The Conference
In January 2006 the International Migration Institute (IMI) was founded at Oxford University by Stephen Castles and Steven Vertovec with the aim of developing a long-term and forward-looking perspective on international migration as an intrinsic part of global change. To celebrate the 10th anniversary of IMI, this conference seeks both to review the progress made in reaching these aims and to explore new conceptual horizons for understanding migration processes and their impacts for origin and destination societies.

The aim of this interdisciplinary conference is to advance theoretical understanding of the nature, drivers and impacts of migration processes. We particularly invite contributions addressing questions central to one of the IMI research themes:

1. Drivers and Dynamics How do processes of social transformation and development shape human mobility? In what ways are interrelated processes of internal and international migration driven by wider social, economic, technological and political transformations in origin and destination countries? What is the role of origin and destination states in shaping migration processes? To what extent do these insights challenge sedentary assumptions of policy?

2. Development, inequality and change What are the implications of migration for development and social transformation in destination and origin societies? In particular, how does migration affect social, cultural and economic change as well as patterns of inequality? Why does migration seem to have more positive development outcomes in some settings, and more negative outcomes in others?

3. Diaspora, transnationalism and identity How is globalisation affecting migrants’ ability and ways of sustaining long-distance and potentially inter-generational links with origin societies? How are transnational communities and diasporas formed? How do they impact on people’s identities? To what extent do they challenge conventional models of immigrant integration and the nation state?
CALL FOR PAPERS

Submission of papers

We welcome papers addressing one or more of these three conference themes. We welcome theoretical and empirical (both quantitative and qualitative) contributions. We are seeking papers that reach beyond the particular empirical case to make a broader conceptual argument. We particularly encourage submissions looking at origin country perspectives, interdisciplinary papers which go beyond traditional conceptual and empirical divides between scientific disciplines, and those that bridge global, national, local and individual perspectives. We also welcome papers covering overarching issues that straddle the themes.

Please submit i) a full paper (4,000–10,000 words) including an abstract (250 words maximum) or ii) an extended abstract (of at least 2,000 words) by 30th June 2015. All submissions must be in English.

Papers must be submitted electronically through the IMI Conference Webpage.

For more information about the conference, including instructions for submission of papers and details about registration please visit http://www.imi.ox.ac.uk/events/the-changing-face-of-global-mobility

NOTE: You must first register your details with the submission system in order to submit your paper.

Submitted papers and abstracts will undergo a peer review process coordinated by the Conference Committee.

Authors will be notified of acceptance at the latest by 15th September 2015.

If you have any queries relating to the conference, please email imi-conference@qeh.ox.ac.uk

IMI research agenda

IMI analyses migration as an intrinsic part of broader global transformation processes rather than a problem to be solved. Such understanding can provide the basis for policies designed to fully realise the potential benefits of migration for individuals and societies. We are interested in the following questions:

- What stimulates people’s migration?
- How do they undertake their journeys?
- How does migration affect societies of origin and destination?
- Can we anticipate future patterns of migration?

We pioneer new theoretical and methodological approaches, working with researchers and policy-makers across the world, with a particular emphasis on Africa. IMI also contributes to the teaching of the MSc in Migration Studies along with our colleagues at COMPAS.

Funders

The International Migration Institute (IMI) was established in 2006 through a generous grant by the Oxford Martin School. Over the past decade, IMI has rapidly expanded its research agenda through a range of grants from a range of funders including the European Research Council (ERC), NORFACE, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, John Fell Fund and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.