

## Haiti - Brazil Migration Corridor

### Co-Investigator

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### Research Context

Haiti is a country of net emigration, with a significant part of the population living abroad, mainly in the United States and the Dominican Republic. According to the [Interrelations between Public Policy, Migration and Development in Haiti](#) report (OECD and INURED, 2017), more than 1.2 million Haitians were estimated to live outside the country in 2015, representing over 11% of the population. Following the 2010 Haiti earthquake, and continuing over the past decade, Brazil has become a primary Latin American destination but its attractiveness has waned for Haitian migrants, however, it remains a focal point for (re)settlement and circulation within the region; an important transit point to other nations deemed more economically advantageous including: Chile, French Guiana, Ecuador, Colombia, Argentina and Mexico (the latter in an attempt to enter the US though some have settled there as well due to changes in US immigration policies under the Obama and Trump administrations.). Yet, migration processes of Haitians in Latin America are less characterized by dispersal from a homeland and resettlement in a host country as it is by onward migration and re-settlement.

Haitian migrants circulating in the Haiti-Brazil corridor are mostly young males (about 65%), ages 18 to 35. They migrate individually and, later, along the course of their circulatory migration from Brazil to its neighbouring countries and back to Brazil and beyond, they bring girlfriends and wives. Some leave spouses and children behind in Haiti. In less than a decade, Brazil became the primary Latin American destination, but its attractiveness has waned for Haitian migrants due to economic instability that has contributed to increased anti-immigrant sentiment and xenophobia. However, it remains a focal point for (re)settlement and circulation within the region; an important transit point to other nations deemed more economically advantageous.

### Work Packages

WP1: Gender inequality and South-South migration

WP4: Migrant perceptions, knowledge and decision making

WP5: Migration intermediaries

## Research Questions

1. How gender and gender inequalities influence – and are influenced by – Haitian migration in the Haiti-Brazil corridor including: the existence, and consequences, of gender inequalities in terms of access to rights and resources in origin and destination countries? (WP1)
2. How do gender roles, relations and identities impact and change migration trajectories and opportunities? (WP1)
3. How has education (lack of or over-education) influenced gender differentials in migration within the Haiti-Brazil corridor? (WP1)
4. How has the labor market influenced gender differentials in migration within Haiti-Brazil corridor? (WP1)
5. What interventions could be, effective in addressing the negative inequality consequences associated with the Haiti-Brazil corridor? (WP1)
6. How do inequalities in opportunities, access to resources and policies/programs mediate migrant decision-making, and how do these affect the type of migration pathways accessed and consequently impact on development? (WP4)
7. How is mobility historically lived in Haitian society and what are the local representations of movement, mobility, circulation and migration? (WP4)
8. What is the role of social networks (family, friends, and intermediaries) in informing and influencing migration decisions (to migrate, or to stay); migration modes (pathways, facilitators, routes); migration destination? (WP4)
9. How do migration decisions (which are in turn constrained by inequalities) affect potential development impact in Haiti? (WP4)
10. What types of intermediaries operate in Haiti? What is the composition of intermediaries (e.g., bureaucrats, independent agents in the underground market, etc.)? (WP5)
11. How do intermediaries recruit potential migrants and what do intermediaries charge and for which activities? (WP5)
12. How do existing (embedded) inequalities (e.g. gender, age, income, geography) influence access to different types of intermediaries in Haiti? Do the activities of intermediaries reproduce and/or disrupt those preexisting inequalities? If so, how? (WP5)
13. In what ways does the interaction between policy/legal frameworks in the destination and the origin country impact intermediary activities? (WP5)

14. What kind of interventions and mechanisms can have a positive impact on the use of intermediaries (i.e. maximizing their ability to disrupt existing inequalities, minimize contribution to new inequalities)? (WP5)

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