

Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD)

According to the estimates of the United Nations in 2013, there were 232 million international migrants. Between the years 1990 and 2013, the number of international migrants increased by more than 50% (an increase of 77 million migrants), with most of this growth having occurred between 2000 and 2010. Pakistan is a net emigration country and is listed amongst the top five net emigration countries in the world.

Total remittances to developing countries are estimated at US \$405 billion in 2013, outweigh the total development assistance and in fact are much greater than foreign direct investment to developing countries (excluding China.) In view of their increasing importance, it is vital to identify and suggest policy measures aimed at maximizing these inflows through official channels and make best use of them for economic development.

According to the World Bank, international migrants from developing countries are expected to send an estimated US \$436 billion to their home countries in 2014.

Pakistan received an amount of \$15 billion as remittances in the year 2013 which are equivalent to over 6% of its GDP in 2013.

These were contributed by the strong and dispersed Pakistani diaspora, estimated to be 7 million according to the Government of Pakistan but may well be much higher. The Pakistani diaspora increases the demand for Pakistani goods worldwide—from exports ranging from basic local fruits to high end clothing brands to media content.

While remittances can be beneficial to a country, international migrants can create a loss of skilled labor for their home country. For their host countries, migrants can create cultural tensions or face labor exploitation. These complex social, economic, and cultural issues will all be explored through the lens of CIMRAD's research.

About the Lahore School

The Lahore School's academic programmes encompass Economics, Finance, Business Administration, Social Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Environmental Sciences and Media Studies, Art and Design. The School offers both Graduate and Undergraduate programmes within specialized faculties, departments and research centres. With more than 150 full time faculty and 3100 graduate and undergraduate students, it is a leading academic institution of Pakistan.

The Lahore School of Economics has two campuses, The Main Campus and the City Campus. The Main Campus, spread over 35 acres, is located on the intersection of DHA Phase VI Main Boulevard and Burki Road. The City Campus is located in a quiet setting of Gulberg near the central Liberty Market area.

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Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora



The Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD) was established in 2014 by the Lahore School of Economics and is the first institute of its kind in Pakistan. The Centre specializes in the study and analysis of international migration and its social and economic consequences—with a focus on the diaspora and the flow of remittances.



Mission

CIMRAD is a research and teaching program for the study of migration, diaspora and remittances—and their consequences at the local, regional and global levels. With faculty drawn across from the Lahore School of Economics, the Centre uses a multidisciplinary approach to explore international migration issues.

The program will focus extensively on high quality research and analyzing the underlying causes and consequences of international migration.

Teaching

The Centre will offer a two-year MPhil as well as a one-year MSc in Migration and Diaspora Studies in the future



Research Topics

- Remittance flows to developing and individual countries:
 - Trends and patterns
 - Remittances through formal and informal channels
 - Factors influencing flow of remittances
- Migration to the Gulf countries, highlighting the following themes:
 - Trends and patterns of outflows
 - Recruitment processes and practices
 - Financial costs of recruitment and migration to migrant workers
- Studies on the Pakistani diaspora worldwide
- Overall country studies
- Impact of remittances on economic growth, employment, and poverty
- Analyze past and future trends in international migration with special reference to characteristics, skill levels, and professions

Policy Briefs

Regular analysis of critical issues in both international migration as well as migration and remittance flows to Pakistan

Country Profiles

A detailed analysis where Pakistani migrants and the diaspora reside including major migrant receiving countries

Data Banks

A current and searchable resource on important data on international migration and remittances

CIMRAD International Advisory Board

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Director, Migration Policy Centre,
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