International migration and development: Past, present, future

Bela Hovy

Chief, Migration Section

Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

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Components of population change - Africa and Europe compared

Europe
Migration is slowing population decline (but not halting)

Africa
Migration is reducing population growth (but little impact)
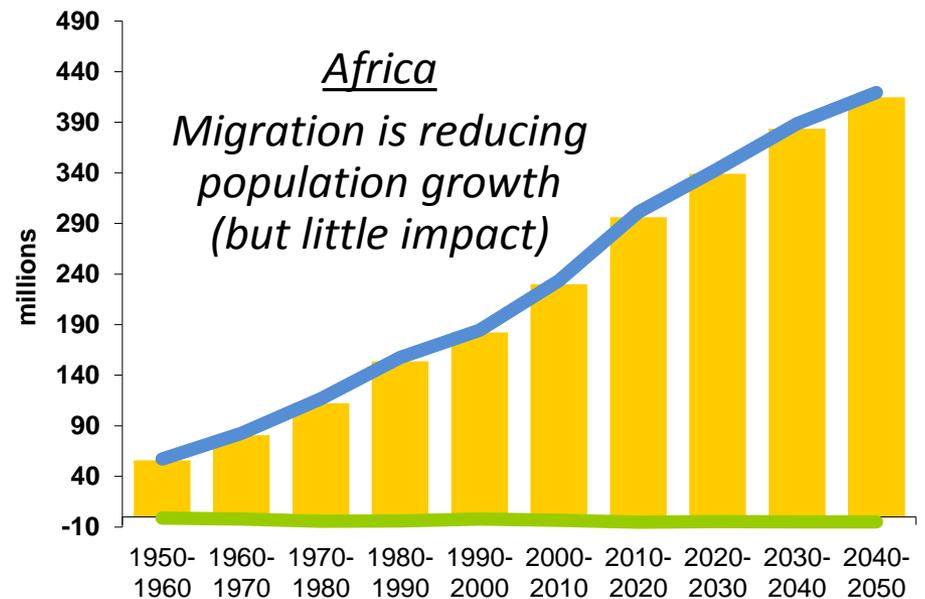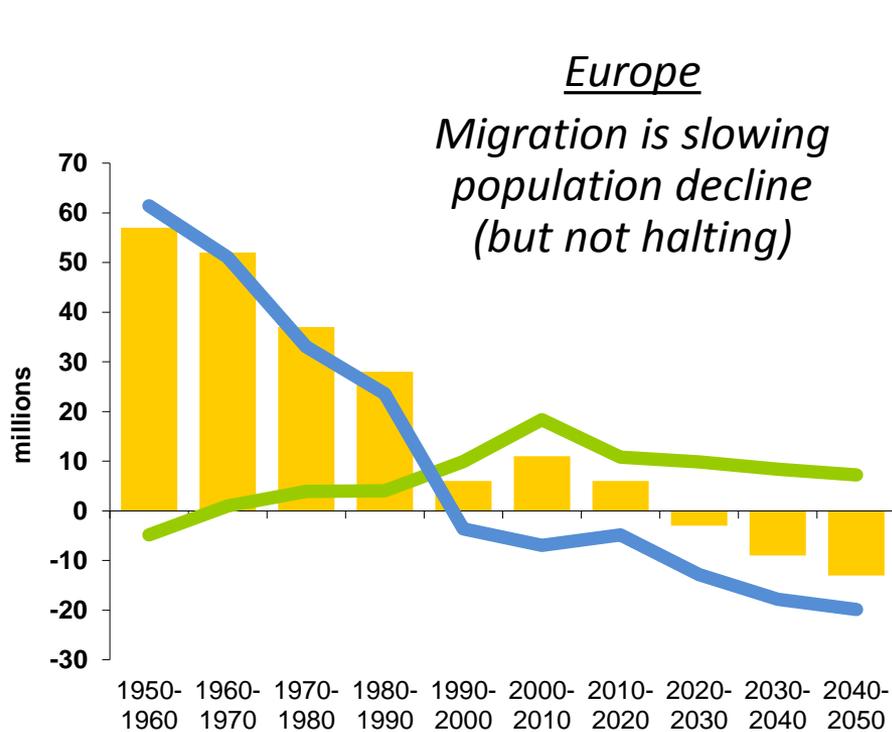
Legend:
- 🟨 Total net population change
- 🟩 Net international migration
- 🟦 Natural change

Change in working age population according to projection scenario, 2015-2050

Change in working age population according to projection scenario, 2015-2050

Legend: ■ Medium variant ■ Zero net migration

Categories: Iraq, Sudan, Mauritania, State of Palestine, Yemen, Syrian Arab Republic, Egypt, Jordan, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon
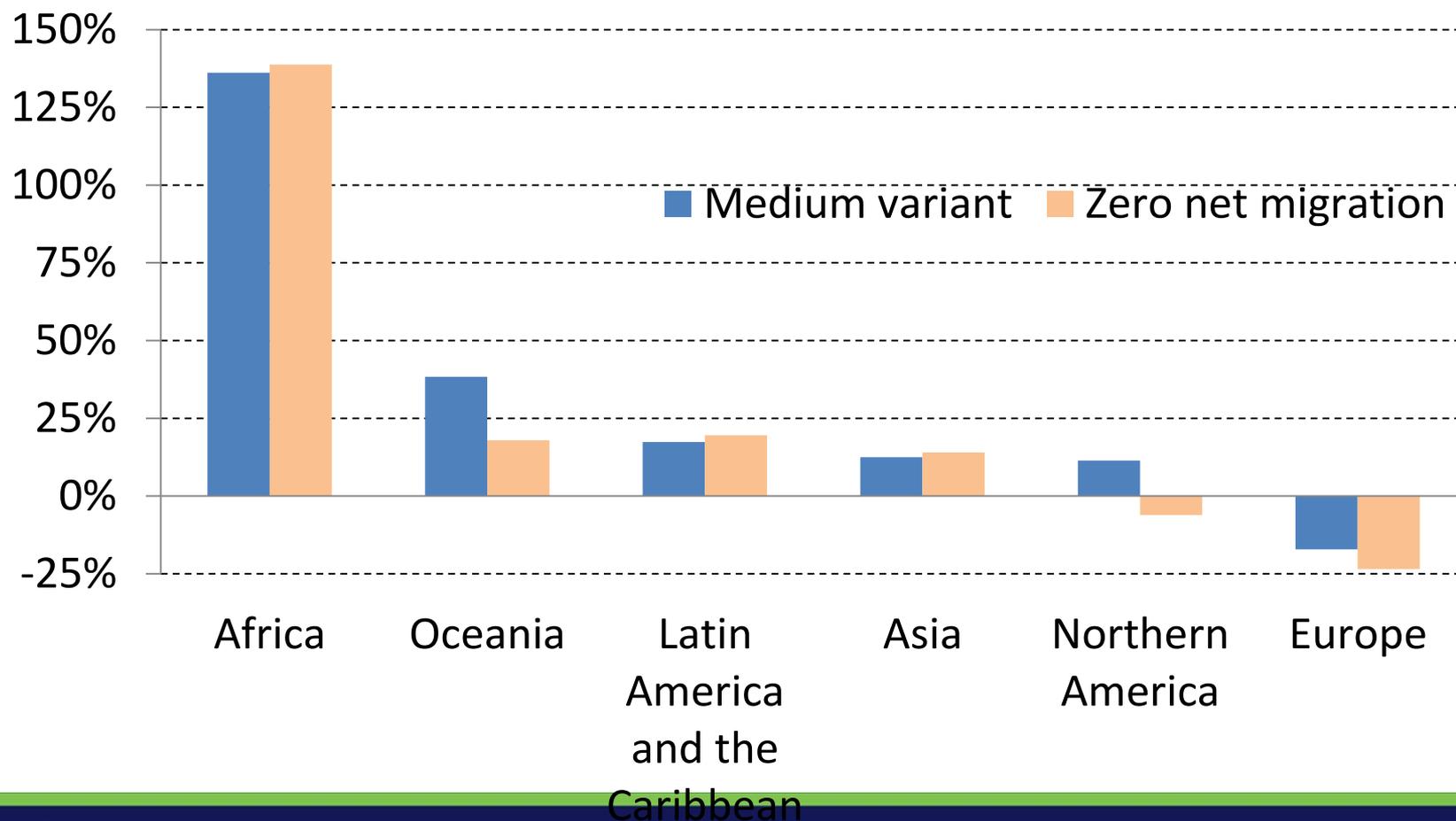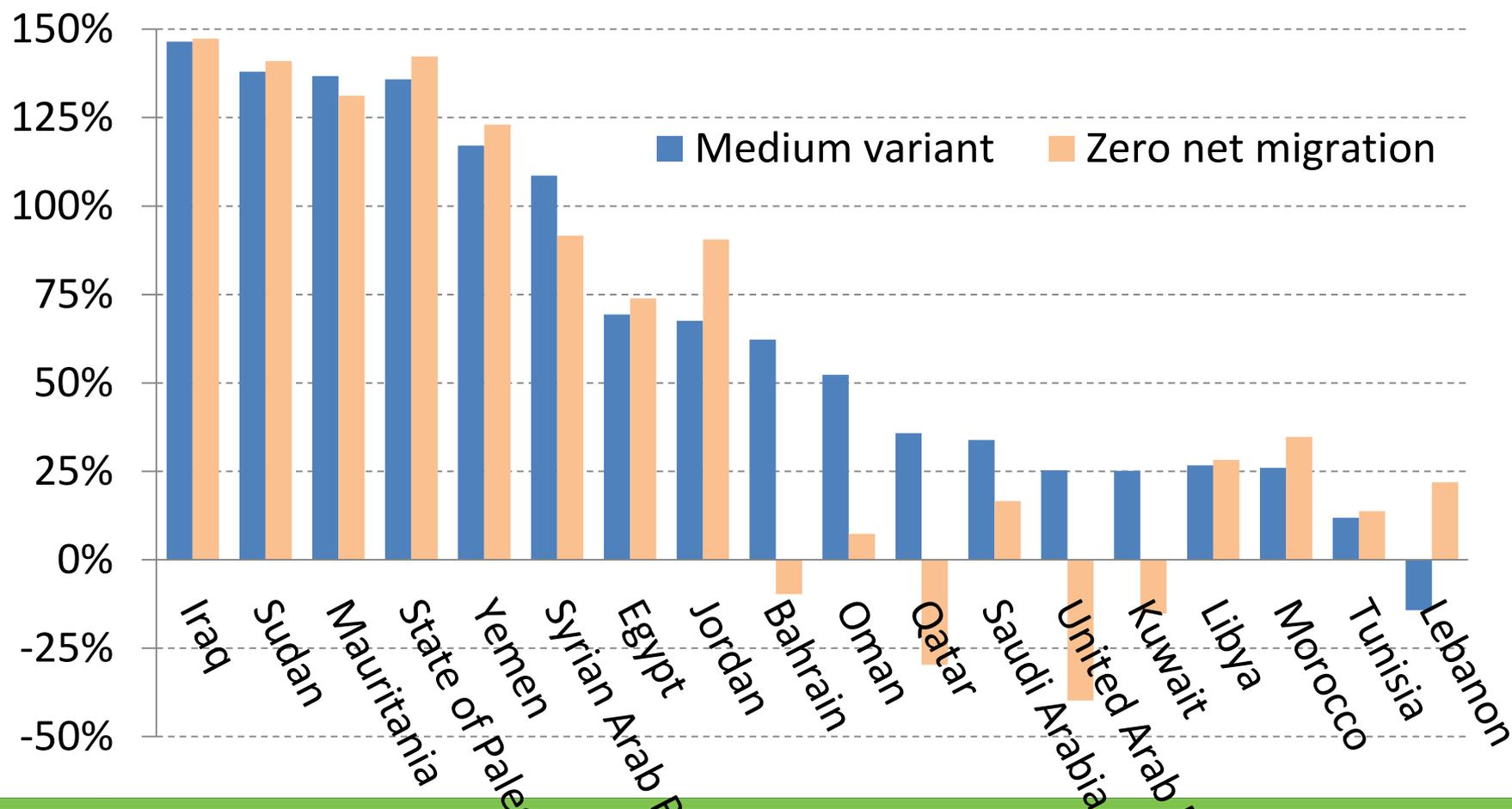
Who is an international migrant?

- Anyone who changes her/his country of residence
  - Part of this definition:
    - A physical move
    - Minimum duration of stay (1 year or more)
  - <u>Not</u> part of this definition:
    - Reason (work, family, study, asylum, etc.)
    - Legal status

- How to measure?
 - Foreign-born or foreign citizens in population census

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Number of international migrants

International migrant stock, 1990-2050 (millions)
Proportion of international migrants in total population
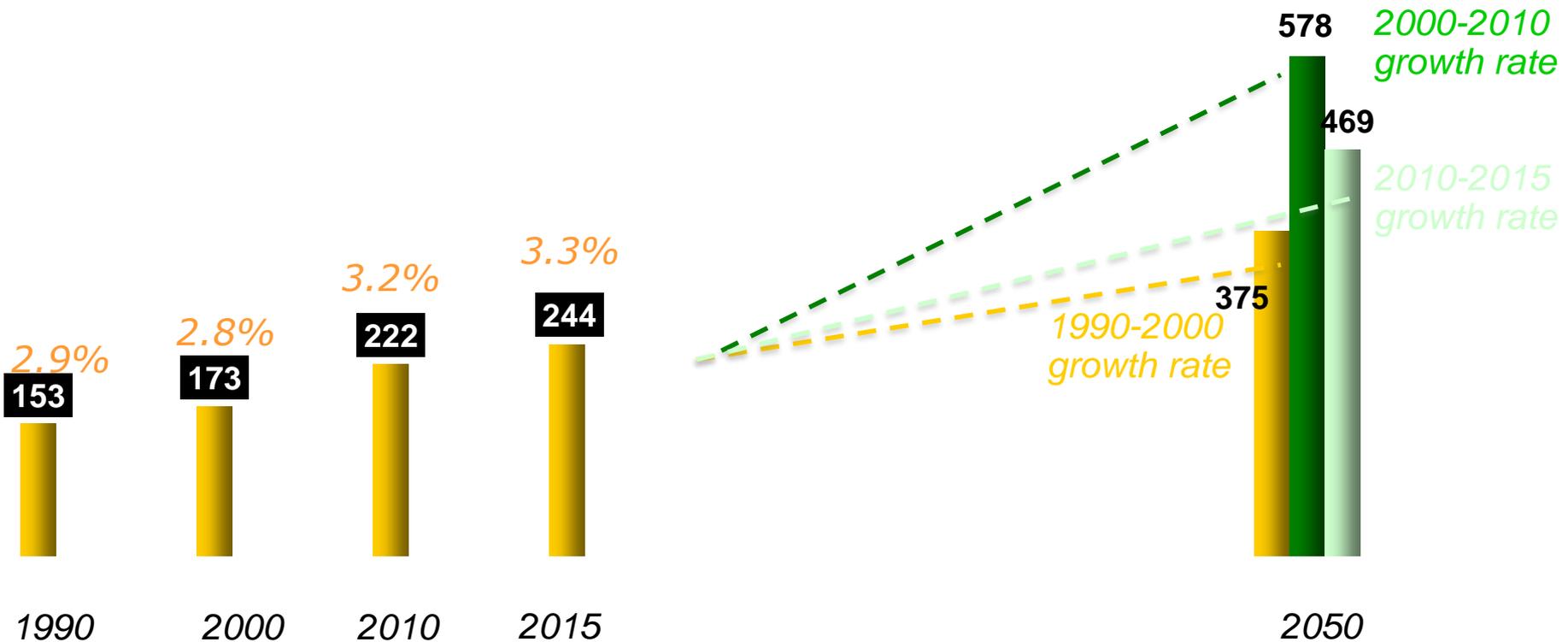
2000-2010 growth rate

2010-2015 growth rate

1990-2000 growth rate

2.9%   153   1990
2.8%   173   2000
3.2%   222   2010
3.3%   244   2015

375   578   469   2050

Who is a refugee?

(1951 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees)

- **Refugee definition (art. 1)**
  - well-founded fear of being persecuted
  - For reasons related to race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion
  - outside country of nationality and unable to return
- **Non-refoulement (art. 33)**
  - No country shall expel or return ('refouler') a refugee to a territory where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion
- **How to measure**
  - Administrative records (refugee registration, asylum applications)
 - Population census (reasons for migration)

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Responsibility sharing for refugees

Ratio of refugee population to gross domestic product per capita (PPPs)
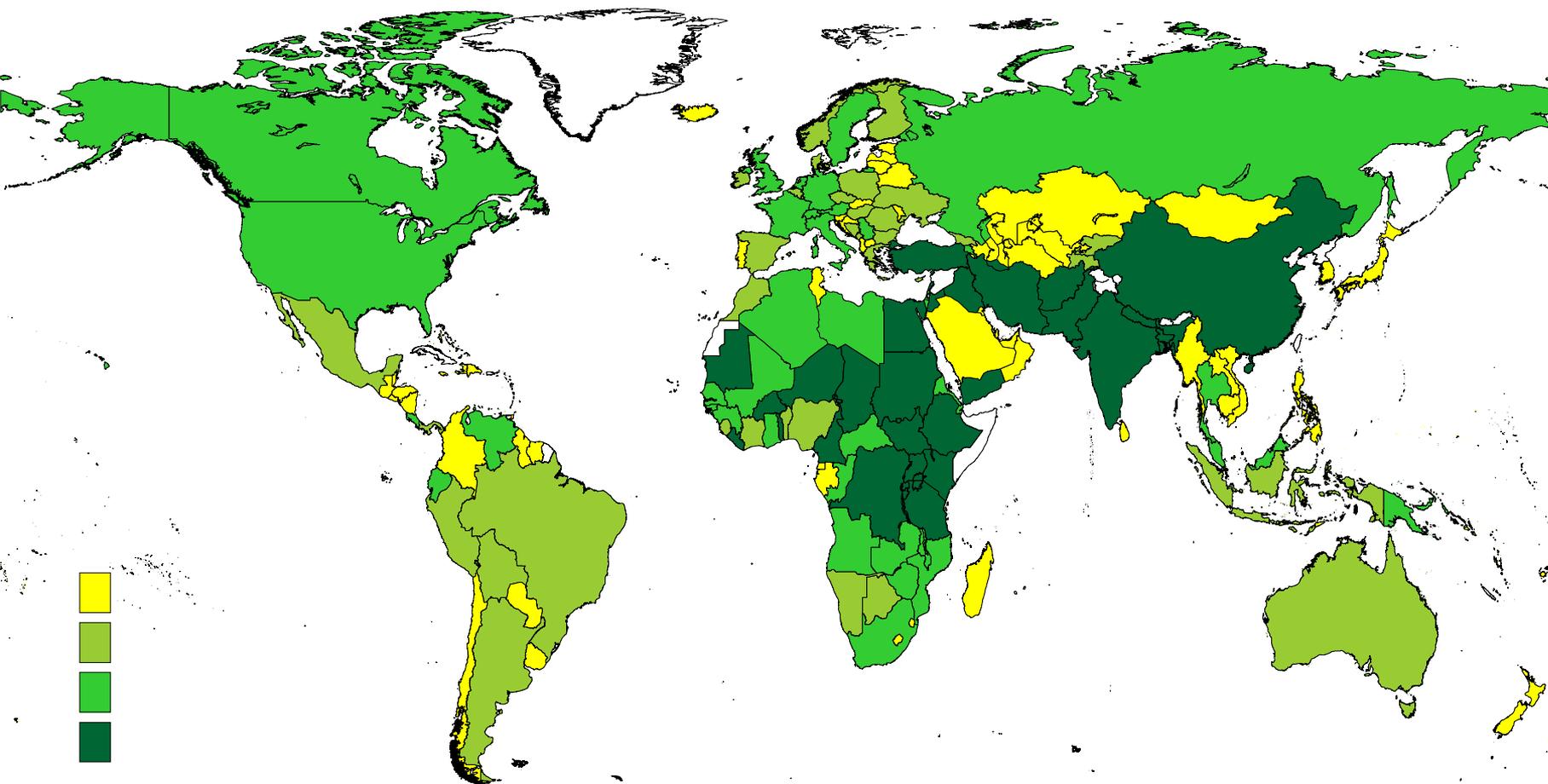
Migration and development: Key opportunities

Remittances

- $414 billion to developing countries (officially recorded, >3x ODA)
- Invested in human capital (health, education, etc.)
- Financial inclusion, small business creation

Diaspora contributions to countries of origin

- Temporary, long-term or virtual "return" of diaspora
- Transfer of knowledge and skills, trade, FDI
- "Brain gain"

Contribution to destination countries

- Contribution to filling labour market shortages
- Reduced dependency ratios
- Entrepreneurship, job creation

Ratification of relevant conventions reflects policy priorities of Member States
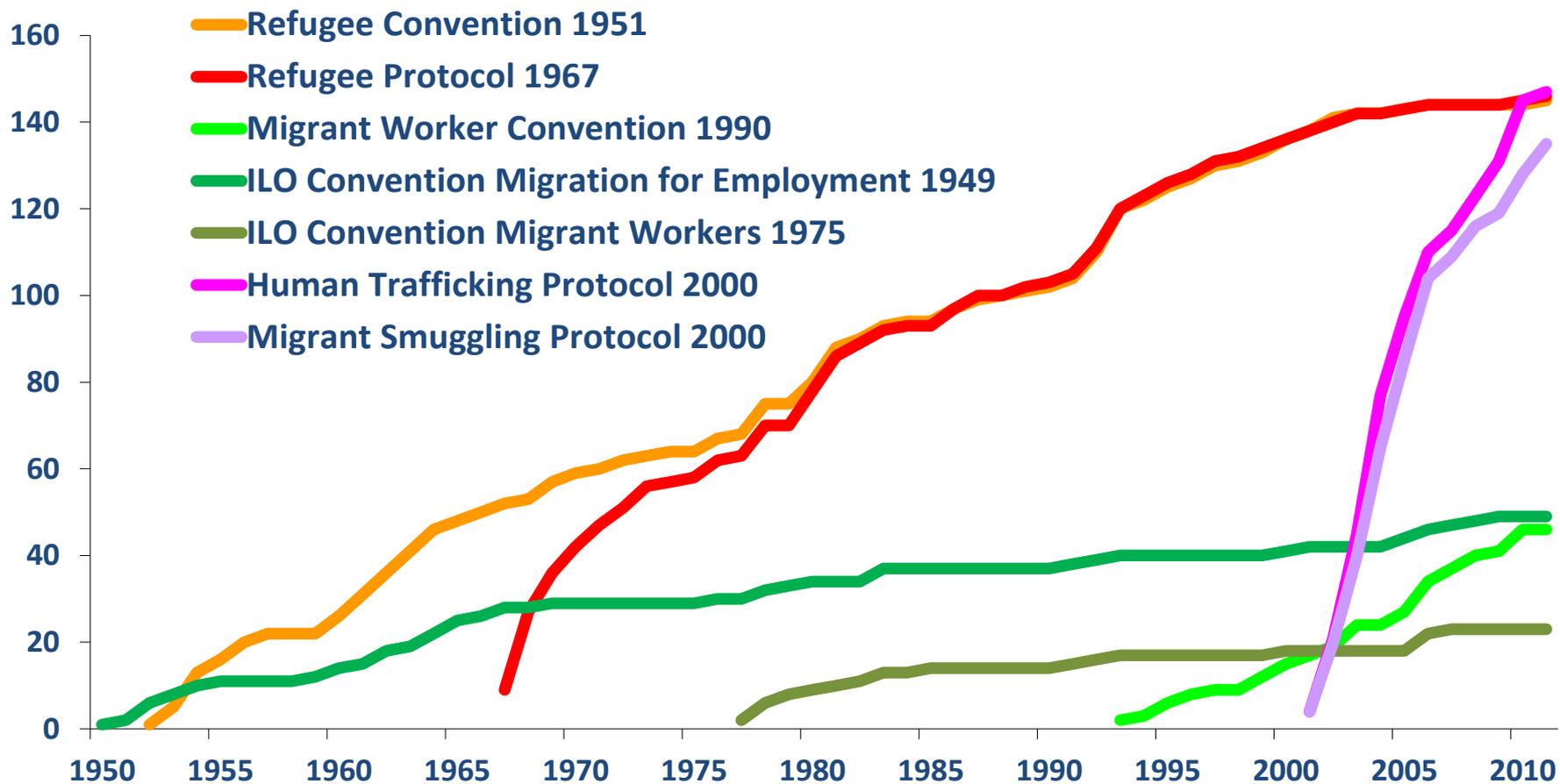
Legend:
- Refugee Convention 1951
- Refugee Protocol 1967
- Migrant Worker Convention 1990
- ILO Convention Migration for Employment 1949
- ILO Convention Migrant Workers 1975
- Human Trafficking Protocol 2000
- Migrant Smuggling Protocol 2000

Migration in the 2030 Agenda
(10 out of 169 targets are "migration-related")

Figure 2. Migration in the sustainable development goals and targets

- Strengthen and retain the health workforce in developing countries (3.c)

- Increase the number scholarships for study abroad (4.b)

- Eradicate human trafficking (5.2, 8.7, 16.2)
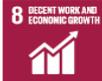
- Protect labour rights of migrant workers (8.8)

- Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration (10.7)
  Reduce transaction costs of remittances (10.c)

- Establish legal identity, including through birth registration (16.9)

- Disaggregate data by migratory status (17.18)

Figure 3. Migration in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda

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TIME FOR GLOBAL ACTION

➢ Combat xenophobia

➢ Facilitate integration through education and communication strategies

➢ Lower the cost of recruiting migrant workers

➢ Increase portability of earned benefits and recognition of qualifications

➢ Promote faster, cheaper and safer transfer of remittances

➢ Enhance the productive use of remittances

➢ Mitigate negative consequences of anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing measures

New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants Annex II

- Content of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration (24 indicative elements) ("What")
  - Interrelationships with development, opportunities, drivers, contributions, safe, orderly and regular migration, well-managed migration policies, international cooperation, impacts on human capital, remittances, human rights of migrants, migrants in vulnerable situations, border control, human trafficking and migrant smuggling, irregular migration, migrants in countries in crisis, inclusion and access to basic services, regularization, labour rights and working conditions, migrant responsibilities, return and readmission, diasporas, racism and xenophobia, data disaggregation, portability

Next steps ("Who" and "How")

1. Create inter-ministerial task force to develop coherent national position and support negotiations

2. Launch information campaign involving stakeholders (NGOs, private sector, academia, migrants, etc.)

3. Develop implementation plan

   a) Accountability framework (identify policy priorities, formulate goals and targets, collect data, report against benchmarks)

   b) How to strengthen national institutions and what is the role of international cooperation?

   c) How to strengthen migration data and research?