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URBANIZATION AND LABOUR MIGRATION 1

LECTURER IN CHARGE

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ASSIGNMENT

**DISCUSS IN DETAILS THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF MIGRATION ON THE PLACE OF
ORIGIN.**

Migration decisions are influenced by differing factors that "push" migrants away from their home areas and "pull" them toward the receiving areas. It is possible that these differences are economically related. Such include variations in income and educational opportunity; political differences in religious freedom; or family differences in geographic location.

Individuals' inclination to migrate is influenced by a variety of factors, some of which are favorable, such as differentials in wages or returns to migration. Among these include transportation expenses, the effort expended in seeking for accommodation and jobs in the new area, as well as "psychological" costs, a term economists use to describe costs that are not monetary but nonetheless function as barriers to migration, such as the separation from family members. It is found that the distance between the sending and receiving countries increases the cost of migration (due to increased transportation costs), whereas the presence of established migrant networks in the receiving region reduces the cost of migration. The information provided by these networks of prior immigrants with comparable ethnic or national backgrounds about job contacts and accommodation is invaluable.

Economic migration and personal migration are two very different types of movement that are often confused. Temporary migrants are those who will return to their place of origin at some time, but their stay can last from months to years. A contract worker or a guest worker are examples of temporary migrants. Individuals who hold special permits that allow them to cross an international border daily, weekly, or even monthly to work in another country are also included in this category. Some refugees and political asylum seekers are only there for a short period of time; these individuals intend to return to their home countries once they are no longer persecuted. Due to the fact that most foreign students return to their home countries after completing their studies, many international students are also transitory migrants. However, family reunion migration tends to be permanent.

A large portion of migration is unlawful as well. Undocumented immigrants either enter the receiving country illegally by crossing the border covertly or arrive legitimately and overstay their visas. As a result of illegal immigration measuring migrant flows in some nations (such as the United States) is plagued with inaccuracies.

Immigration and emigration policies at the country of origin and destination determine the size, demographic, and socio-economic makeup of migratory movements, as well as the size and composition of the stock of foreign residents in the receiving country. This may be seen in both the United States and European experiences, respectively. (Asch & Reichman, 1994).

International migrants maintain ties to their countries of origin in a variety of different ways. In many cases, international migrants leave their family members behind in the country of origin because it is prohibitively expensive for the entire family to relocate, or because of restrictive immigration policies and uncertain conditions in the countries to which they are relocating to. Money sent home by migrants (referred to as remittances) has the effect of increasing consumption and improving the living conditions of those who have remained behind in their home countries. At the same time, migration causes disruptions in family life, which may have negative consequences for the well-being of migrant-sending households who reside in their countries of departure.

Nikolova, Graham, and Ivlevs (2018) found that having family members abroad is associated with higher levels of life satisfaction and a positive effect on those who are left behind, and receiving remittances is associated with even greater increases in life satisfaction, particularly in poorer contexts both across and within countries. As a result of rising living standards or the different social standing that remittance-receiving families may enjoy in the community, this is likely to be the case. There is approximately the same amount of additional well-being influence associated with having relatives living abroad as there is from remittances. In this case, it is possible that those who remain behind derive satisfaction or joy from the knowledge that their family members have achieved success in a foreign country. In addition, having a family member who lives in a different country may increase the likelihood of the left-behinds moving abroad in the future.

Some of the positive consequences of immigration on the home country are addressed below, using the US-Mexico immigration scenario as a typical case study.

- **The Number of People Who Can Immigrate Has Increased**

The first and most significant effect is the process of social network growth that has occurred in both countries as a result of the process. Masey and Espana (1987) conducted an investigation into the development of social networks that have resulted from Mexican immigration to the

United States. They came to the conclusion that social networks lower the cost of migration for other groups of non-migrants, thereby inducing them to migrate and thus perpetuating the process of migration. Migration, when combined with ties to the nation of origin, promotes subsequent migration, and this process continues regardless of the factors that triggered the first migratory movements.

Migration, on the other hand, becomes less expensive as community migrant networks develop in size, and the impoverished are more likely to migrate as a result. Moreover, because migrant households grow wealthier as a result of revenue generated overseas, big migrant networks are able to distribute the benefits of migration to members who are at or near the bottom of the income and consumption distributions. As a result, inequality is reduced.

- **While Skill-Group Members Leave, Wages at Home Rise as a Result**

In addition to the direct income effects of migration due to profits earned abroad, migration has other effects on inequality due to externalities that are not directly related to the income consequences of migration. The decrease in the number of Mexican employees in a skill group as a result of migration, for example, has been shown to increase the average salaries in that skill group. The scarcity of competent people in the home nation eventually causes the demand for the skill group to skyrocket, and in an effort to entice the few qualified individuals who stay, pay are likewise dramatically increased to attract them. The impacts of salary increases are visible in the living conditions of the home nation, where the standard of living greatly improves and access to previously denied opportunities becomes a reality for the majority of the population.