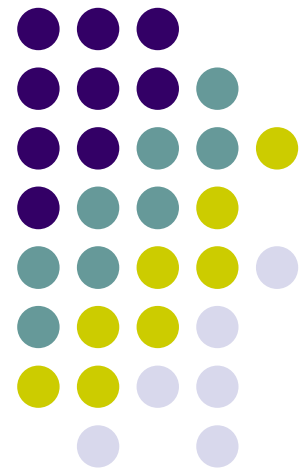


# The Emergence of Development-Friendly Migration Policy

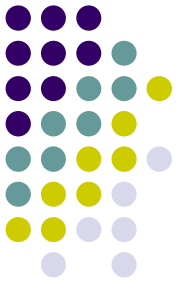
Hong Qiu

September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Prepared for the 2006 IPAC-Dal SPA Forum

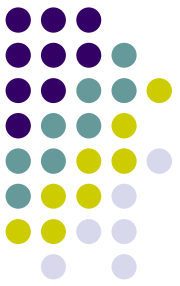


# Outline



- Migration policy and development
- Changing policy environment
- Innovative solution
- Lessons learned

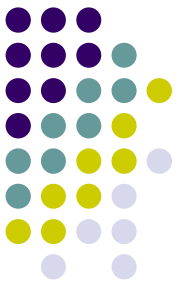
# Some Facts



- International migrants numbered 191 million in 2005
- In 2005, one in every five migrants in the world living in the United States
- Between 50% and 80% of all highly educated citizens from several small countries in Africa and the Caribbean live abroad
- Worldwide, remittances increased from US\$102 billion in 1995 to an estimated US\$232 billion in 2005
- In 2005, 72% of international remittance goes to developing countries

Source: [www.un.org/esa/population/hldmigration/Text/Migration\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/population/hldmigration/Text/Migration_factsheet.pdf)

# Migration Policy and Development

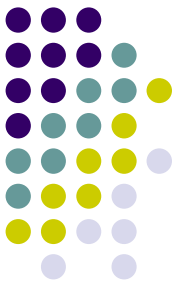


- International migration is a development issue
- Migration policy affects the development of source country
- Historically, migration policy tends to benefit the rich countries rather than poor nations
  - Brain drain problem
  - Labour exports may have nothing to do with domestic labour surplus
  - Remittance income is rarely used for productive purposes



# New Realities

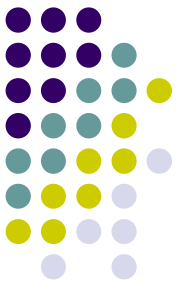
- Rising concerns about national security
- Brain drain begins to affect developed countries
- Growth of temporary migration
- Complex networks and circular migration
- The growing gap between the rich and the poor, both within and between countries
- A rising voice on human rights protection for both legal and irregular migrants



# New Challenges

- Close the border or Open the border?
- What's the optimal level of migration?
- How to open up legal channels while shut down illegal ones?
- How to manage circular movements?
- What level of protection should be provided to migrants?  
And How?
- How to make migration policy work for the development of poor countries when rich country's policy targets at "*giving me your best and brightest*"?

# New Solutions



***Sustainable migration management requires international collaboration***

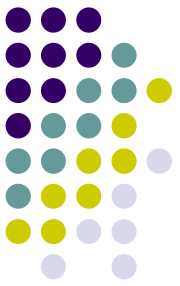
- Supranational governance such as EU
- Development-friendly migration policy

# Development-friendly migration policy

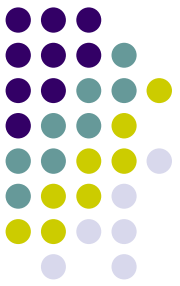


- How to define “development-friendly”?
  - Towards benefits-sharing and co-development with sending countries
  - Towards sustainable migration management

# Major policy components

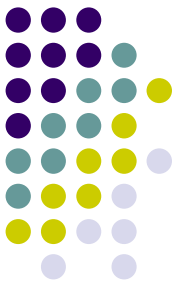


- Mitigate the adverse effect of brain drain on the source countries
  - Ethical codes of international recruitment (UK)
- Facilitate brain circulation
  - Exchange program for students and teachers from developing countries (Sweden)
- Make remittance transfer faster, cheaper and safer
  - Cooperation between banks (Ecuador and Spanish)



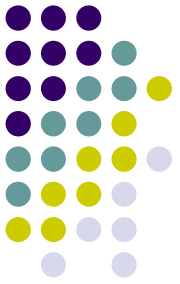
# Major policy components (con't)

- Facilitate knowledge transfer through technology and institutional partnership
  - E-learning (Migration for Development in Africa, IOM)
- Build capacity in diasporas communities
  - Support diasporas business and investment (France)
- Facilitate the return of irregular migrants
  - Return assistance for irregular migrants (Italy)



# Lessons learned

- The role of the state
  - Power to control vs. power to collaborate
  - Engaging international stakeholders to policy development
- Sustainable development
  - Understand globalization vs. think globally
  - Build a network for the global sustainability



**Thank You!**