

# MIDEQ Regional Conference on Migration for Development and Equality

14 – 15 March 2023

ISSER Conference Facility, University of Ghana  
In-person and Virtual

## Concept Note

While south-south migration constitutes more than 70 percent of human mobility globally, it is not given much attention in both policy and academic circles. This is partly due to the fact that media narratives tend to portray exodus from the Global South to the Global North. In recent years, it is widely acknowledged that if well managed, south-south migration has the potential to reduce inequalities and contribute to development. However, as a result, of lack of data on south-south migration and inability of governments to design and implement policies to harness the benefits of migration, the potential of south-south migration to contribute to economic transformation has not been fully realised.

The UKRI Migration for Development and Equality project ([MIDEQ](#)) works with a global network of partners in twelve countries in the Global South, organised into six migration ‘corridors’, to enhance understanding of the relationships between migration, development and inequality. The project seeks to shift the production of knowledge about migration and its consequences towards the countries where most migration takes place – engaging with contested concepts and definitions, decolonising research processes and generating new evidence and ideas. The ultimate aim of the project is to translate knowledge and ideas into policies and practices, which work to improve the lives of migrants, their families and the communities in which they live.

As part of the MIDEQ work plan, a regional conference is being organised in Ghana to provide platform for project partners, policy makers and civil society groups in Africa. It is our belief that this conference will provide an avenue for intensification of lesson drawing, knowledge sharing, and purposive interactions among researchers, public officials and migrants on how we can harness the benefits of south-south migration for socio-economic development.

Day 1: 14 March 2023

Time (GMT)	Activity	Speakers
9.00 – 9.30	<b>Registration and artistic performance</b>	
9.30 – 10.30	<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Artistic Performance</li> <li>Welcome Address</li> <li>Opening remarks by MIDEQ CO-I for Ghana/Co-Director</li> <li>Remarks by Provost of College of Humanities</li> <li>Address by the Pro VC (ORID)</li> <li>Remarks by Deputy Comptroller General, GIS</li> <li>Remarks by AU representative</li> <li>Artistic Performance</li> <li>Keynote Address on South-South Migration, Inequality and Development</li> <li>Artistic Performance</li> </ul>	<p>Director of CMS, Prof. Mary Setrana</p> <p>Prof. Joseph Teye</p> <p>Prof. Daniel Ofori</p> <p>Prof. Felix Asante</p> <p>Mr. Isaac Mensah</p> <p>Dr. Ibrahima Dia, Director for AU Migration Research Observatory</p> <p>Prof. Heaven Crawley</p>
10.30-11.00	<b>Photo and coffee break</b>	

Time (GMT)	Activity	Speakers
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11.00-13.00

### Session 1: Gender, child migration and inequality

This session will explore the topics of gender and child migration through the following lens:

1. Intersectional inequalities and marital relationships: Experiences of Chinese and Ghanaian couples
2. Refugeeism, Invisibility and Visibility: The Challenges of Ethiopian (Adult) Children living in Permanent Temporalities
3. Return Migration and Reintegration difficulties in Burkina Faso
4. Pour une relecture des modalités de prise de décision des migrants Burkinabè en Côte d'Ivoire : entre habitus social, perceptions et liens matrimoniaux
5. South-south migrants solidarity – Mariama/Faisal
6. Migration and school attendance of children: Equality or Inequality between the left behind and the non left behind in the Burkina Faso-Côte d'Ivoire corridor.

**Moderator:** Prof. Jixia Lu

**Panellists:** Prof. Mary Setrana, Prof. Mariama Awumbila, Dr. Henrietta Nyamnjoh, Dr. Bonayi Hubert Dabiré, Cyprien Yao, Dr. Faisal Garba; Dr. Sangli Gabriel.

13.00-14.00

### Lunch

14.00-16.00

### Panel discussion on migration governance in Africa

**Moderator:** Prof. Joseph Teye

**Panellists:** Dr. **Ibrahima Dia**, Director for AU Migration Research Observatory; **Charles Kwenin**, Former Regional Director of IOM, Southern Africa; **Andrew Takyi-Appiah**, Co-Founder and Managing Director of Zeepay; **Dr. Tony Elumelu**, ECOWAS; **Dr. Fana Gebresenbet**, Addis Ababa University; **Cassie Xu**, China-Africa Relations Executive, China-Europe International Business School (CEIBS)

16.00 – 17.00	<b>Plenary session: Promoting access to justice through artistic performance</b>	<b>Panellists:</b> Prof. Heaven Crawley; Caroline Nalule; Dr. Gameli Tordzro
17.00 – 18.00	<b>Break</b>	
18.00 – 20.00	<b>Conference cocktails and artistic performance by Noyam African Dance Institute</b>	

*Day 2: 15 March 2023*

Time (GMT)	Activity	Speakers
8.30 – 9.00	<b>Registration</b>	
9:00 – 10.30	<p><b>Session 2: Migration policy and resource flows</b></p> <p>This session will focus on resource flows and migration using the following lens:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remittance as Rent and Migration as a Curse to the Hadiya, Southern Ethiopia</li> <li>2. Remittance-sending behaviour of Chinese migrants in Ghana</li> <li>3. Migration policy and policy gaps and mobility in South Africa</li> <li>4. Remittances in South-South migration: a model of resilience and solidarity of strong ties among Burkinabe migrants in the Songon-Agban region of Côte d'Ivoire</li> <li>5. Remittances from Ghana and development in China</li> <li>6. Digital technology and migration</li> <li>7. Comparing north-south and south-south remittances in the case of Burkina Faso</li> </ol>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Faisal Garba</p> <p><b>Panellists:</b> Dr. Fana Gebresenbet; Edward Asiedu; Prof. Godfred A. Bokpin; Yordanos S. Estifanos; Tchan Bi Sylvestre; Prof. Jixia Lu; Prof. G. Hari Harindranath and Prof. Tim Unwin; Dr. Tebkiet Alexandra Tapsoba.</p>
10:30 – 10.45	<b>Coffee break</b>	

Time (GMT)	Activity	Speakers
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10.45-13.00 **Session 3: Inequality and Migration**

This session will explore the relationship between south-south migration and inequalities using the following lens:

1. Documentation and mobility: a case of Ethiopian migrants operating businesses in South Africa
2. Theorising Migration in Africa: A Collectivist Critique of Aspiration Capability Framework
3. Inequality, migration and return migration along the China-Ghana corridor
4. Social construction of inequalities through the repatriation of funds of Burkinabè living in Côte d'Ivoire

**Moderator:** Prof. Mary Setrana

**Panellists:** Azwi Netshikulwe; Dr. Fana Gebresenbet; Prof. Joseph Yaro; Dr. Leander Kandilige; Dr. Kando Amédée Soumahoro

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13.00 – 13.30 **Closing ceremony**

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13.30 – 14.30 **Lunch**

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13.30 – 15.00 **Visit to Accra/ bilateral meetings**

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18.00 **Dinner**

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