

# Abstracts

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
THE PAKISTANI DIASPORA: STRENGTHENING  
LINKAGES BETWEEN HOST AND  
HOME COUNTRIES**

**February 16-17, 2016**



**Lahore School of Economics**



## **DAY 1: Tuesday, 16 February, 2016**

*Inaugural Address:* **Mr. Stephano Gatto**, Minister - Counsellor, Deputy Head of Delegation, European Union Delegation to Pakistan

*Keynote Address:* **Dr. Ishrat Hussain**, Director, Institute of Business Administration and former Governor, State Bank of Pakistan

### **Session 1: Overview of the Pakistani Diaspora**

*Mapping the Pakistani Diaspora: Context and Connectivity*

**Dr. Fareeha Zafar**, Professor of Development Studies, Lahore School of Economics and Deputy Director, Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD)

*Discussant:*

**Dr. Imran Ali**, Rector and Dean, Karachi School of Business and Leadership (KSBL)

### **Session 2: The Gulf Corridor**

*Pakistan Diaspora in the Gulf*

**Dr. Nasra Shah**, Professor, Department of Community Medicine and Behavioural Sciences, Kuwait University

*Measuring Migration Costs for Low-Skilled Migrant Workers from Pakistan to Saudi Arabia and the UAE*

**Dr. Rashid Amjad**, Professor of Economics, Lahore School of Economics and Director Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD)

**Dr. G.M. Arif**, Joint Director, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics

**Dr. Nasir Iqbal**, Research Analyst, Benazir Income Support Programme

*Discussant:*

**Mr. Manolo Abella**, Senior Research Associate, Centre on Migration Policy and Society, Oxford University, UK and former Director, Migration Department, International Labour Organisation

### **Session 3: European Corridor and the Migration Crisis in Europe**

*The Impact of the Influx of Refugees on the EU Economy*

**Dr. Yannis Papantoniou**, President, Centre for Progressive Policy Research and former Minister for Economy and Finance, Greece

*2015: The year we mistook refugees for invaders*

**Professor Philippe Fargues**, Robert Schuman Chair, Director of the Migration Policy Centre, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute (EUI)

*Discussant:*

**Mr. Stefano Gatto**, Minister - Counsellor, Deputy Head of Delegation, European Union Delegation to Pakistan

**Dr. Ali Nobil Ahmad**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Lahore University of Management Sciences

## **Session 4: Education and Knowledge Corridor**

*Panelists:*

**Dr. S. Akbar Zaidi**, Visiting Professor, Columbia University, New York and IBA Karachi

**Dr. Ghazala Mansuri**, Lead Economist, Global Practice on Poverty and Equity, World Bank, Washington DC

**Dr. Khalil Hamdani**, Former Director, Division on Investment, Technology and Enterprise Development, United Nations Conference on Trade and Sustainable Development (UNCTAD), and Visiting Professor, Lahore School of Economics

**Dr. Amir Hassan Shah**, Vice Chancellor, Government College University, Lahore

## **Mr. Stefano Gatto**

Deputy Head of the European Union Delegation to Pakistan

**Mr Stefano Gatto** is the Deputy Head of the European Union Delegation to Pakistan. Mr Gatto holds degrees in Economics (Bocconi University, Milan) and History (UK) and Masters' degrees in International Relations (Madrid) and European Law (Luxembourg).

After five years of experience in the private sector, he joined the European Commission in 1993. Until 2009, he has occupied several positions of responsibilities in the field of EU external policy, to subsequently join the EEAS (European Union External Action Service, the European diplomacy) since the creation of that body in 2009.

An Italian citizen, he has been living many years in Spain, his second homeland, and posted for the EU in Belgium, Luxembourg, Brazil (1998-2002), India (2002-06) and El Salvador, where he has been heading the EU Delegation between 2009 and 2013. He was posted back to EEAS headquarters in Brussels between September 2013 and September 2014, to join the EU Delegation to Pakistan as Deputy Head of Delegation in October 2014. He has been Acting Head of Delegation between March and September 2015. He speaks and writes, apart from his native Italian, English, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Catalan.

Mr. Gatto has published numerous articles on international affairs in several magazines in different countries, focusing mainly on European, Asian and Latin American affairs, international trade, electoral matters and development co-operation. He has published three books: two essays (respectively on Latin America developments during the 90s and a comparison of the Italian and Spanish economic crises after 2009) and one collection of short stories, in Spanish.

**Dr. Ishrat Hussain**  
Institute of Business Administration

**Dr. Ishrat Hussain** took over the Director of IBA Karachi – the oldest graduate business school in Asia in March 2008. Before that he served as the Chairman, National Commission for Government Reforms (NCGR), with the status of Federal Minister for two years reporting directly to the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan. The Commission produced a two volume report on governance reforms in Pakistan. He was appointed the Governor of Pakistan’s Central Bank in December 1999. During the next six years, he implemented a major program of restructuring of the Central Bank. In recognition of his meritorious services he was conferred the prestigious award of ‘Hilal-e-Imtiaz’ by the President of Pakistan in 2003. The Banker Magazine of London declared him as the Central Bank Governor of the year for Asia in 2005. He received the Asian Banker Lifetime achievement award in 2006. Dr. Husain obtained his Master’s degree in Development Economics from Williams College and Doctorate in Economics from Boston University in 1978. He is a graduate of the Executive Development program jointly sponsored by Harvard, Stanford and INSEAD.

Dr. Ishrat Husain joined the elite Civil Service of Pakistan in 1964 and served in the field in Sindh and the then East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). He joined the World Bank in 1979 and became the Bank’s Resident Representative to Nigeria in 1983. On his return to headquarters, he headed the Bank’s Debt and International Finance Division and later promoted as Chief Economist. He became the Bank’s Director Poverty and Social Department and in 1997 he was named the Country Director for Central Asian Republics. He has authored 12 books and monographs and contributed more than two dozen articles in refereed journals and 15 chapters in books on the issues of Debt, Adjustment, African Development and Poverty and Pakistan’s economy.

# Mapping the Pakistani Diaspora: Context and Connectivity

**Dr. Fareeha Zafar**

Graduate Institute of Development Studies, Lahore School of Economics, Lahore

The transformation of emigrants to diasporas as transnational communities maintaining linkages to both host and home countries has been addressed from several perspectives. For the country of origin the economic contribution of migrants in the form of remittances as in the case of Pakistan is considered of vital importance. Receiving countries on the other hand have viewed economic and social integration of migrants and their dependents as a major issue. As numbers rise the role diasporas play requires more serious examination. The emergence of migration and diasporic studies as definitive areas of inquiry especially post 9/11, point to a shift in emphasis to a broader and more nuanced interpretation of the demographic, social, cultural and political dimensions of diaspora engagements. This paper examines the origin and changing characteristics of the Pakistani diaspora. It situates them in the context of emerging opportunities and challenges that stem from the growing nature of linkages and policies both positive and otherwise in an increasingly globalized and connected world.

## *About the Author:*

**Dr. Fareeha Zafar** is a Professor of Development Studies at the Graduate Institute of Development, Lahore School of Economics and Deputy Director, Centre for Remittances, International Migration and Diaspora (CIMRAD). Prior to that she was the Director of the Society for the Advancement of Education (SAHE) for several years and taught for 25 years at the University of the Punjab Lahore. Dr. Zafar obtained her Master's degree in Geography from the Punjab University and her PhD from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. She has been a Fulbright Scholar at the University of California in Berkeley and at Vassar College in the United States.

Dr. Zafar has worked extensively with international development partners such as the World Bank and UN agencies, and several multilateral and bilateral agencies. Dr. Zafar has been on the governing board of several organizations such as the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund, the National Education Foundation, Dastak a women's crisis centre, and the Pakistan Taskforce on Education in 2011. Her research interests include social, cultural and political aspects of development with a focus on gender and education and more recently on international migration. Dr. Zafar has published several articles, reports and is the editor of *Finding Our Way: Women in Pakistan*. She is a founding member of the Women's Action Forum and the Society for the Advancement of Education.

**Dr. Imran Ali**  
Karachi School of Business and Leadership

*About the Discussant:*

**Dr. Imran Ali** is Professor of Business Policy, Rector and Dean, Karachi School of Business and Leadership (KSBL). He has an Honours degree from the University of Sussex, UK, and a Doctorate from the Australian National University. He has been Professor of Economic History and Business Policy, and Jamil Nishtar Professor of Agribusiness, at the Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan. He has also taught Economic History at the University of New South Wales and the University of Melbourne in Australia. He has been an Honorary Research Fellow, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London; a Visiting Scholar at the Harvard Business School, the ANU Graduate School of Management, and the School of Economics, University of Sydney; and a Visiting Professor in the School of Economics, University of New South Wales.

Professor Ali has a large number of international publications on Pakistan and the Punjab, including *The Punjab under Imperialism, 1885-1947* (Princeton and Oxford University Presses), and co-editor of *Pakistan: The Contours of State and Society* (OUP). He has also prepared several cases and industry notes, as well as research papers on Pakistan's economy, issues of political economy, agribusiness, and business development. He presents papers regularly at seminars and conferences internationally on his research work on Pakistan. He has also served as a consultant to several national and international organizations, including the World Bank, USAID and UNDP.

Professor Ali has also been a member of various committees of the Governments of Pakistan and Punjab, as well as the non-government sector, including the Punjab Finance Commission, Syndicate of Punjab University, Academic Council of the Lahore College for Women University, Institutional Review Board of the Shaukat Khanum Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (including Chairperson), Board of Governors of the Dairy and Rural Development Foundation, Advisory Board of Al Razi Healthcare, and the Pakistan Railways Board. He is also an Associate Fellow and member of the Global Council of the Asia Society (USA).

## Pakistan Diaspora in the Gulf

**Dr. Nasra Shah**  
Kuwait University

This paper aims to advance existing knowledge on the Pakistan diaspora in the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries through: (1) Mapping the diaspora in the Gulf; (2) Describing the Pakistan government's efforts to engage and facilitate the diaspora; (3) Assess the perceptions of some diaspora members towards government efforts and their effectiveness; (4) Discuss why the Gulf holds a special importance and assess the future outlook.

The stock of Pakistani diaspora in the Gulf is the second largest after India and stands at about 3 million. About 95 % of all Pakistani migrants currently head to the Gulf, predominantly as temporary migrant workers, mostly unaccompanied by their family. Annual outflows have registered a consistent rise since 2005, and stood at about 700,000 workers in 2014. Saudi Arabia and the UAE received about 92 % of all workers in 2014. The unskilled category constitutes 40-50 %, while the highly skilled has remained less than 10 %.

Pakistani embassies in the UAE, Kuwait, (and other countries) provide various services for facilitation and protection of the diaspora. Officials are happy with harnessing remittances through official channels, but feel that efforts at enhancing investments or knowledge transfer by the Gulf diaspora remain weak, and are discouraged by different factors in Pakistan, e.g., security situation. Diaspora members generally do not feel that the government is making any serious efforts to engage them in the development of the country, and are not aware of some programs that actually exist. The blue collar workers are unhappy with the quality of consular services but satisfied with the arrangements for sending remittances.

Future outflows will be determined mainly by the policies and plans of the GCC countries influenced by fluidity of oil prices, as well as Pakistan's relative competitiveness. Efforts to engage the Gulf diaspora in Pakistan's development, and to plan for its inevitable return requires focused planning, not yet visible.

### *About the Author:*

**Dr. Nasra M. Shah** is Professor of Demography at the Department of Community Medicine and Behavioral Sciences at the Faculty of Medicine, Kuwait University. She received her doctoral degree in Population Dynamics from the Johns Hopkins University, School of Public Health, Baltimore, USA.

Professor Shah's research has focused on several different demographic issues in the context of health and societal development. She has conducted extensive research on the Asian region, especially Pakistan and the major South Asian countries. Labor migration, especially from Asian countries to the oil-rich Gulf countries, has been one of the consistent themes in Dr. Shah's research for more than 35 years. During the mid-1990s, she was part of a UNFPA funded global project that examined emigration dynamics in 4 major sending regions. Her research has focused on the perspective of sending as well as receiving countries. It has addressed topics such as socioeconomic profiles of migrant workers, economic progress of migrant workers, domestic worker migration, violence against women migrants, increasingly restrictive policies of receiving countries, irregular migration, the role of social networks in the migration process, and aspirations and plans of 2<sup>nd</sup> generation non-nationals. Her many publications include books on *Asian Labor Migration: Pipeline to the Middle East*; *Pakistani Women*; *Basic Needs, Women and Development*; and *Population of Kuwait: Structure and Dynamics*.

# Measuring Migration Costs for Low-Skilled Migrant Workers from Pakistan to Saudi Arabia and the UAE

**Dr. Rashid Amjad**

Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD),  
Lahore School of Economics

**Dr. G.M. Arif**

Pakistan Institute of Development Economics

**Dr. Nasir Iqbal**

Research Analyst, Benazir Income Support Programme

The study draws on a survey conducted in 2015 covering six major labour migrating districts in Pakistan to estimate the cost of migration for low-skilled workers to Saudi Arabia and the UAE. It also identifies factors which could explain the very high costs of migration as well as variations in costs across areas from where migrants are recruited and their country of destination.

The basic finding of the study is that there exists a highly complex, diverse and exploitative market for visas in Pakistan with migrants having to pay as much as the equivalent of 9-12 months, and at times even more, of their annual earning abroad to cover the total cost paid for obtaining a visa. The study also shows that the cost a visa to Saudi Arabia is much higher than UAE reflecting possibly much higher living costs in the latter and the possibilities of finding job opportunities once their current visas expires given the much larger labour market for overseas employment in Saudi Arabia.

Drawing on the study findings the study makes some preliminary recommendations on how to move towards a fairer and well-functioning justifiable lower-cost visa regime in Pakistan.

The study which was supported by the ILO (through a EU funded project) is part of a larger study being conducted by the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD) to develop a methodology and collect recruitment cost data across a number of migrant sending countries.

## *About the Authors:*

**Dr. Rashid Amjad** is Professor of Economics and Director of Graduate Institute of Development Studies (GIDS) and Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD), Lahore School of Economics.

He has served as the Vice Chancellor of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) from 2007-2012. During this time he held additional charge as Member, Planning Commission of Pakistan. Dr. Amjad did his PhD and B.A (Hons) in economics from Cambridge University UK. He has held important positions including Former Director, Policy Planning at the International Labour Organization (ILO) Geneva and Director, South East Asia and Pacific Manila, Member National Manpower Commission and Panel of Economists to frame Fifth Five Year Plan. He has written extensively on Pakistan's economy, labour issues, and remittances and has co-authored a number of books. His most recent book is *Pakistan: Moving the Economy Forward* co-edited with Dr. Shahid Javed Burki. Dr. Amjad is a Member of the Board of Governors of Lahore School of Economics.

**Dr. G.M. Arif**, is the Joint Director at Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), and heads a Research Division on 'Population, Poverty and Labour Dynamics', which is responsible to carry out research on issues related to the social sector. He has worked as Poverty Reduction Specialist at the

Asian Development Bank, Pakistan Resident Mission, from 2004 to 2007. He also has been a visiting Fellow at the European Forum for Migration Studies, University of Bamberg in 1997. Dr. Arif did his PhD in Demography from the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, with a specialisation on international contract labour migration. He has written extensively on migration, urbanization, labour market and poverty issues. He has more than 50 publications in his account. More recently his research has focused on poverty dynamics, where he has examined the role of demographic factors on poverty transition. He was Lead Consultant for the SAARC Development Report 2007-08. Presently he is the Vice President of the Population Association of Pakistan (PAP) and was Secretary of the Pakistan Society of Development Economists (PSDE) from 2008 to 2010. He has recently headed a committee, constituted by the Planning Commission, on poverty estimation. He was a member of the Working Groups on 'Poverty Reduction Strategy and Human Resource Development' and 'Urban Development' for the 10th Five-year Plan (2010-15); Co-convenor of the Poverty Group for the 5th Plan (Medium Development Framework 2006-11); Convenor of the Poverty Thematic Group for MDG Report 2005; and Member of the Working Group on Migration, 2003, Ministry of Labour and Manpower Islamabad.

**Dr. Nasir Iqbal** is presently the Research Analyst, Benazir Income Support Programme. Prior to this he was at the Pakistan Institute of Development Studies in Islamabad. Research interests include fiscal decentralization, economic growth, rural poverty, investment in human growth and migration.

***About the Discussant:***

**Mr. Manolo Abella** co-chairs KNOMAD's Thematic Working Group on Low-Skilled Labor Migration. He is Senior Research Associate of the Centre for Migration Policy and Society at Oxford University and was for many years Director of ILO's International Migration Programme. He has been actively involved in international efforts to develop a multilateral framework for the management of labour migration and spent many years writing and rendering advice to governments on policies and best practices. He is at present working on what various academic disciplines have to offer to improve the governance of migration, and how this knowledge can best be organized for the training of policy-makers. Mr. Abella has written extensively on labor migration especially in Asia and the Middle East. He is co-author of *Managing Labour Migration in the 21st Century*, 2005, Yale University Press.

# The Impact of the Influx of Refugees on the EU Economy

**Dr. Yannis Papantoniou**

Centre for Progressive Policy Research, Athens, Greece

The European migrant crisis began in 2015, when a rising number of refugees and migrants made the journey to the EU to seek asylum, travelling across the Mediterranean Sea, or through Southeast Europe. About 850,000 refugees had crossed the Mediterranean by the end of November 2015. It has been assumed that an additional 2.4 million refugees are likely to arrive in the European Union by 2017. Refugee flows appear driven largely by political terror and human rights abuses, not economic forces.

According to most studies, migration is neither a significant gain nor drain for the public finances. The impact depends strongly upon the original 'gate of entry' or way of admission, the labor market access and – as a result of the former – the socio-economic characteristics of the immigrants. The refugee influx is expected to contribute to a looser EU fiscal stance. Over the longer run, however, the fiscal impact may become more favorable, depending crucially on the timing and extent of refugees' entry into the labor market. In the short run the additional public spending may act as a demand stimulus. In 2016 and 2017, the additional spending to provide support on refugees could boost aggregate demand in the European economy by about 0.1 - 0.2% of GDP.

Concerning immigration's effects on the wages and employment of native workers, most studies concur that they are either small or nonexistent. Immigrants, who usually have a lower level of education and experience, lead native workers to taking up jobs with less manual work, and a higher amount of specialization and possibly remuneration. This finding is reinforced by research showing that migration increases GDP. Overall, there is very little real evidence to support the claim that migration is crowding out labor or is having a significant impact on wages. In public debates, the negative or positive effects of migration are generally exaggerated by adversaries or proponents of migration.

## *About the Author:*

**Dr. Yannis Papantoniou** has a doctorate from the University of Cambridge. He was a member of the European Parliament before becoming Minister of Finance and National Economy between 1996 and 2001, and the Defence Minister from 2001-2004. He has written several articles and reports on globalization and economics of the Eurozone. He is currently President of the Center for Progressive Policy Research, an independent think-tank.

## 2015: The Year we mistook refugees for invaders

**Professor Philippe Fargues**

Director of the Migration Policy Centre, European University Institute

On 15 December 2015 the European Commission proposed a European Border and Coast Guard to protect Europe's external borders and the Schengen area without internal borders ([http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-15-6327\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6327_en.htm)). As 2015 comes to a close, the annual numbers of migrants smuggled to Greece and Italy and asylum claims lodged in Germany have passed a million, as well as the number of additional displacements produced this year by the conflict in Syria. Moreover, Europe's Mediterranean shore has now the unchallenged title of the world's most lethal border. Not only this. The migrant crisis is also putting to the test some of Europe's most fundamental values, from the freedom of circulation within its territories, to international protection beyond.

The massive numbers of people risking their lives through a variety of sea-and-land routes to force their entry into Europe without a visa, raise three important questions.

– First, what is the nature of the crisis? Is it a migrant or a refugee crisis? Are flows of people entering Europe irregularly in search of economic opportunities or are they seeking international protection? In the first case, there is a consensus among governments that they must be returned. In the second case, as soon as they lodge a claim for asylum, there is a legal duty to keep them until claims are fully processed.

– Second, what triggered the crisis? Was it pull-factors in Europe or push-factors in the Middle East? Did we attract the migrants by opening our doors too wide or were they set on the move across EU borders by forces beyond our control? In other words, where should we search for a response: within or outside Europe?

– Third: how can we best get out of the crisis? Can we foresee future developments, gauge the sustainability of measures taken in a moment of great confusion and anticipate their possible outcomes, wanted or unwanted?

A close look at the facts brings some answers to these answers.

### *About the Author:*

**Dr. Philippe Fargues** is the founding Director of the Migration Policy Centre based in Florence, Italy. He is a sociologist and demographer. He has been Director of the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies at the American University in Cairo, a senior researcher at the French National Institute for Demographic Studies in Paris, a visiting professor at Harvard, and the Director of the Centre for Economic Legal and Social Studies (CEDEJ) in Cairo. He has lectured in a number of universities in Europe, America, Africa and the Middle East. Dr. Fargues' many publications on the Arab States and the Gulf include work on migration ranging from questioning stereotypes to nation building and issues of inclusion.

**Dr. Ali Nobil Ahmad**  
Lahore University of Management Sciences

*About the Discussant:*

**Dr. Ali Nobil Ahmad** is teaching courses in modern comparative history, historiography, cinema and world history at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). His research interests include journalism, cinema and the media in Pakistan. He has worked as a Research Officer at the Migration Research Unit at University College London, and published articles and chapters on gender, sexuality and migrant labour; his monograph, *'Masculinity, Sexuality and Illegal migration'* was published by Ashgate in October 2011. He received his PhD, an inter-disciplinary comparative study of gender and human smuggling from Pakistan to Europe, from the Department of History at the European University Institute in Florence in 2008. He trained as a historian at University College London where he received his undergraduate and graduate degrees. In 2009 he was awarded the Scott Trust bursary for journalism and received training at The Guardian and Goldsmiths College in London, where he completed a Masters in Journalism and contributed to various journalistic publications.

## **Circuits of Knowledge: Learning from the Pakistani academic diaspora, and teaching them in return**

**S Akbar Zaidi**

Columbia University, New York, and IBA, Karachi

Over the last three decades, we can begin to differentiate a few distinct categories of Pakistanis from the diaspora who have links to knowledge production and circulation, particularly in regard to the social sciences. Many Pakistanis abroad are now increasingly making their names as academics of much note, both in the West and also in Pakistan, and join the somewhat older and more traditional category of Pakistanis, almost all economists, who after many years of service in international financial institutions have come back to Pakistan, not in public policy positions, but to teach and do research, mainly in private universities. Many young students are doing their PhDs on Pakistan, and think tanks and universities in Pakistan are engaging far more actively with academics and universities abroad. This differentiation itself, is recognition and acknowledgement of the fact, that there has been robust growth and a sea change, and perhaps there is a 'boom' in the social sciences in Pakistan of late. This Note examines this new dialectic in some detail, and raises many questions of interest and provides a research agenda regarding these new circuits of knowledge, between Pakistanis in the social sciences located in Pakistan with those abroad.

### ***About the Author:***

**Dr. S. Akbar Zaidi** has a PhD and an MPhil from the University of Cambridge, and an M.Sc. from the London School of Economics. He did his B.Sc. from University College London. Zaidi taught economics at the University of Karachi from 1983 to 1996 before becoming a visiting scholar at the University of Oxford (1998) and later a research fellow at the University of Pennsylvania's Institute for the Advanced Study of India in New Delhi (2002–2003). From 2004 to 2005 he was a visiting professor at John Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and in 2008 he was a Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy. Dr. Zaidi has been a visiting scholar in the Carnegie Endowment's South Asia Program, a visiting professor at Columbia University, with a joint appointment in the School of International Public Affairs and the Department of the Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies, his research focuses on development, governance, and political economy in South Asia. More recently he has looked into the Pakistani diaspora in the context of their political and academic engagement with the home country.

Dr. Zaidi has written more than fifty articles and book chapters, and has authored or edited over a dozen books. His twelfth book, *Military, Civil Society and Democratization in Pakistan*, was published in 2010.

**Dr. Ghazala Mansuri**  
World Bank

*About the Panelist:*

**Dr. Ghazala Mansuri** is Lead Economist in the Global Practice on Poverty and Equity and in the Development Research Group at the World Bank in Washington DC. Her research spans four broad areas: rural land, labor and credit markets, the economics of household behavior, and the political economy of participatory development and institutional and governance reforms for development. She is the co-author of the recent report *Localizing Development: Does Participation Work?* Dr. Mansuri has published extensively in leading journals in economics and development, including the American Economic Review, the Review of Economic Studies and the Journal of Development Economics. Her research on the political economy of local development includes a number of evaluations of participatory development programs. She holds a Ph.D. in economics from Boston University.

**Dr. Khalil Hamdani**  
Director (Retd.) UNCTAD

*About the Panelist:*

**Dr. Khalil Hamdani** is a Visiting Professor at the Graduate Institute of Development Studies, Lahore School of Economics. He started his career as a Research Economist at the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics in 1975 and went on to serve with the United Nations for the next 30 years. He was Director, Division on Investment, Technology and Enterprise Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Sustainable Development (UNCTAD). He created the United Nations program on investment policy reviews, which was declared a ‘valuation mechanism’ by the G-8 Heads of State Summit in 2017.

Dr. Khalil Hamdani has been involved in multilateral economic corporation for more than three decades. Dr. Hamdani received his doctorate in Economics from Georgetown University, Washington D.C. He has held a variety of managerial, technical and policy positions in United Nations. Most recently he was a director of division on Investment, Technology and Enterprise Development. His division produces the annual world Investment Report. He oversaw the intergovernmental deliberations on international investment matters in the United Nations system. He created the United Nations program on investment policy reviews, which was declared a “valuable mechanism” by the G-8 Heads of State Summit in 2007. Dr. Hamdani has prepared many UN reports, published journal articles and is co-editor of a book on The New Globalism and Developing Countries (UNU Press: 1997). He is co-author of a book on the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (Routledge: 2015).

**Dr. Amir Hassan Shah**  
Government College University, Lahore

*About the Panelist:*

**Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah** is the 30<sup>th</sup> Vice Chancellor of GC University. Dr. Shah is an illustrious Physicist with specialization in Theoretical Plasma Physics. In recognition of his contribution in the realm of teaching, and research, the Government of Pakistan conferred upon him the *Sitara-e-Imtiaz* in 2012. He studied for his Masters degree at Kiev University and earned his doctorate from the Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad. He has carried out post-doctoral research at the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, University of Sussex, the Department of Applied Mathematics, Queen Mary College, University of London, United Kingdom and the Institute of Space Plasma Physics, Frascati, Italy. He has been associated with the Pakistan Physical Society in his capacity as President, and Vice President. He has participated in and contributed to 25 national, and International Conferences. He has 106 research publications in prestigious national and international research journals to his credit. He has supervised 37 M. Phil, and 11 PhD research dissertations. 5 PhD students are currently pursuing their doctoral research under his supervision. He has chaired the Department of Physics, GC University, Lahore for 9 years. He has taught at GC University, Lahore, University of the Punjab, FC College, Lahore, and has been Visiting Fellow at reputed institutions in Russia, UK, and Italy.

## **DAY 2: Wednesday, 17 February, 2016**

### **Session 5: UK Corridor**

*The Pakistani Diaspora in UK: Evolution, Integration and Challenges*

**Ms. Laraib Niaz and Ms. Sidla Nasir**, Research Associates, Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD)

*Political Remittance between the UK and Pakistan*

**Dr. Parveen Akhtar**, Lecturer, Faculty of Social Sciences, Bradford University, UK

*A UK exploration of the impact of transnational marriage on spouses from Pakistan*

**Dr. Marta Bolognani**, Research Associate, Centre for the Study of Ethnicity and Citizenship, Bristol University, UK

*Discussant:*

**Ms. Adeeba Malik CBE**, Deputy Chief Executive, QED-UK

### **Session 6: US Canada Corridor**

*Emergence of Pakistan-North America Corridor*

**Ms. Naimal Fatima**, Research Fellow, Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD)

*US Zindabad: The Pakistani Diaspora in the United States*

**Mr. Michael Kugelman**, Senior Associate for South and South East Asia, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington DC

### **Session 7: Investment and Business Corridor**

**Mr. Tariq Saigol**, Chairman, Kohinoor-Maple Leaf Group

**Ambassador (retd.) Shahid Malik**, former Ambassador of Pakistan to Canada

**Mr. Aqeel Ismail**, Director, Al-Dar Holdings, Dubai

**Mr. Nasim Mohammad**, President, Galleria Holding

### **Session 8: Remittances and the Diaspora**

**Ms. Asma Khalid**, Senior Joint Director, State Bank of Pakistan

**Dr. Enrique Blanco Armas**, Lead Country Economist, World Bank, Pakistan

**Mr. Sakib Sherani**, Chief Executive, Macro-Economic Insights and former Principal Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance

**Dr. Rashid Amjad**, Professor of Economics, Lahore School of Economics and Director, Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD)

## **Session 9: Policies to Leverage the Diaspora for Development**

*Role government and other agencies can play in leveraging diasporas*

**Dr. Marta Erdal**, Senior Researcher, Oslo Peace Research Institute

*Diaspora engagement: Any lessons from China and India?*

**Dr. Piyasiri Wickramasekara**, Vice-President, Global Migration Policy Association, Geneva

*Leveraging diaspora for development: Is there a need for special policies?*

**Mr. Manolo Abella**, Senior Research Associate, Centre on Migration Policy and Society, University of Oxford, UK and former Director, International Migration Programme, International Labour Organization

*Discussants:*

**Mr. Ali Sarfaraz Hussain**, Secretary Labour, Punjab Government

**Dr. Ibrahim Awad**, Director, School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, The American University, Cairo, and UK and former Director, International Migration Programme, International Labour Organization

## **The Pakistani Diaspora in UK: Evolution, Integration and Challenges**

**Ms. Laraib Niaz and Ms. Sidla Nasir**

Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD)

This paper examines the oldest Pakistani diaspora community, which resides in United Kingdom. It traces the evolution of the community from its colonial origin to the contemporary age. It also addresses the efforts at economic and socio-political integration by the Pakistani diaspora in Britain, through political representations and utilization of media, which has engendered a more active and vibrant community. Additionally, the involvement of these transnational actors in the socio-cultural, economic and political aspects of Pakistan has highlighted the potential benefits of engaging the diaspora as development partners. In order to objectively analyse the position of the diaspora in the host country, the paper also analyses the various challenges they encounter, such as hybridization of identities, discrimination faced by British Pakistani women and the impact of religion on the lives of the diaspora community in UK.

### *About the authors:*

**Ms. Laraib Niaz** is a Research Associate at the centre on International Migration, Remittances and the Diaspora (CIMRAD). She is a graduate of the London School of Economics and Political Science with a Masters degree in Development Management. She holds a BSc. Honours degree in Economics and Finance from the Lahore School of Economics and has previously worked on a consultancy project with the World Food Programme.

**Ms. Sidla Nasir** is currently working as a Research Associate at Centre on International Migration, Remittances and the Diaspora (CIMRAD). She has completed a Masters in Development Economics and Policy from the University of Manchester and holds a BSc. Honours degree in Economics and Finance from the Lahore School of Economics. She has previously interned with the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform, Pakistan.

# Political Remittances in a Globalised World: a case study on the British Pakistani Diaspora

**Dr. Parveen Akhtar**

University of Bradford University, UK

The UK has the second largest overseas Pakistani population after Saudi Arabia, and, it is estimated that by 2031, there will be at least 2.6 million people of Pakistani ancestry in the UK. A significant number of British Pakistanis are from the Mirpur region of Azad Kashmir.

Mirpuris have been successful migration entrepreneurs; it has been estimated that 'well over 50% of Mirpur's population have by now managed to establish themselves in the metropolitan world', a phenomenon, that Ballard refers to as the 'process of reverse colonisation' (2002). Transnational ties are reinforced through family, marriage, tourism, social and economic remittances. This paper seeks to examine the sustained political linkages between the UK and Pakistan, focusing not just on remittances but also, and importantly, the ongoing political exchanges in the British and Pakistani public sphere.

## *About the Author:*

**Dr. Parveen Akhtar** joined the University of Bradford as a lecturer in January 2014. Prior to this she was awarded a British Academy Research Fellowship, held at the University of Bristol (2011-2013). In 2010 she was a visiting scholar at Lahore University of Management Sciences before which she was an ESRC postdoctoral fellow at the University of Bristol (2008-2009). Dr. Akhtar completed PhD at the University of Birmingham (2008) during which time she held research positions at the Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna (2007); the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, Amsterdam (2006); Sciences Po, Paris (2006) and the School for Postgraduate Interdisciplinary Research on Interculturalism and Transnationalism, Aalborg (2005). Dr. Akhtar has published widely on Political Participation, Islam, Migration and Social Change in the *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, the *Political Quarterly* and *European Political Science*. Her monograph, *British Muslims Politics*, was published in 2013.

## **A UK exploration of the impact of transnational marriage on spouses from Pakistan**

**Dr. Marta Bolognani**

University of Bristol

Immigration legislation in Western Europe has been converging towards restrictive rules on marriage migration. In the UK the debate attached to this policy trend has been characterised by an emphasis on the alleged importing of poverty and anti-cohesion practices (with a particular focus on the lack of English) by the migrant spouses. The scenario depicted implies that marriage migration is a threat to the ideal of a cohesive Britain, and Pakistani migrant spouses appear as the main culprits. In this paper I argue that the above mentioned debates at times de-humanize Pakistani spouses as if they are inanimate carriers of social ills, and at times blame them for a series of factors that are neither proven to be detrimental to social cohesion or are easily imputable to the context they migrate to (a structural perspective) and the relationships they become part of (a social perspective). The implications of transnational marriage for Pakistani spouses is thus mostly ignored unless a history of violence and abuse emerges. By comparing the experiences of 29 migrant wives and 9 migrant husbands from Pakistan to the public debates' assumptions, I revert the focus and attempt to bring to the fore their experiences as subjects and analyse the impact of migration on them and their families. In this way the Europe-centric approach is turned on its head and the impact of migration is measured on postcolonial subjects. By conducting such analysis, effectors on integration processes are identified in the structural as well as the social domain of the migration context and migrant spouses prove their agency and implicitly challenge their depiction as dyed-in-the-wool burdensome objects in the dynamics of marriage migration.

### ***About the Author:***

**Dr. Marta Bolognani** is a research associate at the Centre for the Study of Ethnicity and Citizenship at Bristol University. She has a BA from Siena and a PhD from the Leeds University in the UK with a thesis on British Pakistanis' criminological discourses. She taught at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) for two years, and in 2008 she moved to Wales where she was Head of Sociology, Criminology and Popular Culture at the University of Wales Institute in Cardiff (UWIC). Her research interests include: Muslims in Europe, Muslim practices in the contemporary world, Pakistani diaspora, Muslim popular culture, urban studies in multicultural setting .She is currently working on two projects- EURISLAM, an international comparative research project and PREMIG, a large-scale research project that explores return migration from Norway and the United Kingdom.

**Ms. Adeeba Malik CBE**  
Quest for Economic Development (QED-UK)

*About the Discussant:*

**Ms. Adeeba Malik CBE**, is the Deputy Chief Executive of Quest for Economic Development (QED-UK). QED was founded in 1990 to support the eradication of poverty, disadvantage and ignorance - the main causes of conflicts and discrimination. It campaigns for changes to the policies and practices of public, private and the civil society organisations. QED also manages the delivery of public services in education, training, employment and health with a focus on disadvantaged ethnic communities.

Ms. Malik was born in Bradford and trained as a teacher. She taught religious education in a Bradford school before joining QED in 1992 where she manages a number of social, educational and economical projects. Ms. Malik has extensive experience of working with major public and private companies on equality and diversity projects. She has won many awards for her contributions and in June 2004 was awarded an MBE for her services to ethnic minorities and businesses. She chairs the DIT's national Ethnic Minority Business Forum; she is also a member of the Women and Work Commission and Home Office's Advisory Board on Naturalisation & Integration. Previously, she was a board member of the regional development agency, Yorkshire Forward, British Waterways, National Clinical Assessment Authority and several other public appointments.

## Emergence of Pakistan-North America Diaspora

**Ms. Naimal Fatima**

Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD)

The Pakistani Diaspora in North America is both new and young community of immigrants. It is a community that has highly trained professionals and is economically well off, with higher household incomes than the average North American. The incident of 9/11 has brought a set of changes in migration from Pakistan and for those already living in North America. Even with these circumstances Pakistanis have adjusted well into the North American society but they need to build strong networks in the host country which will help them promote the positive image of Islam and Pakistan. The Pakistani-North American community is large, diverse and displays characteristics for a systematic enquiry to be conducted. Drawing on studies as well as a few selected analysis of the Pakistani diaspora in North America this study highlights the links the immigrants have with the home and the host country.

### *About the Author:*

**Ms. Naimal Fatima** is a Research Fellow at the Centre on International Migration, Remittances and the Diaspora (CIMRAD), Lahore School of Economics. She is a graduate of the London School of Economics and Political Science with a Masters degree in Social Policy and Development. She holds a bachelors degree in Finance and marketing from the Lahore School of Economics. Her research interests are diverse and range from population studies, education to remittances and diaspora. She has published an article on “The case of Fertility Transition: will it ever reach the desired levels in Pakistan?” and now she interested to see the links of the North American Diaspora with home and host countries.

## US Zindabad: The Pakistani Diaspora in the United States

**Mr. Michael Kugelman**

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

The Pakistani diaspora in the United States numbers at least 450,000, and it is growing rapidly. It is also a largely well-educated and affluent diaspora. It makes major contributions to U.S. culture and society, and more modest contributions to U.S. politics. It also makes notable contributions to Pakistan through advocacy on social issues and actual assistance ranging from remittances to relief work. This strong level of engagement with Pakistan can be better leveraged into the broader U.S.-Pakistan relationship. Specifically, the Pakistani diaspora can serve as a bridge between the two countries and increase people-to-people exchanges—thereby helping build more trust and confidence into an often-volatile bilateral relationship.

### *About the Author:*

**Mr. Micheal Kugelman** received his M.A. in law and diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University. He received his B.A. from American University's School of International. Kugelman is the senior associate for South and Southeast Asia at the Woodrow Wilson Centre, where he is responsible for research, programming, and publications on the region. His main specialty is Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan and U.S. relations with each of them. Mr. Kugelman writes monthly columns for *Foreign Policy's* South Asia Channel and monthly commentaries for *War on the Rocks*. He also contributes regular pieces to the *Wall Street Journal's* Think Tank blog. He has published op-eds and commentaries in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Politico*, CNN.com, *Bloomberg View*, *The Diplomat*, Al Jazeera, and *The National Interest*, among others. He has been interviewed by numerous major media outlets including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Financial Times*, *Guardian*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *National Geographic*, BBC, CNN, NPR, and Voice of America. He has also produced a number of longer publications on South Asia, including the edited volumes *Pakistan's Interminable Energy Crisis: Is There Any Way Out?* (Wilson Center, 2015), *Pakistan's Runaway Urbanization: What Can Be Done?* (Wilson Center, 2014), and *India's Contemporary Security Challenges* (Wilson Center, 2013). He has published policy briefs, journal articles, and book chapters on issues ranging from Pakistani youth and social media to India's energy security strategy and transboundary water management in South Asia.

## Panel on Investment and Business

**Mr. Tariq Sayeed Saigol** is the Chairman of Kohinoor Maple Leaf Group which has interests in textiles, energy and cement manufacturing. He has held this position since 1984. Mr. Saigol remained Chairman of All Pakistan Textile Mills Association from 1992 to 1994, President of Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry for 1995-97 and Chairman of All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association from 2003-2006. He became Chief Executive of Kohinoor Textile Mills Limited in 1976. Mr. Saigol was a member of the Federal Export Promotion Board and Central Board of State Bank of Pakistan. He has also served on several Government Commissions and Committees in different areas, including Export Promotion, reorganization of WAPDA and EPB, Right Sizing of State owned Corporations and Resource Mobilization. He is the author of *Textile Vision 2005* which was adopted by the Government in 2000 and its critique prepared in 2006. He joined the Central Board of State Bank of Pakistan for a second term in 2007 and was a member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council established in 2008. Mr. Saigol takes a keen interest in the development of education in Pakistan. He has been a member of the Board of Governors of Lahore University of Management Sciences, Aitchison College, founding Chairman of the Board of Governors of Chandbagh School, Founder Trustee of Textile University of Pakistan and member of the Syndicate of University of Health Sciences. He was conferred with Sitara-e-Isaar by President of Pakistan in 2006.

**Ambassador (Retd.) Shahid Malik, Former Ambassador to Canada** is a career diplomat. He joined the Foreign Service in 1972 and has held a number of ambassadorial positions including to India.

**Mr. Aqeel Ismail** is a director of Al-Dar Holdings. Al-Dar Holdings is a Dubai based family owned entity active in the textile, real-estate and medical businesses. Mr. Ismail is responsible for the real estate and financial investments for the firm. He runs a quantitative and fundamental proprietary investment program in the global equities, fixed income and commodities markets. His area of focus is portfolio optimization, risk management, and building and back-testing automated trading systems. Mr. Ismail constantly scans the global financial markets for opportunities that are created as a result of macro-economic dislocations and/or political or corporate events. He is a graduate of Boston University.

**Mr. Nasim Mohammad** is President Galleria Holding and is based in Lahore. He is a second generation UK based Pakistani businessman who heads the Niaz Group which is involved in real estate development in Europe, North America and Middle East. He incorporated M/S Niaz Arbaaz (Pvt.) Limited in 2005 as a Private Limited Company with the objective, among others, for the setting up and to carry out diversified businesses including development of shopping arcades, mall and hotels, import, export, manufacturing, cold storage etc. It is the vision of the group to become the Pakistan's known corporate entity, for its expertise in real estate developments and the hospitality business and to be known for quality, and innovative projects and their skilful execution and management.

## Panel on Remittances and the Diaspora

**Ms. Asma Khalid** is Senior Joint Director, State Bank of Pakistan, Karachi.

**Dr. Enrique Blanco Armas** is the Lead Country Economist at the World Bank in Pakistan. Prior to this, he was the senior economist specializing in macroeconomic and fiscal policy in Maputo, Mozambique. He joined the World Bank in 2005 and has worked in Eastern Europe and more recently in East Asia, where he spent six years working in Indonesia. Prior to joining the World Bank, he worked as an ODI Fellow for the Government of Mozambique, working on trade and economic policy issues. He holds a Masters in Development Economics from the University of Sussex in the United Kingdom.

**Mr. Sakib Sherani** is a former Economic Advisor of the Ministry of Finance (GoP) and currently heads Macro Economic Insights (Pvt) Ltd, a consultancy firm based in Islamabad. He has a wide range of senior-level experience in public policy, corporate management (board-level), financial services and not-for-profit organizations. Amongst his key works has been the production of the Economic Survey which served as the annual flagship publication of the government on the state of the economy. He was integrally involved in the formulation of the federal budget for 2008 and 2009, as well as in negotiations with provinces on the 7th National Finance Commission (NFC) Award in 2009. Being an economic advisor to the Prime Minister, he was engaged in producing macroeconomic frameworks, implementing economic policy reforms, negotiating with financial institutions, restructuring public sector enterprises and social protection measures. To actively influence public policy, Mr. Sherani has served with the Planning Commission and has held Directorships for Policy Institutes and Social Support Programs including the Social Policy and Development Centre (SPDC) and Rural Support Programs Network (RSPN). Mr. Sherani acquired an MBA in Finance and Bachelor's in Business Administration, both from the Institute of Business Administration - University of Karachi.

**Dr. Rashid Amjad** is Professor of Economics and Director of Graduate Institute of Development Studies (GIDS) and Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD), Lahore School of Economics. He has served as the Vice Chancellor of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) from 2007-2012. Dr. Amjad did his PhD and B.A (Hons) in economics from Cambridge University UK. He has held important positions including Former Director, Policy Planning at the International Labour Organization (ILO) Geneva and Director, South East Asia and Pacific Manila, Member National Manpower Commission and Panel of Economists to frame Fifth Five Year Plan. He has written extensively on Pakistan's economy, labour issues, and remittances and has co-authored a number of books. His most recent book is *Pakistan: Moving the Economy Forward* co-edited with Dr. Shahid Javed Burki. Dr. Amjad is a Member of the Board of Governors of Lahore School of Economics.

## Opportunities and challenges of diaspora engagement initiatives

**Dr. Marta Bivand Erdal**

Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)

Many governments seek to engage emigrant populations in development 'back home', an interest reinvigorated by the rise in migrant remittances, and increased awareness through the UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development and the annual Global Forum on Migration and Development. Scholarship on diaspora development engagements has explored intersecting dimensions, including the policies themselves and motivations for them, extra-territorial voting, migrant-led development projects and co-development funding schemes, and migrant remittances. I first review examples of government roles in encouraging diaspora development efforts, focusing on emigration states primarily, but also immigration states. Secondly, I discuss some challenges with regard to how populations abroad are defined, based on citizenship or residency, dual citizenship or origin cards. I argue that underlying questions about how nationhood and peoplehood are defined cause friction between different actors, in the enactment of diaspora engagement policies. I conclude with some reflections on the opportunities and challenges for governments and other agencies in efforts to leverage diaspora for development.

### *About the Author:*

**Dr. Marta Bivand Erdal** is a Senior Researcher at the Oslo Peace Research Institute (PRIO) and a board member of the Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies. She holds a Masters and a PhD. in Human Geography. Her research focuses on migrant transnationalism, including remittances and diaspora development engagements, as well as processes of migrant integration and citizenship practices in diverse societies. Dr. Erdal has conducted research in Norway, Poland and in South Asia, and currently combines research on migration and transnational practices, with research focusing on different aspects of living together in culturally and religiously diverse societies.

## Diaspora engagement: Any lessons from China and India?

**Dr. Piyasiri Wickramasekara**

Global Migration Policy Association, Geneva

With the growing emphasis on migration and development linkages and transnational perspectives since the 1990s, the emergence of ‘a new agent in development discourse, variably called “migrants”, “diaspora” or “transnational community”’ can be observed. There is considerable empirical literature on the importance of migrants and the diaspora as a development resource, and country experiences and case studies of their engagement in country development. Their engagement has been described mainly in terms of advocacy, human capital and skills, financial transfers (remittances), direct investment, trade promotion, knowledge networks, philanthropy, return migration, and tourism.

With globalization, China and India have emerged as important global economic powers. Both are countries with a long history of emigration that has given rise to large diaspora communities across the globe. Robin Cohen, in his discussion of global diasporas, characterised them as among labour and trade diasporas based on historical experience. Over time, their roles and the relationship with home countries have substantially changed. The two diaspora communities, described loosely as ‘Overseas Chinese’ and ‘Non-Resident Indians’ respectively, have contributed significantly to home countries in terms of direct investments, remittances, technology transfers and skills and knowledge networks, among others. These changes were also the result of policies towards interaction with the diasporas in the two home countries

The objective of the paper is to conceptualise and explore similarities and differences the experiences of diaspora engagement in China and India based on a review of literature. It is recognized that obtaining comparable data would be a major constraint. The paper would first discuss the differing definitions and estimates used in diaspora discussions in the two countries. It looks at forms of diaspora contributions and any observed differences in this respect. An interesting issue is the relative roles of business and trade diasporas and the intellectual diasporas in the last two decades or so.

Next the paper would review how rapid growth and government policies in the two countries have influenced the engagement of the diaspora. Both countries have recorded impressive growth in the past two decades and created many investment opportunities, which has induced the return of some diasporas. The governments have attempted to create a conducive and supportive environment at home to engage with the diaspora. These would consist of recognition of the diaspora in state policies, diplomatic initiatives, protection of their rights in the home country, revision of various incentives for attracting remittances and investments, and institutional changes to accommodate the diaspora. Whether these policies and responses have recognized the diversity of their diasporas needs to be raised. The effectiveness of such policies also needs analysis in a comparative perspective.

The final section will discuss the relevance of these experiences to other countries in Asia who are following promotional strategies towards diaspora engagement.

### *About the Author:*

**Dr. Piyasiri Wickramasekara** is Vice-President Global Migration Policy Association, Geneva. He joined the ILO in 1985 as a senior development economist of the Asian Regional Team for Employment Promotion (ILO-ARTEP) and served in New Delhi from 1986 to 1993. From 1994, he was a senior specialist in labor market policies in the ILO's East Asia Multidisciplinary Advisory Team and moved to the International Migration Program, Geneva, in January 2001. Before joining the ILO, he served as a senior lecturer in economics at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka and as senior researcher in the Agrarian Research and Training Institute and the People's Bank of Sri Lanka. He graduated from the University of Sri Lanka, Peradeniya, and obtained his Ph.D. degree in economics from the University of Cambridge, UK. He has written widely on migration trends and issues in Asia, migration of skilled labor, remittances, rights of migrant workers and migration statistics.

## Leveraging diaspora for development: Is there a need for special policies?

**Manolo Abella**

Centre on Migration Policy and Society, Oxford University

What are the most basic policies that need to be in place to encourage diaspora investments of capital and knowledge? What policies are unnecessary and can lead to market distortions? The growing significance of remittances in global resource transfers and the efforts of developing countries to modernize their industries have raised expectations about the contribution that diasporas can play. Many schemes have been tried out to encourage diasporas to invest in foreign-exchange denominated bonds offering high interest rates, to encourage the return of talent with guaranteed high salaries and exemptions from import duties and taxes, local and central government grants to match donations sent by migrants to their home communities, and active sponsorship of business networks to link locals with their diaspora counterparts abroad. Critical assessment of these schemes remain scarce but there is reason to be skeptical of their impact. Do they create distortions which have consequences for efficiency that may negate whatever benefits they generate? Would the desired benefits come in any case by concentrating on more general development policies and strategies? What are the typical circumstances facing diaspora communities that should be taken into account when considering special programs?

### *About the Author:*

**Manolo Abella** co-chairs KNOMAD's Thematic Working Group on Low-Skilled Labor Migration. He is Senior Research Associate of the Centre for Migration Policy and Society at Oxford University and was for many years Director of ILO's International Migration Programme. He has been actively involved in international efforts to develop a multilateral framework for the management of labour migration and spent many years writing and rendering advice to governments on policies and best practices. He is at present working on what various academic disciplines have to offer to improve the governance of migration, and how this knowledge can best be organized for the training of policy-makers. Manolo Abella has written extensively on labor migration especially in Asia and the Middle East. He is co-author of *Managing Labour Migration in the 21st Century*, 2005, Yale University Press.

**Dr. Ibrahim Awad**  
School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

*About the Discussant:*

**Dr. Ibrahim Awad** is the Director of the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at The American University, Cairo, and UK. As a political scientist and political economist, Dr. Awad has had a varied experience as an international civil servant, consultant, researcher, lecturer and professor in the fields of International relations, Development studies and policies, European integration, Employment, International labour migration, Human rights including labour rights, analysis of public social and economic policies as well as diplomacy and mass media .Dr. Awad has held many prominent positions, he has been the Director of the International Migration program of the ILO from 2005 to 2010 in Geneva, and Director of the ILO's Sub-regional office for North Africa from 2001 to 2005 in Cairo. He was Secretary of United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia and Special Assistant to the Executive Secretary in 1999-2001. Earlier, he was Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the Provident Fund Committee of the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East. Dr. Awad received his Bachelors in Political Science from the University of Cairo and his Doctorate from the University of Geneva in the same field in 1984.