

Migration Policy Institute

Stranded Migrants A New Challenge for the International Community

IOM Director General William Swing
Washington, 9 May 2013



Demand for Growth: Migration Mega-trend: One in Seven

7 billion Population

1 billion Migrants



214 million International

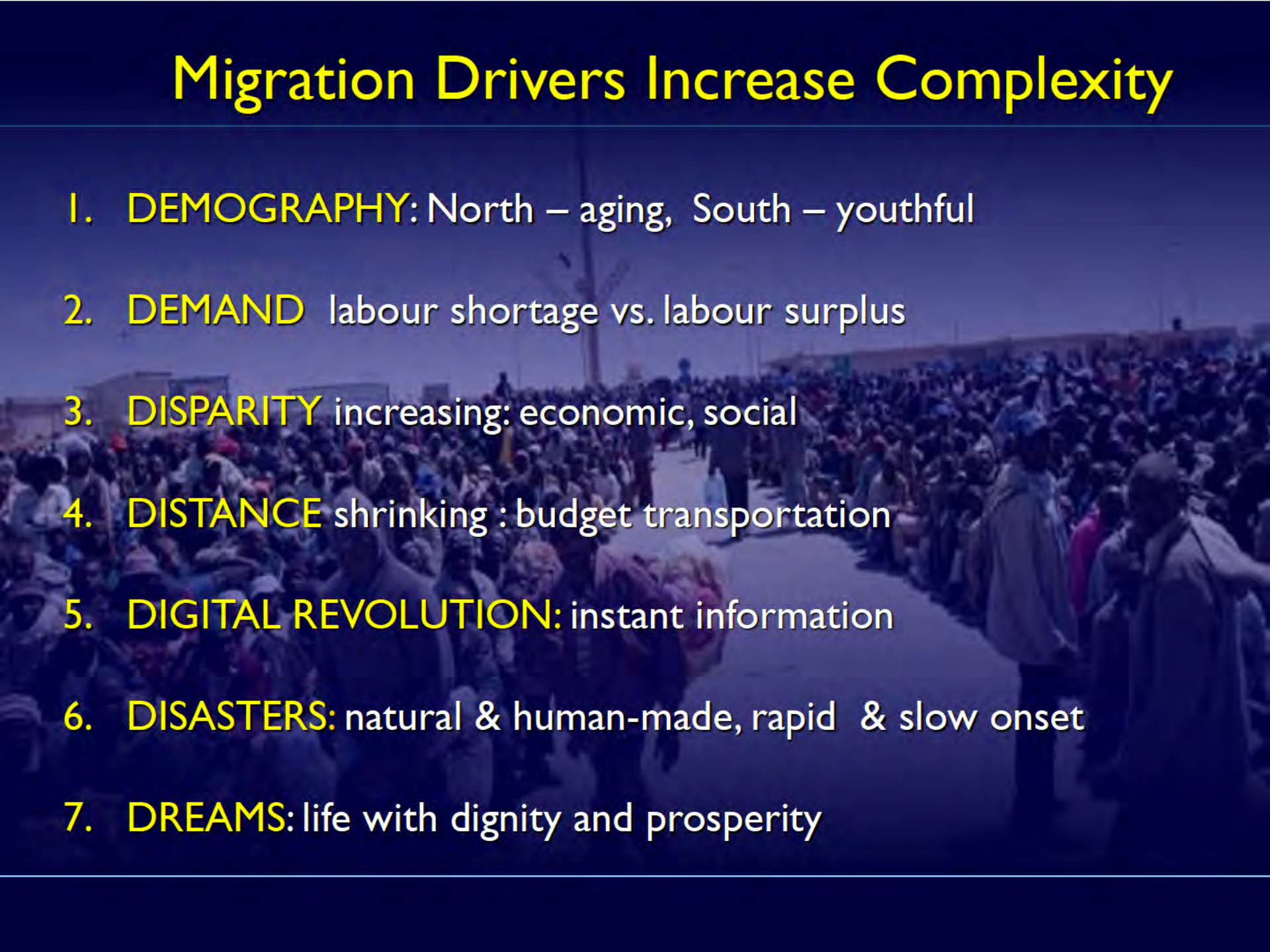
740 million Internal

Urbanization: 50% +

Feminization: ca. 50%

Even faster migration growth than last 25 years

Migration Drivers Increase Complexity

1. **DEMOGRAPHY**: North – aging, South – youthful
 2. **DEMAND** labour shortage vs. labour surplus
 3. **DISPARITY** increasing: economic, social
 4. **DISTANCE** shrinking : budget transportation
 5. **DIGITAL REVOLUTION**: instant information
 6. **DISASTERS**: natural & human-made, rapid & slow onset
 7. **DREAMS**: life with dignity and prosperity
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- A large crowd of people, mostly men, are walking along a dirt path. They are carrying various items, including bags and bundles, suggesting they are migrants or refugees. The background shows a flat, open landscape under a clear sky.

International Migrants in Context

Population: Between 4th and 5th Largest Countries

 **Indonesia** 4th 237 million

International Migrants 214 million*

 **Brazil** 5th 193 million

Economic Contribution: Size of Large GDPs

 **Saudi Arabia** 23rd USD 434 billion

Annual Migrant Remittances 24th USD 400 billion*

 **Austria** 28th USD 379 billion

* Sources: World Bank

International Migrants in Context

- **Increasing labor demand and gaps**
European Union: 40 million by 2050
China: Ageing
- **Stranded Migrants**
Critical & under-appreciated issue

Stranded migrants – Who are they?

- a) No consensus on definition: legally-difficult
- b) Useful operational definition – “vulnerable migrants”
 - In transit or at destination
 - Government not able to support

Stranded migrants – Who helps them?

1) States have primary responsibility

- May not have necessary
 - presence
 - funds

2) IOM Mandate

- Constitution
- 12-Point Strategy

3) IOM assistance for 2012: 12.5 million migrants

How do we address varied needs?

3 Broad Categories

Individual & specific

Large-scale displacement



Interrupted
migration
processes

Precarious
legal
situation

Victims of
natural disasters
& political crises

Stranded Migrants – Categories:

(I) Interrupted migration processes

– specific, individual: small numbers

- loss of or absence of required documents
- visa requirements not fulfilled
- not enough money, etc.

Stranded Migrants – Categories:

(2) Precarious legal situation

- unaccompanied minors
- victims of trafficking
- stranded at sea: regular or irregular
- rejected asylum seekers, etc.

Stranded Migrants – Categories:

(3) Victims of natural disasters & political crises

- 1992 – first Gulf War, supported 250,000 Iraqi migrants
- 2011 to now – Libya: 225,000 assisted during & after crisis
- 2011 to now – South Sudan: 51,000 assisted in their return
- 2011 to now – Yemen: 5,623 assisted in their return
- 2012 – Syria: 3,331 stranded migrants assisted

IOM Special Funds for Stranded Migrants

Temporary measure until programmes are
developed & funded for a country

I) Global Assistance Fund (GAF)

- Established in 2000
- Flexible and responsive emergency mechanism
- Assists victims not eligible for other funds
- Immediate support to over 1,700 trafficked victims
- 2012: 167 victims assisted
- Funding (2000-2010): \$1 million

IOM Special Funds for Stranded Migrants

2) Humanitarian Assistance Stranded Migrants Fund (HASM)

- Created in 2006
- Ad hoc assistance to stranded migrants not eligible for funding from any other agency or IOM program
- 2,204 assisted
- Funding since creation: \$1,230,000

IOM Special Funds for Stranded Migrants

3) Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism (MEFM)

- 2011: established in response to Libya
- Quick response: Migrants stranded in crises
Large scale emergencies
- Received: \$4.8 million
- Used: \$1.4 million for Syrian life-saving assistance

Addressing the gap holistically: Protecting Stranded Migrants

Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF)

- Necessary lens to identify & address vulnerabilities
- Before, during and after crises
- Integrated & holistic
 - life-saving responses
 - capacity building
 - regional and global migration management
- Endorsed by 149 Member States in 2012

International labor recruitment: The issues

Costs of unethical recruitment for workers, employers and the recruitment industry:

Private Sector

- Harm to business reputation
- Criminal liability
- Decreased worker productivity
- Unfair competition
- Lack of transparency
- Poor skills matching

Migrants

- Violated human and labour rights
- Decreased earnings
- Debt bondage
- Labour trafficking

A global problem requiring a global solution!



A global partnership to combat unethical recruitment

Voluntary participation

- Common code of ethical conduct and best practices
- Bridged international legislative and regulatory gaps

360 degrees partnership:

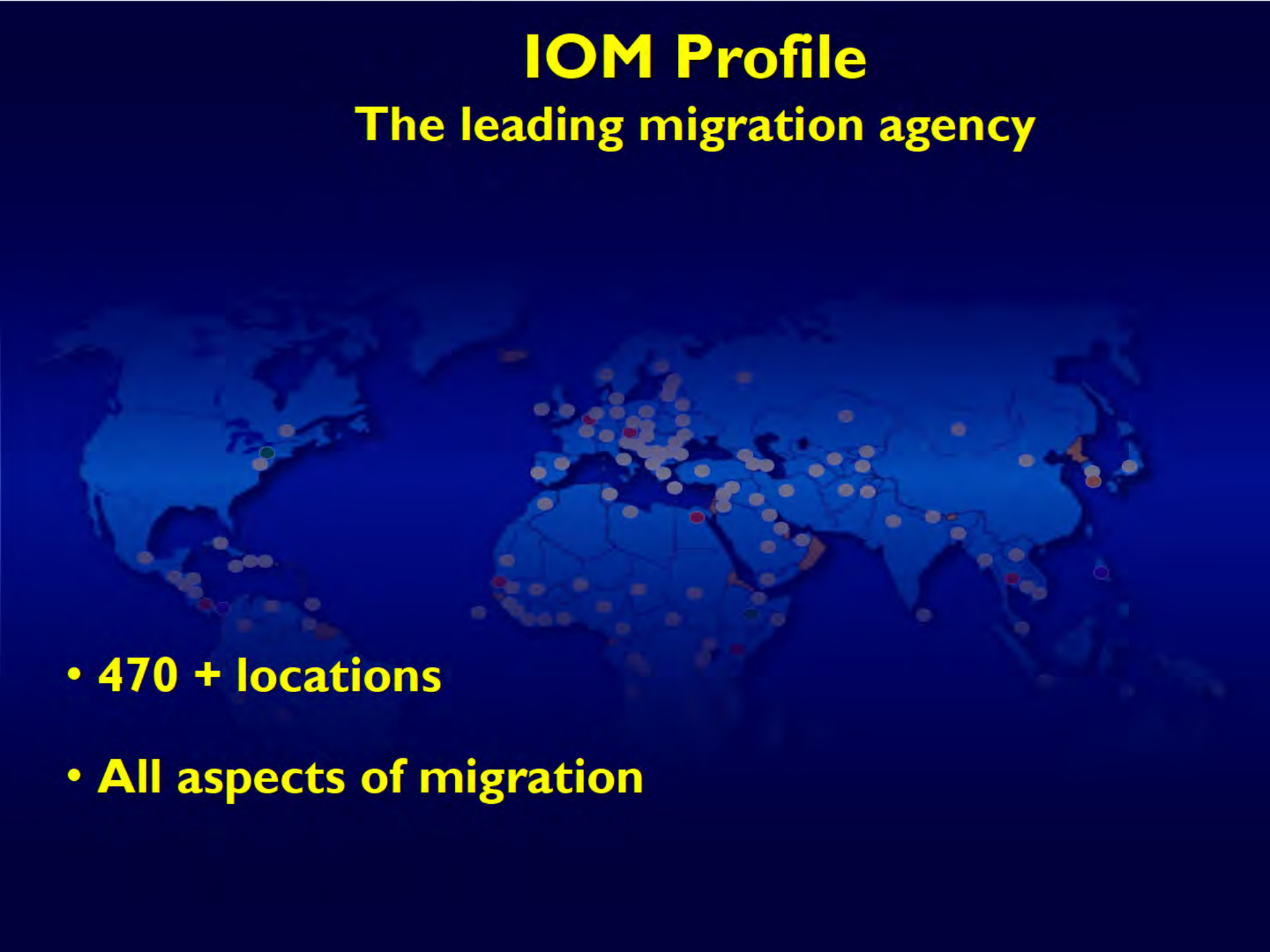
- Labor migrants
- Employers
- Recruitment industry
- Governments (origin, transit, destination)

Stranded Migrants in HLD: IOM Policy Recommendations

- 1) Manage **migration in crisis** situations
- 2) Enhance the **evidence & knowledge base**
- 3) Promote **policy coherence & institutional** development
- 4) Factor **migration into development planning**, all levels
- 5) Improve **public perceptions** of migrants
- 6) Protect **human rights** of all migrants

IOM Profile

The leading migration agency

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- A world map with a dark blue background, showing the outlines of continents. Numerous small, semi-transparent circles in various colors (white, grey, red, green, purple, orange) are plotted across the map, representing IOM's operational locations. There is a high concentration of locations in Europe, Africa, and Asia, with more scattered locations in North and South America.
- **470 + locations**
 - **All aspects of migration**

Conclusion

- Not new issue
- No need for Convention:

Experience

Only agency dealing with full spectrum of migration

Reach

Global presence

Prompt and efficient

Key partnerships: Clear-cut, complementary mandates