



Spanish Presidency of the EU, Ministry of Health and Social Policy

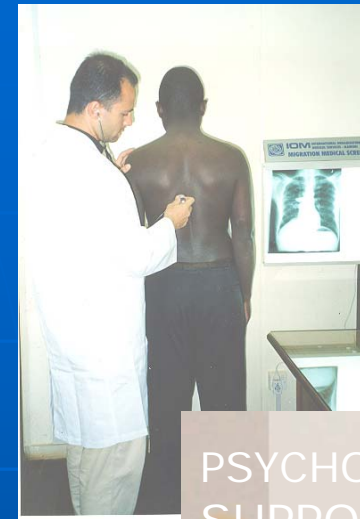
Experts' Conference "Moving Forward Equity in Health"

Madrid, 21 April 2010

Health equity and Migration



IOM is an intergovernmental body with 127 Member States with 445 field locations globally, committed to principle that well managed migration benefits migrants and societies



PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT TO GROUPS OF VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN TRANSIT SITUATIONS

Migration Health

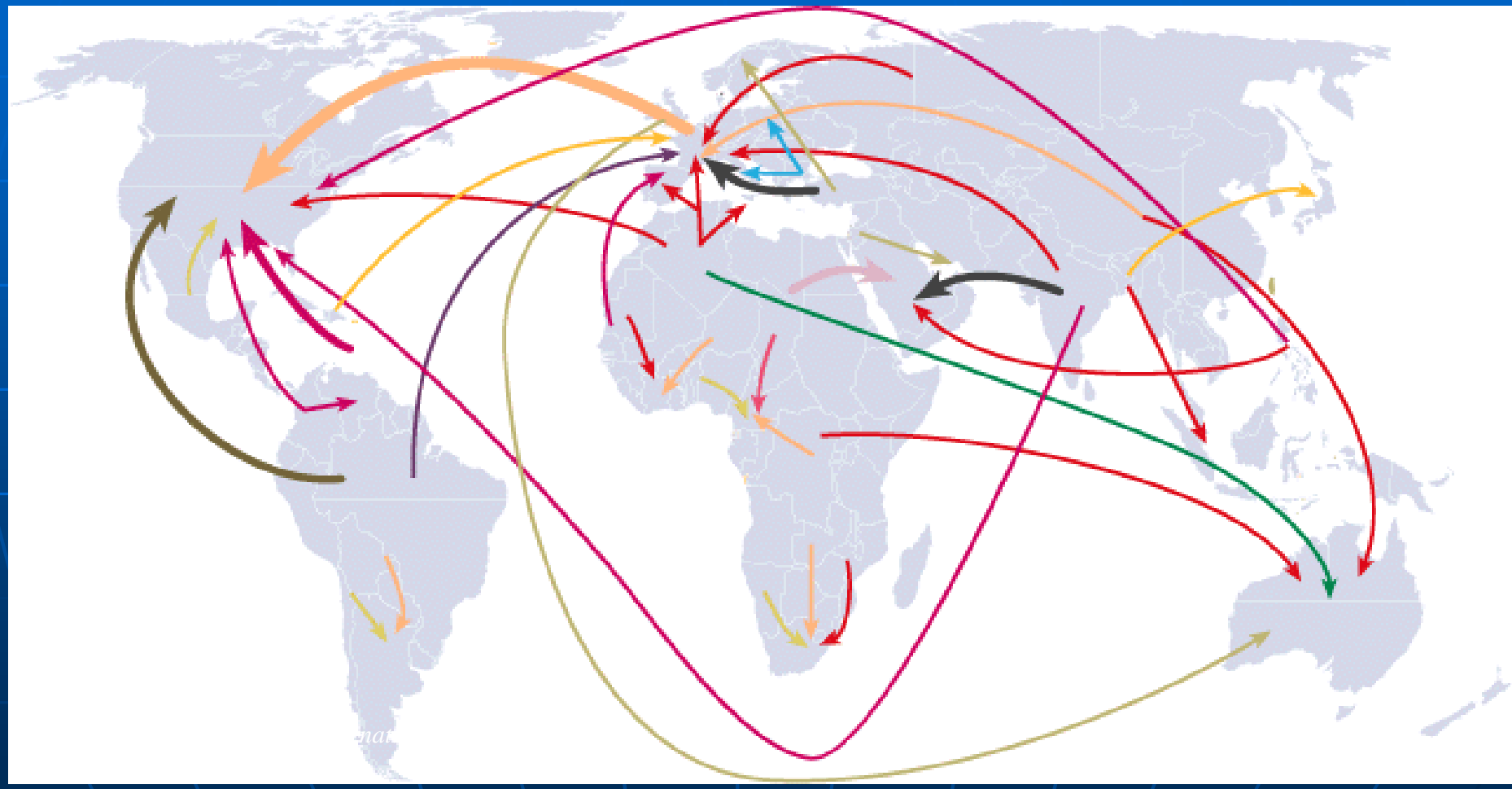
...addresses

the physical, mental and social needs of migrants and the public health needs of hosting communities



Why... migration?

1960 - 1975



A few decades later : 212 M international migrants - World's 5th biggest country

740 M Internal migrants(UNDP 2009)



Realms of mobility ?

Highly-Skilled Migration



Low- and Middle-Skilled Migration



Study Abroad

Irregular Migration
(10-15% of total flows*)



Tourism

Refugees,
Asylum Seekers



Internal Migration

Family Migration



Reasons behind migration trends?

Pull and push" factors



- **Globalization:**
States have freed the movement of capital, goods and services – people will follow
- Enlarged Europe
- Ageing population
By 2050, the EU will have:
 - 48 million fewer 15-64 year olds
 - 58 million more above age 65
- Skill shortage
Environnemental/climate changes



- Emergencies
- **Inequalities**



...Why.... migrants?

51 M migrants in Western and Central Europe

~**8.9%** of the total population of the EU

~**2.3 to 8 M** irregular migrants in the EU, 1.5M in Russia

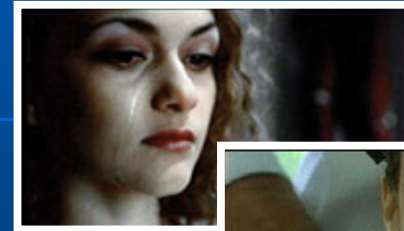
50% women, over represented in the most vulnerable

~**0.5 M** of trafficked women in the EU alone

1.7 M of refugees and asylum seekers

in 2006 mostly from Iraq, Serbia
and Montenegro,

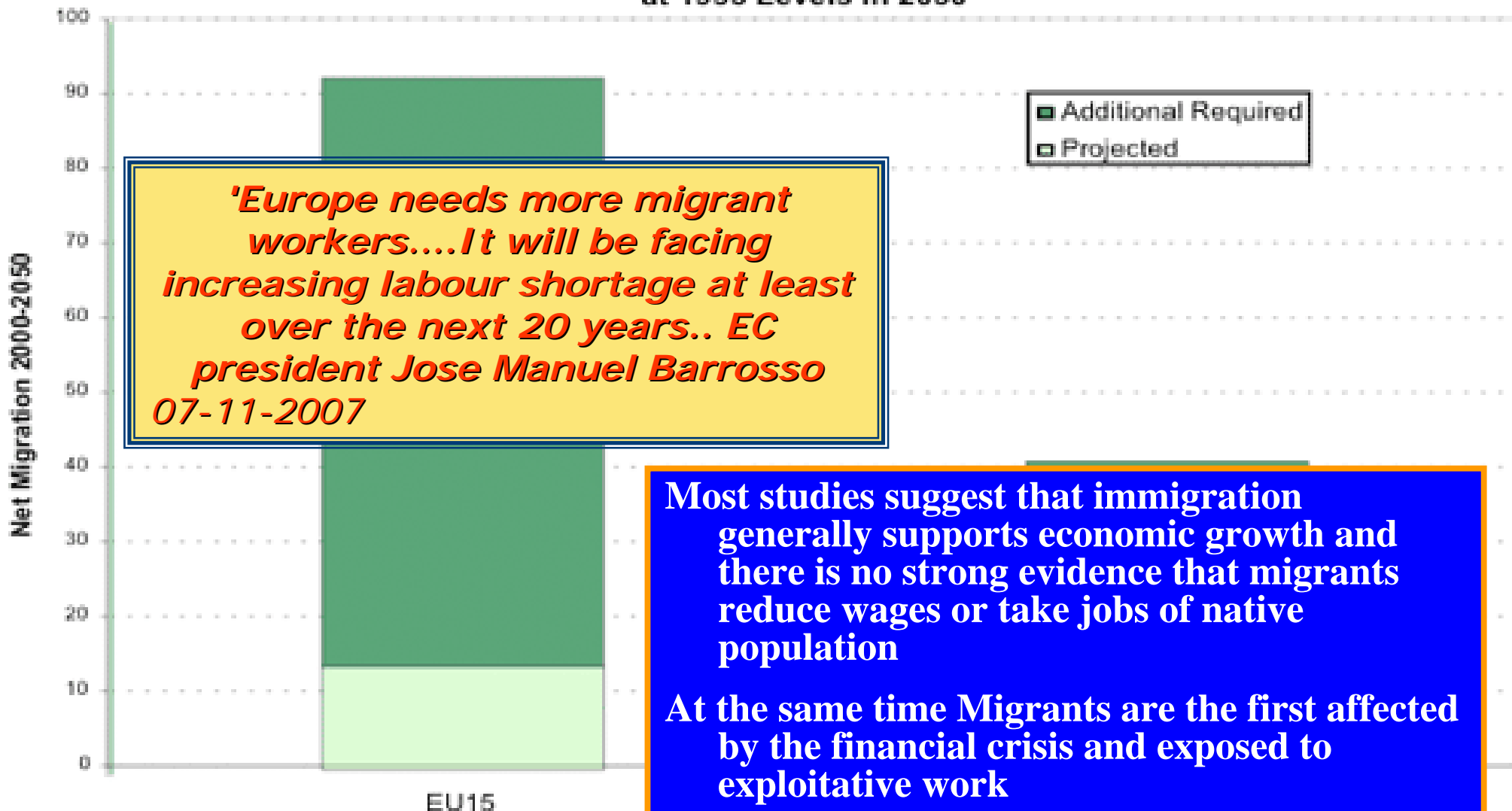
Russian Federation, Turkey,
Afghanistan and Iran



**No harmonized
EU
migration health
policy**

Why... migrants?

Additional Net Migration Required to Hold Working Age Population Constant at 1995 Levels in 2050



Source: World Bank Staff Estimates.

.... *Migration and Health of Migrants ?*

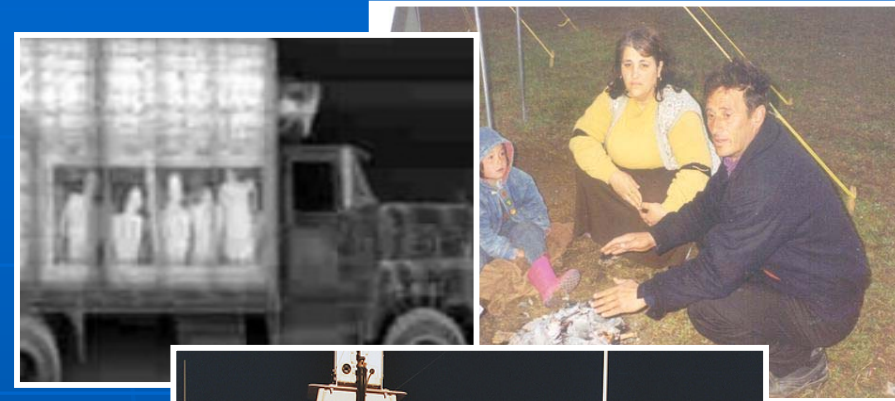
Migration is in and of itself not a risk-factor to health: *the circumstances surrounding the migration process can pose risks to health*

The nature of modern migration is such that poverty and social exclusion and resulting health consequences *disproportionately affect some migrants and migrant communities*

"Migrants are exposed to a range of health risks, as a result of legal, social, cultural, language and communication barriers, which may negatively affect their health and health seeking behavior when compared to that of the majority population in their host communities; the magnitude of the problem may actually be larger than what is apparent, as mental, psycho-social and other health problems are often neglected"

EU Consultation on Migration Health, Lisbon 2009

<http://www.migrant-health-europe.org/>

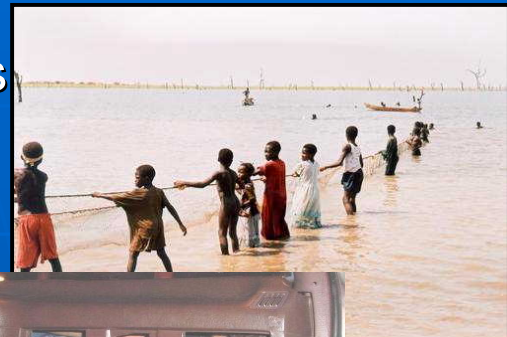
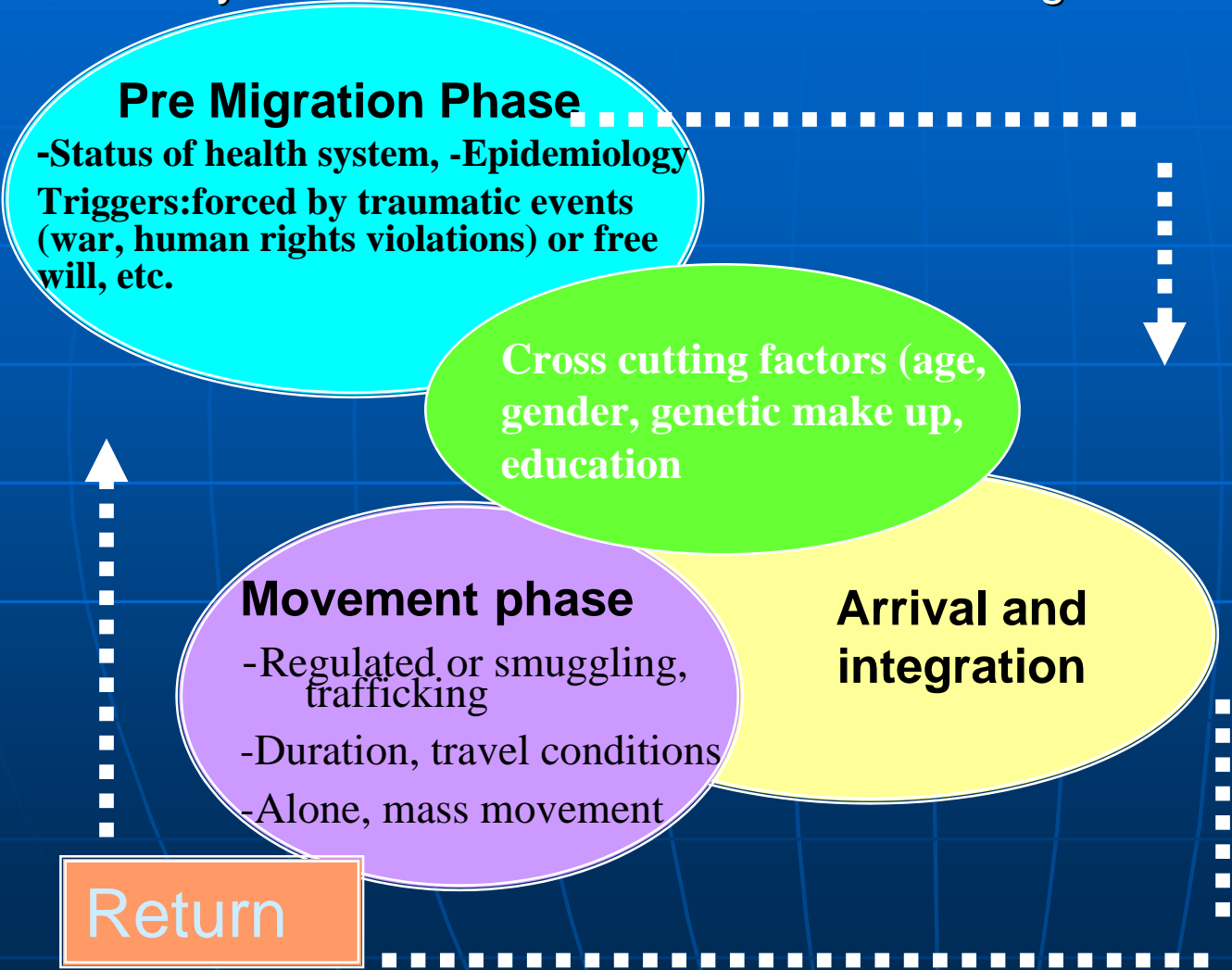


Somewhere close to us... 9

Migration Health Department

The migration process and the status of migrants: an additional layer to well-known determinants of health

Mobility functional framework: factors affecting health of migrants



Migrant's health profile



Arrival and Integration phase - Factors affecting health equity



- **Legal status**
- **Policies**
- **Accessibility, appropriateness, acceptability services**
- Disease prevalence in host community
- **Socio-economic status**
- **Discrimination**
- **Poverty**

Children/youth whether they have migrated with their parents or were born in the host country, **may be denied access to basic/adequate services, including health and education**, language difficulties being a compounding factor

GMG report 2008

ILO testing of labour market **discrimination** in several EU countries showed that discrimination is a significant **impediment to the employment** of immigrants and their children.

There are large and persistent gaps in the employment of immigrants **even for second generation youth**. *OECD report 2008*

At particular risk of social exclusion are irregular migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, children and single parent migrant families (specifically those headed by women)

Health of migrants ?

Some examples:

In Portugal, a study on maternal health in a sample of newborns demonstrated a higher maternal morbidity among immigrants compared to Portuguese population

<http://www.migrant-health-europe.org/background-papers/maternal-and-child-care.html>

Children and adolescents from families with a migratory background were found to be **more at risk in certain health-related areas** such as:

- higher prevalence of **overweight**, including obesity
- higher rate of **involvement in accidents**
- lower rate of utilization of **physical examinations**
- more **problems of psychological adjustment and less satisfaction with life**

<http://www.euro.who.int/socialdeterminants/hbsc/20081107>

-coverage with routine immunization against preventable childhood diseases is lower in children in some migrant populations.

http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/Publications/0907_TER_Migrant_health_Background_note.pdf



Health Equity and Migration?

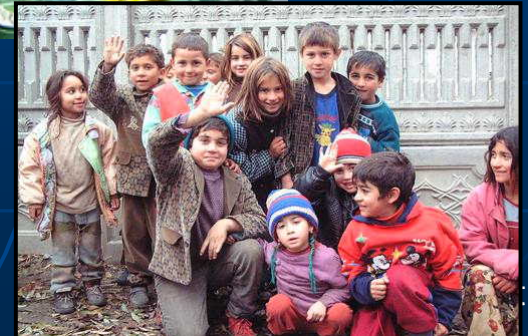
Migration necessary and unavoidable phenomenon

- Win-win situation: recognizing migration as an opportunity, the developmental dimension of migration : migrants contributions in both sources and host countries.

Migrants' increased health vulnerability due to variety of determinants and lack of /inadequate access to health care

Conclusions of Portuguese presidency.

Addressing the health of migrants ...
not only **as a humanitarian cause**,
but moreover as a **need for attainment
of the best level of health and well-
being for everybody living in the EU.**





Recommendations from the
IOM/Gvt of Portugal EU-Level Consultation on Migration Health Lisbon, 2009
Within the framework of the EC co-funded project AMAC

- *Multi-sectoral policies and affirmative action to recognise and address the inequalities faced by migrants;*
- *Improve health care access and quality, as well as health literacy, for all the EU population including migrants and ensure participatory design of policies and programmes targeted to their concrete health needs and specificities;*
- *Capacity building and specialized training for an European health workforce more aware to different cultures and diversity;*
- *Invest in migrant children who make up the future of Europe through innovative strategies and holistic multi-sectorial policies adaptable to different groups and situations, which can be monitored and evaluated over time*
- *EU leadership to facilitate co-ordination within Member States and the development of common terminology, standards and codes of practice, as well as the promotion of comparable data collection and harmonisation; the establishment of a body that can oversee, harmonise and evaluate all EU interventions in this area[...]*



Health of Migrants, The Way Forward

Results of a Global Consultation on Migrant Health

**organized by WHO, IOM and the government of Spain, MoH and Social policy,
Madrid, March 2010**



**World Health
Organization**



IOM International Organization for Migration
OIM Organisation internationale pour les migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones



2008 :61st WHA Resolution on "the health of migrants"

- Migrant-sensitive health policies and equitable access to services;
- Capacity building of health service providers and professionals;
- Bi- and multi-lateral cooperation, intersectoral action [...]

2010 : Global Consultation on Migrant Health to:

- Take stock of actions by MS & Stakeholders
- Reach consensus on priority areas and strategies
- Initiate an operational framework to assist MS & stakeholders

The following Operational Framework synthesizes key priorities and related actions to guide stakeholders on the next steps towards implementation of the resolution:

Monitoring Migrant Health

To ensure the standardization and comparability of data on migrant health

To support the appropriate aggregation and assembling of migrant health information

To map good practices in monitoring migrant health, policy models, health system models [...]

Migrant sensitive health systems

To ensure that health services are delivered to migrants in a culturally and linguistically appropriate way

To enhance the capacity of the health and relevant non-health workforce to address the health issues associated with migration

To deliver migrant inclusive services in a comprehensive, coordinated, and financially sustainable fashion [...]

Policy- legal frameworks

To adopt relevant international standards on the protection of migrants and respect for rights to health in national law and practice

To implement national health policies that promote equal access to health services for all migrants

To extend social protections in health and improve social security for all migrants [...]

Partnerships, networks & multi country frameworks

To establish and support migration health dialogues and cooperation across sectors and among large cities and countries of origin, transit and destination

To address migrant health matters in global and regional consultative migration, economic and development processes (e.g. Global Forum on Migration and Development) [...]

An example of "good practice" ...?
How we thought over 28 centuries ago ...

*"Disguised as strangers
coming from other lands, the Gods indeed, in many forms, visit
the cities and check....*

the equity of humans."

Homer



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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