack of medical and engineer workers in the United States and the high levels of unemployment in India. Chacko (2007:133) indicates that "by 1990, persons who were born in India and living in the United States numbered over 450,000, an exponential increase from the approximately 12,000 persons of Indian origin noted in 1960".

During this period a concern about the losing India's educated workforce arose. Full promotions of Indian Institutes of Technology migrated for higher education in United States in the 1970s and 1980s, a big deal of them stayed to work after getting their degrees (Morning 2001).

However, there has been evidence that returning migration is taking place. An increasing number of trained Asian Indians are returning to their home country (Kabra, 2005). This highly skilled workforce is returning home to take advantage of India's growth and opportunities of employment. Some of them came back to India due to jobs in the US information technology (IT) industry were decreasing. Others returned after years of work experience abroad, bringing that valuable knowledge, entrepreneurial skills and access to global networks. Some Indian cities like Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad and Mumbai attracted the first-generation of returning Indian immigrants (Fuller and Narasimhan, 2007). Chacko (2007: 134) states "The reverse flow is relatively small; it is estimated that some 25,000 IT professionals returned to India between 2000 and 2004 after working abroad".

In the 1990s, a growing number of companies turned to India looking for software programming and development companies, back-office and call centers operations. Their revenues by 2010 are expected to grow by 25% a year to \$60 billion (Nasscom-McKinsey Report, 2005). Some of the giants like General Electric, Microsoft and Dell took advantage of the cheap workforce in India and many multinational corporations like Motorola, Larsen and Toubro and Siemens recruited Indians to work in their India-settled companies (Kothari, 2006).

The IT software and service exporters from India offered numerous job opportunities. Around 95% of the international companies in Software Technology Parks are run by Indians who had lived and worked abroad, mostly in the United States (Kapur, 2002). A third of the R&D department employees at General Electric's John F Welch Technology Center were returnees from the United States (Ryan, 2005).

All these changes have made significant impact in the cityscapes. The cities have invested on improving their infrastructure, developing Technology Parks and new residential spaces to provide the needs to their new industries and labor force. Some returnees have made positive effects on the development of their hometowns, helping to develop the infrastructure and educational system. In Bangalore a trust fund to support government-run schools was set up by a returnee. The Indus International School was built by another returnee; this school uses the top educational system. A former international bank vice president from the United States created a center for citizenship and democracy; this center promotes greater participation from citizens in the local government (Fuller & Narasimhan, 2007).

Despite the benefits that the returnees had brought some residents perceive the new townships and communities as islands of privilege increasing the social and economical gap between Indians. These residential communities usually come equipped with landscaped gardens, tennis courts, swimming-pools, gyms and playgrounds that are top notch and stand out from the typical residential environment in those cities. These facilities are exclusive, making them inaccessible to any other Indian different than those who lived there and their guests. The lifestyles and high salaries that the returnees have are many times resented and viewed as skyrocketing the real estate values wherever they settled. Inflation is also noticed due to their extraordinarily high purchasing power and luxurious lifestyles (Fuller & Narasimhan, 2007).

2.4 Irish Case

Historically Ireland had been a country of emigration, since the famine in the 18th century until the mid-1990s around 5 million people emigrated from the country. But it all changed with the boom of the Celtic Tiger years; this brought with it an economic boost that made the country very attractive. In the 1990s the diaspora returned to the country and some foreigners also came in big numbers, then in 2004 with the opening to the new members of the European Countries the immigration had another boost heavily increasing the immigrants' numbers in Ireland (Barret, 2001).

The immigrants in Ireland can be divided into three different groups. The Irish return migrants and British immigrants compound the first group, they were the first to migrate into Ireland in the wave of the 1990s half of them were Irish emigrants who came back and around 18 percent were British nationals and the rest were Irish nationals born overseas. These immigrants started to work almost immediately, their wages were pretty similar to natives. Since they had better experience, skills and knowledge, they obtained better wages comparing with non-migrants.

One study estimated that Irish people who emigrated in the 1980s and who returned in the 1994-97 period were better educated on average than the local population and better educated than the average person who emigrated, suggesting that the best and brightest were more likely to return (Barrett, 2001).

The second group was the new EU member states that migrated around 2004. Ireland government was expecting around 15,000 to 20,000 immigrants in the first year and then the rate was expected to slow down but according to a census the immigration rate was greater than anticipated and it seems the inflow has not slowed down. The educational level of this group and the employment rate is high

but compared to the first wave their wages are low. The challenge with this group is to help them get matching jobs according to their skill levels.

The last group is migrants from the rest of the world; this group is about as large as the total immigration rate into the typical Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) country, it is diverse and goes from highly skilled migrants using one of the employment channels to asylum seekers and refugees although their educational level is lower than the other two groups.

Some of the benefits Ireland obtained from the immigration are that with the immigrants the country got the different skills required by each sector, this became one of the drivers of the income and productivity growth (OECD, 2002). The OECD Economic surveys literature suggests that the immigrants developed links for trading with the countries from which they came, decreasing transaction costs and increasing investment.

When the population of a country increases rapidly it affects the market behavior increasing the demand and the supply, these two aspects can happen at different speeds magnifying or stabilizing the economic cycles. In the Irish case immigrants have high employment rates since the beginning and recent immigrants brought few money and send most of the earnings home instead of spending inside Ireland (EIU ViewsWire, 2006).

In some other countries, the immigration process has brought with it some problems with the different cultural, religious and language backgrounds from each immigrant. In the Irish case this has not been a problem since most of immigrants have their backgrounds pretty similar to the Irish one, helping to reduce those conflicts.

The impact on population growth that Ireland is experiencing is important; it not only produces uncertainty about the characteristics of the immigrants' population, but also about the amount of immigrants. For this reason, developing an infrastructure plan becomes a really hard task. With the Ireland immigration boosting the population and bringing with them their families, some services such as education and healthcare will go through difficulties trying to satisfy the population needs.

2.5 Italian Case

After Italy became a nation in the 1860s, Italians had to face the problem of overcoming the differences between the industrialized north and the "backward" south (southern question), (Smith, 2003). Italy was having an economic crisis and the levels of poverty were very high. Due to all this problems some Italians, especially from the south, began to emigrate.

At first Italy opposed to the mass emigration due to the security of the land, stability of the country, need of labor force and the image of Italy abroad (Cinel, 1991). But after more analysis, Italy could see that the remittances could help the south improve by providing capital that helped those with less financial resources to buy some land and have some money to expend and invest. After that Italy embarked on efforts to make emigrants feel good in their host countries, they created the General Commission on Emigration, housed in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Italian government also subsidized the Istituto Coloniale as an emergency fund for Italians abroad. The Italian government also helped to promote an Italian diaspora by publishing the *Bolletino dell'Emigrazione* amongst others.

According to the Italian sociologist Cerase (1967), one of the first scholars in analyzed the effects of the return migration to Italy, there are four different types of returnees: failure returnee, conservative returnee, retired returnee and innovative returnee.

Cerase (1967) described the first type of returnee as the people who could not overcome the first cultural and labor shock and that after one or two years went back to their country of origin without having earned much of the migratory experience or much money. The second type of returnee could overcome the first cultural and labor shock and stayed there for some years, during their time in the receiving country they obtained a better job, got better qualifications and saved money. After going back to Italy, they invested the money earned in land, buying a house or in settling a business.

The third kind of returnee is the one the wanted to go back to Italy to and spend there their last years of life. Most of them did not make a family in the receiving country, therefore they decided to return to their home country, buy a house and live with their savings. The last type of returnee is the people who after succeeding in the country of immigration always had in mind to go back Italy and continue with their social and economics activities making use of their knowledge and all the experiences obtained.

These returnees played an important role in the Italian society, their innovative efforts, the new farming methods and agricultural techniques, the urbanization and modernization of the regions and cities, the promotion of education, the teaching of basic literacy and the sociopolitical movements led the south of Italy to grow economically and improve their situation towards the unification of the nation (North and South) (Gilkey, 1967; Loperato, 1967).

The returnees also brought with them a lack of respect to the rigid hierarchical society, a defiant attitude towards the traditional political elites and promoted the rural and agricultural associations. All these attitudes and improvements helped

the returnees consolidate a medium rural class very favorable to technological changes (Cinel, 1991).

Although some authors theorized about the benefits that the return migration brought to Italy, especially to the south, there are some authors that differ from that position. For instance the success of the returnees depended on the professional success they had at the emigration country. Their efforts to dynamize the economy and the development of the country were block by the opposition and monopoly of the power and the traditional rural elites (Cerase, 1967).

Some other problems that the return migration in Italy caused was related to inflation, since there was more money to spend, the decline of some economic activities, discontent of a not satisfactory experience abroad, difficulties in readjusting to life in home. Some of these factors led to a wide group of returnees to disenchant with their first idea and strategy of returning home and decided to emigrate permanently to the host country (Cinel, 1991).

3. CONCLUSIONS

Owing to the vast variety of returnees, we need to approach the return migration phenomenon taking into account different variables explaining how, and under which circumstances, the return migration process took place. This process is greatly influenced by the initial motivations for migration, by the amount of time they stay abroad and especially by the conditions under which the return takes place (Ghosh, 2000).

For instance many Afghans fled their country due to the violence and after a long time out of their country, great deals of exiles are going back to a home that have been wrecked due to the years of violence and war now that peace has been secured (Nawa, 2002). The return migration process in China has come around due to the political stability, improved housing, better business opportunities in the private sector, modern equipment and management procedures, higher salaries and other special incentives (Chen, 2008). All theses changes have been brought about by the Chinese government in order to forge this process and not by the returnees themselves. In India the brain drain stopped with the IT industry development. U.S.-trained Indian professionals returned to their home country in increasing numbers to take advantage of new growth and employment opportunities. (Fuller & Narasimhan, 2007; Kabra 2005)

Italy government promoted the emigration as a way of overcoming the economic difficulties they were having shortly after they became a nation. That diaspora promotion helped the underdeveloped south of Italy to develop and grow and integrate with the more developed north part. After the Italian emigrants went

through their respective experiences abroad a large number of them returned home. The process of re-settlement depended of the kind of returnee (failure, conservative, retired or innovative) (Cinel, 1991).

As return migration process started to take place, different benefits were visible according the circumstances of each country. In Afghanistan this diaspora returned with degrees from developed countries and with different skills, and took over the best jobs offered improving the skilled labor of the country (Nawa, 2002), in India this flow helped thrust the Indian IT industry to the forefront and were also involved in improving the physical and social infrastructure of their hometowns not only with capital but with personal involvement, helping their cities and communities (Foremski & Merchant, 2004). The benefits that followed the phenomenon of return migration for Italy was great. It helped improve the literacy levels and education, the agricultural and farming skills and methods, brought modernization to the cities and helped in general Italy to overcome some of the problems they had after becoming a nation (Smith, 2003).

With the same phenomenon also problems could be perceived, in Afghanistan, even though many locals embraced the wave of newcomers some others not and tension among them arouse. Those that did not flee the country and endured all the suffering and problems indicate that the returnees should not be awarded with the benefits they have attained with great deal of efforts. The returnees on the other hand express, since they have better education and more experience, they are better qualified for those jobs and even more since they have relinquished to the luxuries and comfort of developed countries in order to serve Afghanistan (Nawa, 2002).

Both parts, the returnees and the locals, have different positions on whether the effect on the country's economy of that process is good or not. Right now there is not much evidence that the newcomers have made a positive change in the country or that the economy is improving with them in those jobs positions, while it is evident that the atmosphere among Afghans is deteriorating due to differences of ideas.

There are concerns from Indian citizens that perceive many of the new townships created by the returnees and the gated communities as islands of privilege that deteriorate their typical residential environments and are also perceived as forms of exclusion. Other aspect to take into account is that the lifestyles and high salaries of the returnees are increasing the real estate prices and that extraordinarily high purchasing power and luxurious lifestyles are generating an inflationary process (Fuller & Narasimhan, 2007).

The most visible challenge Ireland is ongoing is the impact that the rapid population growth has generated on the infrastructure bottlenecks of the country, edu-

cation and healthcare are only two examples but other sectors such as transportation and housing are also having troubles. Another challenge is to find a way to help immigrants to get jobs that match their skill levels since some of them are overqualified to their actual jobs (Barret, 2001). In Italy the inflation levels went up, and some returnees had difficulties to adjust to their new life at home and a re emigration process by some returnees that failed in the process of re integrate to the Italy work force took place (Cerase, 1967).

The reasons that encourage a return migration process depends on many different factors as the different cases show; when it undergoes, it brings different effects between benefits and problems that depends on the internal conditions of each country. From this some important issues arise, related on what to do and how to do it in order to take advantage and make the most benefits from this process.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COLOMBIA

It is evident that return migration impacts countries since large influxes of returnees may bring challenges to the absorption capacity in reintegration and socio-economic stabilization and may experience changes in the way remittances work. This makes it clear that to be able to reintegrate returnees successfully, careful planning and cooperation between sending countries and receiving ones is essential (IOM). It would be important to:

- Create effective mechanisms for management and monitoring migration flows.
- Improve the linkages of the Government with its Diaspora.
- Governments can and must manage migration through national policy and international co-operation.
- Establish institutions specializing in dealing with migration in order to provide information and knowledge to migrant workers.
- Improve the knowledge and capacity of migrant workers and their families to channel and use their remittances for productive investments.
- Improve the availability of jobs inside the country.
- Recognize the returnee's skills and degrees.
- Improve the environment (financial and infrastructure) of the country to promote investment.
- Provide incentive programs to encourage foreign immigrant entrepreneurship.
- Promote return migration and reintegration programs.
- Enhancing the business environment and opportunities in rural areas.

REFERENCES

Barrett, A & Duffy, D (2008). Are Ireland's Immigrants Integrating into Its Labor Market? *The International Migration Review*, 42(3), 597-619.

Baldwin-Edwards, M (2006). Between a rock and a hard place: North Africa as a region of emigration, immigration and transit migration. *Review of African Political Economy*, 33, 311-324.

Barrett, A (2001), "Return migration of highly skilled Irish into Ireland and their impact on GNP and earnings Inequality", in *International mobility of the highly skilled*, OECD.,

Beaverstock, J. V (2005). Transnational elites in the city: British highly-skilled inter-company transferees in New York's Financial District. *Journal of Ethnic & Migration Studies*, 31, 245-268.

Bombardieri, M. *Globe Staff* (2002, February). Afghan émigrés called home to serve. *Boston Globe*, A.1.

Cassarino, J-P (2004). "Theorising Return Migration: The Conceptual Approach to Return Migrants Revisited". *International Journal on Multicultural Societies (IJMS)*, 6(2), 2004: 253 - 279 ISSN 1817 - 4574, Available at www.unesco.org/shs/ijms/vol6/issue2/art4 © UNESCO. European University Institute, Florence

Cerase, F (1967). A Study of Italian Migrants returning from the USA. *The International Migration Review*, 1, 67-74.

Chacko, E (2007) From brain drain to brain gain: reverse migration to Bangalore and Hyderabad, India's globalizing high tech cities. *Springer Science+Business Media B.V.*

Chen, Y. C (2008). "The Limits of Brain Circulation: Chinese Returnees and Technological Development in Beijing". *Pacific Affairs*, 81(2), 195-215,162,164

Cheshire, P. C, & Magrini, S (2006). Population growth in European cities: Weather matters but only nationally. *Regional Studies*, 40, 23-37.

Choate, M. I (2007). Sending States' Transnational Interventions in Politics, Culture, and Economics: The Historical Example of Italy¹. *The International Migration Review*, 41(3), 728-768.

Cinell, D (1991). *The National Integration of Italian Return Migration, 1870-1929*, Cambridge UP

Del Boca, D & Venturini, A (2003). *Italian Migration*, Forschungsinstitut zur Zukunft der Arbeit, Institute for the Study of Labor

Dehghanpisheh, B (2002, July). The Exiles Return; Afghans want to come home. But will they be welcomed by those who never left. Atlantic Edition. *Newsweek*, 16.

Dickson, D (2003). "Mitigating the brain drain is a moral necessity", in Science and Development Network, 29 May, available at www.scidev.net/en/editorials/mitigating-the-brain-drain-is-a-moral-necessity.html

Docquier, F & Rapoport, H (2007, June). *Skilled Migration: The Perspective of Developing Countries*. IZA Discussion Paper No. 2873

EIU *ViewsWire*, Ireland economy: Ten-year growth outlook. (2006, September). Retrieved January 27, 2009.

Foremski, T. & Merchant, K. (2004, May 19). India's new B2B means back to Bangalore: Migration: Khozem Merchant investigates the return of the country's technology diaspora, while below, Tom Foremski looks at the impact Indian entrepreneurs have had in Silicon Valley: [USA 1ST EDITION 1]. *Financial Times*, 8.

Fuller, C. J & Narasimhan, H (2007). Information Technology Professionals and the New-Rich Middle Class in Chennai (Madras). *Modern Asian Studies*, 41(1), 121-150.

Ghosh, B (2000). Return migration: reshaping policy approaches. In: B. Ghosh, ed., *Return Migration: Journey of Hope or Despair?*, 181-226.

Gilkey, G (1967). The United States and Italy: Migration and Repatriation. *Journal of Developing Areas*, 2, 23-36.

Grondahl, P. Staff writer (2004, October). Afghans keep eyes on vote in a faraway land. *Times Union*, B1.

Hazen, H. D & Alberts, H. C (2006). Visitors or immigrants? International students in the United States. *Population, Space and Place*, 12, 201-216.

International migration (2001, January). *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*.

International Organization for Migration. "The Framework for Returning Migration Policy" <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/about-migration/cache/office/lang/en/pid/661>

Kabra, H (2005). India's IT prodigals return home. BBC News. http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/south_asia/4447833.stm. April 29, 2005.

Kapur, D (2002). The causes and consequences of India's IT boom. *India Review*, 1-2, 91-110.

Kothari, V (2006). IT boom leads to reverse migration. *Knight Ridder Tribune Business News*, 1.

Lopreato, F (1967). *Peasants more: Social Class and Social Change in an Undeveloped Society*. San Francisco: Brown.

Merriam, M. F (1970). Reversing the Brain Drain. *The International Executive (pre-1986)*.

Miranda, J. F & Saravia, N. G (2004). "Plumbing the brain drain", in *Bulletin of the World Health Organization (Geneva)*, 82(8), 608-615. Available at <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/82/8/608.pdf>

Morning, A (2001). South Asia. In J. Ciment (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of American immigration*, 4, 1207-1214 Armonk, NY: Sharpe Reference.

Nasscom-McKinsey Report. (2005). Extending India's leadership in the global IT and BPO industries. (<http://www.nasscom.org>).

Nawa, F (2002, June). Afghan exiles get mixed homecoming welcome; Since February the United Nations has repatriated 231 Afghans from abroad. *The Christian Science Monitor*, 07.

Nayyar, D (1994). *Migration Remittances and Capital Flows: The Indian Experience*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi.

Núñez, S. & Xosé, M (2000). Emigración de Retorno y Cambio Social en la Península Iberica: Algunas observaciones teóricas en perspectiva comparada, Santiago de Compostela, Consello de la cultura Galega.

OCDE (2002). International Mobility of the Highly Skilled. Chapter 12: Rethinking High-Skilled International Migration and Policy issues for India's information economy, 201.

Philip, M & Gottfried, Z (2008, March). Managing Migration: The Global Challenge. *Population Bulletin*, 63(1), 3-20.

Portes, A, Haller, W. J & Guarnizo L. E (2002). Transnational entrepreneurs: An alternative form of immigrant economic adaptation. *American Sociological Review*, 67, 278–298.

Ruhs, Martin (2004), Migration Information Source, "Country Profile, Ireland: A Crash Course in Immigration Policy" <http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?ID=260>

Ryan, O (2005). India's top export: Headed back home? *Fortune*, 151, 12.

Schultz, C. M (1994). Promoting economic self-reliance: A case study of Afghan refugee women in Pakistan. *Journal of International Affairs*, 557.

Smith, R. C (2003). Diasporic memberships in historical perspective: Comparative insights from the Mexican, Italian and Polish cases¹. *The International Migration Review*, 37(3), 724-759.

Zhao, Y (2001). "Causes and Consequences of Return Migration: Recent Evidence from China". China Center for Economic Research Beijing University. No.E2001010

Zweig, D (2006). "Competing for talent: China's strategies to reverse the brain drain". *International Labor Review*, 145(1/2), 65-0_6.