

COMPAS Update No. 2

In October 2004 the ESRC on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) celebrated its first birthday. Already we have 10 major research projects underway, have completed several consultancies and yet more projects are planned for next year. This explains some of what has been happening since update no. 1 and what is currently being planned:

Events

- In September, COMPAS held two panels at the Metropolis Annual Conference: 'Co-operative Migration Management: International, National and Local Answers'. The first was: *Impact of EU Accession – What do we know so far?* and the second was entitled *'Migration and Development: Beyond Increasing Incomes'*. [Click here](#) for more information and presentation downloads.
- From January 2005 we will be commencing a weekly academic seminar series here in Oxford. The first series will be on the theme of: 'Contemporary International Migration – Key Issues'. This will bring together well established academics and practitioners to explore vital concerns, state-of-the-art knowledge and new approaches within migration studies today.
- COMPAS will run two panels at the 9th International Association for the study of Forced Migration (IASFM) Biennial Conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil. [Click here](#) for further information.

Research Highlights

- COMPAS is building extensive knowledge in the field of migration policy in Ireland: Martin Ruhs recently gave a presentation at the Management Board of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment in Dublin, Ireland (on "Managing the employment of non-EU nationals in Ireland") and has written a country profile on Ireland for the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) [Click here](#) to link to MPI's Information Source. COMPAS is also currently running a consultancy project for Atlantic Philanthropies, focussing on impact that NGOs have on policy making in Ireland. [Click here](#) for more information.
- '*Changing status, changing lives?*' is a research project focusing on the socio-economic impact of EU accession on low wage migrant labour in the UK. During Wave 1 researchers surveyed and interviewed employers, agencies, accession and non-accession state nationals before May 1st 2004 about their plans and how these will be affected by enlargement. Analysis of the data collected is now underway. Wave 2 begins in November and will follow up previous respondents and include a large scale mail survey sent to employers and diaries written by migrant workers.
- '*Informal Remittance Systems in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Countries*' is a consultancy project sponsored by the European Community's Poverty Reduction Programme. Research has focussed on informal remittance channels and role that these play in development. A full report will be published at the end of this year.
- The migration management programme has just completed a project for the Home Office comprising an overview of initiatives to promote integration of new migrants in relation to employment, housing, health, education and community relations. Sarah Spencer co-ordinated the project, with external contributors writing thematic sections of report, this will be published soon.

Publications

- There are now 6 working papers available. The last of which is by Nick Hear entitled '*I went as far as my money would take me: conflict, forced migration and class*'. [Click here](#) for more information.
- 'The contribution of UK-based diasporas to development and poverty reduction' has now been published. [Click here](#) to link to summary and to download the full report
- [Click here](#) to view a list of academic publication by staff since COMPAS started.

New grants

- The Joseph Rowntree Foundation Poverty and Disadvantage Committee are funding an extension to the project - '*Changing status, changing lives?* COMPAS programmes 2 and 5, are now undertaking research focussing on the impacts that EU enlargement will have on living and working conditions of low wage migrants. This new funding (approx. £88k) will therefore build on and extend data and analysis collected prior to enlargement, by comparing the consequences for legal and irregular migrants of being granted the economic and social rights of an EU national.
- The Joseph Rowntree Foundation Immigration and Inclusion Programme has awarded COMPAS £80,872 for a project on – '*Muslims and Community Cohesion in the UK*'. This will be an 18 month project that aims to identify the factors which contribute to or undermine community cohesion in two contrasting urban areas in which significant numbers of Muslim migrants and long term Muslim residents are living. This project crosses over programmes 3 and 5 and will be headed up by Steven Vertovec.

We hope you find these email updates useful. New contacts can [subscribe](#) to our mailing list on-line. If you wish to be taken off the list simply [click here](#) and enter your email address. If your email address changes then [click here](#).

With best wishes,

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