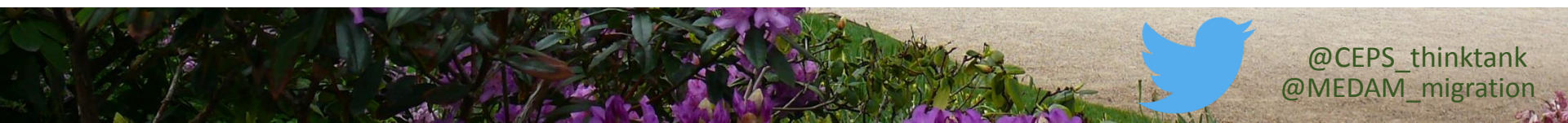




Introduction to the panel session EU-Africa labour migration schemes: Implications for irregular migration

December 3, 2018



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Policy tools to curb irregular migration

Reviewing past experiences

- Complementary policies: no single solution will work
- Partnerships with origin countries and a long-term perspective
- The case for within-EU cooperation

A possible way forward ?

- An EU-Africa partnership scheme for human capital formation and skill mobility

Complementary policies

Unintended consequences of tighter border control

- Redirection to alternative ways
- Decrease in circular migration, overstays

Unintended consequences of more legal pathways

- ‘Selling visas’ - more immigration due to higher supply of pathways
- Selective projects - small scope and obstacles in implementation. Really a substitute?

Legal opportunities can reduce irregular migration provided

i) sufficient scope and ii) efforts in border control and policy enforcement.

Origin countries on-board and a long-term perspective



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A partnership with origin countries

- Needed to ensure border control and policy enforcement
- Builds on mutual interests and trust
- Long-term perspective

A migration partnership is not a short-term solution,
but a long-term development opportunity.

The case for within-EU cooperation

- Immigration is competency of member states
- Economies of scale / spillovers of labour migration programs are not clear

But

- Irregular migration is a joint EU issue, strong case for (flexible) solidarity
- Scope of a legal migration program matters

The EU can coordinate and aggregate member states' efforts and use them strategically to curb irregular migration.

An EU-Africa partnership scheme for human capital formation and skill mobility (concept)

- Professional training programs in African countries to prepare workers for both the EU and African labour markets
- Work permits issued under member states' competence
- African countries
 - Jointly with the MS determine the demand for training
 - Cooperate on curbing irregular migration
- The EU
 - Funding
 - Coordination and aggregation of voluntary offers (e.g. the EU resettlement scheme)



Panel discussion
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Thank You!

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