



**connexion**  
INTERNATIONALE



**FOCAL**

Canadian Foundation for the Americas

Fondation canadienne pour les Amériques

Fundación Canadiense para las Américas

Fundação Canadense para as Américas

**“Creating Opportunities for Temporary Foreign Workers: Innovation in Capacity building and Skills Transfer in Latin America ”**

UNITAR Labour Migration seminar, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008

# Canadian Context



## **Demand for TFWs increasing**

- ▶ Shift from a focus on family reunification to the economic/temporary labour categories
- ▶ By the end of 2006, Canada overtook the U.S. with 171,844 TFWs, compared to 160,000
- ▶ While Quebec and Ontario still important destinations, new epicentres of demand are Alberta, B.C. and Manitoba

## **Sectors under Pressure include:**

- Construction
- Tourism
- Hospitality
- Services

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## Objectives

1. Enhance skills and employability of workers
2. Facilitate skills transfer
3. Encourage social investment in migrant-sending communities
4. Higher entrepreneurial activity among lower-skilled migrant workers

## Participants

*Beneficiaries:* Lower-skilled L.A. migrant workers in Canada (FTWP) - various occupations

*Partners:* FOCAL, Connexion, IOM Geneva

*Regional IOM Missions :* Mexico, El Salvador, Colombia, Ecuador and Honduras

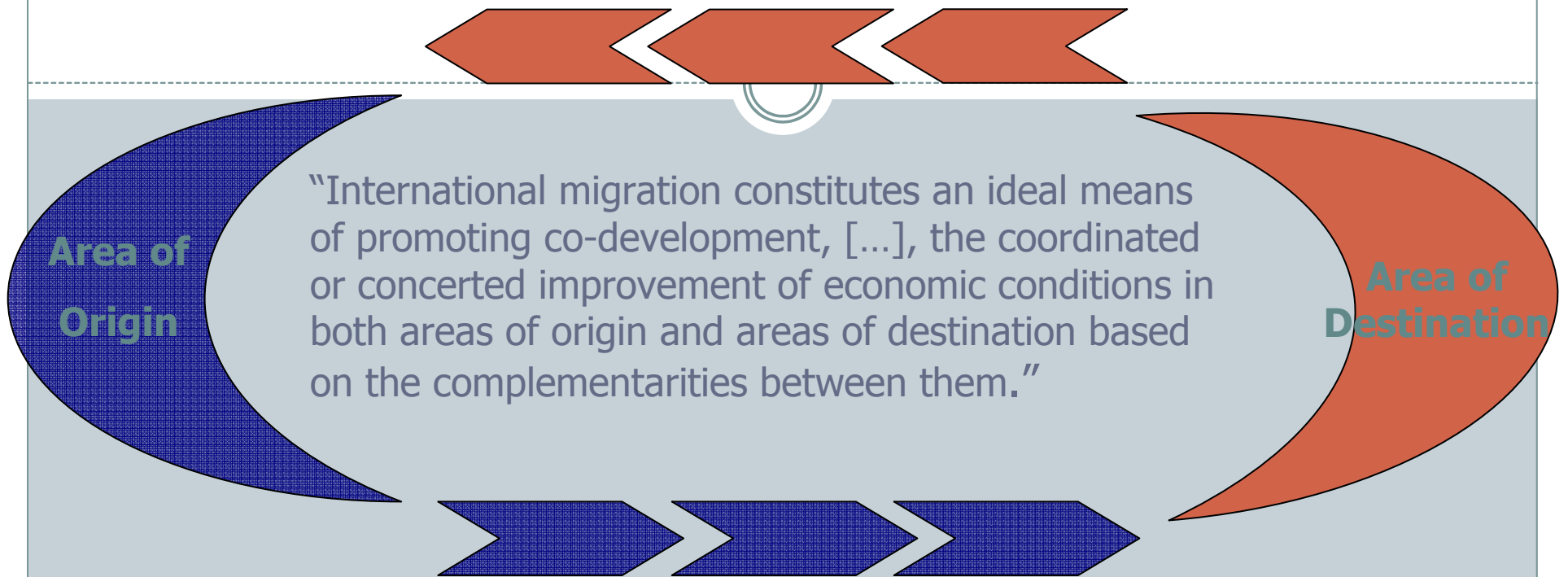
*Potential funders :* IDB (Multilateral Investment Bank) Government/Employers

# Policy Framework “ALERT”



- A** Access to training and education
- L** Leveraging remittances
- E** Engaging communities
- R** Reciprocity
- T** Transparency

# Co-development



“International migration constitutes an ideal means of promoting co-development, [...], the coordinated or concerted improvement of economic conditions in both areas of origin and areas of destination based on the complementarities between them.”

– Kofi Annan, ‘International migration and development: Report of the Secretary-General’, 18 May 2006

# Project Methods



Innovative project design emphasizes learning activities at all 3 stages of migration:

a) Pre-departure

b) During work contract abroad

c) Post-return

Three Opportunity areas:

- 1) On-site training
- 2) Additional courses
- 3) Social investment at home

Participatory structure also ensures that nature and degree of project participation is voluntary.

# Value Added of our Model?



- Ecuador / Spain
- Brazil (ie. Dekassegui IDB project)
- MIDA (Focus on Diaspora)

- ▶ Inclusion of ongoing training and education as components of bilateral labour framework
- ▶ Linkages on a collective and transnational level  
ie. Collective fundraising projects
- ▶ Transparency / E-platform
  - ▶ KIVA
- ▶ Canada's TFWP model

# Long-term Results



- a) Channel social and economic entrepreneurial spirit of individuals towards local economic development
  
- b) Capacity building of civil society by developing a cohesive network of migrant support in both source & destination
  
- c) Policy coherence

# Thank-You!



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