Received: 12 May 2023 | Accepted: 21 June 2023
DOI: 10.1002/pop4.386

POLICY REVIEW

P&PP POVERTY & PUBLIC POLICY

Triangulating the path: Globalization, development, and migration in developing countries

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to analyze how globalization responds to migration and development. Migration, globalization, and development are interconnected forces shaping our world, where the movement of people across borders, the spread of ideas and technologies, and socioeconomic progress influence and transform societies on a global scale. We argue that the interaction between globalization, migration, and development is three-way, and that globalization does not always promote migration. To support our argument, we conducted an extensive review of the relevant literature. Content and contextual analyses were also conducted to provide a good overview of contemporary discourse on the three concepts: globalization, migration, and development. Of course, the interaction between globalization and development is controversial. Some argue that globalization has a negative impact on development. Others believe that globalization has been an important factor in reducing poverty and has led to faster improvements in life expectancy and other indicators of progress. We attempt to provide a theoretical framework to explain how globalization, migration, and development affect each other. This study has significant policy implications for both the Global South and the North.

KEYWORDS

Asia, development, Globalization, migration, trade liberalization, WTO

INTRODUCTION

Economic globalization and the integration of world markets are the main drivers of migration, as they seem to have created a borderless world (Ohmae, 1990) or a world in which borders have become increasingly permeable (Inda & Rosaldo, 2002; Ullah, 2010). This assertion is often challenged by the fact that globalization has facilitated the relocation of jobs from developed countries to countries with a surplus of labor, in some cases leading to a standstill in population mobility. This essentially means that globalization is counteracting migration. Growing mobility (from 166 million in 1970 to 702 million in 2021) (IOM, 2022; WTO, 1995) is not evidence that globalization has not impeded migration.

Globalization affects individuals, companies, and nations that participate in it. Most research on globalization focuses on the interaction of globalization and development. In the area of globalization and development, Brittan (1998) claims that globalization has helped countries in many ways. According to Mishkin (2006), globalization has encouraged trade and investment by reducing trade barriers. In contrast, opponents of globalization argue that globalization has increased inequality in developing countries due to trade tariffs in such a way that the removal of trade barriers, where the advantage outweighs the disadvantage, reaps the rewards for developed countries (Hogan, 2012).

We argue that the interaction between globalization, migration, and development is three-way. Despite the boom in globalization, migration, and development research, there is a clear division between globalization, development, and migration theories, resulting in research limitations. Consequently, the academic debate has largely been limited to a conceptual rendering of the discourse. This article offers, first, a new perspective on the triadic interplay of globalization, migration, and development. Second, it lays out a theoretical framework to explain how globalization, migration, and development interact. Third, it offers a new perspective on globalization and attempts to make a reliable prediction about how globalization will soon change.

OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

We seek to provide a new theoretical framework to analyze the interplay between globalization, development, and migration, in particular how the development of underdeveloped countries affects globalization and vice versa. In this way, we provide a perspective for the study of globalization and a logical perspective for the behavior of globalization in development. The study draws on some empirical information obtained through experiential visits around the world, as well as on the existing literature. We begin with a set of preliminary themes and then attempt to gather the necessary materials on these themes.

Following inductive logic, we carefully clarify the inherent logical relationships of the existing literature and infer the basic viewpoints. Then we determine the relationship between these basic viewpoints and the basic objectives of the investigation. Then we test the arguments by combining empirical evidence. In addition, we measure the development of countries using indices such as GDP, GNI, and HDI[1] to get a comprehensive picture of the development of countries. GDP measures output, while GNI measures income. In addition, the HDI provides a picture of a country's level of human development.

The empirical analysis follows changes in globalization in two periods, first, from the 1960s to 1990 and then from the 1990s to the present. The change of globalization is analysed in terms of quantitative changes in development. On the other hand, the qualitative changes focus on the major trends of globalization, such as multidimensionality, multipolarity, and the pursuit of a collective human interest. In analyzing the interplay of development and globalization through quantitative patterns, the changes are measured by the increase in the number of actors in the globalized world that directly contribute to the changes in the functioning of economic globalization. As a result of a more globalized and modernized world, countries are beginning to pay more attention and take action by participating in or contributing to the global world.

The study of the interplay between migration, globalization, and development was conducted using a variety of research methods. For example, a literature review was conducted that allowed for a comprehensive examination of existing academic journals, books, and reports to understand theories, empirical evidence, and trends in the field. We conducted a document analysis, examining official documents, policy papers, and statistical reports from organizations such as the United Nations and the World Bank to provide relevant data and insights. Meta-analysis was used to combine data from multiple studies to identify patterns and relationships between migration, globalization, and development variables. Using content analysis, we examined various sources of public perceptions and narratives. Network analysis was used to examine migration flows, trade networks, and development initiatives. We also relied heavily on historical analysis to examine records and data to understand long-term patterns.

THE TRIAD: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

As the world has become increasingly interconnected, economic activity has also become more intertwined. In addition, there have been changes in the way economic globalization operates (Griffin, 2003; Masoudi et al., 2017). We, therefore, present our framework visually to ease interpretation of the changes caused by development and globalization in terms of increased economic participation. The concept of globalization derives from global processes of greater integration that focus on interconnectedness, commercial transactions, and human mobility (Reyes, 2001). Globalization encompasses many different phenomena, such as economic, political, social, cultural, and environmental activity (Schiller et al., 1992). The degree of a country's integration into the international political system can be measured by the number of foreign embassies and high commissioners stationed there, as well as the number of international organizations to which the country belongs, the number of peacekeeping missions in which the country has participated, and the number of international treaties the country has signed.

This article focuses on economic globalization and the way it permeates development and migration dynamics, without excluding the possibility that other aspects of globalization are related to development and migration (Figure 1). Although the economic aspects of globalization have received the most attention, they are undoubtedly linked to noneconomic systems (Ocampo & Martin, 2003). Economic globalization is composed of five groups of elements: (1) international trade, (2) foreign direct investment, (3) capital market flows, (4) migration, and (5) technological diffusion (Stiglitz, 2003). In international trade - which is fundamental to a country's economic health—imports account for a larger share of consumer spending and exports account for a larger share of national output (Qureshi, 1996). Countries rely on foreign trading partners to export goods and purchase necessities to sustain their domestic economy.

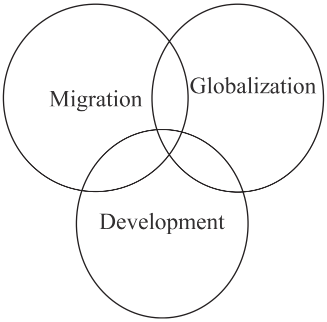

FIGURE 1 Globalization, development, and migration triad.

The investment made to acquire a permanent interest in companies operating outside the investor's economy is foreign direct investment (FDI). Portfolio investment, which can take the form of either short-term (e.g., loans) or long-term (e.g., bonds) capital inflows, is distinct from direct investment in the construction of production facilities (Stiglitz, 2003). Total FDI flows worldwide have increased by more than 100% relative to GDP since 1980 (World Bank Briefing, 2001). When skilled or unskilled migrants gain work experience abroad and return to their home countries to start businesses, the economy benefits (Amo-Agyei, 2020). However, migration can also have a detrimental effect on the economy due to "brain drain," or the exodus of skilled workers who are essential to the growth of the economy (Stiglitz, 2003; Ullah, 2010).

It is a proven fact that globalization increases international flows of goods, input factors, technology, and financial assets, with all these components consistently growing faster than output. Between 1960 and 2005, the growth of international trade exceeded the growth of output. In addition to technical, financial, and political relationships, cultural and economic linkages among nations are also modern factors in development (Kaplan, 1993; Kelly, 2000), so national borders have weakened and distances have shrunk in the integration of financial, political, civil, and cultural aspects, meaning that international political and economic interdependence is having an impact and bringing people around the world closer together (Bhagwati, 2004).

Worldwide communication systems are growing tremendously, and all countries are communicating much faster and faster, enabling rapid globalization. While primary communication systems still operate primarily between developed countries, this is spreading to less developed countries, enabling them to connect and engage internationally. Recent technological advances are creating a radically new atmosphere for economic transactions involving productive tools, facilities, and commodity trading, as well as virtual money mechanisms. Although these communities are not fully integrated into modern global communications networks, influential business and political leaders in every country are part of this global interaction. Ultimately, the economic and financial elites of industrialized countries make many decisions that influence other nations (Moore, 1993; Reyes, 2001).

Dahrendorf (1958), an outspoken skeptic of the globalization thesis, believed that the traits of individualism benefited only the bourgeoisie and contributed to the breakdown of social cohesion under the intensity of a globalized economy. In the realm of international trade, of course, migration networks have significant trade-enhancing effects, but they have been shown to alter trade flows in at least two ways: first, migrants can improve bilateral imports and exports by helping to resolve information difficulties and by sending remittances. Second, the mere presence of migrants in a host country can be a catalyst for establishing the necessary linkages to achieve efficient distribution, procurement, transportation, and compliance practices.

In recent history, migration patterns have been closely connected to foreign direct investment shifts. Foreign direct investment (FDI) increased significantly in the late 1980s and quickly became an important source of funds for emerging and developing countries (Lipsey, 2003). The interplay between FDI, migration, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and development has demonstrated both disruptions and opportunities, as the pandemic has reshaped investment patterns, migration flows, and development trajectories globally (Chattoraj & Ullah, 2023). It is worth examining whether countries with pre-existing migration and diaspora networks benefited more than others from capital inflows. Some argue that migration can contribute to the emergence of corporate relationships that lead to foreign direct investment. Many have argued that migrants come to another country and steal jobs. This could mean that people already in the community subsequently have more difficulty finding work or that they are paid less because of competition with newcomers. The reasoning is straightforward, yet previous research has not shown that local incomes fall after an influx of immigrants (Ullah et al., 2019).

As an example, immigrants currently make up a large portion of the U.S. labor force. In 2022, foreign-born workers accounted for 18.1% of the civilian labor force in the United States, up from 17.4% in 2021. By 2022, the proportion of foreign-born workers in the labor force had risen to 65.9% (Bureau of Labour Statistics, 2023). In 2014, 24 million immigrants were among the nation's 146 million workers, representing 16.6% of total employment. In 2013, immigrants accounted for a larger share of the self-employed: 2.8 million or 19% of the country's 14.6 million self-employed workers (Amo-Agyei, 2020). The difference between the proportion of U.S.-born workers who are self-employed and the proportion of immigrants who are paid employees is minimal. In 2014, 24% of U.S.-born, self-employed workers had paid employees, compared to 22% of self-employed immigrants in similar managerial positions (Pew Research Center, 2015).

In 1979, China officially adopted migration as a central component of its development strategy, signaling the beginning of significant domestic socioeconomic changes. China used migration as a catalyst for development and globalization to spur economic growth and attract foreign investment. Measures such as reform of the household registration system and the establishment of special economic zones facilitated internal migration and foreign direct investment in the country (Li & Pan, 2023). This deliberate inclusion of migration in China's development agenda contributed to the country's growth in manufacturing, urbanization, and technological advancement. China successfully positioned itself as a major player in the global economy by tapping into the global labor market, attracting foreign direct investment, transferring knowledge and skills, and ultimately driving its rapid development and integration into the globalized world. The rise in immigration and emigration is inextricably linked to the country's history of socioeconomic change. After China's government recognized global economic integration as a primary goal in 1979, many of the country's citizens migrated to other countries to find better economic opportunities. Previously, the state had controlled immigration and emigration, but since the late twentieth century, global mobility has become increasingly possible.

THE DYNAMICS OF INTERDEPENDENCE

According to Keohane (2002), globalization reflects a trend toward the expansion of transnational flows and the increasing density of networks of interdependence, while interdependence refers to a state of the globe. Interdependence refers to situations characterized by reciprocal effects between countries or between individuals in different countries (Keohane & Nye, 1997, p. 8). The presence of costly interactions distinguishes interdependence from simple connectivity. Tetreault (1980) argued that economic interdependence involves more than just two parties (Figure 2). Moreover, each actor in the system is dependent on the others.

Karl Marx developed a theoretical framework for understanding the historical development of human society and international politics. Marx (1867) analysis of capitalism relied heavily on ideas of interdependence and systems logic. Lenin and others, expanding on Marx's theoretical foundation, argued that the elements that determine change and transformation in international relations are the mode of production, technological change, exploitative economic relations, and the dynamics of interdependent social relations among collectives defined along class rather than national territorial lines.

Immanuel Wallerstein's contributions to world systems theory provide a starting point for an investigation of interdependence. Wallerstein (1979) argued that a new type of multisocietal organization emerged in Europe between 1450 and 1650 and that this development had profound implications for the international political economy. According to Wallerstein, the capitalist mode of production—the production of things for the purpose of selling them in markets at a profit—was the organizing principle of the emerging global system. Growth, increased production, and capital accumulation occur when rulers combine factor inputs in the production process to create value beyond the value of individual factor inputs and other production costs (Underhill, 2003). Inequality between parties is fostered and maintained by the systemic nature of unequal exchange and relative dependence. Wallerstein, in his analysis of the global capitalist system (CWS), divided it into a central region (core), a middle region (semiperiphery), and a peripheral region (periphery). The concept of dependence is closely related to world systems theory. Duvall (1978), Caporaso (1978), and Baldwin (1980) use the term vulnerability-dependence to summarize asymmetric subordination relationships in which one party is dependent on the other to satisfy basic needs and values.

International integration is another important analytical aspect of interdependence theory. The reason for integration was the perceived need and pursuit of solutions to technological problems and issues. Deutsch (1966) extended this theory by linking interdependence among

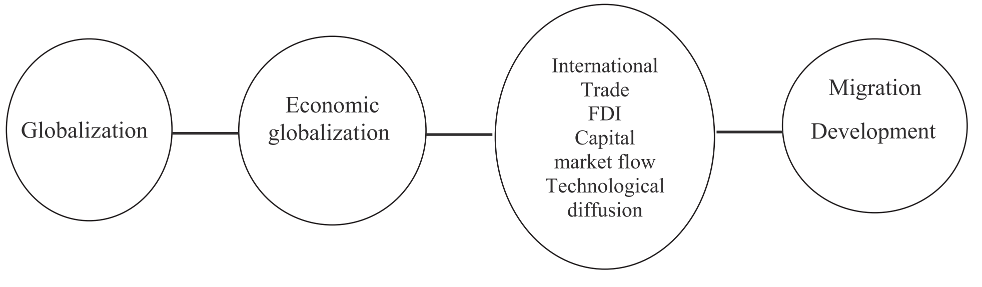

FIGURE 2 Interplay between economic globalization, development, and migration.

parties in an action system to the presence of interdependence, division of labor, and covariance. This type of partnership required more than responsiveness from each party; it also required some degree of interdependence. Keohane and Nye (1998), Kaiser (1971), Mansbach (2000), Mansbach et al. (1976), and Mansbach and Vasquez (1981) sought to provide a more systematic framework for analysing and explaining the nature and role of transnational relations in international politics, with interdependence as a central element. This dynamic of increasing interdependence combined with fragmentation and decentralization is referred to as "postinternational politics" (Rosenau, 1984).

The goal of globalization, attributed to national institutions, is to increase interconnectedness and interdependence while creating greater potential in the social, economic, political, and cultural spheres (Ullah & Ming Yit Ho, 2020). Globalization and development have multiple levels, aspects, forms, components, characteristics, systems, mechanisms, patterns, and evidence associated with them (Figure 2) (Faghih, 2019). The growth of transnational corporations has been associated with the emergence of globally integrated production structures, increased economic growth, and foreign investment (Kaul et al., 1999; Ocampo & Martin, 2003).

As a country develops, it is more open and willing to join global organizations such as the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund (IMF), so more and more countries participate in globalization (Whitman, 2003). In a globalized world, all actors (nations, institutions, organizations/firms, and individuals) seem to benefit from further market liberalization, especially socioeconomic changes, which are considered a basic prerequisite for globalization to have its full effect (Li et al., 2011; Peters & Pierre, 2006; Wei & Lau, 2008).

TRADE LIBERALIZATION AND DEVELOPING ECONOMIES

Promoting economic growth, progress, and poverty reduction has been facilitated by greater participation in the global economy. Over the past two decades, world trade has grown six percent annually, twice as fast as world output. However, trade has been a source of economic expansion for much longer. Since the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was established in 1947, the global trading system has benefited from eight rounds of multilateral trade liberalization, as well as unilateral and regional liberalizations. The eighth and final round (the so-called "Uruguay Round," concluded in 1994) eventually led to the creation of the World Trade Organization to expand the network of multilateral trade agreements (International Monetary Fund [IMF], 2021; Willis, 2005).

Over the past decade, global trade has experienced massive growth, with developing (e.g., the Global South) and developed countries (e.g., the Global North) each generating US$1.5 trillion and US$1.3 trillion, respectively, in additional income through trade liberalization (World Bank, 2016). Since 2005, this has helped 300 million people escape poverty (World Bank, 2016). Hertel et al. (2001) give the example of Japan and Singapore's trade liberalization strategy. The number of Japanese tariff lines has decreased by 92.1% due to a series of measures taken by both Japan and Singapore to reduce nontariff trade costs. The Singapore government has declared that 94% of its shipments to Japan are tax-free. Similarly, as a result of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), trade between the United States, Canada, and Mexico is virtually unrestricted. This agreement is extremely important for business relations between the United States and Mexico. By early 2008, all tariffs and restrictions on imports and exports between the three countries set forth in NAFTA had been eliminated (North American

Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA], 2020). This agreement on trade in goods and services created millions of jobs in both countries. In total, nearly US$678 billion was collected through trade (Chatzky et al., 2020).

Similar dynamics have been observed in Europe as well. Members of the European Union (EU) export to countries outside the EU continue to provide growing employment both inside and outside the EU. Among member states, employment increased from 21.7 million in 2000 to 36 million in 2017, and for every US$1 billion in exports, about 13,000 jobs have been created in the EU (European Parliament, 2019). Not only does the export industry create jobs, but forward and backward linkages do as well. In Germany in 2017, for example, 6.8 million jobs were sustained by exports to non-EU countries. Due to the EU Common Market, another 1.1 million German jobs have depended on exports from other EU members to non-EU countries (European Parliament, 2019).

Since research suggests that export-related jobs often pay on average 12% better than other, similar jobs, developed countries attract a growing number of highly qualified workers. Increasing competition between companies in the wake of globalization sometimes leads to plant closures, relocations, and job losses. Competition from low-wage countries is a major factor making manufacturing vulnerable to outsourcing. Eastern European countries are overtaking Western European countries as preferred locations for outsourcing. Countries in Asia and North Africa are the final destination for these travelers. Although the liberalization of international trade has generally had a positive impact, some industries are particularly hard hit, and workers often take a long time to adjust to new roles (European Parliament, 2019).

Job outsourcing has also had significant impacts on the economic landscape, increasing the competitiveness of companies abroad. For this reason, many companies have relocated to other countries and sell to their customers from there (Kyove et al., 2021). This helps the companies keep their labor costs low. However, outsourcing also has a major disadvantage: it contributes to the increase in unemployment in the company's original country. For example, the number of outsourced jobs often exceeds the number of unemployed Americans. However, the competitiveness of American companies could suffer if laws are passed that artificially restrict outsourcing. Businesses will raise prices and burden customers with higher expenses if they are forced to hire high-cost American workers.

Some companies even decide to move their entire operations, including their headquarters, to another country to escape the increasing pressure to outsource. Faced with increased prices, other competitors may find they cannot stay in business. Because of the high cost of labor, many companies are outsourcing to India and China (Bottini et al., 2007). In Silicon Valley, it is common practice to grant H-1B visas to foreign nationals to hire them for technical positions (Norman, 2003; Ong, 2006). Over the past two decades, many call centers have been relocated to India and the Philippines. By pooling the resources of thousands of companies, outsourcing human resources (HR) results in lower prices (Shead, 2017). It lowers the cost of things like health insurance, retirement plans, workers' compensation, and legal services. Outsourcing HR offers a number of benefits, especially for smaller companies.

To better compete with the EU, United States President Ronald Reagan argued for a free-trade zone in North America beginning in the early 1980s (Furse, 2022). The subsequent policy (NAFTA), resulted in a total of about 850,000 jobs lost to Mexico (Cooper James, 2022). However, NAFTA succeeded in increasing exports to Canada and Mexico and lowering the prices for many products sold in the United States. The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, the new name for NAFTA, went into effect in July 2020 after being renegotiated to update employment conditions for workers in all three countries (Chatzky et al., 2020). In September

2021, Mexico overtook Vietnam to become the world's sixth-largest producer of automobiles (The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement [USMCA], 2020).

China's urbanization and export-oriented manufacturing expansion can be traced to the millions of internal migrants who have left the country's rural heartland. China's working-age population peaked in 2000, and by 2020, more than 19% will be 60 or older (Jiang et al., 2013). In no other country in the world is internal migration as large as in China (in 2020, about 376 million people lived outside their reporting area) (Cheng, 2021). However, this number fell by 2.46 million due to the pandemic (Cheng, 2021). As China's economy booms, the country has become a popular destination for immigrants from around the world. This trend has accelerated since China joined the World Trade Organization in 2001, attracting migrants mainly from the Global South, South Korea, the United States, and Japan (Hideo, 2004). Recent estimates suggest that about 846,000 foreign nationals and 585,000 residents of Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan originated from these countries (Haugen & Speelman, 2022).

In 2020, China overtook the United States as the world's largest exporter (Boumphrey, 2014). However, many of China's exports are actually destined for American companies. Similarly, the fact that American companies have been able to move their call centers to India is largely due to technological advances. If modern technology is to blame, it must also provide a solution. As a result, the United States is now a stronger global competitor. The best way for the United States to reap the benefits of technological progress and create new jobs is through education, not protectionism. In 2020, 37.2% of Americans lived below the poverty line. However, by 2018, the top 20% of income earners in the country received more annually than the other 80% of the country combined (Schaeffer, 2020).

Many Americans are unhappy about the economic impact of the growing trend to outsource their jobs (Boumphrey, 2014). On the one hand, this widespread practice helps U.S. companies save money, makes them more competitive globally, and provides their products and services at affordable prices to consumers. Many countries that receive companies outsourced from the United States are experiencing economic growth. Conversely, this has hurt the labor market and increased the unemployment rate in the United States.

Large American corporations are significantly increasing their number of employees working abroad. In 2017, 34% of U.S. multinational enterprises (MNEs) employed people abroad, up from 25% in 2000 (Kyove et al., 2021). Employment abroad by MNCs increased 76%, from 8.2 million in 2000 to 14.4 million in 2017. One in 10 Americans working for a multinational corporation (MNC) in 2017 was in China (Malden & Listerud, 2020). The number of employees for these organizations has increased sixfold from 252,000 in 2000. Although the total number of people employed by MNCs in the United States is much higher at 28.1 million in 2017, the growth from 23.9 million in 2000 has been much slower at only 17.5% (Malden & Listerud, 2020). While research and development (R&D) spending by parents of multinationals in the United States was much higher than in China in 2017 (US $298.3 billion vs. US$3.7 billion), R&D activity in China has grown rapidly. Before China's accession to the WTO in 2001, U.S. multinationals spent US$506 million on R&D in China, ranking it ninth in the world. However, by 2017, this figure had increased by 631.2% to US $3.7 billion, making China the fourth largest destination for such spending behind Canada, Japan, and France.

The globalization of the economy and the emergence of multinational corporations have had a profound impact on the globalization of labor and production markets. Some multinationals have moved production to developing countries to take advantage of the low wages and large supply of labor there, which is largely unprotected by government control or organization. This is particularly true in the ready-made garment (RMG) sector, where the fickle nature of fashion and the mechanization-resistant nature of fabrics has made garment manufacturers extremely dependent on human labor (Caleca, 2014). In 2005, RMG production in Bangladesh accounted for 75% of the country's GDP and was a huge multi-billion-dollar export business (Table 1) (Haider, 2007). In the 2022 financial year, the RMG sector contributed 9.25% to the country's GDP (Bangladesh Bank, 2023).

TABLE 1 Bangladesh's apparel export to world (value in million USD).

Year	Woven	Knit	Total RMG
1994	1,544.89	341.53	1,886.42
1995	1,976.40	512.18	2,488.58
1996	1,942.37	686.27	2,628.64
1997	2,621.33	810.49	3,431.82
1998	2,871.06	976.29	3,847.35
1999	2,987.73	1,169.90	4,157.63
2000	3,376.49	1,448.22	4,824.71
2001	3,162.28	1,432.72	4,595.00
2002	3,076.28	1,573.40	4,649.68
2003	3,398.84	1,850.36	5,249.20
2004	3,686.78	2,532.62	6,219.40
2005	3,689.60	3,210.48	6,900.08
2006	4,544.83	4,388.67	8,933.50
2007	4,608.40	4,741.93	9,350.33
2008	5,655.50	6,223.42	11,878.92
2009	5,695.88	6,194.61	11,890.49
2010	7,067.34	7,787.26	14,854.60
2011	9,252.80	9,961.67	19,214.47
2012	10,117.43	9,670.71	19,788.14
2013	12,052.30	11,448.68	23,500.98
2014	12,421.26	12,162.70	24,583.96
2015	13,805.44	12,797.26	26,602.70
2016	14,931.33	13,736.95	28,668.29
2017	14,673.99	14,538.94	29,212.93
2018	16,681.04	16,245.84	32,926.88
2019	16,630.64	16,441.74	33,072.38
2020	13,242.36	14,228.37	27,470.73
2021	16,216.38	19,595.49	35,811.87

Source: BGMEA (2022).

Bangladesh has a proven track record of rapid economic growth. Several factors, including a healthy demographic dividend, strong RMG exports, sustained remittance flows, and stable macroeconomic conditions, have supported rapid economic growth over the past two decades (Table 1). This is as inspiring as the country's progress in poverty reduction and economic development. Bangladesh, which was one of the poorest countries in the world in 1971, has recently emerged from extreme poverty. This country is expected to be removed from the list of least-developed countries in 2026. Progress has also been made on a number of human progress indicators (The World Bank, 2022).

Despite a slowdown in economic activity caused by COVID-19, the amount of remittances Bangladeshi migrant workers sent home in 2021 increased by 2.2% to US$22 billion. According to the projections, Bangladesh would rank 7th among low- and middle-income countries receiving remittances in 2021. India (US$100 billion), Mexico (US$60 billion), and China (US $51 billion) top the list of remittances (Gupta Manisha, 2023; The Business Standard, 2022). According to the Business Standard's projections, remittance receipts will account for 6.2% of Bangladesh's GDP in 2023. On the other hand, remittances to LMIC are expected to reach US $630 billion in 2022, up 4.2% year-on-year (in 2022 it was US$603.54 billion). With an increase of 8.6% over 2020 (US$605.1 billion), remittances will amount to $662 billion in 2022 (IOM, 2023; The Business Standard, 2022) [For more information please see https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2022/05/11/remittances-to-reach-630-billion-in-2022-with-record-flows-into-ukraine).

CONCLUSION

Integration of the world economy is one of the most important aspects of globalization. For countries to reap the benefits of integration, a level playing field is required. Although there is a strong interaction between globalization, development, and migration, most countries cannot benefit from it because of the heterogeneous economic growth in the world. There is little doubt that better economic linkages among several countries have led to the growth of MNCs. Many multinational corporations are now headquartered or have a branch in emerging markets such as Malaysia, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, or the Philippines. Major shareholders of global companies include the United States, Europe, and Japan.

While about 6% of U.S. apparel imports come from Bangladesh, the United States is currently Bangladesh's most important trading partner, accounting for nearly 25% of total exports. Millions of people have found work in the RMG industry and elsewhere in China, Vietnam, India, Cambodia, the Philippines, and Bangladesh. We argue that this has alleviated migration pressures either directly or indirectly because these millions of workers would have become potential migrants had they been unemployed.

In today's world, migration, globalization, and development are inextricably linked and constantly evolving. Migration acts as a conduit for the exchange of ideas, skills, and resources, facilitating the flow of labor across borders. Globalization accelerates this process by linking societies and economies on a global scale through technological, communication, and commercial advances. Migration and globalization together shape development dynamics as nations seek to take advantage of diverse talent pools, international markets, and cross-cultural interactions. However, the interplay of these forces is complicated and multilayered, and includes obstacles such as social inclusion, economic disparities, and the need for inclusive development. Recognizing and overcoming these complexities is critical to promoting sustainable development, maximizing the potential of migration and globalization, and ensuring that benefits are equitably distributed across societies, fostering a more connected and prosperous world.

Both the Global South and the Global North should take certain actions to achieve a harmonious relationship between migration, globalization, and development. First, the Global North should implement equitable and inclusive immigration policies that recognize the contributions and rights of migrants and open pathways for their economic and social integration. At the same time, the Global South should focus on improving national policies that promote sustainable development and encourage investment and economic growth. International cooperation and collaboration must also be promoted. To promote inclusive development, the Global North should support capacity-building, technology transfer, and knowledge-sharing initiatives with the Global South. In turn, the Global South should actively participate in global governance mechanisms to influence decision-making processes and ensure that its interests are represented. Finally, it is important to address the root causes of migration. The Global North must promote equitable trade practices, reduce economic inequalities, and support sustainable development in the Global South. Meanwhile, the Global South should prioritize investments in education, health care, and infrastructure to provide opportunities and improve the quality of life for its citizens, thereby reducing migration pressures. By implementing these comprehensive and cooperative measures, the Global South and Global North can cultivate a balanced relationship between migration, globalization, and development to promote shared prosperity and a more equitable world.

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ENDNOTE

[1] Gross Development Product; Gross National Income, Human Development Index.

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How to cite this article: Ullah, A. K. M. A., & Ferdous, J. (2023). Triangulating the path: Globalization, development, and migration in developing countries. *Poverty & Public Policy*, 1–15. https://doi.org/10.1002/pop4.386