From the Gulf to the Pearl: Understanding the Remittance Patterns of Ugandan Migrant Workers in the Gulf Cooperation Council

By: John Mushomi
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1. **Introduction:**

According to the World Bank, in 2014 Uganda received USD 994 million in remittances representing more than 4% of the country's GDP. Traditionally, remittances were sent from "classic "destination countries for Ugandans, namely Kenya, South Africa, the UK and the US. However, since 2003 Ugandans have also been migrating to the Middle East especially to the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) which have a high demand for workers, including for unskilled labour. The draft National Diaspora Policy refers to these migrant workers as the "new" diaspora. Migration from Uganda to the GCC has increased every year and is expected to continue on the rise and so are remittances to the country from this region. In this regard it is important to ensure there is adequate understanding of the remittance patterns of this "new" diaspora as well as the expenditure and investment patterns of the "new" diaspora households. This understanding will help develop concrete interventions and policies that will help maximize the development impact of these remittances. For example, migrant workers and their families could be provided with financial literacy classes to fit their financial goals. Also, projects focused on promoting investment of remittances in productive enterprises that will create employment in communities of origin could be encouraged.

2. **Research Questions:**

Against this backdrop, the research proposed will use the following research questions:

1) What are the remittance sending patterns of Uganda migrant workers in the GCC? (How much, how often, for what purpose)
2) What financial services are available for migrant workers?
3) Are migrant workers interested in using their remittances beyond consumption? (e.g. to set up a business or in investing in the development of their communities)
4) What is the actual expenditure pattern of remittances? (it is important to note that the migrant household might end up using the remittances for a purpose altogether different from what the migrant worker intends)

3. **Rationale:**

The research will differentiate between the remittances patterns of migrant men and women as well as by migrant households headed by men and by women. Understanding the gender-specific determinants of remittances could help better target programmes and policies and ensure that Ugandan migrant women are benefiting equally from labour migration as their male counterparts.

This research will contribute to Uganda's achievement of SDG 10 (reduced inequalities) specifically target 10.c which mentions "by 2030, reduce to less than 3% the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5%".Moreover, it will help in Tackling Global Challenges in the National Interest) which recognizes "the

importance of developing countries' own tax revenues, private capital, and philanthropy in financing development". Indeed, remittances are being considered by the international community as one of the innovative ways of financing the SDG.

4. **Methodology:**

The study will be cautious against using a single approach. While informed by broader literature, the study will employ a guiding framework that considers: (1) Programme innovation for delivery of services to migrants and their households left behind. (2) Policy landscape which may enable or deter programmes (3) the policy and programme implementation processes.

In order to achieve this guiding framework, quantitative and qualitative techniques will be used. Desk research will be done to understand the evolution of external labour recruitment program and a review of existing practices and lessons learnt from other countries on how to maximize development impact of remittances in order to make targeted recommendations from the findings. Also, a thorough review of existing protocols for labour migration from Ugandan to the GCC will be done prior to formulation of any data collection tools. Qualitatively, in-depth interviews with key informants and focus group discussions will be carried out with the relevant government institutions and recruitment agencies as well as other stakeholders.

A quantitative approach will also be used by conducting face-to-face interviews with sampled respondents using a semi-structured questionnaire. Sampling of men and women will ensure representation of all the respondent age groups and socio-economic characteristics. The sample will be drawn from migrant workers who are currently in Uganda, have worked in the GCC in the past and are currently registered with a recruitment agency. Essentially the respondents will be migrant workers who have worked in the GCC in the past, have returned to Uganda and are now returning to the GCC.Interviews will be carried out during pre- travel orientation sessions offered by the recruitment agencies in Uganda and before the migrant worker returns to the GCC. The importance of the quantitative approach is that it will give the aggregate of different response categories.

In order to ensure that the data collected is of undisputed quality, quality controls will be carried out for all the research conducted. These quality control processes include the use of consistency checks, questionnaire pre-test and piloting, conducting back check interviews, interview accompaniments, call backs and data cleaning.

Research clearance to carry out the study will be sought from the national Council of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development. Individual consent will be sought before the respondents are engaged in an interview. The objectives of the study, the benefits and possible risks will be explained at all levels in order to seek their permission to carry out the research. At institutional level, confidentiality will be ensured.

NBER Household Working Group Small Grants budget

Budget items	Number of items	Cost per item ($)	Total cost ($)	In kind cost ($)	Justificatio
Planning and Preparation Stage					
Desk Researchclearance fees and approval			1,042.86		Research c to immigra access
Study Administrative costs			1,000		For smooth
Creation of Data Collection Tools			1,142.86		Creation of and scriptir
Piloting Tools	5 research assistants	37.14	185.71	57.14	
Field Research Phase					
Focus Group Discussions for 10 participants	5 sessions	280	1,400.00		FDG venue transport to note taker a
Face to Face Interviews	20 research assistants working 12 days	37.14	8,914.29	57.14	These will field ($14.2 ($22.86) pe
Data Cleaning and Analysis Stage					
Total cost of cleaning and analysis			1073.43		
Reporting Writing Stage					
Total cost of report			1,071.43		
Report Presentation Stage					
Total cost of Travel to the USA to present report			2,714.29		
Total Grand Cost for Study			**19,757.14**		

CURRICULUM VITAE

JOHN MUSHOMI ATWEBEMBEIRE

Bio-data

Sex:	Male
Citizenship:	Ugandan
Marital Status:	Married
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Professional Profile

John.A.Mushomi is a formally trained demographer and a visiting scholar at the African Migration and Development Policy Centre (AMADPOC), Nairobi. He is currently a Lecturer and has completed Doctoral studies awaiting examination at the Department of Population Studies – Makerere University, Uganda. His doctoral research focused on **Migration and Development focusing** on "**Use of International remittances at household level in Uganda**." His other research interests include; **Population, Policy and development, Urbanization and Development.** He is a recipient of the **Ford Foundation Global Travel and Learning Grant**. He is also a **research fellow with the Makerere University Center for Population and Applied Statistics.** His current research experience and practice include; Consulting with the East African Community Affairs Ministry in Uganda on a population and development Position paper for Uganda within the East African Community, UNDESA; participating in data availability on older persons in Uganda, UNECA ; Participating in reviewing the MIPPA +15, UNFPA **on the demographic dividend prospects for Uganda and has previously worked as a UNFPA Liberia office international to analyze the Liberian census data.** He is chairman for Reality Inc. and also consults with various government departments in Uganda which include; Uganda National Population Council, Uganda Bureau of Statistics, National Planning Authority and the Ministry of Internal Affairs Immigration and Citizenship Department in conjunction with IOM and Office of the Prime Minister.

Year	Institution	Field	Award
2016	Makerere University	Population Studies	**PhD** (Thesis completed and submitted)
2007	Cairo Demographic Center Egypt	Demography	**Mphil**
2006	Cairo Demographic Center Egypt	Population & Development	**Special Diploma**
2005	Cairo Demographic Center, Egypt	Demography	**Diploma**

2001 – 2004 Makerere University, Uganda Social Sciences **BA.SS**

Certificate Courses

2017:	University of Nairobi:	Certificate in Integrated Population Health & Environment (PHE) for Eastern and Southern Africa
2016:	John Hopkins University:	Global Health; Population Health & Environment
2014	Stellenbosch University:	Qualitative analysis using Atlas-ti software
2011:	John Hopkins University:	Reproductive Health & Development
2008:	Makerere University:	Advanced Gender Research Methodology

Others:

1. Measuring Progress: Statistics for MDG Indicators- Poverty Analysis- Nigeria- Abuja
2. Advanced Gender Research Methodology- Makerere University Kampala
3. Teacher in Higher Education, the role of Pedagogy and Andragogy- Makerere University
4. Alternatives to Violence Training- Makerere University
5. Monitoring and Evaluation- Juba- Sudan
6. Research management and Policy Analysis- Makerere University
7. Project Planning and Management- Juba- Sudan
8. Child Development Training- Good Neighbors - Cairo Egypt
9. Certificate course in Computer applications featuring windows 2000,Microsoft word, Microsoft Excel, Power point, Lotus, Corel draw 9,Photo Draw 9 and Web technology, Makerere University, Kampala (Uganda).

Employment History

Period	**Position**	**Organization**
January 2010 – to date	Assistant Lecturer	Makerere University

Responsibilities
- Teaching
- Research
- Community service

Selected Research projects / Consultancies

1. 2017: Consultancy services on Integrating population and Demographic Dividend Issues in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy 111
2. 2017**:** Technical Advisor on Project: PATHWAYS FOR HARNESSING THE DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND (DD) IN UGANDA: TRANSLATING POLICY INTO ACTION(Ongoing)
3. 2017: UNECA; Participating in Reviewing MIPPA +15 (ongoing)
4. 2017: Migration Policy Analysis consultation with the African Population Institute, Kampala.

5. 2016: UNDESA; Participated in data availability on older persons in Uganda
6. August 2016: Technical coordinator for project; From the Gulf to the Pearl: Understanding the Remittance Patterns of Ugandan Migrant Workers in the Gulf Cooperation Council.
7. Responsibilities: In collaboration with IOM- Uganda Country office and British Council –Uganda, John Mushomi will be responsible for coordinating the survey for the above project.
8. Aug 2016: **Technical team member:** The National Steering Committee for the Demographic Dividend for Uganda.
9. Responsibilities: This is a UNFPA supported multi disciplinary committee that is overseeing the pathways for Uganda achieving the demographic dividend.
10. 2013- 2016: **Researcher**: Multi-disciplinary partner team on Poverty, Resource Accessibility and spatial Mobility in East-Africa, M-PRAM
11. 2016: Coordinating trainer: journal writing and publication of scientific works, Makerere University
12. 2013- 2016: **Project Coordinator:** LQAS methodologies in studying Public Health intervention Implementation, **Institute of Tropical Medicine, ENSEA-**

Cote d'Ivoire

13. 2010: **Researcher:** Household Surveys for the Africa, Migration and Remittances, World Bank
14. Aug 2015: **Technical team member:** Demographic Think Tank for Uganda
15. Responsibilities: This is a UNFPA supported multi disciplinary team guiding the implementation of changes that are to lead Uganda to achieve the Demographic dividend.
16. Nov 2014: **Census data technical analysis team member** - Uganda National Housing and Population Census - Uganda Bureau of Statistics / UNFPA Uganda country office.
17. Responsibilities: Trained in census data cleaning and analysis and report writing of census reports for Uganda.
18. Nov 2014: **Technical team member -** Modeling the prospects the demographic dividend for Uganda at sector level.
19. Responsibilities: This is a UNFPA supported multi-sectoral technical team that spearheaded the modeling of the demographic dividend prospects for Uganda at sectoral level.
20. Aug – Sep 2014: **Technical Officer** – Uganda National Housing and Population Census - Uganda Bureau of Statistics.
21. Responsibilities: Monitored and supervised training and enumeration of data collection activities and ensured efficiency and accuracy of data collected.
22. May – Jul 2013: **Survey Advisor** - Academic Survey Inquiry on Population and Development in Cote d' Ivore.
23. Feb – Nov 2011: **Research Coordinator:** Research agenda in the context of the Government of Uganda and UNFPA
24. Feb – Nov 2011: **Research Coordinator:** Assessing the capacity of 30 districts in Uganda to integrate population factors in development planning at local government level. Project funded by UNFPA.
25. Jul – Aug 2010: UNFPA – LIBERIA; Census **Advisor** - Data analysis and analytical report writing (Education, youth and gender thematic reports).

Other Research activities

1. Evaluation Study of PMTCT in Tororo District- Uganda
2. Participated in the analysis study of Sexually transmitted Diseases in Luwero District- Uganda
3. Evaluation Survey of Program for Enhancing Adolescents' Reproductive Life in Uganda
4. Uganda National Integrity Survey research Analyst.
5. The Impact of Migrant Remittances on National Development in Uganda

Publications

1. Asiimwe, John Bosco, Patricia Ndugga, **John Mushomi**, and James Patrick ManyenyeNtozi. "Factors associated with modern contraceptive use among young and older women in Uganda; a comparative analysis." *BMC public health* 14, no. 1 (2014): 926.
2. Asiimwe, John Bosco, Patricia Ndugga, and **John Mushomi**. "Socio-demographic factors associated with contraceptive use among young women in comparison with older women in Uganda." *DHS Working Papers No.95* (2013).
3. **John .A. Mushomi**(2016) "Gender, Migration, Remittances &Development in Uganda "- Forth Coming
4. **John .A. Mushomi,** James. P.M. Ntozi and Gideon Rutaremwa (2016) "Family Migration and Migrant Remittances in Uganda"- Forth coming
5. **John .A. Mushomi,** James. P.M. Ntozi and Gideon Rutaremwa (2016) "Family Migration and Migrant Remittances in Uganda"- Forth coming
6. **John .A. Mushomi,** James. P.M. Ntozi and Gideon Rutaremwa (2016) "Migrant Remittance Behavior in Uganda: A household Analysis"- Forth Coming

Book / Report Chapters

1. Author: Chapter - *Demographic dividend and socio- economic transformation* published in the State of Uganda Population Report - 2014.

2. Author: Chapter - *Inclusion of special needs population in Uganda's socioeconomic transformation* published in the State of Uganda Population Report - 2013.

3. Author: Chapter - *Uganda's youthful population as a resource for social and economic transformation* published the State of Uganda Population Report - 2012.

Publications- Monographs

1. Atwebembeire J.M (2007). Gender and Health Care Seeking Behaviour in Uganda, Cairo Demographic Center, Cairo, Egypt (Mphil Thesis).
2. Atwebembeire J.M (2006). Rural- Urban fertility Differentials in Uganda, Cairo Demographic Center, Cairo, Egypt.
3. Atwebembeire J.M (2005). Persistent Child Mortality in Uganda, Cairo Demographic Center, Cairo, Egypt.

Conference Presentations

1. April 2013 – "To use or not to use Contraception: consideration of young women in comparison with older women in Uganda" presented at the Population Association of America workshop held in New Orleans, USA.

2. August 2011 – "Access to and utilization of reproductive health services by women with disabilities in rural Uganda" presented at the World Statistics Congress, ISI held in Dublin, UK.

3. December 2010 - "Gender and health care seeking behavior in Uganda: An MDG challenge for Uganda" presented at the Young Statisticians Conference held in Pretoria, South Africa.

4. April 2010 – "Gender and health care seeking behavior in Uganda" presented at the Population Association of America workshop held in Dallas - Texas, USA.

5. November 2010 – "Health care for urban youth in Uganda" presented at the American Academy of Sciences, Urban Health Annual Conference held in New York, USA.

6.

7. December 2010 - "***Gender and health care seeking behavior in Uganda: An MDG challenge for Uganda"*** presented at the Young Statisticians Conference held in Pretoria, South Africa.

Professional Association Memberships

1. Population Association of America (PAA)
2. Integrated Population Health and Environment (PHE) Network for Eastern and Southern Africa
3. Union for African Population Studies (UAPS)
4. Uganda Statistical Society (USS)
5. Alternatives to Violence Peace Project, Makerere University

Awards / Honors / Grants

1. Ford Foundation Global Travel Learning Fund Award, 2015
2. Carnegie Corporation of New York Grant: "Building, Nurturing and Retaining the next generation of African Academics", 2012 – 2014 in support for doctoral studies and research.
3. Measure - ICF International, DHS Fellowship Award: 2012 in support of developingin-country capacity and for the further analysis of DHSdata.
4. UNFPA/ PPD/ POPSEC / Egyptian Government Joint Scholarship: January 2005 - December 2007 in support for postgraduate studies at the Cairo Demographic Center, Egypt.
5. UNFPA/ PPD/ POPSEC / Egyptian Government Joint Scholarship: January 2005 - December 2005
6. UNFPA/ PPD/ POPSEC / Egyptian Government Joint Scholarship: January 2006 - December 2006
7. UNFPA/ PPD/ POPSEC / Egyptian Government Joint Scholarship: January 2007 - December 2007
8. Uganda Government State Scholarship: September 2002 – June 2004
9. Makerere University, Faculty of Social Sciences Vice chancellors List 2002/2003

Recent Postgraduate Teaching

1. Migration Policies and Development in Sub Saharan Africa
2. Population trends , Interrelationships & Policies
3. Family Planning Policies and Programs
4. Population factors in Development planning and policy
5. Rural and Urban Development
6. Population &Development

Recent Undergraduate Teaching

1. Migration, Urbanization& Rural Development
2. Population Theories
3. Social Statistics

Skills and Attributes

Leadership, advocacy, critical and analytical skills, communication and interpersonal skills, team player, committed and self motivated individual, multi-tasking, result orientated, and fast learning capabilities, expertise in use of statistical software – SPSS and STATA.

Referees

Professor Ntozi JamesPatrick
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