

Almeria Symposium

Closing Lecture

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Current Paradigms

- Causal linkages and lack of quantification of migration trends
- Barriers to inter-agency policy development in affected countries
- Lack of priority in foreign aid and multilateral negotiations

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- “The evidence for desertification causing migration in any straightforward way is somewhat limited. First, it is important to note that the concept of desertification itself has come under fire in recent years, particularly as availability of satellite images of the region has improved...If one accepts the argument that desertification itself is largely a myth, then it is not, perhaps, too great a step to suggest that desertification-induced migration is a myth too.”

Richard Black, 2001

Paradigm 1:

**Causal Linkages and
Lack of Quantification of
Migration Trends**

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- Exploitation of the data gap: why we need better numbers on these migrants

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- How do we improve our data development when research is largely under funded?

Paradigm 2:

Barriers to Inter-Agency
Policy Development and Coordination
in Affected Countries

Paradigm 3:

Lack of Priority in Foreign Aid
and Multilateral Negotiations

The Path Forward

- Focusing the Issue through the Policy Lens
 - Prevention and Precautionary Approach?
 - Mobilizing the science more broadly for education and training
 - Further bilateral and multilateral support

Another Framework for Action

Placing the Issue on
the Human Rights and Migration
Agendas

Migration as a benefit or disbenefit?



Right to Remain

