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No. 48
March 2026

The Discussion Paper series aims to disseminate research outputs (including the findings of work in progress) on development issues and development cooperation in the form of academic papers. For the sake of quick dissemination, the papers are not peer-reviewed but assessed by the review committee under the JICA Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development (JICA Ogata Research Institute).

This paper has been prepared as a part of the research project "International Migration Routes and Route Selection Mechanisms" conducted by the JICA Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development.

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Suggested Citation: Saito, K., Orita, T., and Lee, C.2026. "Human Mobility in Development Assistance from a Human Security Perspective: Applying a Protection and Empowerment Framework to the de Haas Quadrant Model. " JICA Ogata Research Institute Discussion Paper No. 48. Tokyo: JICA Ogata Research Institute for Peace and Development.

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Human Mobility in Development Assistance from a Human Security Perspective: Applying a Protection and Empowerment Framework to the de Haas Quadrant Model

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Abstract

This study develops an integrated theoretical framework for understanding international migration governance by synthesizing de Haas's aspirations-capabilities model with a human security approach. The research addresses critical gaps in migration studies by reconceptualizing support strategies for people on the move through development and humanitarian assistance perspectives.

The framework classifies potential migrants into four quadrants based on aspirations-capabilities combinations, revealing previously overlooked differentiated support needs in conventional migration management. Particularly significant is the identification of vulnerable populations in acquiescent immobility (low aspirations × low capabilities), who remain invisible to traditional support systems, and forced migrants (low aspirations × high capabilities) who require specialized protection despite possessing relatively high capabilities.

Through game-theoretic analysis, the study examines how strategic interactions among multiple actors—potential migrants, origin countries, destination countries, development agencies, and human security actors—transform migration system equilibria. Results demonstrate that the entry of human security actors fundamentally shifts systems from country-centric to human-centric approaches, prioritizing lives, livelihoods, and dignity over economic efficiency alone.

The research proposes dynamic intervention strategies balancing protection and empowerment according to development stages. Protection dominates in early development phases, while empowerment proportionally increases with capability enhancement. This framework operationalizes Sen's capability approach within migration contexts, establishing theoretical foundations for safe and secure mobility systems.

Key contributions include: (1) conceptualizing protection-empowerment balance as a development-responsive continuum; (2) identifying quadrant-specific support strategies; (3) demonstrating equilibrium transformation mechanisms through multi-actor coordination; and (4) providing practical guidance for implementing human security principles in migration governance.

The framework offers policymakers tools for designing context-specific, resilient migration systems that respect human dignity while addressing complex global mobility challenges. Future research should empirically validate these theoretical propositions through case studies examining implementation conditions across diverse contexts.

Keywords: Aspirations-capabilities framework, Human security, Human mobility, Protection-empowerment balance

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1. Introduction

International human mobility has emerged as one of the most complex policy challenges of the twenty-first century. It is profoundly shaped by conflicts and socioeconomic conditions in countries of origin, while readily intersecting with domestic political issues in receiving countries—a multifaceted phenomenon that defies simple unilateral solutions. Determining what constitutes desirable outcomes for diverse stakeholders remains inherently difficult, and neither isolated policies nor single-country approaches can easily achieve the stability sought by mobile populations and affected countries. Growing social, economic, and cultural interconnectedness through globalization has facilitated international migration, affecting an increasingly diverse range of countries worldwide and fundamentally transforming political, economic, and social structures (Czaika and de Haas 2014). According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the global number of international migrants reached 281 million in 2022, representing 3.6 percent of the world's population, a substantial increase from 173 million (2.8 percent of the global population) in 2000 (McAuliffe and Oucho 2024). Furthermore, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (2024) reports that the number of forcibly displaced persons exceeded 123 million by the end of 2024, meaning that one in every 67 people worldwide is forcibly displaced.

1.1 Conventional theories of international migration and their limitations

Past studies on international migration have predominantly conceptualized human mobility as bilateral movements driven by economic motivations. Neoclassical economic theory posits that wage differentials between low-wage sending countries and high-wage receiving countries are the primary driver of migration (Todaro 1969; Harris and Todaro 1970), assuming that individuals make rational migration decisions to maximize their expected income. However, Massey et al. (1999) demonstrated empirically that wage differentials are neither necessary nor sufficient conditions for international migration, arguing that more complex theoretical frameworks are required to explain the initiation and perpetuation of migration flows. Indeed, while the real wage gains realized by moving from low-income to high-income countries average between three- and six-fold, more than 96 percent of the global population remains in their country of birth, clearly demonstrating that economic incentives alone cannot explain migration patterns (Clemens 2011).

These realities suggest the need for more comprehensive theoretical frameworks that transcend economic factors to understand migration phenomena. Recent migration theory has indeed undergone a significant shift in this direction. De Haas (2021) conceptualizes migration as a complex social process that extends beyond passive responses to external forces, such as economic, political, environmental, and demographic factors, proposing the aspirations-capabilities framework. According to this framework, migration aspirations are a function of people's general life aspirations and perceived geographical opportunity structures, while "migration capabilities depend on positive ("freedom to") and negative ("freedom from") liberties.

The framework's distinctive feature lies in understanding migration as an interaction between structure and agency. While human mobility is constrained by structural factors such as poverty, inequality, policies, and border controls, people are not merely victims of structure. They are active agents who devise strategies, build networks, and find ways to circumvent barriers. For instance, while restrictive immigration policies constitute structural constraints limiting mobility, migrants respond by pioneering new routes, leveraging social networks, and sometimes exploiting institutional loopholes. These accumulated practices eventually lead to structural transformations, including changes in migration policies and social norms (de Haas 2021). De Haas (2021) argues that migration possesses both intrinsic and instrumental dimensions. The intrinsic dimension relates to the ways in which freedom of movement directly contributes to wellbeing, including the desire for adventure and discovery, as well as the satisfaction derived from simply having the option to migrate even when that option is not exercised. The instrumental dimension reflects migration as a means to achieve other goals, such as increased income, education, improved living standards, and personal security.

The aspirations-capabilities framework builds upon Sen (1999) concepts of capabilities and adaptive preferences. Sen redefined development from its conventional focus on economic fulfillment to "a process of expanding the real freedoms that people enjoy to lead the lives they have reason to value," arguing that freedom is both the primary end and principal means of development. This definition establishes that people's wellbeing depends not on whether they achieve valued lives, but on whether they have the freedom to choose such lives—thus articulating the concept of capability. Furthermore, Sen (1985) observed that people in extreme poverty or oppressive circumstances cannot even imagine the possibility of migration. Instead, they settle for more limited choices, providing insight into de Haas's explanation of why the poorest populations do not migrate.

1.2 International migration and development

The interconnections between migration and development have gained increasing attention in recent years. From the perspective of international development assistance and humanitarian aid, human mobility has grown in prominence as both a challenge and an opportunity. Drawing clear distinctions between voluntary and involuntary movements has become increasingly difficult, necessitating a conceptualization of migration as a diverse and continuous phenomenon within humanitarian and development frameworks. Contrary to the common assumption that development aid deters migration, Clemens and Sandefur (2014) examine the "migration hump" phenomenon, demonstrating that economic development actually increases emigration until per capita GDP reaches approximately US\$8,000–\$10,000. De Haas interprets this migration hump through the lens of the aspirations-capabilities framework, drawing on Sen's concepts set out in the capabilities approach and the notion of adaptive preference formation. He argues that in the early stages of development, improved access to education and information causes aspirations to

increase rapidly, while rising incomes gradually enhance capabilities. This rise in both aspirations and capabilities generates the migration hump (de Haas 2010).

Furthermore, de Haas (2010) notes that development processes have asymmetric effects on aspirations and capabilities, with increases in aspirations often outpacing capability growth. This creates what Carling (2002) termed "involuntary immobility," heightening frustration among those who desire to migrate but cannot, which may potentially increase the risk of dangerous irregular migration. The broader pattern of rising emigration during early development builds on Zelinsky's (1971) "mobility transition hypothesis," which theorizes that migration patterns shift systematically across stages of societal development, with international emigration initially rising during early modernization before eventually declining at higher development levels. Martin (1996) advanced this concept, empirically demonstrating that, in the short to medium term, economic development typically leads to increased migration. Using data from 1980 to 2010, Dao et al. (2018) identified educational advancement, measured through changes in both skill composition and years of schooling, and increases in international connectivity as the main channels through which development facilitates emigration, with an additional year of average schooling associated with approximately 20 percent higher emigration rates. They also demonstrate that the presence of international networks facilitates migration by reducing costs and mitigating risks.

Turning specifically to the role of development assistance, Clemens and Postel (2018) comprehensively reviewed empirical studies on emigration from low-income countries, concluding that "there is no convincing evidence that foreign aid has been substantially effective in deterring emigration from low-income countries." Berthélemy, Beuran, and Maurel (2009) found that a 10 percent increase in aid relative to GDP increases the migrant stock as a share of the population by approximately 1.5 percentage points in the average poor country. These findings illuminate the complex relationships between development, migration, and human wellbeing. While development enhances people's capabilities, it may paradoxically increase migration in the short term; development assistance can reinforce this tendency through network effects and the relaxation of budget constraints. However, this is not necessarily a negative outcome, as enhanced capabilities provide people with more choices and may reduce involuntary immobility and dangerous irregular migration.

The international community has begun to recognize this paradigm shift. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Target 10.7 (United Nations 2015) articulates the commitment to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people. This target represents a crucial reorientation, recognizing migration not as an impediment to development but as an integral component of development processes. The World Bank's (2023) World Development Report 2023 argues that migration brings development opportunities to origin, transit, and destination countries alike, and that appropriate policies can maximize the positive effects of migration regardless of country circumstances. The report conceptualizes

migration not merely as a demographic phenomenon, but as a process of social transformation that requires the strategic collaborative management of diverse migration patterns (World Bank 2023).

Migration embodies both costs and benefits, presenting development opportunities for origin, destination, and transit countries. The report emphasizes that countries in any circumstance can maximize the positive effects of migration through appropriate policies, underscoring the importance of strategic policy management. Strategic management entails stakeholders collaboratively maximizing the benefits of migration while minimizing its disadvantages, requiring not only bilateral but also multilateral approaches.

This new understanding is substantiated by empirical data on migration patterns. According to the World Bank (2023), 40 percent of people living outside their country of nationality (including refugees) reside in high-income OECD countries, 17 percent in Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, and the remaining 43 percent in low- and middle-income countries. These statistics underscore the significance of South-South migration and reveal the limitations of conceptualizing migration as a simple South-North phenomenon. Furthermore, while migrants' share of the global population has remained relatively constant over the past 60 years, regional differences in population growth mean that in high-income countries, the non-national population has grown three times faster than overall population growth, whereas in low-income countries it has grown at less than half the rate of population increase (World Bank 2023). These data demonstrate the diversity and complexity of migration phenomena while indicating the necessity for differentiated approaches tailored to regional and national contexts.

1.3 International migration and human security

Understanding the interrelationships between migration and development alone is insufficient to address the complex challenges faced by mobile populations. The assumption that development assistance deters migration lacks empirical support ; rather, development increases migration in the short to medium term (de Haas 2010; Clemens and Sandefur 2014). Moreover, restrictive immigration policies often fail to curtail migration flows, instead promoting diversion to more dangerous and irregular routes (Czaika and de Haas 2013). These findings suggest that economic and policy approaches alone cannot address the complexity of migration phenomena. Therefore, a human security framework becomes necessary as a complementary framework for understanding complex migration phenomena. This framework links dynamic changes in individual aspirations and capabilities with institutional interventions, reconceptualizing migration not as an object of border management and policy, but as a fundamentally human phenomenon that necessitates protection.

Sen argued for the importance of social safety nets as necessary to prevent affected populations from falling into extreme deprivation and, in some cases, to prevent starvation and death. He emphasized that this encompasses not only fixed institutional arrangements but also ad hoc measures such as emergency public employment creation for famine prevention and food distribution for the destitute (Sen 1999). This concept of protective security became the theoretical foundation for "protection" in the human security framework.

Furthermore, Sen (2000) conceptualized human security as "safety from chronic threats, such as hunger, disease and repression, and protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life". He described it as encompassing two dimensions: "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want." This concept was systematically developed in the UNDP Human Development Report (1994), which specified that human security includes ensuring that children do not die from disease, that people do not lose their jobs, that ethnic tensions do not explode into violent conflict, and that dissidents are not silenced. Human security is not concerned with weapons, it is concerned with human life and dignity (UNDP 1994).

In the migration context, human security is interpreted as "seeking to complement countries' security, strengthen human rights, and enhance human development," positioning it as a perspective that enables viewing migrants not as threats to national security but instead as human beings that require both protection and support (Vietti and Scribner 2013). The UN Human Security Unit demonstrates through its programs that this perspective extends beyond mobile populations to address the social, political, economic, and environmental challenges faced by receiving communities through a multisectoral approach, in which social cohesion and mutual respect contribute to resilient host communities (UNTFHS Lebanon Programme 2019; UNTFHS Chad Programme 2024; UNTFHS Sudan Programme 2024; UN Human Security Handbook 2016). Multiple studies have highlighted the perils of prioritizing state security over human security. Cholewinski (2005) argues that prioritizing country's national security increases the vulnerability of mobile populations, diminishing their fundamental rights to life, livelihood, and dignity at every stage of the migration process. He emphasized the necessity of strengthening legal and institutional frameworks based on human security principles. Cholewinski's argument represents the "unintended consequences of migration policie" (Czaika and de Haas 2013), where migration management transcends mere border control or labor market supply-demand dynamics to encompass fundamental rights and human dignity. Indeed, empirical evidence demonstrates that restrictive migration policies often fail to curtail migration flows, instead promoting diversion to more dangerous and irregular routes.

These unintended consequences of policies (Czaika and de Haas 2013), while revealing planning limitations, do not necessarily imply policy futility. Rather, such outcomes point to the need for policy approaches that can anticipate migrants' adaptive responses. When border restrictions lead

to route diversification or regularization programs produce informal arrangements, these outcomes exemplify not simply policy failure but the complex interplay between intervention and adaptation. Combined with the inherent complexity of migration phenomena, this perspective reveals how conventional migration management approaches focused on sovereignty and economic perspectives fail to adequately account for such adaptive processes. This suggests the need for more flexible, learning-oriented frameworks that anticipate and incorporate adaptive responses rather than viewing them as mere challenges to control. This recognition of migration's adaptive and complex nature necessitates a fundamental shift in how we conceptualize both the phenomenon itself and appropriate policy responses. First, the vulnerabilities and complex risks that migrants face at every stage of the migration process complicate the formulation of effective support strategies. Migration must therefore be reconceptualized not as a single event, but as a dynamic and intersecting process (Crawley and Jones 2021), one that emphasizes migration as a continuous process through multiple stages and locations rather than a unidirectional movement from origin to destination. The comprehensive principle of human security aligns with this understanding of migration as a dynamic process (UNDP 2022).

Second, the principle of context-specificity is essential for understanding migration diversity. Uniform approaches centered on national security and economic perspectives oversimplify the complexity of migration and overgeneralize specific patterns, thereby generating the unintended consequences discussed above. Human mobility encompasses diverse forms from forced displacement, including refugees and Internally displaced persons (IDPs), to movements for family reunification and labor purposes, with conditions, decision-making mechanisms, and destination choices varying significantly by context. While conventional migration scholarship has implicitly treated South–North movements as the normative standard, 43 percent of people residing outside their country of nationality actually live in low- and middle-income countries, with 17 percent in GCC countries. Each migration corridor—whether involving proximity-based displacement to neighboring countries, regional labor market integration, or the Gulf states' kafala system—operates according to distinct logics. This diversity demands context-specific analysis that respects regional circumstances, cultures, and social cohesion, allowing for a more nuanced assessment of threats and opportunities (UNDP 2022).

To address this contextual diversity and the dynamic nature of migration processes, the three strategic pillars of the human security framework—protection, empowerment, and solidarity—become essential. These pillars systematize support for people whose aspirations and capabilities are in flux, providing insights for international cooperation policies. Protection strategies, grounded in Sen's (1999) concept of protective security, encompass a broad range of approaches, including legal protection, the provision of safe corridors, housing conditions, access to healthcare, educational opportunities, and employment (Commission on Human Security 2003). Empowerment strategies, building on development frameworks that conceptualized empowerment through resources, agency and achievements (Kabeer 1999) and the expansion of

capabilities to influence institutions (Narayan 2002), aim to strengthen migrants' own capabilities and expand their choices through educational opportunities, skills training, and employment support. Solidarity strategies promote cooperation among stakeholders across all stages in countries of origin, transit, and destination (Gasper and Gómez 2023). These three strategies are mutually complementary, requiring coordinated efforts by national governments and relevant actors. This multidimensional approach provides the theoretical foundation for international cooperation policies. It links micro-level changes in agency, as indicated by the aspirations-capabilities framework, with macro-level policy and institutional frameworks.

1.4 Challenges in migration studies and research questions

Migration studies, development studies, and human security studies each illuminate different dimensions of human mobility phenomena. Migration studies explain why and how people move, development studies elucidate the relationships between migration and socioeconomic change, and human security studies center on the lives, livelihoods and dignity of mobile populations. However, attempts to integrate these perspectives into practical support strategies remain limited.

While substantial empirical research has accumulated on the migration-development nexus, much of this work remains descriptive, failing to provide actionable policy guidance. Clemens and Sandefur (2014) argue that the extensive literature on migration and development focuses primarily on identifying correlations, without providing the causal insights that policymakers can actually utilize. Similarly, de Haas (2007) observes that debates on the migration-development nexus are often based on normative assumptions, unable to bridge the gap between empirical evidence and policy implications.

This theory-practice gap has been characterized by Bakewell (2008) as a "disconnect". While theories emphasize complexity and context dependency, policymakers seek simple, generalizable solutions, failing to recognize that different types of migrants have different development impacts and require differentiated support approaches (Bakewell 2008). This disconnect impedes the translation of theoretical insights into practical interventions. Particularly problematic is the absence of differentiated approaches that account for migrant heterogeneity. Policymakers continue to treat migrants as a homogeneous group, failing to recognize that different types of migrants have different development impacts and require distinct support approaches (Skeldon 2008; Carling and Schewel 2018). The aspirations-capabilities framework conceptualizes migration as an interaction between structure and agency, positioning migrants not as a homogeneous group but within four quadrants based on different combinations of aspirations and capabilities. However, translating these theoretical classifications into practical development and humanitarian assistance remains underexplored (Carling 2002). Some scholars attribute this to the lack of multidimensional analysis in evaluating the impact of development aid on migration

(Black and Castaldo 2009), highlighting the difficulty of integrating insights from de Haas's theoretical framework into actual aid program design and evaluation.

Similarly, while the human security approach provides a normative framework, empirical analyses of concrete support strategies remain limited. Vietti and Scribner (2013) argue that although the human security concept is widely accepted, there is a lack of specific guidance on how to operationalize it in migration contexts. While the principles of protection and empowerment are clear, what constitutes protection interventions versus empowerment interventions in actual migration support—and how to balance them—remains undertheorized. Sen (1999) emphasizes the importance of viewing people not merely as beneficiaries but as active agents of change, yet how to realize this in development and humanitarian contexts remains unclear.

Furthermore, interactions among diverse stakeholders in the migration-development nexus—crucial for developing concrete strategies—remain insufficiently analyzed. Migration is shaped by both individual decisions and the interplay of actions and policies among diverse actors, including origin, transit, and destination countries, international organizations, civil society organizations, and the private sector. Betts (2011) notes that migration governance is characterized by a complex institutional landscape spanning different levels (global, regional, national, local) and sectors (migration, development, humanitarian, labor, trade). However, systematic analysis of how these diverse actors interact and how their interactions influence migrants' aspirations and capabilities, and ultimately migration outcomes, remains lacking.

De Haas (2021) argues that policymakers should not suppress people's aspirations but rather build capabilities that enable legitimate aspirations to be realized through safe and legal means. This perspective underscores the importance of designing migration systems that allow orderly movement while respecting people's freedom and dignity, necessitating the establishment of theoretical and practical frameworks to achieve this goal. This suggests the potential to address theoretical and empirical gaps in existing studies by integrating de Haas's aspirations-capabilities framework with human security approaches, thereby presenting a new framework for dynamically examining the balance between protection and empowerment for migrants and refugees. Such a framework could offer insights into developing more effective, people-centered support strategies that are responsive to diverse needs.

Given these considerations, this study addresses the following primary research questions: First, how can de Haas's aspirations-capabilities framework be integrated with human security approaches to conceptualize the dynamic balance between protection and empowerment in support of migrants and refugees from development and humanitarian assistance perspectives? This question aims to explore the intersections between these two theoretical frameworks and elucidate how they complement each other. Specifically, it examines how Sen's concepts of

freedom and choice within the capability approach connect with de Haas's aspirations-capabilities framework and how these translate into the human security strategies of protection and empowerment.

Second, what new support strategies and intervention methods does this integrated framework suggest for international development cooperation and humanitarian assistance practices? This question seeks to translate theoretical insights into practical policy recommendations.

This study aims to provide theoretical and practical foundations for development assistance toward establishing more equitable and sustainable migration systems. By conceptualizing international migration as a process of realizing people's aspirations and capabilities and by incorporating human security perspectives that enable mobile populations to live free from fear and want, this research seeks to contribute to systems in which the lives, livelihoods, and dignity of all people are protected.

2. An integrated model of the aspirations-capabilities framework with development assistance and human security approach

de Haas's aspirations-capabilities model provides a framework for understanding migration from the perspective of individual agency. This theory conceptualizes migration not merely as a response to economic factors or forced displacement but as an interaction between individual aspirations and capabilities, framing it as a choice between the freedom to move and the freedom to stay. However, linking this individual-level theory to actual policy interventions and support strategies requires a more comprehensive framework.

International responses to human mobility encompass diverse interventions, including legal protection, securing safe corridors, housing conditions, healthcare access, educational opportunities, and employment. These interventions require both protective measures against threats and empowerment to strengthen people's capabilities, with the balance between protection and empowerment needing dynamic adjustment according to individuals' aspirations and capability states. Moreover, these interventions involve not only diverse actors, such as national governments and relevant organizations, but also different perspectives shaped by the preconditions for migration, mobility strategies, and stakeholder positions. The human security perspective, through its concept of solidarity, holds potential for promoting coordination among actors in these complex, multi-scalar contexts.

This study deepens the analysis through three perspectives: (1) migration from the viewpoint of potential migrants and migrants themselves, (2) migration from development and humanitarian assistance perspectives, and (3) migration through a human security lens. These perspectives are not independent but are mutually connected. The following sections progressively add

development and human security perspectives to the foundation of individual migration perspectives, examining how understandings of human mobility transform and seeking to visualize complex phenomena.

2.1 Migration from the perspective of potential migrants and migrants

The Aspirations-capabilities Framework (de Haas 2021)

de Haas conceptualizes migration phenomena as an interaction between individual "aspirations" and "capabilities," deriving four migration typologies from combinations of these two elements. He defines these concepts as follows:

Migration aspirations are defined as "a function of people's general life aspirations and perceived geographical opportunity structures." This extends beyond mere economic motivations to encompass the interaction between people's subjective visions of "the good life" and their perceptions of where such aspirations can be realized. Migration capabilities, meanwhile, "depend on positive ('freedom to') and negative ('freedom from') liberties." Drawing on Berlin (1969)'s concept of liberty, this encompasses both the absence of barriers preventing movement and the capacity to exercise autonomous control over one's life trajectory.

The framework generates four migration typologies:

Quadrant I (High Aspirations × High Capabilities)

Voluntary Mobility: People who desire migration and possess the resources to realize it. The majority of migrants fall into this category. Throughout history and across societies, young people in particular have often harbored strong desires to leave home—at least temporarily—for various reasons. This reflects the need for psychosocial separation from parents, serves as a demonstration of independence and functions as a rite of passage marking the transition to adulthood. However, economic and social resources play a critical role in determining who can actually realize such mobility, with resource constraints creating barriers even for those with strong migration aspirations (Carling 2002). Moreover, while local living conditions have improved substantially over recent decades, people's general life aspirations have increased even faster, leading to heightened migration aspirations. Those with high migration capabilities can realize most forms of migration.

Quadrant II (High Aspirations × Low Capabilities)

Involuntary Immobility: Individuals with strong migration aspirations constrained by insufficient economic, social, or legal resources. Carling (2002) conceptualizes this as feeling "trapped." He observes that "many young Moroccans describe their country as a 'prison' due to European migration restrictions," noting that "border walls and other migration restrictions may actually fuel obsessions with "escape" by stimulating desires to reach the other side." Those experiencing involuntary immobility often organize their entire lives around the possibility of future migration, persistently seeking opportunities despite repeated failures.

Quadrant III (Low Aspirations × Low Capabilities)

Acquiescent Immobility: A state of both low migration aspirations and capabilities. These individuals either do not recognize migration options or do not consider them realistic possibilities. This refers to people living in poverty without the capacity to migrate and who have never imagined migrating—people who might be said to be deprived of both the capability to aspire and the capability to move.

Quadrant IV (Low Aspirations × High Capabilities)

Voluntary Immobility/Involuntary Mobility: This quadrant encompasses two distinct patterns. Pattern IV.1 represents voluntary immobility—those with capabilities who choose not to migrate. Pattern IV.2 represents involuntary mobility—those forced to move by external factors such as conflict or persecution (including refugees). For Pattern IV.1, de Haas cites residents of French Guiana who, as French citizens with full mobility rights, tend to have more relaxed attitudes toward migration. Along with better social security and living conditions, this explains why migration remains at relatively low levels. Pattern IV.2 includes refugees for whom migration is primarily a response to serious dangers at home rather than a positive response to opportunities elsewhere. Even migrants officially classified as "voluntary return migrants" by governments and international organizations may only be "willing to return" due to lack of access to social amenities or shelter in destination countries, or risks of imprisonment, violence, or other abuses (such as family separation).

Table 1. De Haas's Aspirations-capabilities Framework with Quadrant Classification (de Haas, 2014)

		Migration capabilities	
		Low	High
Migration aspirations (intrinsic and/or instrumental)	High	Quadrant II Involuntary immobility ^a (feeling 'trapped')	Quadrant I Voluntary mobility (most forms of migration)
	Low	Acquiescent immobility ^b	IV.1 Voluntary immobility and IV.2 involuntary mobility refugees, 'soft deportation' ^c
		Quadrant III	Quadrant IV

Note. Adapted from *Migration Theory: Quo Vadis?* (IMI Working Paper No. 100/DEMIG Project Paper No. 24, p. 32), by H. de Haas, 2014, International Migration Institute, University of Oxford. Copyright 2014 by H. de Haas.

2.2 Migration from development and humanitarian assistance perspectives

The Development-Migration Nexus

Building on the Aspirations-capabilities framework, de Haas challenged conventional assumptions about the relationship between development and international migration (de Haas

2010). The premise of push-pull models and neoclassical theories is that development assistance promoting economic growth in poor countries would reduce income gaps and consequently decrease international migration. This assumption that migration is inversely proportional to income differentials has been contradicted by empirical evidence. De Haas's analysis revealed that the relationship between development and migration is not linear but follows an inverted U-shaped curve.

De Haas defined migration capability as "the economic, social, human, and mobility resources that individuals can mobilize to migrate" and migration aspiration as a function of life aspirations and perceived opportunities, shaped by improved education and information access. In this model, migration capability rises continuously with development, though its rate of increase gradually plateaus at advanced development stages. Meanwhile, migration aspirations rise rapidly during early development but subsequently decline as opportunity gaps narrow, although they never returned to pre-development levels. This framework captures the changing relationship between aspirations and capabilities as development progresses. It is confirmed through empirical analysis using the Global Migration Origin Database developed by the World Bank and the University of Sussex.

The model demonstrates that as development advances, emigration exhibits a quantitative inverted-U pattern while also undergoing qualitative shifts: from domestic migration in early stages to short-distance, low-skilled migration, then to long-distance, high-skilled migration—ultimately transitioning in highly developed societies to limited, circular movements, primarily of skilled workers. This finding fundamentally challenges conventional policy assumptions that poverty reduction through development assistance would curtail international migration.

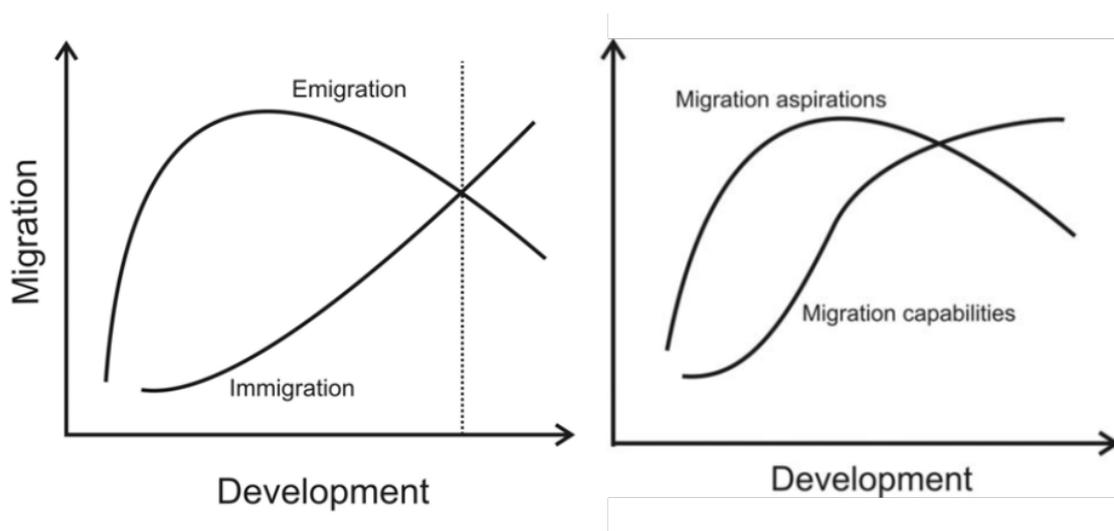


Figure 1. De Haas's Hypothesized Effect of Human Development on Migration Capabilities and Aspirations (Left Side) & Migration Transition Theory (de Haas 2010)

A Proposed Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance Model Based on de Haas's Framework

Building on de Haas's identification of four migration typologies (Table 1) and their relationship with development stages (Figure 2), the following framework reconceptualizes these concepts from the perspective of development and humanitarian assistance providers.

Within the Applied de Haas Development-Migration Model, threshold lines demarcate critical junctures where migration behavior undergoes qualitative transformations. Line 1 represents the minimum threshold of aspirations and capabilities at which migration enters conscious consideration, while Line 2 denotes the threshold where voluntary mobility becomes the predominant pattern. Specifically, individuals positioned at Line 1 exist within contexts of limited development, characterized by constrained aspirations and capabilities. As development advances, both dimensions increase, yet capabilities systematically lag behind rising aspirations, resulting in acquiescent immobility (Quadrant III). Populations situated between Lines 1 and 2 exhibit mixed patterns of either involuntary immobility (Quadrant II), in which high aspirations exceed low capabilities, or voluntary mobility (Quadrant I), in which both aspirations and capabilities are becoming high, with the proportion selecting voluntary mobility increasing progressively toward Line 2. The aspirations-capabilities gap demarcated by these threshold curves (shaded region) represents the quantum of development and humanitarian assistance required to satisfy subjective wellbeing. Individuals reaching Line 2, having accessed development benefits (Quadrant IV.1), where high capabilities now exceed lowered aspirations, predominantly select voluntary mobility. Conversely, those in Quadrant IV.2, experiencing deviation from standard development trajectories due to conflict, political instability, or climate-induced displacement, remain structurally distinct from Line 2 attainment and therefore require separate analytical treatment outside the primary model parameters.

2.3 Migration through the human security lens

Building upon the reconceptualization of individual aspirations-capabilities dynamics through development perspectives, the Applied de Haas Aspirations-capabilities Framework through a Human Security Lens (Applied A-C framework) provides an integrated perspective.

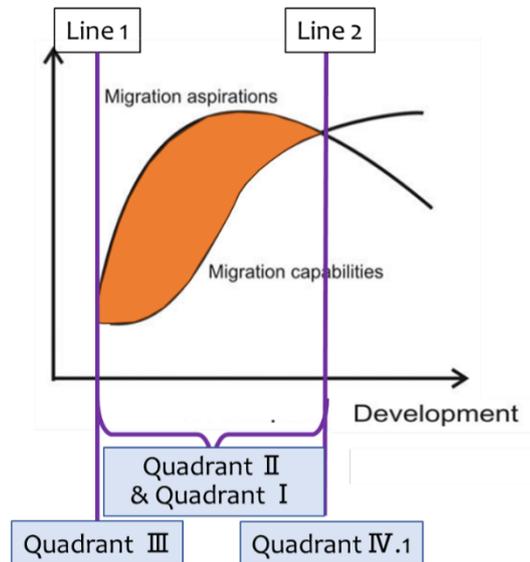


Figure 2. Applied de Haas Aspirations-capabilities Framework through a Human Security Lens

Note. Adapted from *Migration Transitions: A Theoretical and Empirical Inquiry into the Developmental Drivers of International Migration* (IMI Working Paper No. 24/DEMIG Project Paper No. 1, p.17), by H. de Haas, 2010, International Migration Institute, University of Oxford. Copyright 2010 by H. de Haas.

From the perspective of strategic approaches by development cooperation and humanitarian assistance providers, populations in lower-development contexts (leftward on the horizontal axis) require greater support volumes, while those in more-developed contexts (rightward) require progressively less assistance (Chenery and Strout 1966; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 2001; Sachs 2005). Regarding the optimal timing for adopting protection versus empowerment as development strategies, intervention practices have demonstrated that protection takes precedence in less developed contexts (left side), with protection gradually diminishing and empowerment gaining prominence as development advances, until empowerment becomes the primary strategy in highly developed contexts (right side). To visualize these practices, this framework represents the progression of development and the proportional requirements for protection and empowerment through directional arrows, thereby conceptualizing the dynamic balance between protection and empowerment (Figure 2).

The United Nations framework for supporting human mobility emphasizes comprehensive, people-centered approaches rather than unilateral assistance, underscoring the importance of providing support based on principles of shared responsibility and international cooperation. Within this framework, protection requires the full guarantee of human rights for all refugees and migrants, recognizing all individuals as rights holders and ensuring respect for international law, international human rights law, and—where applicable—international refugee law and international humanitarian law. Furthermore, empowerment is positioned as a crucial mechanism for transitioning from protection-dependent states to stable, autonomous living conditions, necessitating expanded access to education, healthcare, livelihood opportunities, and labor market participation (United Nations 2016a). However, implementation challenges of this development approach have been identified (Mathew 2021). While the Applied A-C Framework (Figure 2) demonstrates how human security strategies evolve with development progression, providing comprehensive, people-centered support requires concrete operational guidance. Therefore, to operationalize these conceptual insights for practical intervention design, the Applied Aspirations-capabilities Framework with Intervention Framework: Development Path (Applied A-C intervention framework: Development Path) is proposed.

The Applied A-C Intervention Framework: Development Path illustrates the evolution of human security strategies across development stages. As shown, populations progress through Quadrants III → II → I as development advances. The superimposed arrows map this trajectory while simultaneously indicating support requirements: their directional flow represents development progression, while their varying area (width) corresponds to the intensity of support interventions needed at each stage. The widest portions in Quadrants III and II reflect maximum support needs, narrowing toward Quadrant I, where enhanced capabilities reduce external assistance requirements.

Critical attention must be directed to populations in Quadrant III. The assumption that low capabilities combined with low aspirations indicate minimal support needs is problematic from a development perspective. Low migration capability reflects the underdevelopment of both individual capacities and structural conditions. When coupled with low aspirations, this suggests that populations are unaware of migration options and unable to even conceive of alternative possibilities. These represent the most marginalized populations, those left behind with development pathways effectively closed to them—thus requiring the highest development priority.

Within the Applied A-C Intervention Framework: Development Path, Quadrant III represents a context where, as development progresses rightward along the horizontal axis, people's aspirations rise, but capabilities generally fail to keep pace. Quadrant I, characterized by both high aspirations and high capabilities, exhibits the lowest support needs. However, in Quadrant I, support provision operates through increasingly diverse and hybrid mechanisms. As capability

levels rise, migrants can access protection and empowerment through multiple channels—public programs, market mechanisms, civil society networks and transnational ties—with the specific mix determined by institutional contexts and individual resources (Gammeltoft-Hansen and Sorensen 2013). This represents not a simple public-to-private shift but rather the complex institutional landscape documented in contemporary migration research (Gammeltoft-Hansen and Sorensen 2013; World Bank 2023). Thus, while Quadrant II demonstrates the highest support needs, with requirements decreasing toward upper-right Quadrant I, the actual transition follows a curved trajectory through Quadrants III→II→I.

This curved trajectory indicates that populations typically do not move directly from low to high development countries but generally experience an intermediate phase (Quadrant II), where rising aspirations outpace "Capability Development," creating temporary increases in support needs before eventually achieving the aspirational-capability alignment characteristic of Quadrant I. This pattern underscores why simplistic linear models of development assistance fail to capture the dynamic nature of migration-development relationships and why differentiated support strategies are essential at each development stage. Notably, while Quadrant IV.1 represents voluntary immobility resulting from successful development outcomes in which empowerment needs predominate, Quadrant IV.2 constitutes an exception to standard development trajectories, representing involuntary mobility requiring specialized support despite high capabilities. Therefore, in the Applied A-C Intervention Framework: Quadrant Path, the arrow originates from Quadrant IV.2.

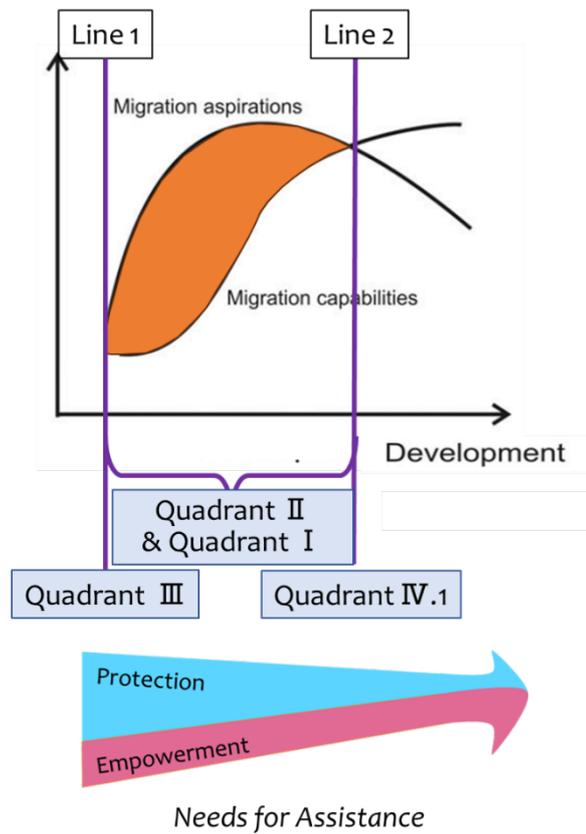


Figure3. Applied de Haas Aspirations-capabilities Framework Intervention Framework: Development Path

Note. Adapted from *Migration Transitions: A Theoretical and Empirical Inquiry into the Developmental Drivers of International Migration* (IMI Working Paper No. 24/DEMIG Project Paper No. 1, p.17), by H. de Haas, 2010, International Migration Institute, University of Oxford. Copyright 2010 by H. de Haas.

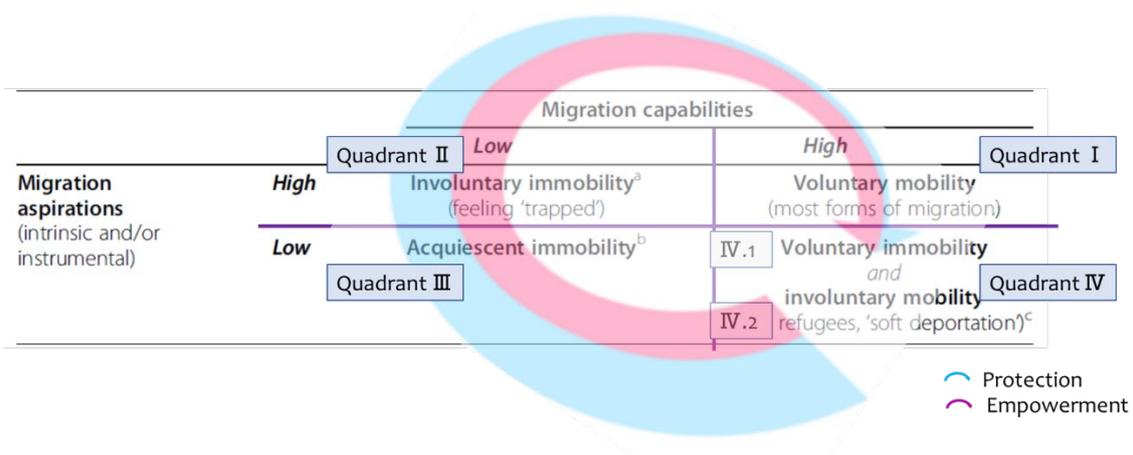


Figure 4. Applied de Haas Aspirations-capabilities Intervention Framework: Quadrant Path

Note. Adapted from *Migration Theory: Quo Vadis?* (IMI Working Paper No. 100/DEMIG Project Paper No. 24, p. 32), by H. de Haas, 2014, International Migration Institute, University of Oxford. Copyright 2014 by H. de Haas.

Figures 3 and 4 present two complementary perspectives on the dynamic nature of migration support. The upper diagram reconceptualizes de Haas's inverted U-shaped migration transition pattern as a relationship between development stages and support needs, with the aspirations-capabilities gap (orange shaded area) indicating the required volume of assistance. The lower diagram illustrates the relative distribution of protection (blue) and empowerment (pink) needs across the four quadrants, representing the qualitative shifts in support types corresponding to development progression.

The two Applied A-C Intervention Frameworks (Figures 3 and 4) illustrate the evolution of human security strategies across development stages. As shown, populations progress through Quadrants III→II→I as development advances.

Protection Positioning in the Applied A-C Intervention Framework

In human security, top-down protection refers to governments, international organizations, NGOs, and other stakeholders safeguarding people from severe and widespread threats that exceed individual capacity to address (Japan International Cooperation Agency Ogata Sadako Research Institute Peace and Development 2024). Protection needs are greatest for those exposed to more severe and widespread threats, namely those with lower capabilities, with needs diminishing as capabilities increase (Gibney 2018). In principle, protection needs are highest in Quadrants III and II, decreasing as capabilities increase toward Quadrants I and IV (Figure 4). However, protection needs cannot be assessed solely by capability levels; aspirations also exert influence. Needs assessment should be customized according to individual circumstances—specifically, how lives, livelihoods, and dignity are threatened or perceived to be threatened. Whether

Quadrant II or Quadrant III requires higher protection must be evaluated through detailed, case-specific analyses.

Quadrant IV, with high capabilities, tends to be assessed as requiring low protection and is therefore excluded from support targeting. However, those in Quadrant IV.2 require specialized interventions. Cases of involuntary mobility, where individuals are forced to move despite low migration aspirations, entail severe threats to dignity even when life and livelihood are secured through displacement. Therefore, such populations require specialized protection strategies, including provisions for eventual return to countries of origin (illustrated as exceptions in the framework). Conversely, those in Quadrant IV.1 who choose voluntary immobility perceive their life, livelihood, and dignity as protected, and thus exhibit lower protection needs.

Empowerment Positioning in the Applied A-C framework

In human security, empowerment refers to enabling individuals to exercise their inherent capacities to mitigate, respond to, and prevent impacts, strengthening their power to make voluntary and collective choices (Japan International Cooperation Agency Ogata Sadako Research Institute Peace and Development 2024). Sen (1999) suggested that when people acquire basic functionings such as nutrition, health, and education, their capabilities expand, enabling higher-order choices and agency. At the same time, the nature of support shifts from dependence on protective interventions toward capability-building support—namely, empowerment interventions. While empowerment needs exist across all quadrants of the de Haas model, the requirements for public support diminish progressively toward Quadrant I. This visualization is presented as the Applied de Haas Aspiration and Capability Framework with Intervention Effects in Figure 5. (The Applied A-C Framework with Intervention Effects).

Individuals in environments requiring protection often have weak foundations for receiving capability-building support, resulting in generally lower empowerment effectiveness. Many government interventions have limited impact, as governments adopt new mechanisms despite lacking the capability to operationalize them, often copying best-practice solutions from other countries (Andrews, Pritchett, and Woolcock 2017). Given the documented low effectiveness of capability-building programs such as skills training and entrepreneurship support (Baird et al. 2014; Haushofer and Shapiro 2016), empowerment investment returns rank as I>II>III. When both aspirations and capabilities are high, empowerment investments yield greater returns, making Quadrant II more effective than Quadrant III, Quadrant I with Quadrant IV.1 demonstrating the highest investment efficiency (Figure 5).

Empowerment interventions in economic activities, human resource development, and capability enhancement increasingly operate through hybrid public-private mechanisms as capability levels rise. The effectiveness of these mixed modalities ranks as IV.1/I>II>III, reflecting capability-

dependent optimization. However, in migration contexts, public and private sectors serve fundamentally different yet complementary functions that determine intervention effectiveness. Public sectors provide essential legal frameworks and rights protection that markets cannot deliver—particularly for vulnerable populations who lack market power (Ruhs 2013). Private sectors, conversely, constitute critical infrastructure for labor market integration: employers determine access to employment, diaspora businesses provide entry points and social capital for newcomers, and commercial intermediaries—from recruitment agencies to remittance companies—facilitate the transnational mobility that characterizes contemporary migration (Gammeltoft-Hansen and Sorensen 2013; Portes and Rumbaut 2024). These distinct roles produce differential effectiveness across quadrants. In Quadrants III and IV.2, where protection needs dominate, public provision remains essential despite documented inefficiencies—market mechanisms cannot address legal status issues or protection needs. As capabilities strengthen toward Quadrant I, private mechanisms become increasingly effective, not merely due to efficiency but because market integration aligns with migrants' enhanced agency and aspirations. This explains the IV.1 and I > II > III ranking: optimal intervention modalities shift from direct public provision to hybrid public-private arrangements as individuals progress across quadrants. Decisions about institutional guarantees and funding sources require careful consideration of these dynamics. Policymakers must weigh the benefits of government intervention in weak institutional environments against the private sector's efficiency advantages (Besley and Ghatak 2001). They must also consider risks of private delegation under weak regulatory capacity, particularly in migration contexts, where exploitation risks are heightened (Estrin and Pelletier 2018). Despite these complexities, empowerment methods should be tailored to individual contexts. This customization enables people to exercise inherent capacities and strengthen their power for voluntary and collective choices. This principle is well-established across migration studies (Carling 2002; Ager and Strang 2008; Phillimore 2011).

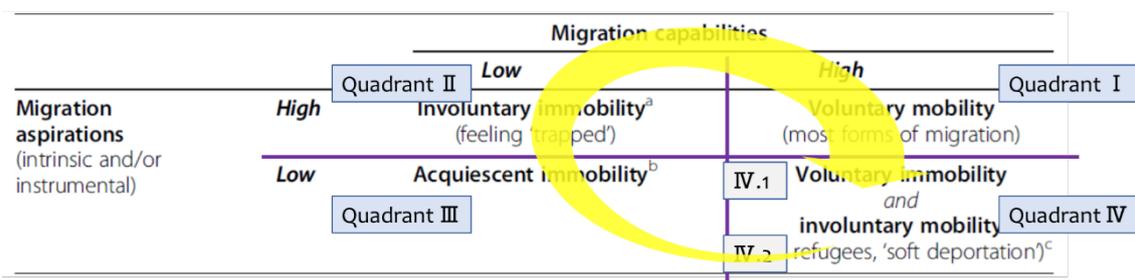


Figure 5. Applied de Haas Aspirations-capabilities Framework with Intervention Effects (Applied A-C Framework with Intervention Effects)

Note. Adapted from *Migration Theory: Quo Vadis?* (IMI Working Paper No. 100/DEMIG Project Paper No. 24, p. 32), by H. de Haas, 2014, International Migration Institute, University of Oxford. Copyright 2014 by H. de Haas.

2.4 Implications for future support needs assessment

The frameworks developed above have examined the relationship between aspirations, capabilities, and support needs across quadrants, exploring how protection and empowerment should be combined. This theoretical framework reveals critical considerations for development assistance design. For instance, potentially vulnerable populations in Quadrant III with low aspirations and low capabilities remain invisible. Unaware of migration options and unable to conceive of alternatives, neither they nor their communities recognize support needs. The framework makes visible that these are the most marginalized populations—those left behind with development pathways effectively closed—and thus requiring the highest priority in development assistance.

Similarly, those classified as involuntary movers in Quadrant IV.2, despite high capabilities, face unique circumstances where their preference to remain is overridden by forced displacement. This represents the most severe human security threats, requiring specialized protection strategies. The framework demonstrates that identical aspirations-capabilities states can encompass both those requiring minimal support and those with critical needs, underscoring the necessity of context-specific, customized development assistance approaches.

The applied frameworks outlined thus far have presented differentiated support approaches according to context and situation. From a development assistance perspective, this involves differentiating intervention volumes, while from a human security perspective, it entails categorizing interventions into protection and empowerment and differentiating their proportional balance. The following section specifically examines how such differentiated support can be implemented through coordination among diverse actors.

3. Strategic interactions between mobile populations' aspirations-capabilities dynamics and multi-actor frameworks: Theoretical examination of equilibrium transformations through human security approaches

The preceding analysis demonstrates that development assistance is neither homogeneous nor uniform but must vary according to individual contexts, specifically in terms of how life, livelihood, and dignity are exposed to risks and how such risks can be mitigated. Moreover, capabilities are influenced not only by personal conditions, including physical circumstances, but also by external factors encompassing geographical environment and development progress. Migration therefore represents not merely the outcome of individual strategic decisions by potential migrants but rather a complex process involving various actors, understood as the result of interdependent decision-making between potential migrants and multiple stakeholders. The World Development Report (World Bank 2023) explains human mobility through the relationship between individuals moving to countries where they lack nationality and destination countries. The report emphasizes that cooperation between origin and destination countries is essential, with

multilateral cooperation becoming indispensable when destination countries have weak reception capacity—thus asserting the necessity of multi-actor involvement.

From this perspective, migration can be understood not only as a bilateral matching between movers and destination countries but also as a multi-actor matching involving diverse actors, including origin country policies, destination country policies, international organization interventions and various non-state actors. These actors hold different positions, capacities, and objectives, making their interactions strategically interdependent.

Therefore, this chapter applies game-theoretic approaches to understand this strategic interdependence, attempting to theorize complex migration phenomena as strategic inter-actor matching processes.

3.1 Reinterpreting migration phenomena through game-theoretic approaches

In game theory, multiple decision-making agents (actors) choose behaviors that maximize their own benefits (utility) while considering others' actions, reaching a Nash equilibrium where no actor has a unilateral incentive to change their strategy. Through this lens, migration phenomena can be interpreted not only as the outcome of potential migrants' decisions but also as a Nash equilibrium where all migration-involved actors lack incentives to change their chosen policies, measures, and strategies, essentially the "matching" state described by the World Development Report (World Bank 2023).

This section aims to examine effective development assistance when migration, traditionally understood through bilateral origin-destination relationships, is reconceptualized from development and human security perspectives. In this model, development assistance, and human security perspectives are operationalized as the staged entry of actors across three phases:

Phase One: Initial Stage—Only potential migrants, origin countries, and destination countries.

Phase Two: Development Assistance Actor Entry—Entry of an actor seeking to maximize mutual benefits from migration for origin and destination countries.

Phase Three: Human Security Actor Entry—Entry of an actor maximizing individual utility (life, livelihood and dignity).

For analytical clarity, this study adopts a staged entry model. This approach analyzes how equilibria evolve with changing actor participation at each stage and discusses the effectiveness of development assistance.

Phase One (Initial Stage): Actors comprise potential migrants, origin countries, and destination countries. Potential migrants select mobility strategies to maximize expected utilities given their aspirations and capabilities. Origin and destination countries select migration policies in order to maximize state-level objectives, with strategies determined by human, economic, institutional,

and social resources. Without coordination mechanisms, Phase One equilibria exhibit zero-sum characteristics and unrealized mutual gains.

Phase Two introduces a development assistance actor to the Phase One configuration. This actor seeks to maximize mutual benefits for origin and destination states. Operating through bilateral and multilateral channels, intervention behaviors are determined by budgets, implementation capacity and development policy frameworks. Interventions target systemic constraints rather than individual circumstances.

Phase Three adds a human security actor to the Phase Two configuration. This actor maximizes individual-level utility (life, livelihood, and dignity), subject to a minimum welfare constraint below which no person should fall.

In this section, the utility objectives of actors representing the destination country, development assistance, and human security perspectives are understood as overlapping and inclusive rather than mutually exclusive. In reality, each perspective encompasses diverse actors engaged in complex and fluid interactions. However, because the purpose of applying the game-theoretic framework is to untangle the complex interdependencies among multiple actors and clarify the necessary development assistance, this analysis adopts a simplified setting in which perspectives can be added sequentially.

This staged entry approach reveals two critical insights. First, migration equilibria are not fixed but evolve with changing actor configurations, and what appears as involuntary immobility in Phase One may transform into managed mobility by Phase Three. Second, each phase addresses failures of the previous one: development assistance addresses capability constraints left by pure state interaction, while human security interventions address protection gaps that development alone cannot fill. Understanding these sequential transformations is therefore essential for designing effective interventions

3.2 Analysis and interpretation

Table 2. Equilibrium Dynamics across the Four-Quadrant Framework: Effects of Development and Human Security Actor Entry

Quadrant II		Quadrant I	
Step 1	Tension-Laden Non-Cooperation	Step 1	Selective Cooperation
Step 2	Graduated Capability Enhancement	Step 2	Institutionalized Selective Cooperation
Step 3	Capability Development and Strengthened Protection	Step 3	Long-term Stability
Step 1	Passive Stability	Step 1	Voluntary Immobility / Transitional Equilibrium
Step 2	Development-Led Advancement	Step 2	Latent Capability Utilization
Step 3	Preventive Protection	Step 3	Comprehensive Protection
Quadrant III		Quadrant IV	

To analyze these multi-actor dynamics systematically, the analysis employs a game-theoretic framework with four fundamental components that structure interactions across all phases.

First, each actor type possesses a defined strategy space comprising feasible actions given structural constraints. Migrants choose from mobility options ranging from immobility through regular channels to irregular pathways. States select policy positions along a continuum from restrictive to facilitative. Assistance actors allocate resources across intervention portfolios. These choice sets expand or contract based on capabilities, institutional frameworks and mandates, creating asymmetric strategy spaces that reflect real-world power disparities rather than assuming equal strategic capacity.

Second, actors pursue distinct objectives formalized as utility maximization or cost minimization problems. Individual migrants compare expected utility gains from capability enhancement and aspiration fulfillment against migration costs and risks. States balance multiple objectives, including economic optimization, political stability, and sovereignty maintenance. The development assistance actor maximizes benefits for origin and destination states, while the human security actors maximize individual-level utility subject to minimum welfare constraints. These heterogeneous payoff structures generate conflicting incentives that complicate coordination.

Third, decision-making follows sequential rationality under imperfect information. The temporal structure places states as first movers establishing institutional frameworks, followed by assistance actors adapting to these constraints, and finally migrants responding to the complete institutional landscape. Each actor forms beliefs about others' strategies based on observable actions and reputation, making decisions that maximize expected payoffs given these beliefs. This sequential structure creates path dependencies where early choices can irreversibly shape later possibilities.

Fourth, equilibrium is defined as a stable configuration where no actor perceives opportunities for beneficial unilateral deviation given others' strategies and institutional constraints. Unlike the standard Nash equilibrium, which assumes simultaneous moves and complete information, this equilibrium concept accounts for how sovereignty, resource asymmetries, and mandate limitations constrain feasible actions. These equilibria may be inefficient yet persist because changing them requires either coordinated multi-actor deviation or a fundamental restructuring of the game itself.

These four components—strategy spaces, payoff structures, decision protocols and equilibrium concepts—together provide the analytical foundation for examining how staged actor entry transforms migration system dynamics across the three phases detailed below.

These four components evolve across phases. In Phase One, strategy spaces remain narrow and payoffs are zero-sum. Phase Two expands strategy spaces through development resources while introducing positive-sum elements. Phase Three transforms the equilibrium concept itself—from a non-cooperative to a cooperative equilibrium through international frameworks. This evolution from non-cooperative to increasingly cooperative games mirrors the historical development of migration governance.

Table 2 presents an overview of equilibrium analysis results across the four quadrants.

Quadrant I (high aspiration × high capability): Initial "Selective Cooperation" becomes Institutionalized Selective Cooperation through development assistance actor entry, and finally shifts toward long-term stable Selective Cooperation as institutions consolidate.

Quadrant II (high aspiration × low capability): Equilibrium between aspiring migrants and stakeholders evolves from "initial tension-laden non-cooperation" to "graduated capability enhancement" with the entry of development assistance actors, and then shifts toward "Strengthened Protection Alongside Capability Development" with the entry of human security actors.

Quadrant III (low aspiration × low capability): Equilibrium evolves from "Passive Stability" to "Development-led Advancement, and ultimately transitions toward "Preventive Protection."

Quadrant IV (low aspiration × high capability): This quadrant encompasses two distinct patterns: voluntary immobility (IV.1) and forced displacement (IV.2). Initially, IV.1 maintains voluntary immobility while IV.2 experiences transitional disequilibrium. Development assistance actors shift the equilibrium toward "Latent Capability Utilization," ultimately achieving "Comprehensive Protection" through human security actor involvement.

Individual Migration Perspectives: The Primitive Initial Stage Based on Aspirations-capabilities

This section first examines Phase One (Initial Stage), where actors consist solely of potential migrants, origin countries, and destination countries. When each actor seeks to maximize their own utility, the following situations emerge across quadrants:

Quadrant I [high aspiration × high capability]: Selective Cooperation Equilibrium

Potential migrants can secure substantial benefits at their destinations, destination countries derive primarily economic gains from migrants' capabilities, and origin countries can benefit by balancing the risks of brain drain against the advantages of remittances. This represents the "best match" described in the *World Development Report 2023* (World Bank 2023).

Quadrant II [high aspiration × low capability]: Tension-Laden Non-Cooperative Equilibrium

Potential migrants desire mobility but lack the capabilities to migrate due to economic, social, or legal resource constraints. Origin countries lack the resources to support safe migration, while destination countries maintain selective admission systems that accept only "needed" migrants. Although society-wide cooperation to establish legal migration corridors would be optimal, origin and destination countries prioritize self-interest and choose non-cooperation, resulting in sustained involuntary immobility and increased likelihood of irregular migration.

Quadrant III [low aspiration × low capability]: Passive Stability Equilibrium

Potential migrants exhibit both low migration aspirations and capabilities. Origin countries show limited interest in the benefits of international migration, while destination countries demonstrate little to no engagement. Under conditions of limited information and resources, actor choices remain constrained. Without external intervention, this reinforces a state in which all actors, including potential migrants, maintain low migration interest, thereby preventing the development of migration systems. This low engagement potentially delays the identification of latent risks.

Quadrant IV [low aspiration × high capability]: Voluntary Immobility/Transitional Equilibrium

This quadrant encompasses two patterns: Pattern IV.1 involves genuinely low-aspiration potential migrants with high capabilities, while Pattern IV.2 involves external factors suppressing aspirations. In IV.1, high-capability potential migrants perceive that local utility exceeds expected migration utility and therefore choose immobility. Origin countries prioritize human resource retention. Destination countries show low engagement unless facing severe labor shortages without alternative sources. This equilibrium is maintained through the rational decisions of actors. Conversely, IV.2 represents forced migration, where protection cannot be expected from origin countries, creating high vulnerability and disequilibrium through complete dependence on the destination country's sovereignty and protection. This constitutes a transitional phase toward new equilibria, such as safe return or settlement in new regions.

Equilibrium Following Development Assistance Actor Entry

The following conditions emerge when a development assistance actor, whose objective is to maximize benefits for origin and destination states, enters the configuration of potential migrants, origin countries, and destination countries.

Quadrant I [high aspiration × high capability]: From Selective Cooperation to Institutionalized Selective Cooperation

The development assistance actor institutionalizes initial states of Selective Cooperation, supporting the stable maximization of benefits for origin and destination states.

Interventions include strategic partnerships that align education and training with the needs of

the destination country. The actor develops financial systems to reduce remittance costs and promote productive investment. It also coordinates social security systems between origin and destination countries to protect migrant rights.

These measures promote more stable and sustainable supply-demand matching. Such institutionalization prevents the breakdown of cooperation triggered by sudden risk events.

Quadrant II [high aspiration × low capability]: From Tension-Laden Non-Cooperation to Graduated Capability Enhancement

Interventions by the development assistance actor transform a tension-laden, non-cooperative equilibrium toward graduated capability enhancement. This process involves institutionalizing legal migration in accordance with capability stages and advancing the development of stable migration corridors.

Effective interventions include negotiation support for legal labor migration through regional and bilateral agreements, providing accurate migration information to potential migrants, and facilitating access to legal migration channels.

Both origin and destination countries maintain multiple institutionalized corridors, enabling the identification of appropriate corridors that align with potential migrants' capabilities. This system allows for the adjustment of migrant volumes through capability-segmented corridors while ensuring stable overall migration flows.

Quadrant III [low aspiration × low capability]: From Passive Stability to Development-Led Advancement

The development assistance actor provides information about international migration to potential migrants, raising awareness of mobility options. Additionally, improving living standards through basic infrastructure development in healthcare, education, and housing leads to the diversification of mobility/immobility choices. For instance, such interventions enable transitions from immobility to voluntary immobility forms in Quadrants III and IV under development assistance actor leadership, indicating that potential migrants gain capacity for autonomous mobility/immobility decisions.

Quadrant IV [low aspiration × high capability]: From Voluntary Immobility/Transitional Equilibrium to Latent Capability Utilization

Establishing systems that allow human resources to contribute to labor markets from any location creates opportunities to utilize high-capability talent in both Quadrant IV.1 voluntary immobility and IV.2 forced displacement situations. This facilitates IV.1 promotion and enables transitions from IV.2 to IV.1 or Quadrant I.

For example, enhancing remote work systems and digital economy participation enables international contribution regardless of mobility status. Individuals can contribute whether they remain immobile or are forced to relocate to unintended destinations, benefiting all actors.

Such schemes foster a stable human resource utilization equilibrium. The system shifts from one in which mobility/immobility determines benefits to a mobility-neutral benefit system.

Examining the analytical results for Quadrants I through IV from an ad hoc perspective, the entry of the development assistance actor promotes transitions from Quadrant III to Quadrants II, I, and IV; from Quadrant II to I; and from Quadrant IV.2 to Quadrant IV.1 or Quadrant I. This can be understood as system development that sustains actor benefits while cushioning shocks from external factors, including development assistance interventions.

However, these positive equilibrium states resulting from development assistance interventions can easily collapse when donor countries prioritize their own benefits over those of origin countries. Several risks emerge. In Quadrant I, "Institutionalized Selective Cooperation" may adopt selection criteria based solely on labor market needs. This can promote extreme talent selection while overlooking the resulting brain drain from origin countries. In Quadrant II, "Graduated Capability Enhancement and Staged Legal Migration" may become tied to conditional aid requiring human resource transfers to destination countries. In Quadrant III, "Development-led Advancement" may reduce support priorities for countries with low migration potential, creating inter-regional imbalances. In Quadrant IV, "Latent Capability Utilization" may position countries as talent pools resolving labor shortages in dominant economies. This risks neglecting the transfer of skills to origin countries and support for capability development.

3.3 Equilibrium reconstruction through human security concepts

The Phase Two equilibria, while improving upon initial conditions, contain inherent instabilities. Development assistance can inadvertently create new vulnerabilities, including brain drain despite skills programs, and displacement when development projects fail. More fundamentally, the development assistance actor, operating within state sovereignty constraints, cannot address protection failures when states themselves are sources of insecurity. These limitations necessitate Phase Three interventions through the entry of a human security actor. This actor takes the initiative in developing migration and refugee systems from a human security perspective, representing roles typically expected of UN systems and similar entities. This actor brings three transformative elements. First, it shifts focus from state benefits to individual protection, making personal life, livelihoods and dignity non-negotiable regardless of economic considerations. Second, it introduces comprehensiveness, context-specificity, and preventive measures, addressing root causes rather than symptoms. Third, its strategies combine appropriate protection and empowerment with solidarity, anticipating rather than reacting to protection failures. These elements fundamentally alter the game's structure by expanding who counts as a player, what

constitutes acceptable outcomes, and how cooperation can be sustained even without legal enforcement.

Quadrant I [high aspiration × high capability]: From Institutionalized Selective Cooperation to Long-term Stability

Phase Two's optimization for state benefits overlooks externalities affecting families and origin communities. Institutionalized Selective Cooperation prioritizes the economic needs of the destination country within its legal frameworks. This can risk brain drain in origin countries and delay industrial development, representing a market failure where bilateral contracting between destination countries and individual migrants ignores negative externalities imposed on origin communities and migrant families. Impacts on migrant families left behind, accompanying minors, and destination-born children of migrants are insufficiently considered because these stakeholders lack representation in the bilateral bargaining game between states and skilled migrants.

The human security actor's entry ensures protection of migrants' and families' lives, dignity, and livelihoods, expanding the game's player set to include previously excluded stakeholders and transforming the social welfare function from state benefit maximization to comprehensive welfare accounting with minimum individual welfare constraints. Sustainable development in the origin country receives greater emphasis through mechanisms that internalize brain drain externalities, such as diaspora bonds, skills-transfer requirements, and circular migration agreements that maintain human capital links. Additional fiscal support becomes available for high-migration regions. Corridor adjustments prevent migrant concentration in specific areas, addressing congestion externalities that create anti-migration backlash. Destination host community adjustment costs are incorporated through side payments that compensate localities for public goods provision, making the cooperative equilibrium politically sustainable. All actors achieve long-term benefits, establishing a long-term stability equilibrium supported by complete contracts that specify contingencies for family reunification, skills circulation, and development cooperation. This equilibrium dominates Phase Two's Institutionalized Selective Cooperation by resolving the incomplete contracting problem; the human security actor serves as a third-party enforcer, ensuring that inter-temporal commitments to origin country development and family welfare are credible, and preventing the time-inconsistent extraction of human capital that characterized the previous equilibrium.

Quadrant II [high aspiration × low capability]: From Graduated Capability Enhancement to Capability Development and Strengthened Protection

Phase Two created legal corridors but lacked protection mechanisms during political or economic shocks. Applying the human security actor's objective function transforms graduated capability and institutionalized staged legal migration. Protection mechanisms for

potential migrants and migrants are strengthened. Multiple protected corridors are established for vulnerable populations who are unable to access existing corridors, regardless of their legal status, expanding their strategy space beyond the binary choice of staying or risking irregular migration. These corridors enable safe and secure mobility, in which the expected utility of protected migration exceeds that of remaining immobilized.

For those able to access corridors, the human security actor works to prevent irregular overstaying. It suppresses vulnerable corridors that risk undermining safe mobility and removes exploitative intermediaries whose presence creates adverse selection problems. It promotes education and empowerment activities that shift migrants' capability distributions rightward, expanding their feasible strategy sets over time.

These interventions enhance the capabilities of potential migrants to avoid vulnerable corridors. This prevents disorderly migration from origin countries and reduces irregular migration to destination countries. Orderly migration management becomes achievable, establishing a Nash equilibrium. The human security actor serves as a commitment device that makes destination countries' pro-protection policies credible through reputational enforcement. Origin countries find cooperation optimal as protected pathways preserve remittances while reducing citizen risks. Migrants choose pathways that maximize expected utility given capability constraints. No actor can improve their payoff through unilateral deviation, given institutional constraints. This equilibrium weakly dominates Phase Two's outcome: vulnerable migrants strictly gain protection, destination countries weakly prefer managed flows to irregular surges, and origin countries achieve equivalent or better welfare through reduced crisis risks.

Quadrant III [low aspiration × low capability]: From Development-Led Advancement to Preventive Protection

While Phase Two built capabilities, it lacked appropriate rapid response mechanisms for sudden displacement risks. Systems are established to prevent situations in which people are suddenly forced into involuntary mobility due to rapid external changes, transforming the game from reactive crisis response to anticipatory intervention. This quadrant's populations are the most vulnerable to external shocks among all quadrants because their limited capabilities provide no buffer against displacement, while low aspirations prevent preemptive mobility. Risk detection systems are crucial, using risk indicators for assessment and intervention, functioning as information-revelation mechanisms that convert private information about emerging risks into public signals that enable coordinated responses. System responsiveness and efficiency depend on establishing global indicators for involuntary mobility risks. These include migration patterns, meteorological data, and social tension levels. Systematic indicator monitoring enables trigger mechanisms that automatically activate

protection systems when specific thresholds are exceeded, solving the coordination failures. These mechanisms bind actors to specific responses conditional on observable states, preventing the time-inconsistency problem where political pressures override humanitarian imperatives during crises. International coordination frameworks with solidarity among multi-sectoral actors are the keys to success, creating a cooperative equilibrium sustained by repeated interaction and reputation effects. This Preventive Protection equilibrium differs from Phase Two's Development-led Advancement by shifting from capability building alone to maintaining option values; ensuring populations retain the capability to choose immobility or mobility as conditions change, rather than being forced into distress migration when shocks exceed their limited coping capacity.

Quadrant IV [low aspiration × high capability]: From Latent Capability Utilization to Comprehensive Protection

Development assistance mobilized capabilities but could not protect against forced displacement. The human security actor prioritizes human rights protection regardless of mobility status over benefits to the origin or destination countries, fundamentally altering the game's objective function from state-benefit maximization to individual-level utility maximization with minimum welfare constraints. Specifically, it establishes safety nets protecting people's lives, livelihoods, and dignity, creating insurance mechanisms that address the fundamental uncertainty facing high-capability individuals with artificially suppressed aspirations who may face sudden forced displacement. Examples include comprehensive social security systems that cover pre-migration, transit, and post-migration phases, functioning as state-contingent contracts that guarantee minimum welfare regardless of location or migration status.

Long-term outcomes include stability in the origin country through the development of a social security system that solves the hold-up problem, in which high-capability individuals underinvest in location-specific human capital due to fear of expropriation or forced displacement. Institutionalized comprehensive social security reduces irregular migration to destination countries by providing credible outside options that improve workers' bargaining positions domestically, enabling them to capture returns to their capabilities without migration. This prevents the destination country's social security system from collapsing due to an irregular influx of migrants, avoiding the tragedy of the commons, in which unrestricted access to destination welfare systems creates unsustainable fiscal burdens.

Involuntary mobility is prevented through option preservation: maintaining individuals' capability to choose immobility by ensuring their high capabilities can be productively employed regardless of aspiration levels. When it occurs, humanitarian protection mechanisms are ready, and safety and security are ensured for all, establishing a Comprehensive Protection equilibrium that dominates Phase Two's Latent Capability utilization. This equilibrium addresses the fundamental mismatch between capabilities and

aspirations through portable social protection that travels with individuals rather than remaining tied to location-based benefits.

The human security actor serves as an insurance provider of last resort, addressing the missing market problem in which private insurers cannot profitably cover forced displacement risks. The resulting equilibrium is self-enforcing: origin countries support it to retain human capital, destination countries to prevent irregular surges, and individuals to maintain optionality over their mobility decisions.

The analysis thus far has examined equilibrium transformations through staged actor entry (Table 2). Games constituted by participating actors maintain equilibrium through delicate inter-actor balance across all quadrants. However, this can also be understood as fragmented multiple equilibria across quadrants. People's true aspirations may be ignored. Other actors may intentionally segregate populations by low and high capabilities, controlling inter-quadrant transitions. Latent risks remain unrecognized. Even Quadrants III and IV.2—which require the most support—risk being interpreted as stable, continuous systems.

However, when the human security actor enters, migration system objectives shift. The focus moves from state-centric benefit maximization to individual-level utility maximization, thereby protecting all people's lives, livelihoods, and dignity. This represents a paradigm shift. State security and human security are not opposing axes; instead, they create circular synergy effects, developing resilient migration systems that ensure human security while maintaining state security.

Implementation remains challenging. States often prioritize short-term benefits due to the influence of political cycles and domestic pressures. International organizations hold integrated perspectives but cannot fully exercise their effectiveness due to the interests of member states. Actors with various positional constraints face difficulties in taking the initiative. Table 2 presents the analytical results of strategic interventions from the initial stage through the third phase.

3.4 Future support strategy frameworks: from state security versus human security dichotomy to holistic paradigm shift

The preceding analysis examined how migration equilibria transform when actors with different objectives enter sequentially. The development assistance actor pursues benefits for origin and destination states through institutional development. The human security actor maximizes individual-level utility (life, livelihood, and dignity) with a minimum welfare floor. In migration governance debates, state-centered and people-centered approaches are often discussed as distinct orientations. The equilibrium results across the four quadrants suggest that these objectives need not conflict. With appropriate institutional coordination, state-level and individual-level optimization can be mutually reinforcing.

Analysis of equilibrium transformations through staged actor entry reveals three key theoretical contributions to migration scholarship. First, the framework resolves contradictory findings in the migration-development literature by demonstrating quadrant-specific effects. Second, it explains governance complexity as functional rather than dysfunctional. Third, it identifies conditions for stable protection-oriented equilibria. Integrating de Haas's aspirations-capabilities framework with migration governance theory enables the theorization of how development and protection interventions transform equilibrium points in the migration system.

First, Quadrant I's long-term stable cooperation should be understood in terms of institutional roles. International frameworks, such as the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), lack binding legal force. Yet they function as platforms for norm formation and policy learning. Collaboration between development and human security actors allows a multilayered governance approach. Partial optimization across different levels and sectors enables overall optimization to be achieved in an emergent manner. The transition from provisional to permanent equilibrium is promoted through institutional consolidation and positive feedback effects. This multilayered optimization works through coordination mechanisms in soft-law frameworks. Though non-binding, these frameworks serve as coordination devices that align expectations across actors. When states publicly commit to norms through soft-law instruments, they create reputational stakes that make deviation costly, even in the absence of legal sanctions. The partial optimization at each governance level (bilateral agreements, regional processes, global compacts) generates information spillovers and learning effects that guide the system toward overall optimization without central coordination. This represents an equilibrium where reputation mechanisms sustain cooperation even in the absence of enforcement.

Second, Quadrant II's Capability Development and strengthened protection equilibrium align with existing migration-development nexus research. Development actor interventions expand potential migrants' choices through improved access to education, skills development, and financial services. This process creates positional changes along the forced-voluntary migration continuum, understood as strengthened migrant agency. Critically, this change promotes transitions from partial to general equilibrium. Specifically, partial equilibrium refers to stability in specific bilateral corridors where established institutions create localized order while adjacent corridors remain chaotic. A general equilibrium emerges when protection mechanisms achieve system-wide coverage, enabling any potential migrant to access managed pathways regardless of origin, destination, or skill level.

The transition occurs through three mechanisms inherent to complex adaptive systems. First, successful corridor models diffuse through regional forums and technical cooperation. Second, expanding protected networks reduces per-migrant costs through scale economies. Third,

development interventions and protection frameworks create reinforcing cycles: enhanced capabilities increase demand for rights-based migration, while reduced risks incentivize further human capital investment. These feedback loops progressively incorporate excluded populations until comprehensive coverage emerges, not merely enlarged partial equilibrium but qualitatively different system-wide coordination exhibiting the self-organizing properties characteristic of complex adaptive systems. Even limited equilibria in specific regions or sectors enable path-dependent development toward broader equilibria through spillover effects.

Third, Quadrant III's Preventive Protection through human security actor intervention presents new concepts of protection-centered equilibrium. Since the 1994 UNDP Human Development Report (UNDP 1994), the institutionalization of human security approaches has expanded the concept of the protection space. Freedom of movement and security provision are now recognized as mutually reinforcing. Game-theoretically, this shift in recognition can be expressed as an expansion of stable cooperative solutions in cooperative games, where the set of allocations for actors with no deviation incentives expands. The expansion occurs because human security principles fundamentally restructure the cooperative game. In traditional state-centric frameworks, the core (stable allocations where no coalition benefits from deviation) remains small as states veto arrangements perceived to compromise sovereignty. Human security approaches expand this core through three mechanisms: incorporating migrants as rights-bearing players rather than passive objects, redefining payoffs from zero-sum security to positive-sum development where protection generates collective benefits, and introducing burden-sharing mechanisms that compensate states for protection costs.

These changes make previously blocked allocations viable. States no longer veto protection-oriented distributions because humanitarian crisis prevention and enhanced human capital utilization generate benefits for all parties. The expanded core thus includes allocations where protection and mobility become complementary rather than competing objectives, helping to explain why human security frameworks stabilize cooperation that pure state-centric approaches cannot sustain.

Fourth, Quadrant IV's "comprehensive social protection systems" apply social protection to migration contexts. The creation of social protection systems by development actors fundamentally alters the cost structures for realizing migration opportunities. Enhanced social protection in origin regions structurally reduces migration as a survival strategy. Simultaneously, selective interventions by human security actors to assist vulnerable populations can provide protection against extreme risks. This reduces the likelihood of distress-driven mobility.

This structural reduction operates through altered risk-return calculations in migration decisions. Social protection systems function as insurance mechanisms, transforming the migration choice

from a forced gamble between destitution and uncertain returns abroad to a genuine choice between secure basic welfare at home and opportunity-driven mobility. Comprehensive Protection converts migration from a dominant strategy under extreme vulnerability to a context-dependent choice based on comparative advantage rather than survival imperatives. When guaranteed minimum welfare through social protection exceeds the expected value of distress migration minus transaction costs, rational actors choose immobility. This explains why Comprehensive Protection systems reduce distress-driven mobility while preserving beneficial labor mobility.

The analysis yields an important theoretical implication: migration governance equilibria are essentially dynamic. Migration systems contain positive feedback loops. Enhancing development intervention capabilities can improve access to employment opportunities, thereby inducing further investment in human capital. Interventions that strengthen human security protection reduce migration costs and risks, promoting the use of safe pathways. This dual dynamic reveals the characteristics of migration systems as complex adaptive systems, which cannot be captured through conventional static analysis.

Policy implications require experimental, adaptive governance approaches for dynamic equilibria. Governance structures need continuous learning and adjustment rather than fixed institutional designs. Multilayered governance encompasses the enhancement of development actor capabilities, human security actor protection functions, state regulatory frameworks, civil society implementation, and private sector innovation. Each maintains partial autonomy while contributing to the coherence of the overall system.

The analysis demonstrates that the apparent dichotomy between state security and human security dissolves when both objectives are pursued through coordinated institutional frameworks. Phase Two optimization of state benefits creates the infrastructure upon which Phase Three individual protections can be built. Conversely, Phase Three interventions that ensure minimum individual welfare reduce irregular flows and crisis responses that threaten state interests. This mutual reinforcement, rather than zero-sum competition, characterizes the holistic paradigm that emerges from the equilibrium analysis. The shift is not from state security to human security, but toward an integrated governance framework where both are simultaneously achievable.

The *World Development Report 2023: Migrants, Refugees, and Societies* (World Bank 2023) proposes strategic management as a policy framework acknowledging this complexity. Positioning migration as an endogenous element of development rather than a dependent variable enables convergence toward more comprehensive and sustainable equilibria. However, this convergence process is neither linear nor deterministic. It requires careful policy design and continuous monitoring, acknowledging multiple equilibria and path dependencies.

4. Discussion: Essential elements of support systems for migration

This study constructs a new theoretical framework for migration governance by analyzing relationships between individual migration patterns and development assistance needs based on de Haas's aspirations-capabilities theory, reconceptualized through human security perspectives. This integrated approach demonstrates dynamic and comprehensive support strategies responsive to migrant diversity.

The first contribution conceptualizes the protection-empowerment balance as a continuum that changes dynamically with development progress. Protection takes priority in early development stages, while empowerment proportionally increases with capability enhancement. This dynamic relationship became theorizable by connecting Sen's concept of freedom with de Haas's view of migration as the "capability to choose where to live." Flexible and rapid response to changing individual circumstances enables resilient migration systems to achieve safe and secure mobility.

The second contribution clarifies the support needs specific to each quadrant through four-quadrant analysis, particularly identifying the needs of previously overlooked vulnerable populations. Quadrant III populations (low aspiration \times low capability) in acquiescent immobility remain unaware of migration options and possibilities. Neither they nor their communities recognize support needs. Long-term support is necessary before risks materialize. Conversely, Quadrant IV.2 involuntary movers face unique circumstances of forced mobility despite high capabilities. Their human security faces severe threats, requiring special protection strategies. This reveals that support must address not only migration facilitation or management, but also the formation of personal aspirations.

Third, game-theoretic analysis clarified mechanisms through which human security actor entry qualitatively transforms the equilibria of migration systems. Traditional migration systems prioritized state sovereignty and economic interests, managing mobile populations as human resources. However, human security perspectives transform the utility functions of the actors themselves, expanding to multidimensional frameworks that encompass their lives, livelihoods, and dignity.

This analysis theoretically derives detailed pathways for equilibrium transition. Quadrant I (high aspiration \times high capability) transitions from Selective Cooperation to long-term stability. Quadrant II (high aspiration \times low capability) shifts from Non-cooperation with Tension to Capability Development with Strengthened Protection. Quadrant III (low aspiration \times low capability) moves from Passive Stability to Preventive Protection. Quadrant IV (low aspiration \times high capability) evolves from Voluntary Immobility (IV.1) or Transitional State (IV.2) to Comprehensive Protection.

Fourth, game-theoretic results yielded specific intervention strategies for each quadrant. Quadrant I requires long-term stable international coordination, considering the origin country's sustainable development. Quadrant II requires coordination strategies balancing multiple safe migration corridors with vulnerable population protection. Quadrant III requires Preventive Protection through trigger mechanisms. Quadrant IV necessitates strategies that ensure comprehensive human rights protection, regardless of mobility status.

Fifth, the analysis revealed coordination mechanisms among diverse actors. Game-theoretic analysis demonstrated that the development and entry of human security actors shift initial non-cooperative regimes toward cooperative equilibria. This enables: (1) stable establishment of multiple safe migration corridors with protection for vulnerable populations unable to access them; (2) early identification of invisible vulnerable populations with Preventive Protection before vulnerability transitions; (3) comprehensive mechanisms continuously ensuring lives, livelihoods, and dignity throughout the migration process. Migration systems with these characteristics reflect human security's principles: human-centered continuous processes responsive to individual changes.

Practical implications require multilayered, risk-diversified governance structures corresponding to dynamic equilibria. Systems must be customized to individual aspirations and capabilities, while flexibly adjusting the protection-empowerment balance in response to dynamic changes. Solidarity strategies that strengthen stakeholder coordination are crucial. These strategies leverage diverse stakeholder advantages while maintaining coordinating functions for a protection-empowerment balance. They enable both emergency support and preventive interventions.

Systems strategically managing international migration through international coordination can effectively function when grounded in human security concepts. These concepts serve as common stakeholder objectives transcending differences in positions, mandates, and interests. Migration systems based on human security advance beyond efficiency-focused traditional migration management and refugee reception. They respect all people's lives, livelihoods, and dignity while achieving risk-preventive, highly sustainable benefits.

In conclusion, this study's resilient migration system provides the theoretical foundations for developing sustainable mobility systems to protect the lives, livelihoods, and dignity of all people through development-protection synergies. This aligns with the World Bank's (2023) strategic management concept, offering new perspectives for positioning migration as an endogenous development process element.

This discussion paper's quadrant-based support examination proceeded through theoretical deduction, requiring future empirical validation by conducting case studies and analyses. Socially

implementing theoretical frameworks requires effective coordination of political and financial resources across international, regional, and national levels. Actors with various positional constraints face difficulties in taking the initiative. However, this study suggests that methods for realizing safe and secure migration centered on protecting people's lives, livelihoods, and dignity are transformative and diverse. We anticipate the utilization of this framework as a means of exploring context-appropriate support approaches.

Future research should examine development assistance and humanitarian actor roles from the perspective of empowering vulnerable populations through community connections and amplifying their capacities while carefully considering individual-state power imbalances. The UNHCR's Focus Area Strategic Plan for Climate Action in South Sudan (UNHCR 2024) provides an indicative example. The installation of early warning systems in flood-prone refugee camps and community volunteer initiatives that can benefit both refugees and host communities may exemplify a protective equilibrium realization. Future case analyses should further refine the theory and identify the conditions necessary for its implementation.

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Abstract (in Japanese)

要 約

本研究は、de Haas の願望・潜在能力枠組みと人間の安全保障アプローチを統合し、国際移住ガバナンスの理論枠組みを構築した。潜在的移住者を aspirations と capabilities の組み合わせによる 4 象限に分類し、従来見過ごされてきた支援ニーズを明らかにした。特に「黙従的不動性」(低願望×低能力)にある脆弱層と、能力があるが保護を要する強制移住者の存在を特定した。

開発段階に応じた動的介入戦略を概念化し、初期段階では保護を優先し、能力向上に伴いエンパワメントの比重を高める枠組みを提示した。ゲーム理論分析により、国家安全保障重視の均衡が、開発援助と人間の安全保障アクターの参入により、生命・生計・尊厳を優先する人間中心の均衡へと質的に転換することを導出した。

主な貢献は、①保護・エンパワメントバランスの開発対応型連続体の概念化、②象限別支援戦略の特定、③多主体間調整による均衡変容メカニズムの解明、④人間の安全保障原則の実装指針の提供である。本枠組みは、人間の尊厳を尊重しつつ複雑な国際移動課題に対処する移住システム設計のツールを提供する。

キーワード： 願望・潜在能力枠組み、人間の安全保障、人間の移動、保護・能力強化バランス