

MIGNEX End-User Panel survey 1

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Overview of the End-User Panel

The MIGNEX End-User Panel (EUP) was conceived as a means to ensure relevance of MIGNEX research to the potential end audience, including the policy community, academia, civil society and private sector, and to disseminate the research to end users. The panel – expected to be around 100-150 members at any one time – are asked to participate in an annual survey and have the opportunity to vote on topics to be covered in MIGNEX publications.

We began recruiting for the EUP in March 2019, through various channels including word of mouth and social media. EUP candidates applied via the MIGNEX website, and those who fulfilled the membership criteria – that ‘new knowledge on migration and development is potentially relevant to your job’ – were accepted on the panel. Recruitment for the EUP is ongoing.

As of the 31st July 2019, there were 134 applications to the EUP, 126 of which fulfilled the criteria and were accepted (an acceptance rate of 94%).

In July 2019, the first annual survey (the baseline survey) was sent to members of the EUP. In this report, both the composition of the EUP (as of the 31st July 2019) and the results of the baseline survey are summarised.

Composition of the EUP

Geographical spread

Half of the EUP work in just five countries: the UK (16%), Germany, (12%), USA (9%), Ghana (7%) and Belgium (7%). 70% work in the ‘Global North,’ compared to 30% in the ‘Global South’

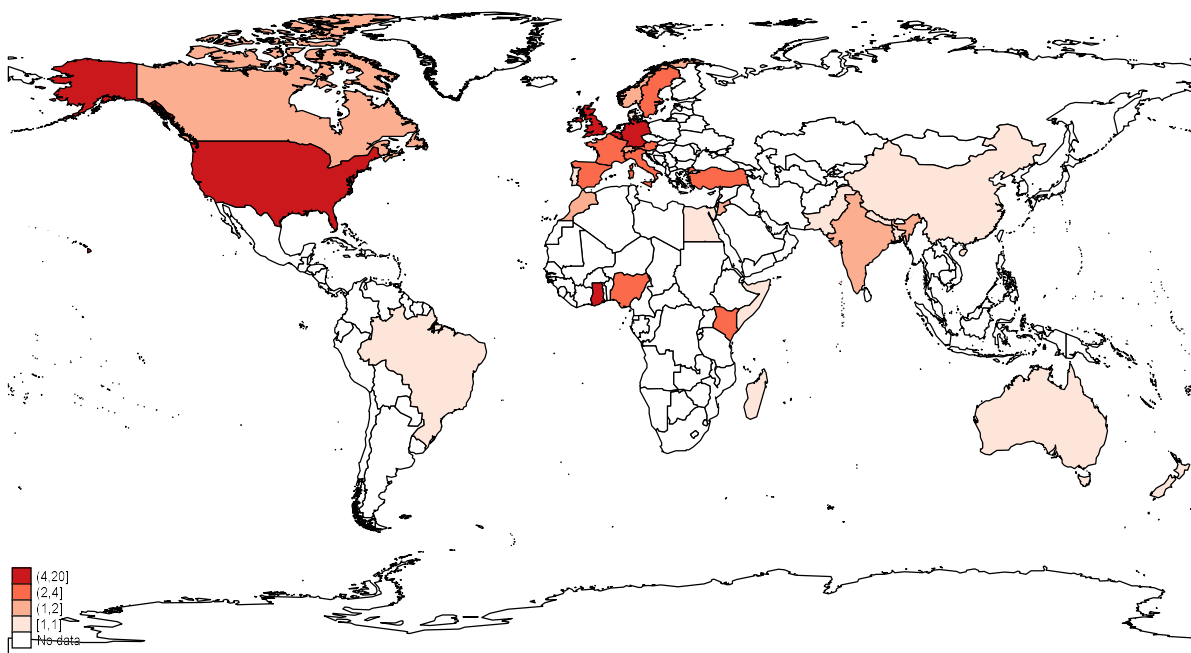


Figure 1: Where do you work?

Note: the scale refers to ranges, e.g. (4, 20) means 4-20 respondents work in this country.

Sector and job role

Nearly half of the EUP work in academia. Of these, just less than half are at institutions located in the 'Global South' – notably 10% of those working in academia are associated with the University of Ghana (including the Centre for Migration Studies). 36% of those working in academia stated their job title was either (assistant) professor or lecturer, and 30% PhD student.

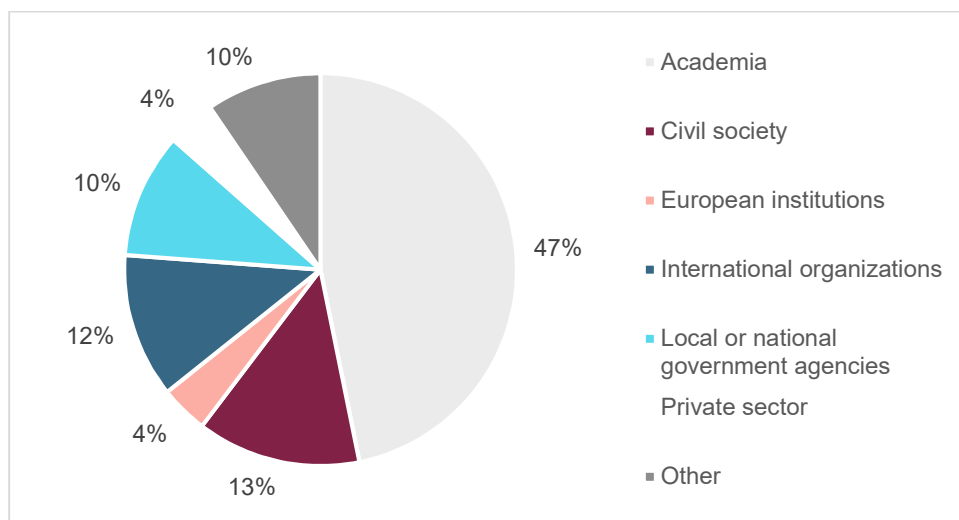


Figure 2: What sector do you work in?

Of the 13 working in local or national government, four of these work in German agencies (three in GIZ, one from BAMF) and three in Swedish agencies (two from DELMI and one from the Swedish Migration Agency). Additionally, the EUP includes one government representative from the UK, Netherlands (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Norway, Nigeria, Morocco and Austria (Federal Ministry of the Interior). A further five EUP members work for EU institutions, three for DG NEAR in the European Commission.

15 of the EUP work for International Organisations, including IOM related agencies (40%), the World Bank (20%) and UN DESA (13%).

The 29 members who specified working in 'civil society' or 'other' include several key actors in the migration and/or development space, including Amnesty International, Oxfam International, Centre for Global Development, European Centre for Development Policy Management and Migration Policy Institute.

End-User Panel baseline survey

The baseline survey was created on online survey platform SurveyMonkey and distributed to the 126 EUP members via email at the beginning of July 2019, with two reminder emails to those who had not yet responded.

Of the 126 EUP members, 68 responded to the baseline survey, meaning a response rate of 54%.

How did you find out about MIGNEX?

The majority of respondents (43%) heard about MIGNEX through social media (including LinkedIn). 21% heard about MIGNEX through a MIGNEX team member, and a further 15% heard about MIGNEX through word of mouth. 13% heard about MIGNEX through a partner website.

Areas of interest

Respondents were asked to specify both their country and thematic areas of interest.

81% of respondents stated they were interested in Europe as an area of interest. Out of the 10 countries MIGNEX will be conducting fieldwork in, respondents were most interested in Ghana (53% - perhaps reflecting the strong Ghanaian presence in our EUP), Nigeria (53%), Tunisia (50%), Ethiopia (47%), and

Turkey (44%). Respondents were least interested in Cabo Verde (15%), meanwhile 28% of respondents were interested in Afghanistan or Guinea and 40% in Somalia.

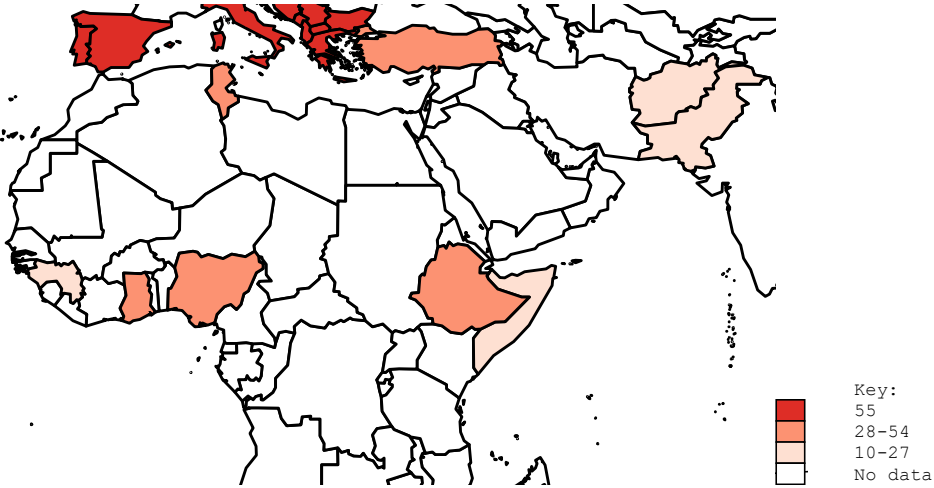


Figure 3: Countries of interest

Note: key refers to range, e.g. 28-54 respondents are interested in this country. 10 respondents stated an interest in Cabo Verde.

When asked about their main thematic areas of interest, the majority of respondents were interested in migration-related policy (85%), migration drivers (74%) and migration impacts of development (72%). Respondents were least interested in project management (26% respondents) reflecting the strong representation of policy-makers and academics in the EUP.

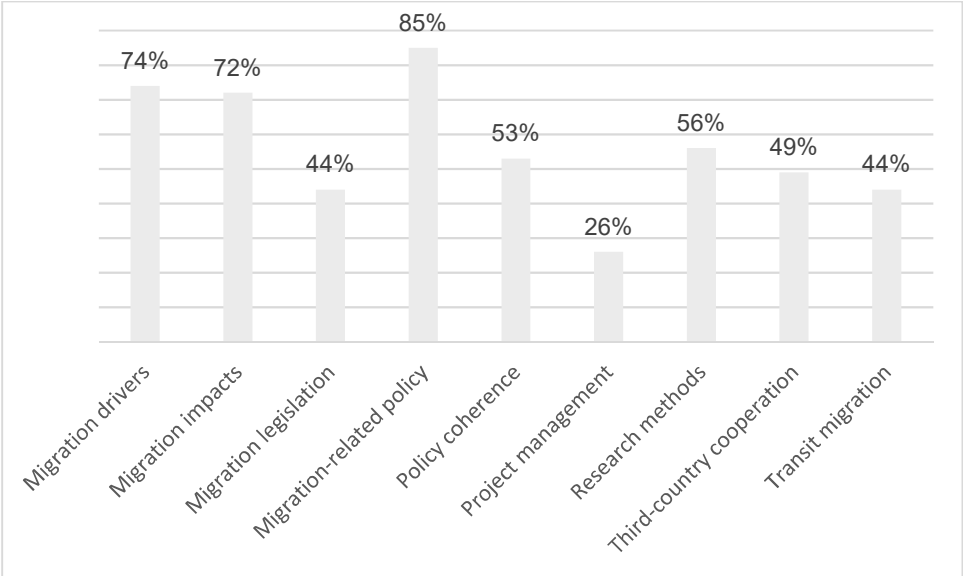


Figure 4: Thematic areas of interest

Current views migration and development nexus

Respondents were asked their views on the impact of development on migration and migration on development.

The majority of respondents (62%) stated that the impact of development on migration depends, with 28% stating it leads to more migration, and 9% that it leads to less migration.

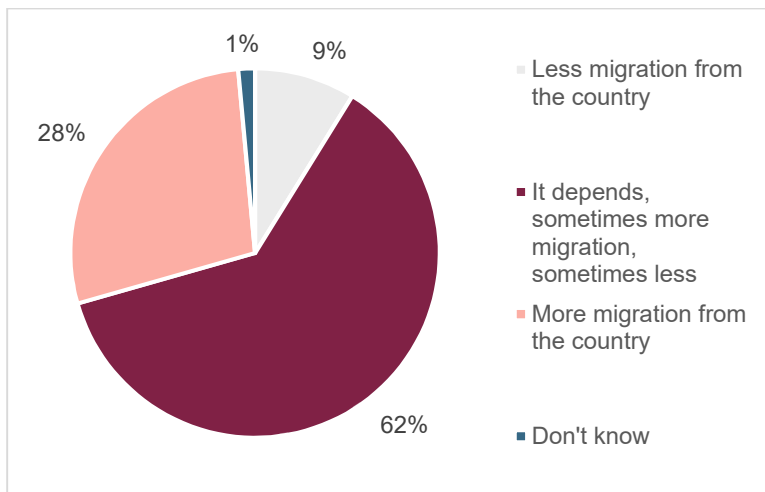


Figure 5: What do you think that development in countries of origin generally leads to?

Those who answered 'it depends' were then able to specify which factors they felt were relevant to the relationship between development and migration, see factors in Figure X. A country's level of development was found to be the most important factor, followed by the demographic characteristics of a population, the type of development and lastly migration policies. Additionally, seven respondents gave extra answers noting additional relevant factors: the type of migration (regular v irregular/ skilled v unskilled), diaspora policy, social norms and culture of migration, education levels, climate crises, institutional development.

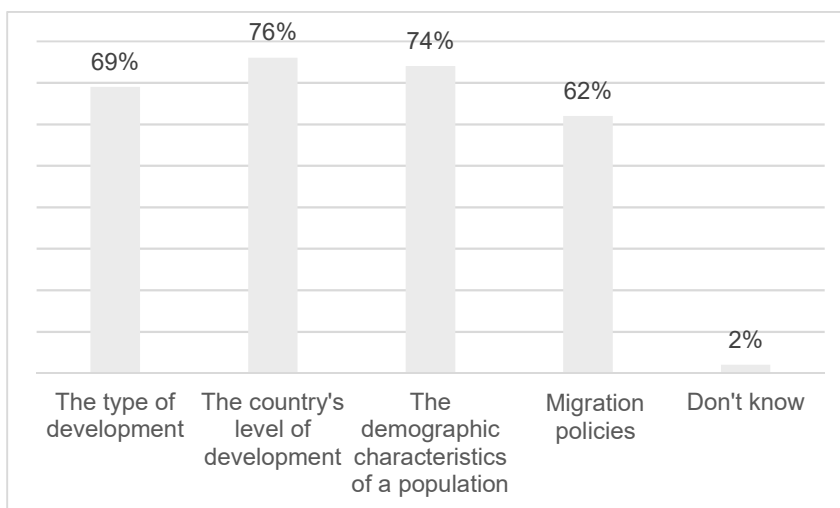


Figure 6: What does the migration impact of development depend on?

An even greater majority (79%) of respondents also stated that the impact of out-migration on development in countries of origin depends, with 7% stating a negative impact, and 13% a positive impact.

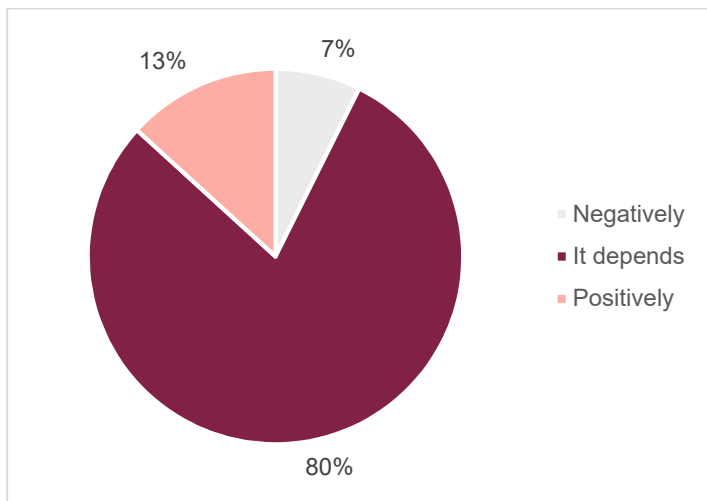


Figure 7: What does the development impact of migration depend on?

Those who answered ‘it depends’ were also asked what factors the development impact of migration depends on, as listed in Figure X. The characteristics of migrants was found to be the most important determining factor, followed by the characteristics of the country, the amount of remittances sent and on the policies in the country. 17 respondents gave additional factors. Eight mentioned policies, economic/ social embeddedness (e.g. minimum wages, access to health or social protection), skills recognition or opportunities in countries of destination. Seven mentioned the situation in countries of origin, through remittances, transfer of skills to countries of origin. Diaspora engagement or extent of transnational ties between migrants and countries of origin were highlighted by three respondents.

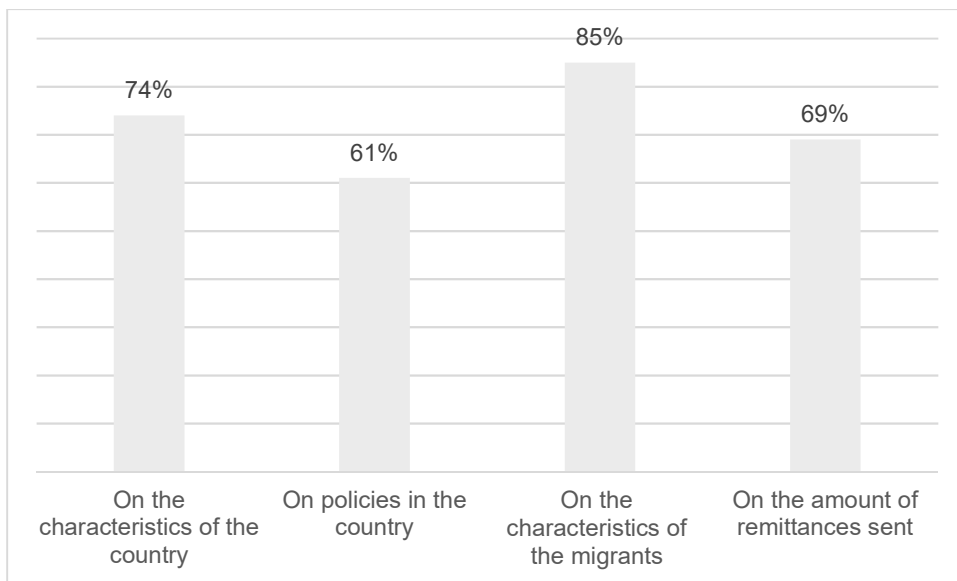


Figure 8: What does the development impact of migration depend on?

Regarding the role of policy and migration, 61% state that European policy should not seek to reduce migration in countries of origin, whilst 19% stated they are a good idea but unlikely to have an effect, and only 9% noting it should be a priority in development cooperation.

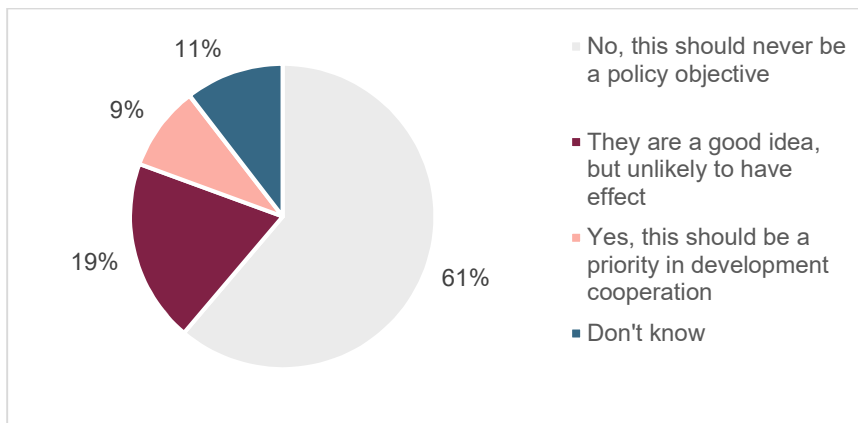


Figure 8: Should European policy seek to reduce migration in countries of origin?

72% stated that migration policies can both stop and encourage migration flows, with only one respondent stating that migration policies can stop migration from happening, whilst 7% notes migration policies can encourage migration. A final 13% noted they can't influence migration flows:

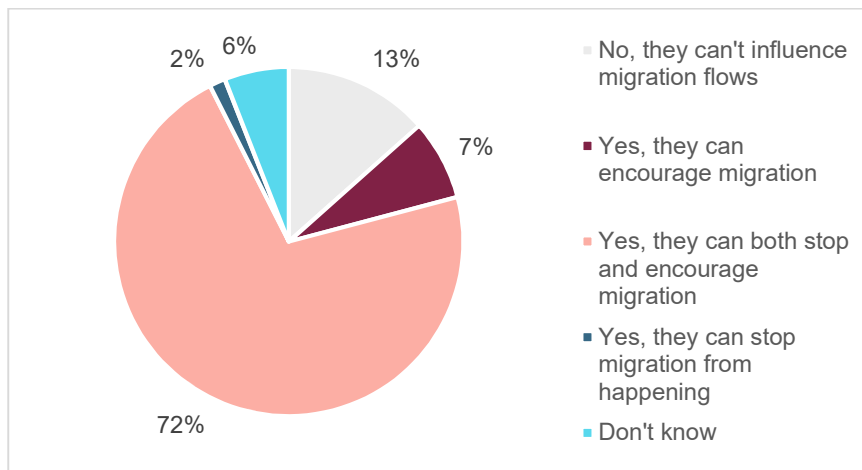


Figure 9: Can migration policies influence migration flows?

Views on MIGNEX

Respondents were also asked what they perceive to be the most valuable aspects of MIGNEX. Over 80% of respondents felt the two most valuable aspects of MIGNEX are generation of empirical evidence and cross-country analyses. The full results are summarised in table 1

Table 1: What are the most valuable aspects of MIGNEX?

What are the most valuable aspects of MIGNEX?	
Empirical evidence	87%
Country specific analyses	62%
Analyses across multiple countries	84%
Summarising key evidence in the field	69%
Thought or opinion pieces	41%
Multimedia such as videos or podcasts	31%
Convening debate through policy events	51%
Targeted stakeholder engagement	47%

Respondents were then asked about their previous and future use of MIGNEX outputs. All but one respondent stated they planned to use MIGNEX outputs in the future, whilst 31% stated they had already used MIGNEX outputs, even at this early stage of the project.

Of those who had already used MIGNEX outputs (21 respondents), the majority had read outputs, whilst around a third had shared outputs on social media and/or distributed outputs/ mentioned findings to colleagues, see table 2.

Table 2: How have you already used MIGNEX outputs?

How have you already used MIGNEX outputs?	
Read outputs	91%
Shared outputs on social media	29%
Reference or cited MIGNEX findings in own outputs	14%
Distributed outputs to colleagues	38%
Mentioned findings to colleagues	29%

Finally, respondents were asked how MIGNEX outputs could be more useful. Several useful suggestions were made. Firstly, several suggestions referred to the empirical outputs of MIGNEX, for instance suggesting that outputs, including datasets, are open access and easy to use (e.g. well-defined variables, details on theoretical framing).

Secondly, respondents suggested to have a variety of different outputs in order to reach many audiences, including podcasts, targeted knowledge pieces, blogs, policy papers, data-based articles, infographics, and ‘pocket sized executive summaries.’

The remainder of suggestions referred to sharing MIGNEX outputs, ensuring wide distribution to stakeholders and policymakers. Suggestions included translating research into policy messages for policymakers, and incorporating stakeholders throughout the research process.

Some examples of feedback are shared below.

How could MIGNEX outputs be more useful?

Keep doing what you're doing! i.e. Maintain a variety of output forms (blogs, policy papers, data-based articles, infographics) to reach different audiences. Make events accessible to online participants. Keep up the social media presence.

Through producing implementable policies for politicians, and through incorporating policymakers to the research process!

Targeted sharing, fast delivery, follow up peer review sessions and discussion of results with local experts.
Pocket size publications of executive summaries.