

# Migration, Mobility & Social Integration

Southern African trends and their implications

Presentation to portfolio committee on home affairs

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African Centre for Migration & Society

# African Centre for Migration & Society

*An internationally engaged; Africa-oriented; and African-based research and teaching centre dedicated to shaping academic and policy debates on migration, development and social transformation*

- Graduate degree programme with students from across Africa, North America, and Europe
- Research in 12 African countries on issues related to migration, human rights, development, governance, and social change
- Partnerships on 4 continents
- Regional reference point for public and scholarly debate and policy formation



# Migration Dynamics: Qualifications & Qualities

- **Migration is fundamentally about empowerment:** movement is about improving individual, household, and collective status, social, economic and physical security
- **Data missing and suspect:** Data quality worsened by legal and bureaucratic apparatus, proprietary data collection, and limited scholarly research
- **Data tends to be overly aggregated:** Sources, residential sites, impacts and experienced deeply spatialised (down to the neighbourhood level).
- **Research, policy debates, and policy frameworks dominated by South Africa:** As centre of the migration system, home to most research, and sub-regional hegomon, S.A. experience overshadows important processes elsewhere.



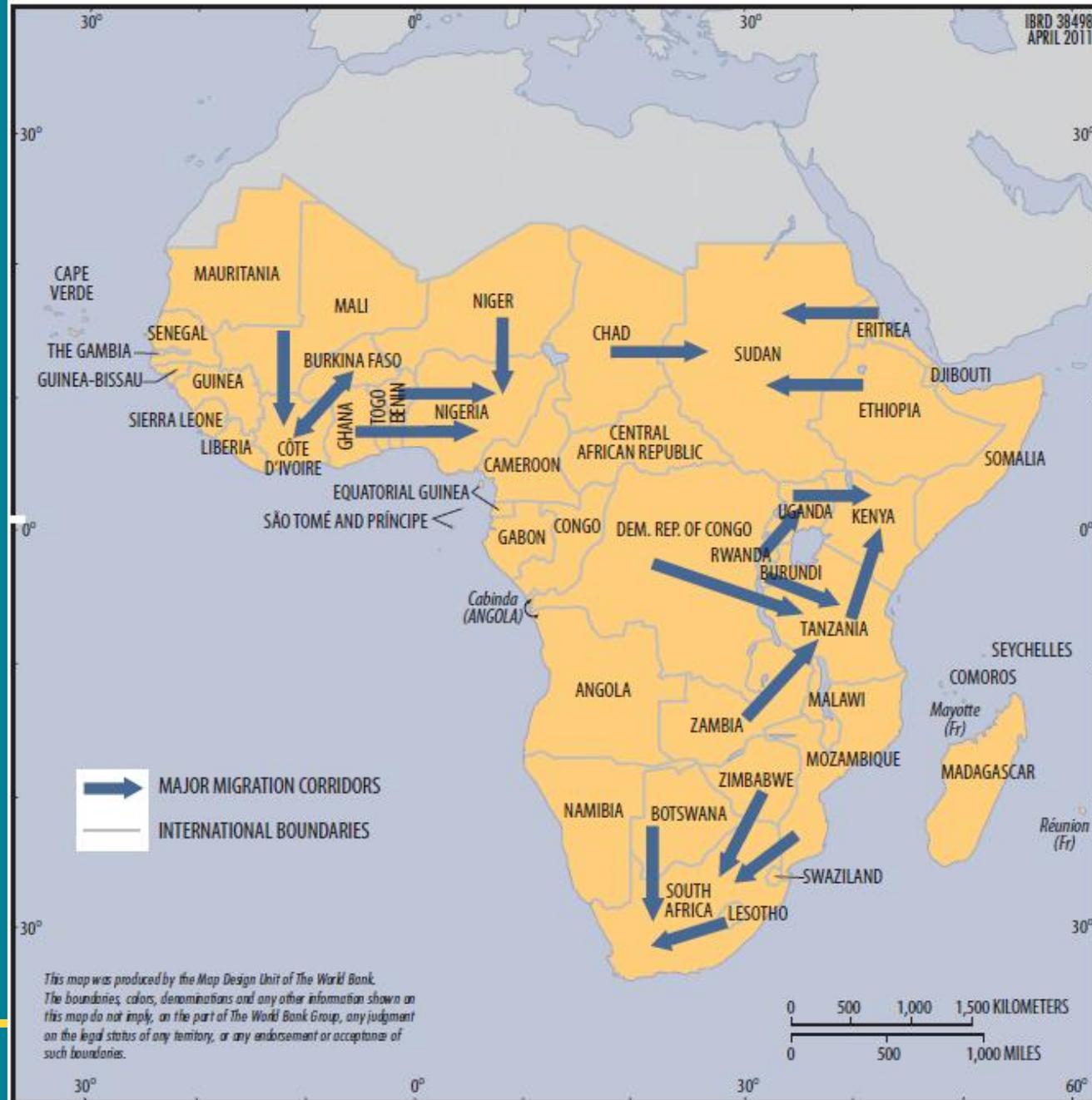
# Regional Migration Dynamics: Main Points

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- **International migration relatively constant** : As proportion of total population, was 3.4% in 1990; 3.7% in 2010. Refugees between 2.1% (2010) and 7.6% (1995) of international migrants .
- **Long-term circular migration continued, but** complemented and transformed by less structured movements, displacements and other forms of mobility
- **Domestic migration and urbanisation critical livelihood option and integration challenge.** In RSA, close to 3% of population moving across Provincial boundaries in last 5 years (many more within).
- **Urbanisation already high in the region, intra-urban mobility rife.**
- **Feminization:** Percent of **women** is increasing 38.6 in 1990 to 43.3 in 2010. Increasingly diverse migration trajectories.
- **Highly spatialised** and dynamic (more later...)

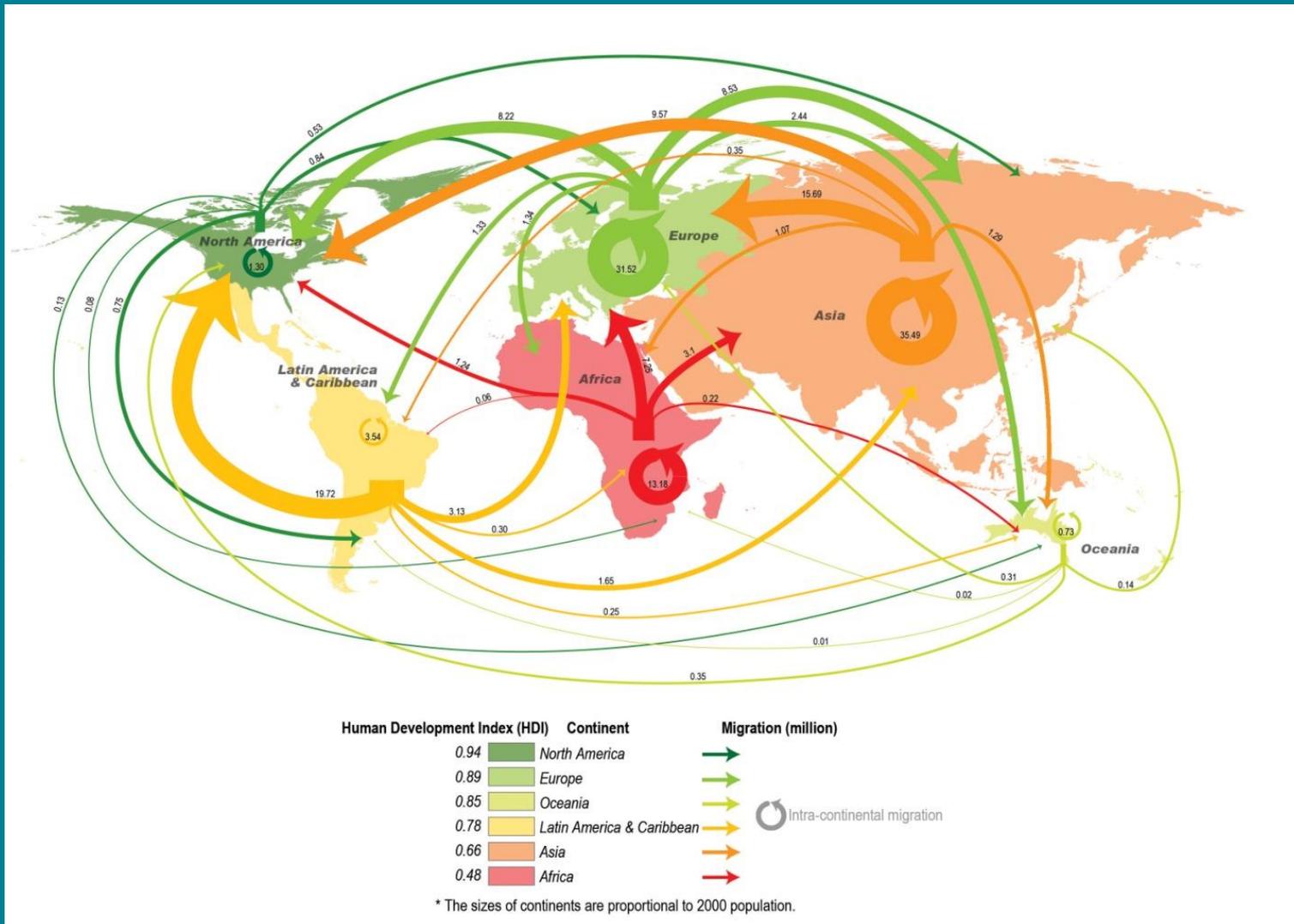
# Southern African Migration in Continental Perspective

**Figure 1.3** Major Migration Corridors in Sub-Saharan Africa, 2010



Source: Ratha et al.  
World Bank 2011

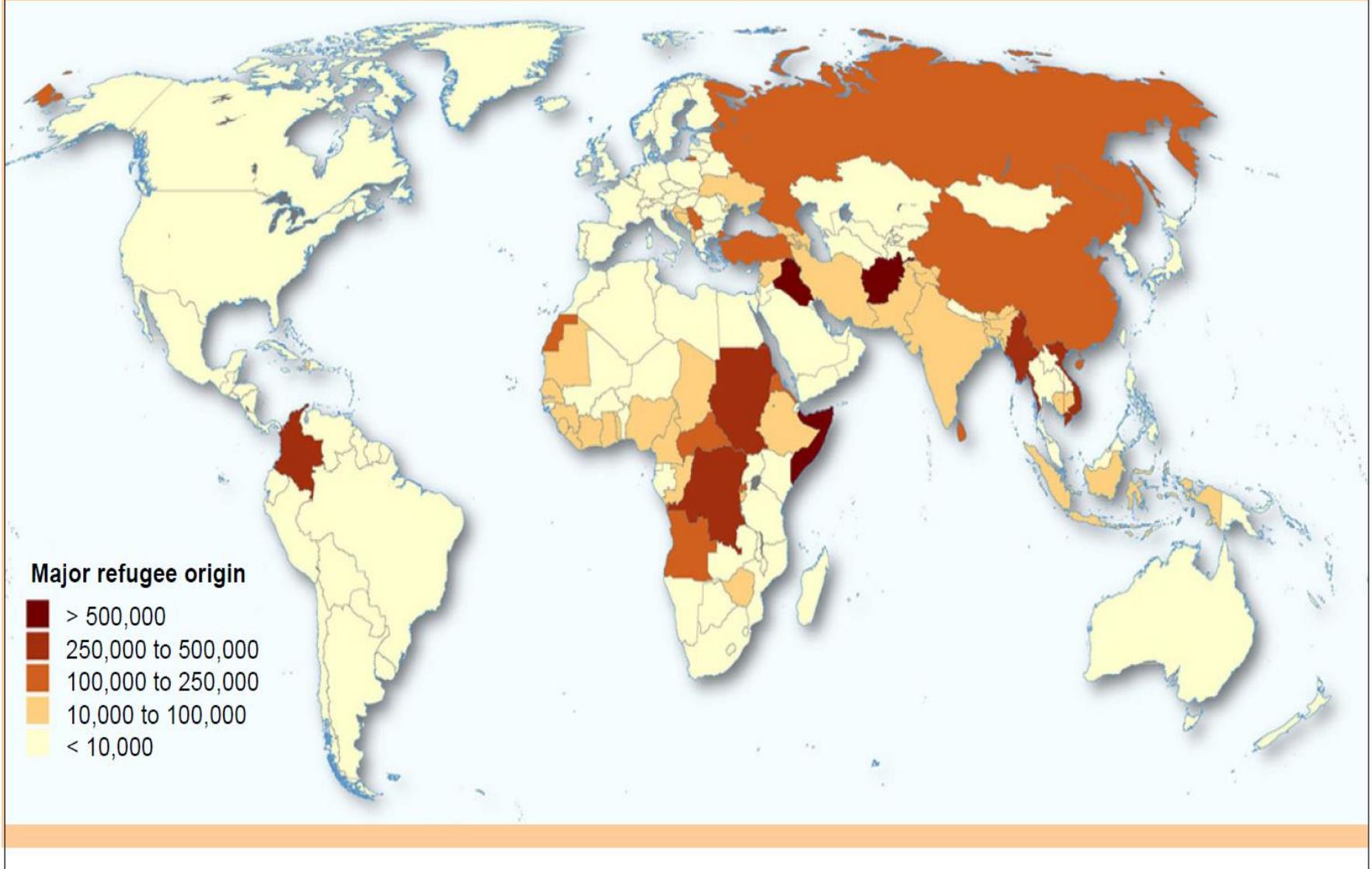
# Migration in Global Perspective



Source: HDRO staff estimates based on University of Sussex (2007) database

# Sources of refugees in Africa & globally

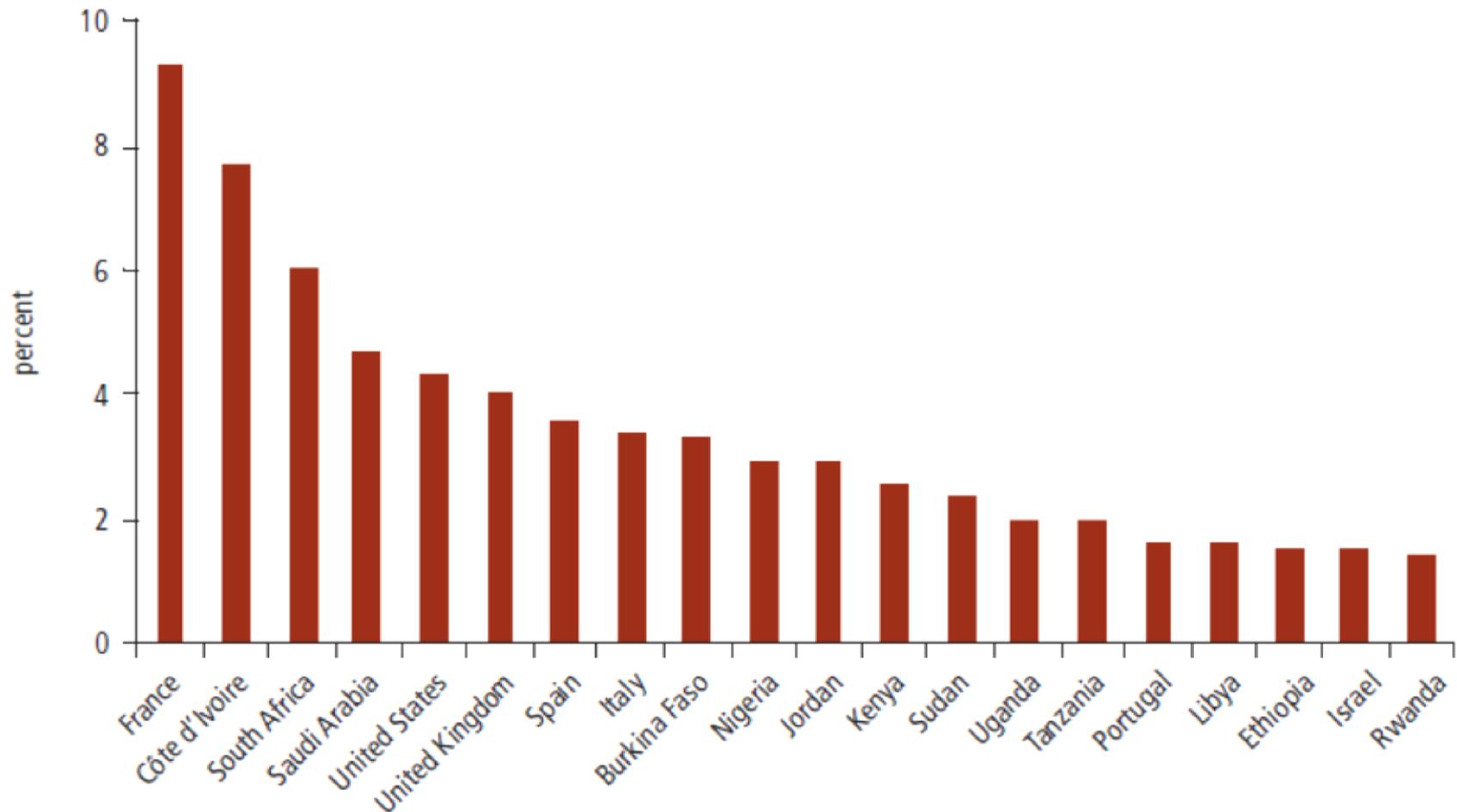
Map 2 Main source countries of refugees | end-2009



# Continental Comparison

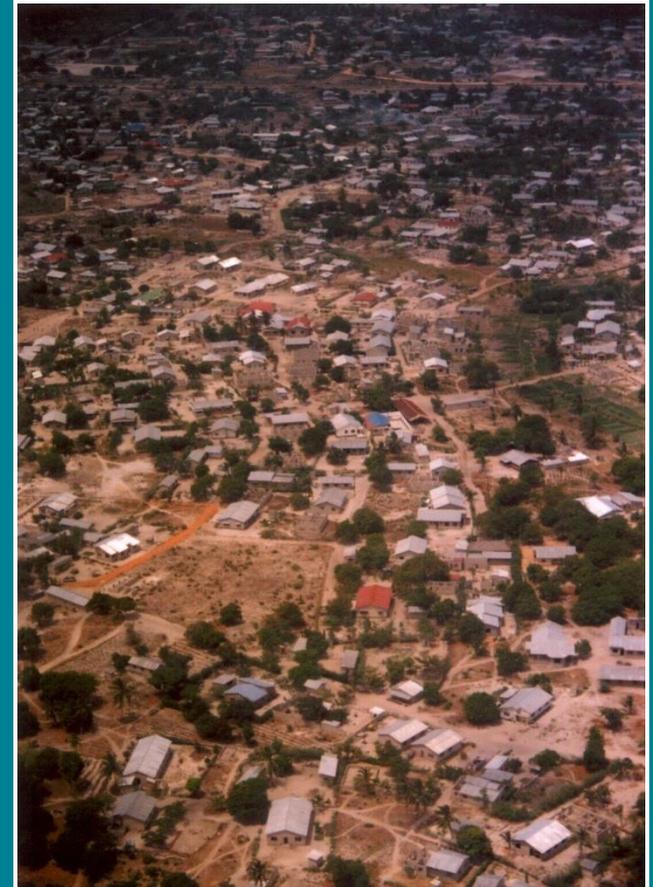
Source: Ratha et al. World Bank 2011

**Figure 1.1** Major Destination Countries for Emigrants from Africa, 2010  
*(share of African emigrants)*



# What's going on: A new urban frontier

- African cities are growing rapidly due to high fertility and mobility
- Fastest growth is small towns and the urban periphery
  - Often beyond municipal boundaries
  - Poorly institutionalized spaces
  - Continued spatial mobility
  - Enormous inequality
  - Social, legal and political heterogeneity



# Urbanization in selected African countries

	1985	1995	2005	2015 (projected)
Angola	30.3	44.0	54.0	62.5
Botswana	26.7	49.0	57.3	64.5
Kenya	<b>17.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>24.1</b>
Liberia	40.3	50.0	58.1	64.8
Mozambique	<b>16.7</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>42.4</b>
South Africa	<b>49.4</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>64.1</b>
Tanzania	16.8	20.5	24.2	28.9
Zimbabwe	25.4	31.7	35.9	40.9

Source: <http://esa.un.org/unup/>

44% of Gauteng's population were born in a different province

28.1% of Western Cape's population were born in a different province

4.4% of the South African population were born outside of South Africa

Table 2.15: Province/country of birth by province where the person was counted (percentage)

Province/country of birth	Province where counted									
	EC	FS	GP	KZN	LP	MP	NW	NC	WC	SA
EC	94.0	2.5	4.5	2.9	0.4	1.6	2.7	2.0	16.2	15.8
FS	0.4	87.3	3.2	0.4	0.3	1.2	2.9	1.9	0.8	6.5
GP	1.2	2.7	56.0	1.3	2.5	4.7	4.9	1.6	2.9	15.1
KZN	0.7	1.0	5.9	92.0	0.2	2.8	1.0	0.8	1.2	20.2
LP	0.1	0.6	10.8	0.2	90.9	4.2	2.8	0.3	0.3	12.8
MP	0.2	0.5	4.3	0.4	1.6	79.9	1.2	0.3	0.4	7.7
NW	0.1	1.1	3.5	0.2	0.6	0.8	78.3	3.7	0.3	5.9
NC	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.1	0.7	1.3	85.2	1.5	2.6
WC	1.7	0.8	1.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	2.5	71.9	8.9
Outside SA	1.2	2.5	9.5	1.7	3.0	3.7	4.4	1.7	4.5	4.4
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

2,199,871 people were born outside of South Africa

**NB:** Percentages exclude: do not know, unspecified and not applicable.

People tend to move into Gauteng from other provinces and outside the country. Only 56.0% of people counted in Gauteng during Census 2011 were born there, compared to 94.0% of people counted in Eastern Cape.

# Summary of migration trends

- Largely domestic and this has been ignored in policy, planning and public concern
- Where it is cross-border its circular
- Is driven by economics and opportunities rather than conflict



# Regional Integration? The role of SADC?

- SADC has express purpose of enhancing economic and social integration among member states.
- The founding Declaration and treaty commits to facilitating free movement of capital goods labour and people.
- However the SADC protocol on Facilitation of Movement (already a watered down version of the first draft protocol on free movement) has not been ratified by the required 2/3 member states and is not enforced.
- Most migration is managed through bilateral agreements
- It would seem that the reluctance to regionalise is driven by a fear of labour migration as a threat.
- Consequence of all of this is that much labour migration is irregular and unmanaged in the SADC region.
- Takes place in context of global securitization of migration

# International policy experiences

- Not been possible to stop migration (US, South Africa have tried)
- Restrictive policies are extremely expensive, and ineffective
- Global pressure shapes Southern African policy making
- Policy reform driven by interests, not needs
- Need for policies based on regional migration patterns and economic and social need
- International migration gets attention but is not where migration challenges lie
- Regionalism and international initiatives unlikely to have dramatic effects
- Examples of liberalized migration policy suggest that labour migration is not the threat it is assumed to be



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# Implications cont: Deportation experiences in SA

South African repatriation/deportation of undocumented migrants (Source: Department of Home Affairs)

Repatriations/removals	Mozambique	Zimbabwe	Lesotho	Total
1994	71,279	12,931	4073	90,692
1995	131,689	17,549	4087	157,084
1996	157,425	14,651	3344	180,713
1997	146,285	21,673	4077	176,351
1998	141,506	28,548	4900	181,286
1999	123,961	42,769	6003	183,861
2000	84738	45,922	5871	145,575
2001	94,404	47,697	5977	156,123
2002	83,695	38,118	5278	151,653
2003	82,067	55,753	7447	164,294
2004				167,137
2005				209,988

# Regional integration at local level

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- Has been increasing attention to social cohesion / integration from 2010
- South African social cohesion policies have not adequately dealt with anti-foreigner sentiment and overtly promotes national identity
- Connections to xenophobic violence are loose and unclear
- Common values are not necessary for cohesive societies
- Is not specific to foreigners but also present among South Africans

# Connections to migration trends

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- Integration is not a problem faced by foreigners but one faced by all in SA cities
- Transience is part of South African cities and will continue
- Awareness campaigns have had very little success
- Need to develop local institutions of law and democracy to address conflict
- Rhetoric on integration has often simply scapegoated migrants.

# Regional integration: SA policy

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## Policy:

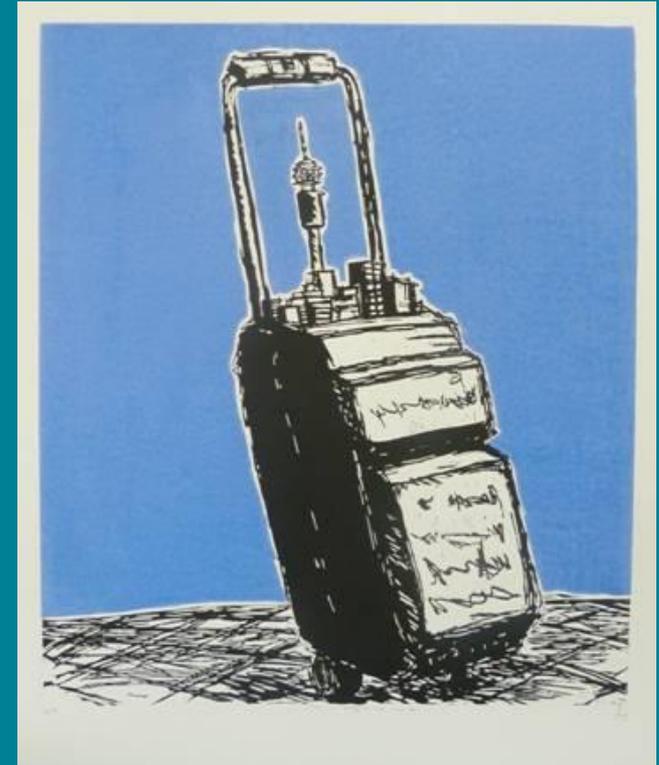
- Beyond knee jerk or simple exclusion
- Evidence based and pragmatic policy is lacking
- Are contradictory and competing messages (support for displaced and arrests and deportations)

## Consequences:

- Expensive and ineffective responses
- A large number of people who are 'invisible'
- Negative impacts on health, economy
- Failure to address the needs and frustrations of South Africans

# Conclusions

- Improve data collection and technocratic capacity
- Need for migration responses that speak to Southern African regional dynamics
- Simple restrictive policies have far reaching negative consequences for economic, health and social protection
- Managing popular sentiment and its impact on policy making remains a challenge



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