Sharing knowledge on linkages between water and outmigration from rural areas: Examples from Ethiopia and Nepal

Alan Nicol, Stockholm Water Week
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Outline

• The bigger picture
• Ethiopia experience
• Nepal/India Experience
• Examining the challenges
The bigger picture

• Global Compact for Migration 2018
• Fairly constant 3% of global population
• Contributing around 9% of global GDP
• Highly complex development (political) issue
• Of all African migrants up till 2016, roughly half (16 million) remained within the continent (FAO, 2017)
Ethiopia: Key challenges

• Structure of the economy
  ➢ Heavy reliance on rainfed agriculture

• Vulnerability to climate
  ➢ Increased uncertainties

• Education
  ➢ mismatch between needs / output

• Youth aspirations / limited employment

• Influence of cash economy

• Presence of ‘migration industry’
India/Nepal: Key challenges

- Duality in livelihood systems
- Farming plus major male outmigration
- Economic liberalization from 1980s onwards – demand for cash
- Changing patterns of consumption demand
- Supply side constraints in fragile agricultural systems
- Weighing up of risks and benefits by poor marginal farmers
- Women increasingly in charge of managing agricultural systems
The H2020 program examining the challenges:

- Economic, institutional, cultural and agroecological factors shaping interactions between migration and agricultural change.
- Governance interventions that can harness migration to stimulate sustainable and gender-equitable growth in agriculture and reduce distress associated with migration processes.
- Examining 19 landscapes in seven countries across Asia, Africa and Europe.
Thank you

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