MAFE Project
Migrations between AFrica and Europe

Cris Beauchemin (INED)
The case studies

Migration system 1
- Senegal
- Spain
- Italy

Migration system 2
- RD-Congo
- Belgium
- Great Britain

Migration system 3
- Ghana
- Netherlands

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
EUROPE
The partners

Migration system 1
- Université de Dakar & Enda-Diapol
  - University Pompeu Fabra
  - Fieri

Migration system 2
- Université de Kinshasa
  - Univ. Catho. de Louvain la Neuve
  - University of Sussex

Migration system 3
- University of Ghana
  - University of Maastricht

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA  EUROPE
A comparative project

- Various contexts in sending countries
  - Countries concerned by international migration for a long vs. a short time
  - Different geographical and economic contexts (sahelian vs. equatorial country)
  - Different political histories from colonial times to contemporary events
    - all in all, different types of migrants (labor mig., family mig., asylum seekers)
- Various ties between sending and receiving countries:
  - With post-colonial links (Senegal and France, Congo and Belgium)
  - Or without such links: newer and growing flows
- Various contexts in receiving countries, with differences in matter of...
  - Migration policy, integration regimes, socio-economic contexts

→ What are the common vs. the specific facts comparing these 3 afro-european migration systems?

→ And, ultimately, a project of comparison with Latin America / USA migration systems.
Scientific objective 1

- A description of the changing patterns of migration
  - The socio-demographic characteristics of migrants
    - Changes over time of socio-demographic characteristics (educational levels and skills, age, etc.)?
    - Focus on gender: feminization of migration?
  - The routes of migration from Africa to Europe
    - How the travel is organised (who decides and pays for the migration? modes of transportation? whether smugglers are involved? trips made alone or not? etc.)
    - Itineraries used to reach the EU (transit countries; length of the trip…) & the extent of mobility within the EU. Changes over time?
    - Migration attempts.
  - Migratory trends
    - Trends: 1st departure and 1st return probabilities over time
    - Patterns of return migration and circulation
Scientific objective 2

- A better understanding of migratory logics
  - The determinants of departure…
    … but also: return, repeated migration
  - To test empirically the various migration theories
    (and also opposite common wisdoms)
    - neo-classics vs. NELM, etc.
    - In line with Massey’s analyses
  - A focus on variables of special interest for policy makers
    - Departure: poverty, education, gender, policy context
    - Return: the role of remittances, integration conditions
Scientific objective 3

- Impacts of international migration (micro level)

- Integration and re-integration of migrants
  - To explore the education and labour careers of migrants in order to analyse the payoff of the migrants' skills
    - when they arrive in Europe
    - when they go back to their country
  - To study migrants’ investments (compared to non-migrants)

- International migration and social change
  - Articulation between international migration and family building (marriage, children). Transnational families?
  - Gender relations: impacts of male migration in the sending countries? Impacts of growing female migration flows?
Methodological Orientations

• To produce reliable and representative data

• A methodology based on successful previous experiences
  - The Mexican Migration Project (D. Massey) ➔ general design
  - Biographic surveys conducted in Sub-Saharan Africa and in France ➔ questionnaires conception
  - Push-Pull project ➔ sampling experience
  - Tests within the MAFE-Senegal project

• 3 methodological principles:
  - Multilevel data collection
    (individual, HH, community, region…)
  - Longitudinal data
  - Transnational samples
I. Multilevel Data Compilation

Objective:
- to overcome the limitations of analyses only based on the individual level
- to capture the contexts structure decision-making

Individual and household level data:
- through 2 distinct questionnaires (individual and HH)

Contextual data:
- Regional and national levels through external data bases (economic situation, policy context, etc.)
- Community level: difficulties to collect information in urban settings (availability of various amenities, infrastructure, etc.)
II. Longitudinal Data (Retrospective)

- Objective: to collect “timed” data so as to …
  - … perform multi-level event-history analyses
  - … assess correctly the determinants and the effects of international migration

- At the individual level: a biographic questionnaire
  - Contents: family formation, education and employment, housing, migration, investments (housing, business, community amenities or infrastructure).
  - The same questionnaire for all individuals whatever the country where they are or their migratory status (migrant, non-migrant, returnee).

- At the contextual level, retrospective data are also sought:
  - Regional and national series on employment, migration, etc.
III. Transnational Samples

Objective:
- Ideally: a sample representative of the whole transnational community of each country under study (Senegal, Ghana, Congo)
- Actually: a sample including migrants, non-migrants & return migrants of each African origin... to compare all these groups.

Hence a multi-country design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sending Countries</th>
<th>Receiving Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- non-migrants</td>
<td>- current migrants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- return migrants</td>
<td>(documented and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>undocumented)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limitations:
- no transit countries in the project
- a limited number of destination countries (only Europe)
Quantitative objectives (nb of individuals)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sending Countries</th>
<th>Receiving Countries</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAFE Senegal</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>600 (200 / country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAFE Congo</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>300 (150 / country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAFE Ghana</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>300 (150 / country)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMP</td>
<td>200 per community</td>
<td>20 per origin community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Representative samples… as far as possible!
Sampling constraints

Biases risks

• Refusals. Hot topic ➔ Needs for special “sensibilization”
• Undocumented migrants, partly invisible at destination ➔ Need to use sampling methods that allow to include them.
• A research objective: identifying selection biases at destination.

Migrants are a rare population

• Trade-off: maximizing the sample size vs. minimizing the costs
• In contexts where there are rarely appropriate sampling frames
• Nationally representative samples… the impossible quest (?)
In Senegal

- Region of Dakar only…
  - but 25% of the country population
  - and prospect of extending to other Senegalese regions

- A representative sample through a random selection of…
  - 60 district censuses
    - Selected according to migration prevalence at the 2002 census
  - 1,200 households:
    - 20 HH per district
    - reasonably maximizing the number of HH with migrants
  - 1,500 individuals
    (25-75, born Senegalese in Senegal)
    - At least 1 non-migrant per HH
    - Up to 2 return migrants per HH
    - Up to 2 migrants’ spouses per HH
The MAFE-Senegal Options

In Europe

- A selection of regions
  - Places of concentration vs. diversity
  - Ex: in Italy, northern regions (urban, industrial) + 1 southern region (more rural)

- The migrants selection: a step-strategy
  - 200 individuals per country
    - 25-75 years old
    - Born Senegalese in Senegal
    - Arrived in Europe at 18 or later
    - Over-representation of females (up to 50% of the sample)
  - Initial sample
    - Contacts collected in Senegal (snow-balling)
    - Partially « linked samples »
  - Complementary samples
    - Quotas in France and Italy
    - Municipal registers in Spain (Padron)
Thank you!

For further information

On MAFE-Senegal: http://mafe.site.ined.fr/
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Aknowledgements

Project funded under the Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities