

# Migration in the context of Globalisation, Development and Inequality

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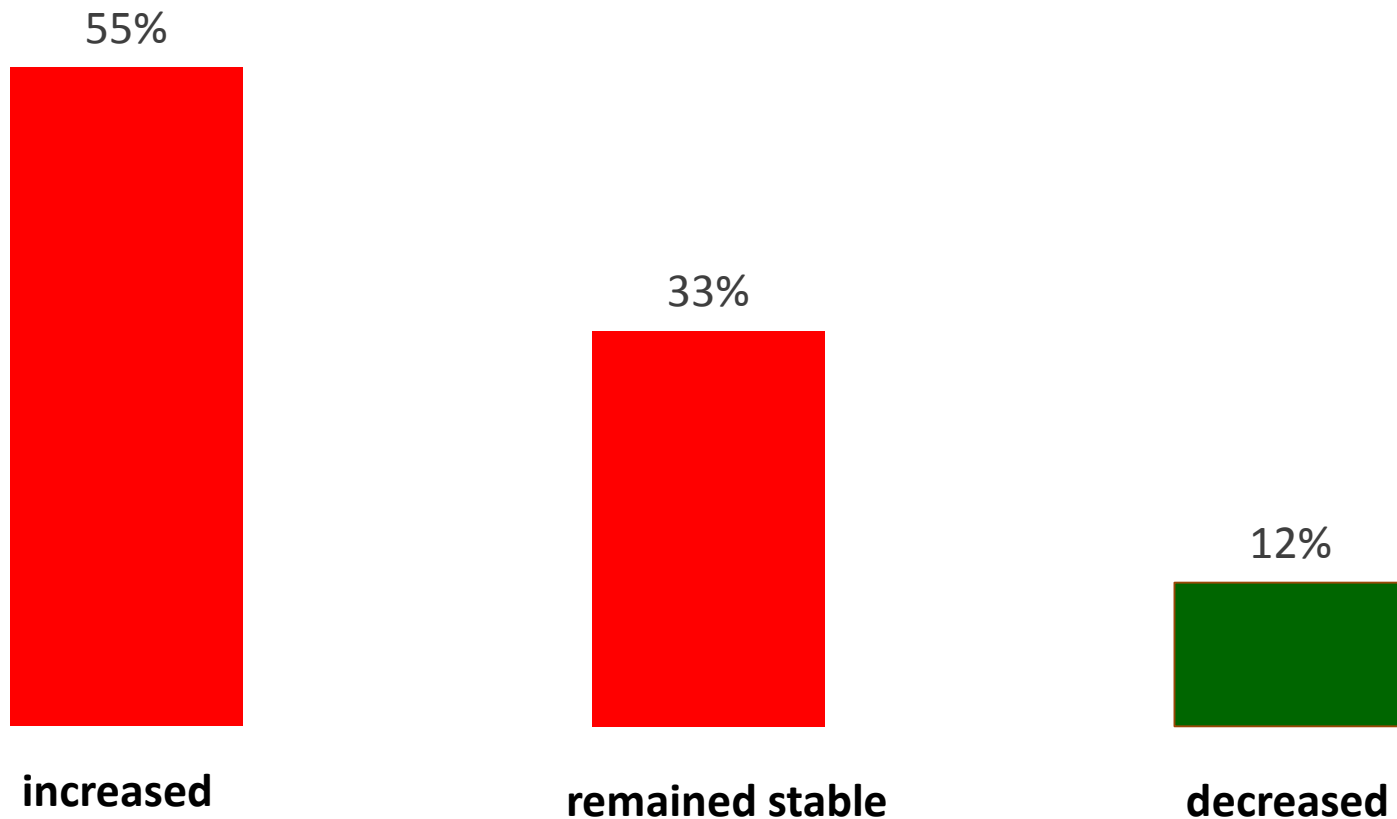
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# Key message

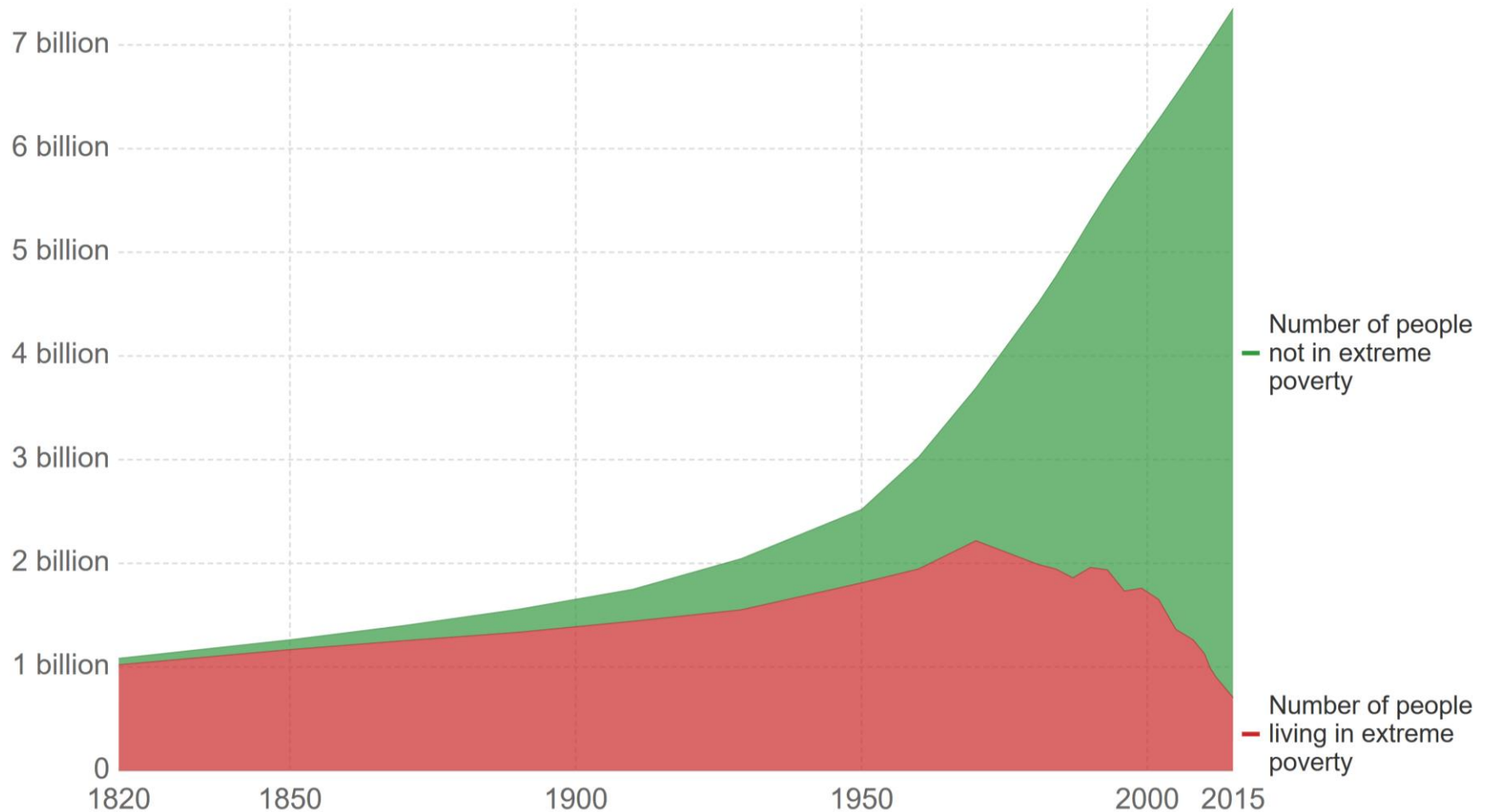
In a global context of rising inequality, development discrepancies, and environmental stress, a surprisingly small number of people are becoming migrants.

In the last 30 years, the share of world population in extreme poverty has...



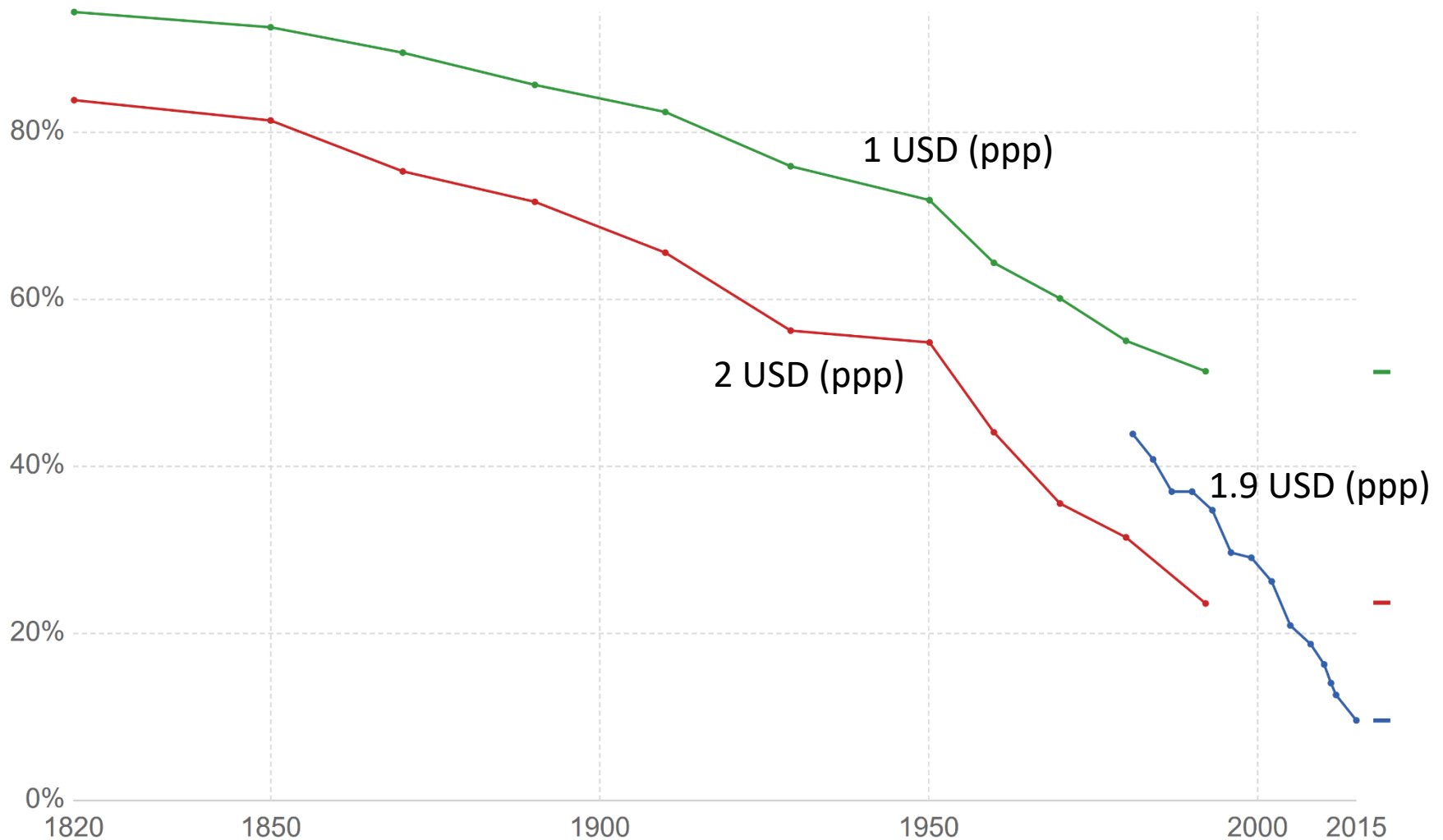
Source: Gallup (UK)

# World population in extreme poverty, 1820-2015



Source: Bourgignon/Morrison (2002) und Worldbank (2015)

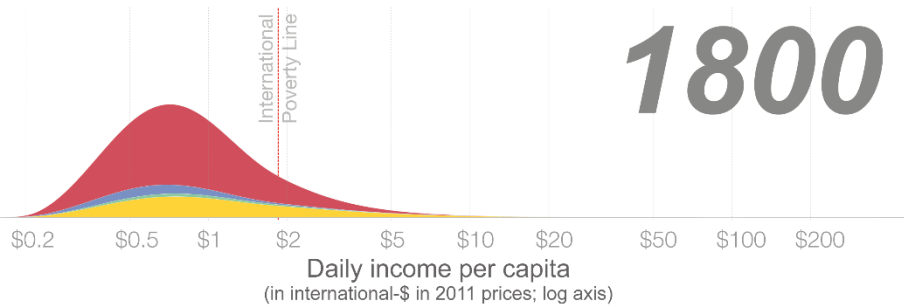
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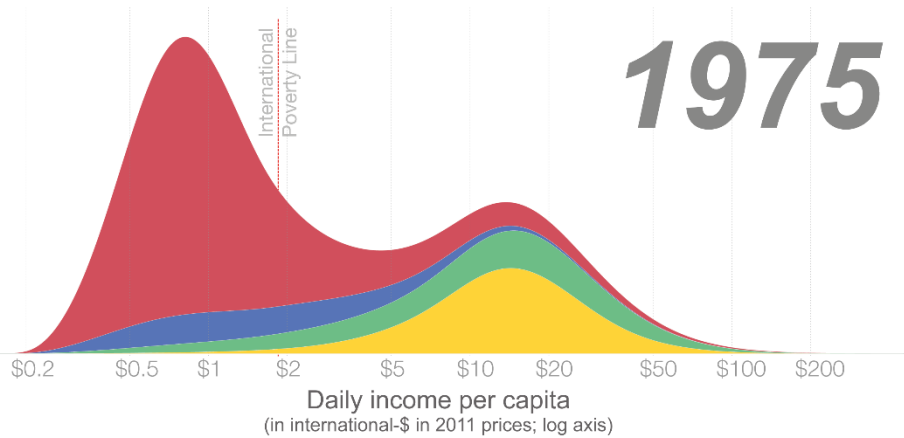
Source: Bourignon/Morrison (2002) und Worldbank (2015)

# Shifts in the global income distribution

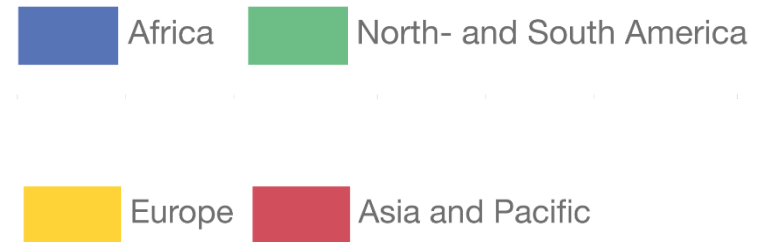
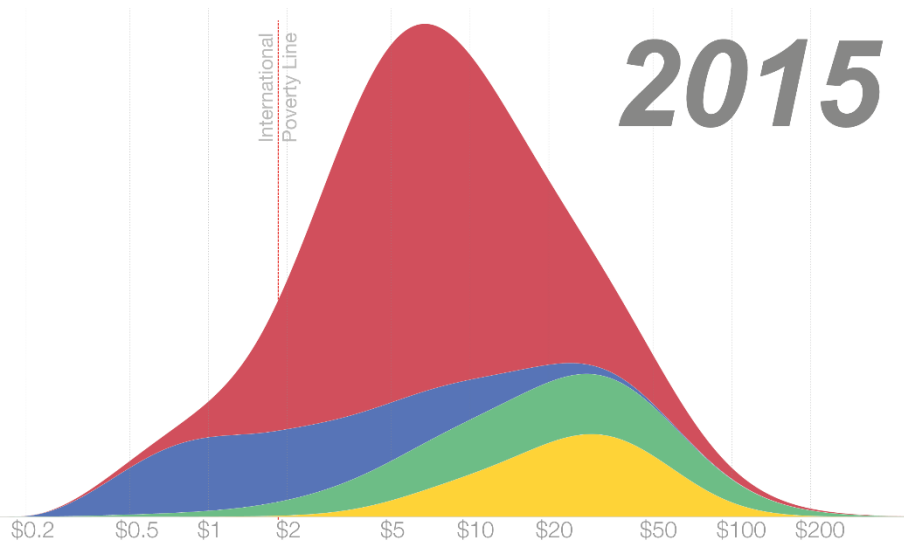
1800



1975

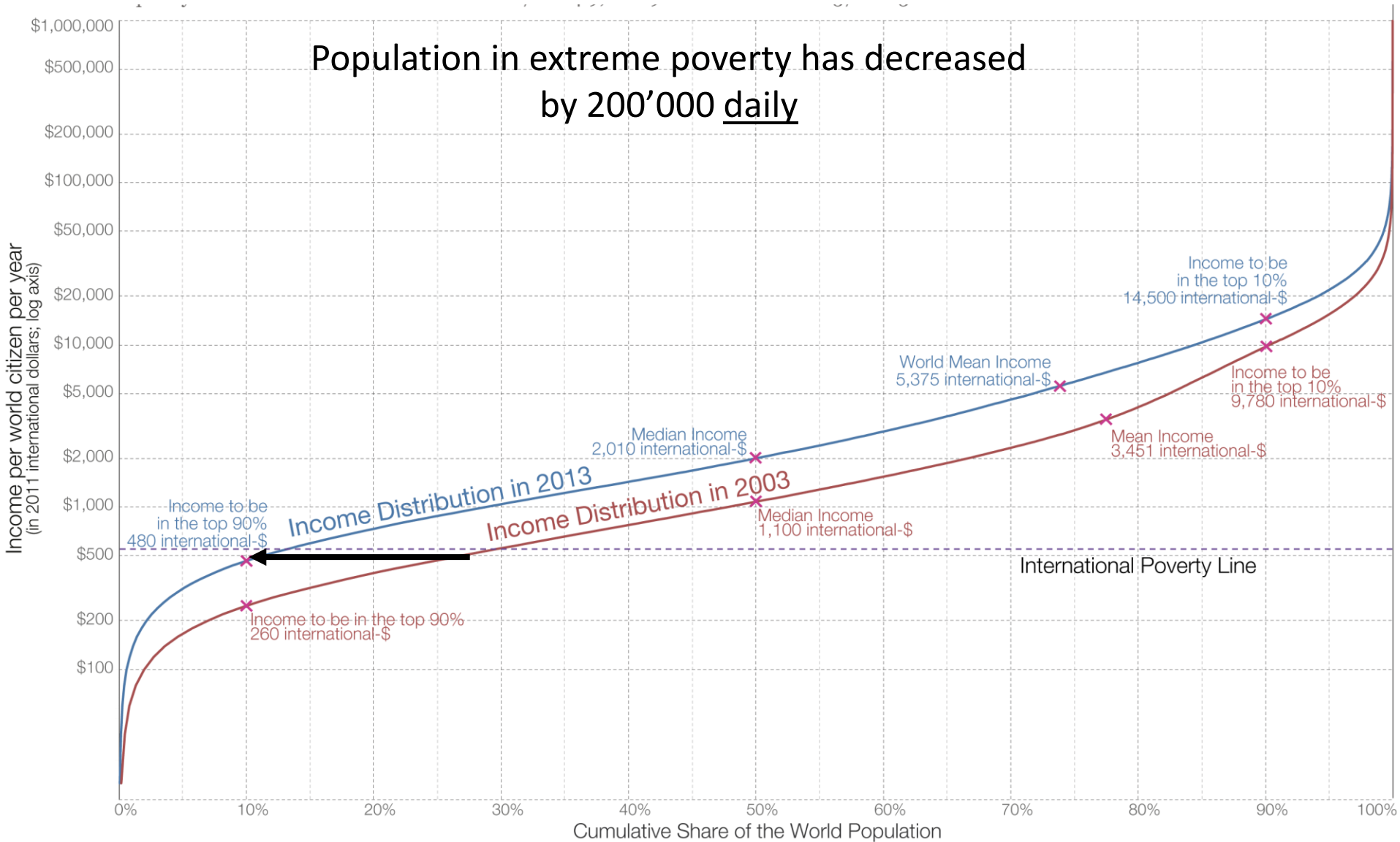


2015



Source: Worldbank (2017)

# Shifts in global income distribution and poverty, 2003/13

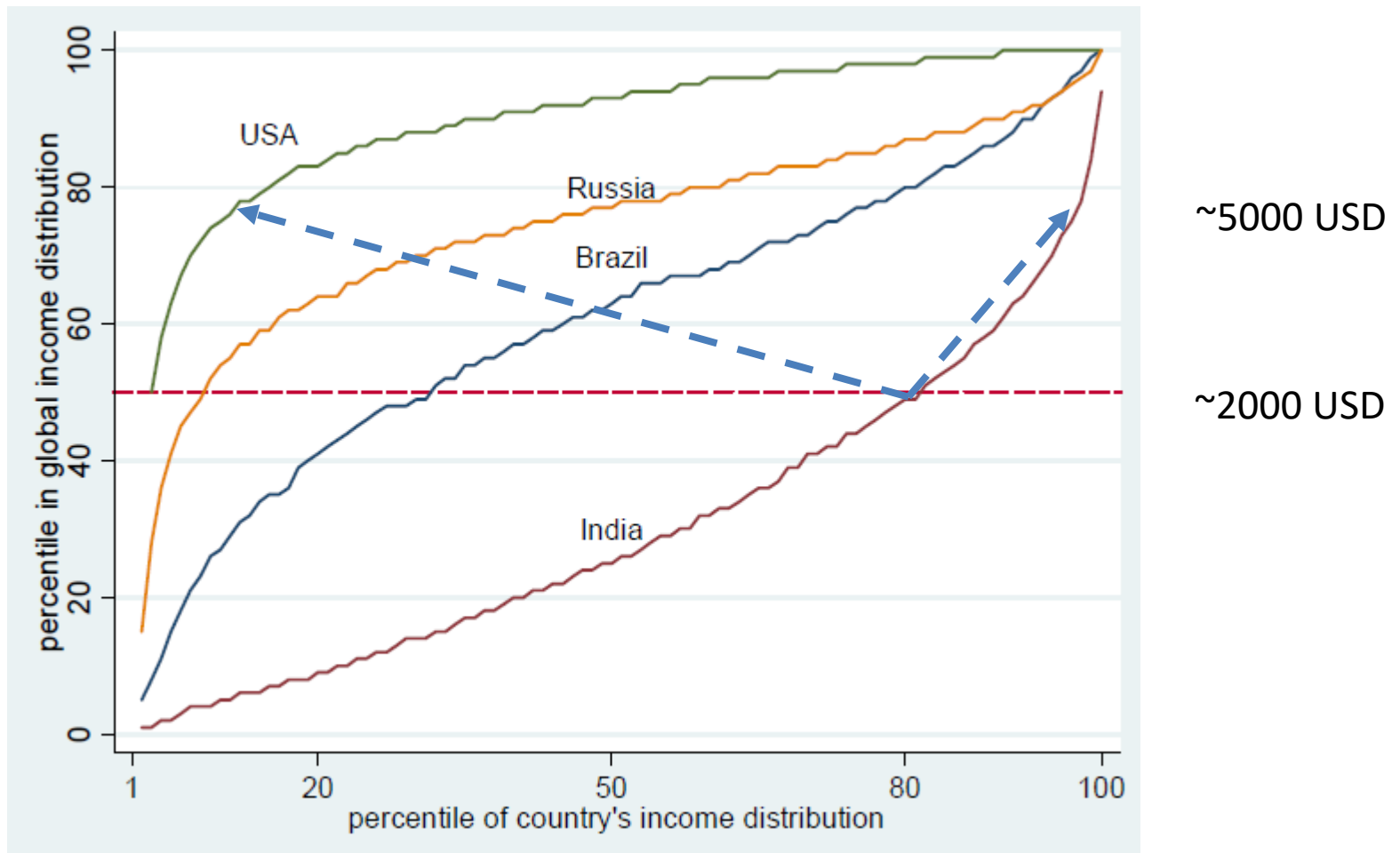


## Findings

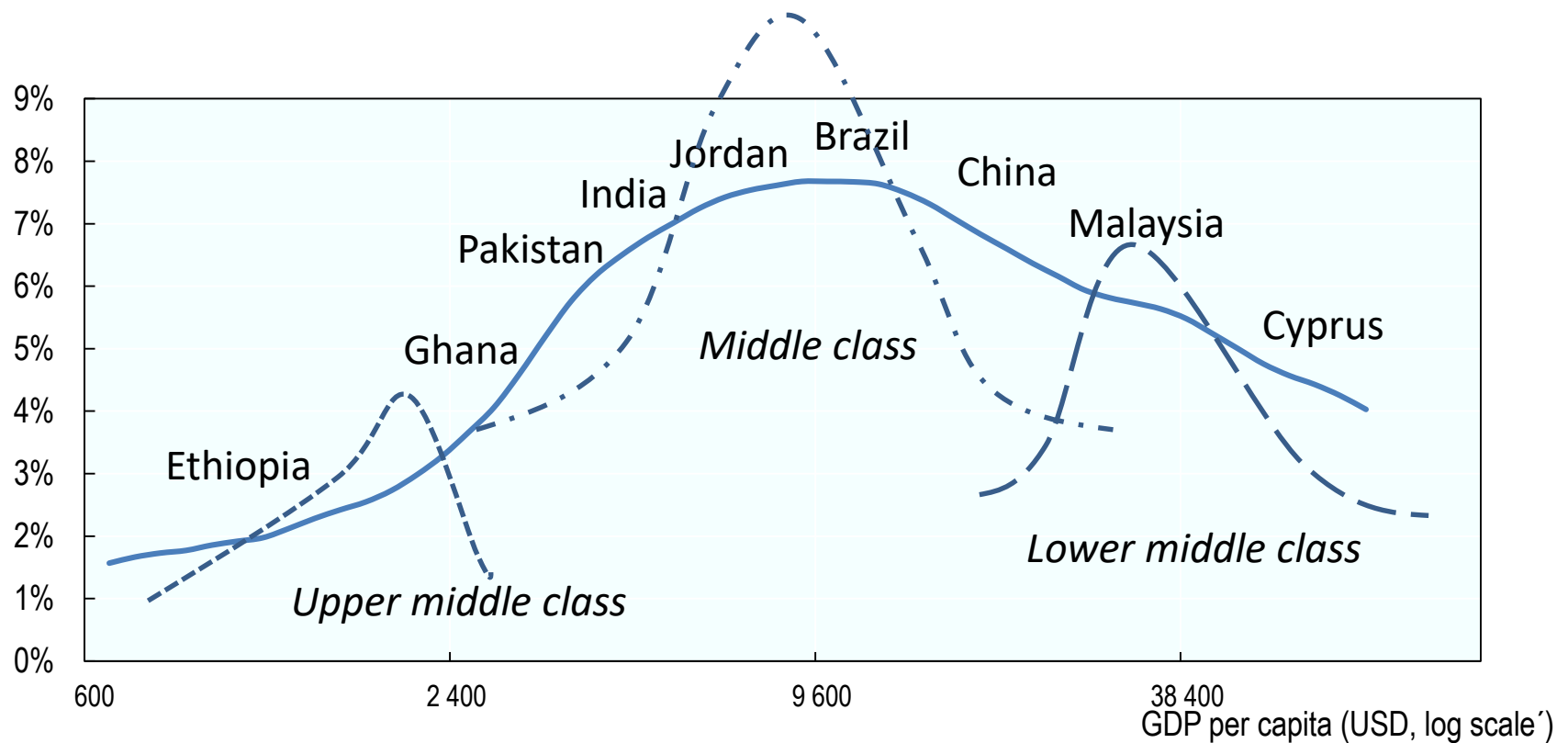
- The global poverty situation has improved significantly over past decades
- Global income inequality has not decreased to a similar extent, inequality within countries has (mostly) worsened
- Distribution policies (taxes, transfers) can be an effective tool in addressing economic inequality
- BUT: The extreme rich (top 1%, 0.1%) remain largely unaffected
- International migration and mobility may spur development and alleviate inequality
- Migration facilitation in combination with redistribution policies may contribute to 'pro-poor growth' and more balanced development.



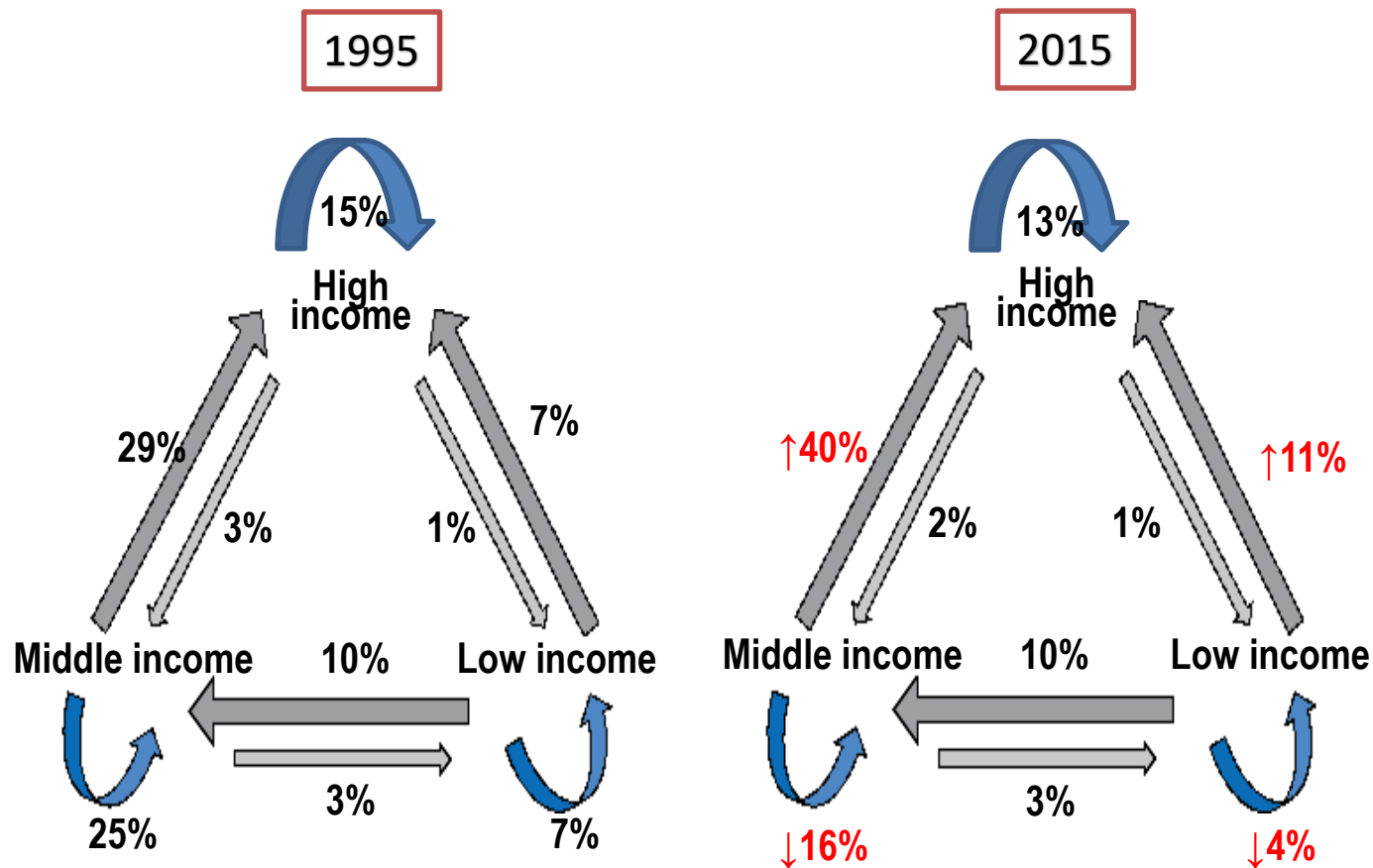
# Moving from the global median to the global mean, 2011



# Emigration propensity by level of development (GDP per capita and migration rates) 2010



# Global migration between 1995 and 2015

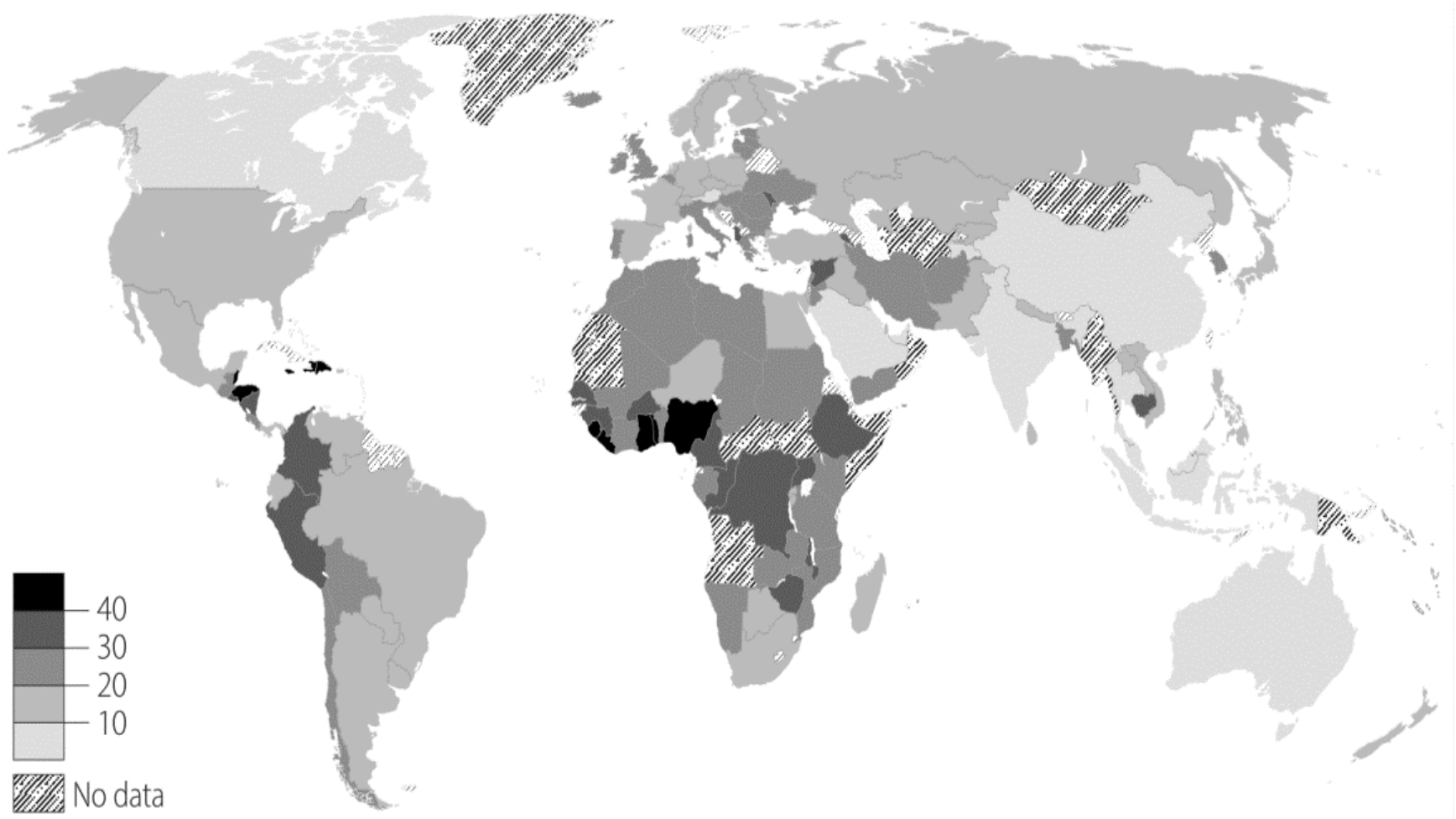


# Scale of the global migration potential?

Cf. Gallup World Poll (2016)

- About 1.1 billion desire to move temporarily to another country (22% of world population)
- About 710 million desire to move permanently to another country within the next 5 years (14% world population)
- About 48 million are planning to make the move of next year (1% of world population)
- About 19 million are making concrete preparations to move (e.g. buying visas and tickets etc.) (0.4% of world population)

**“Ideally, if you had the opportunity, would you like to move permanently to another country?”**



Quelle: Carling/Schewel (2018)

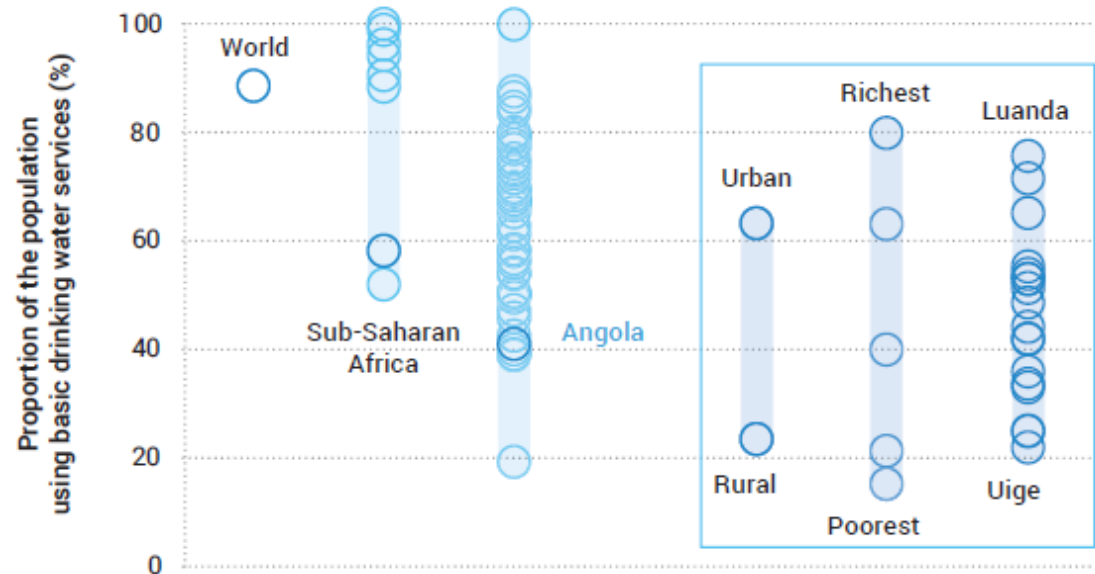
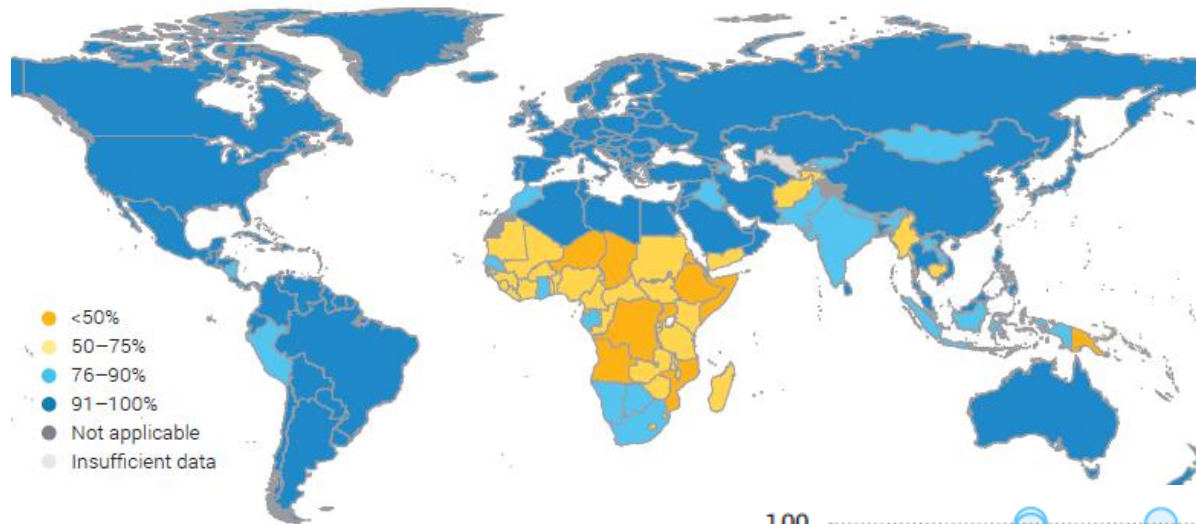
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- About 500 million people think they may need to move because of environmental problems within the next five years (10% of world population)

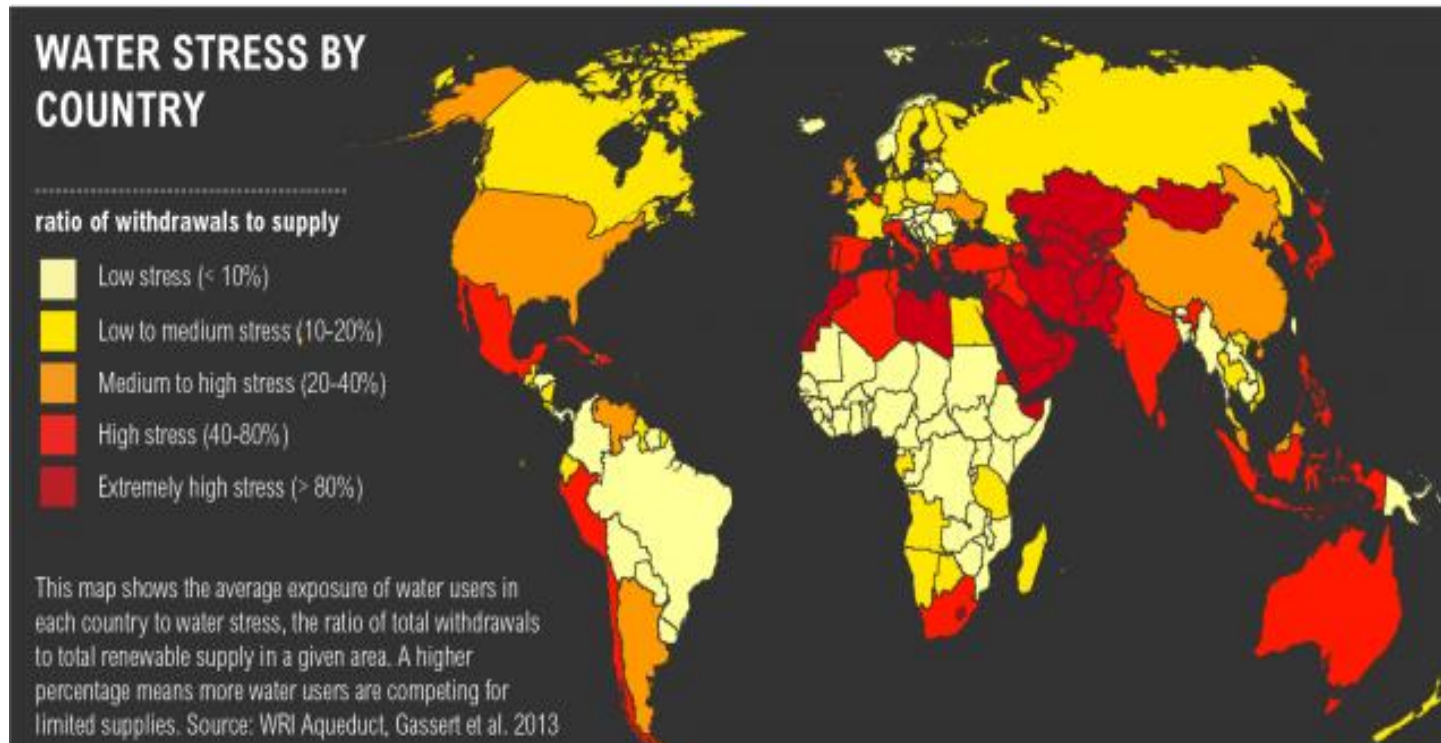
**Mixed migration motivations: Need vs. Desire**

# Proportion of population with access to basic drinking water services, 2015



Source: WHO/UNICEF (2017)

# Distribution of water scarcity

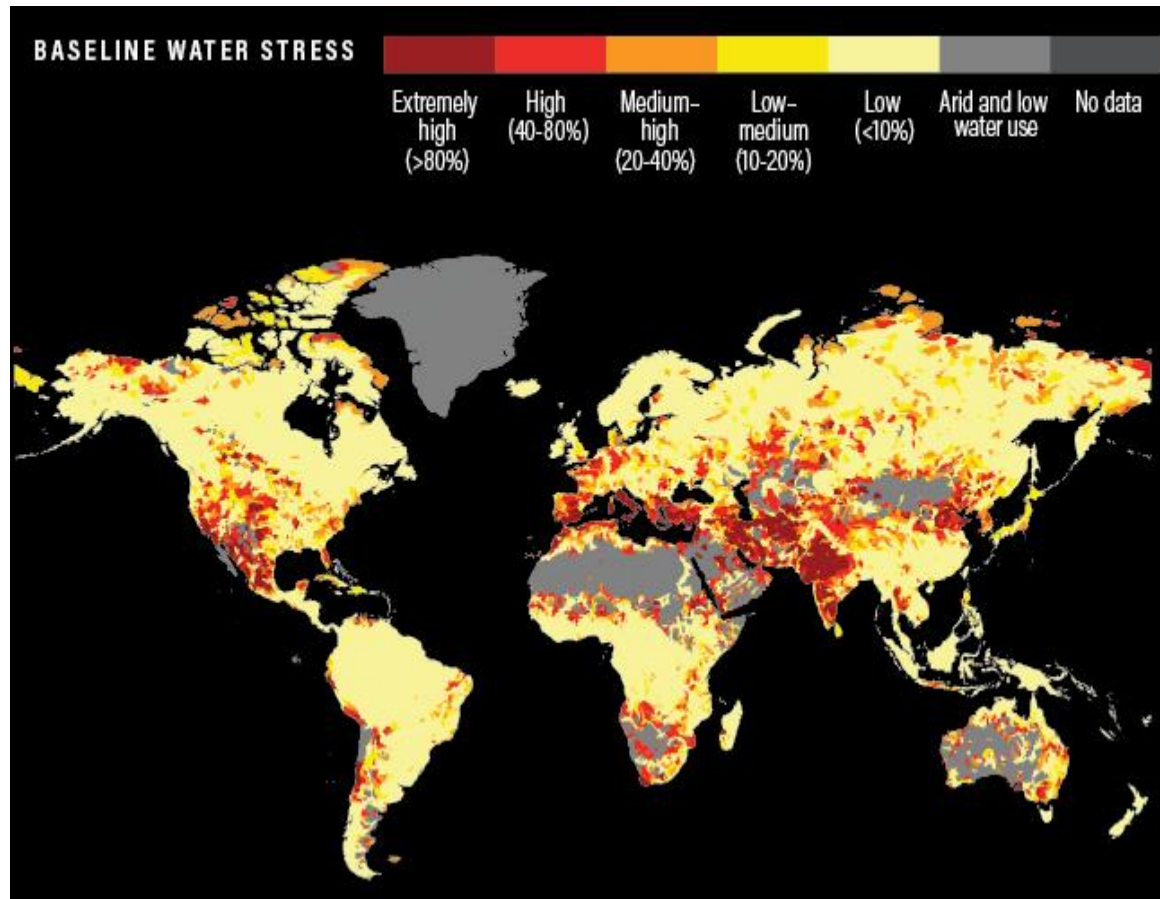


Source: WRI 2019

Definition: Water stress as the ratio of total withdrawals to total renewable supply in a given area. A higher percentage means more water users are competing for limited water supplies.



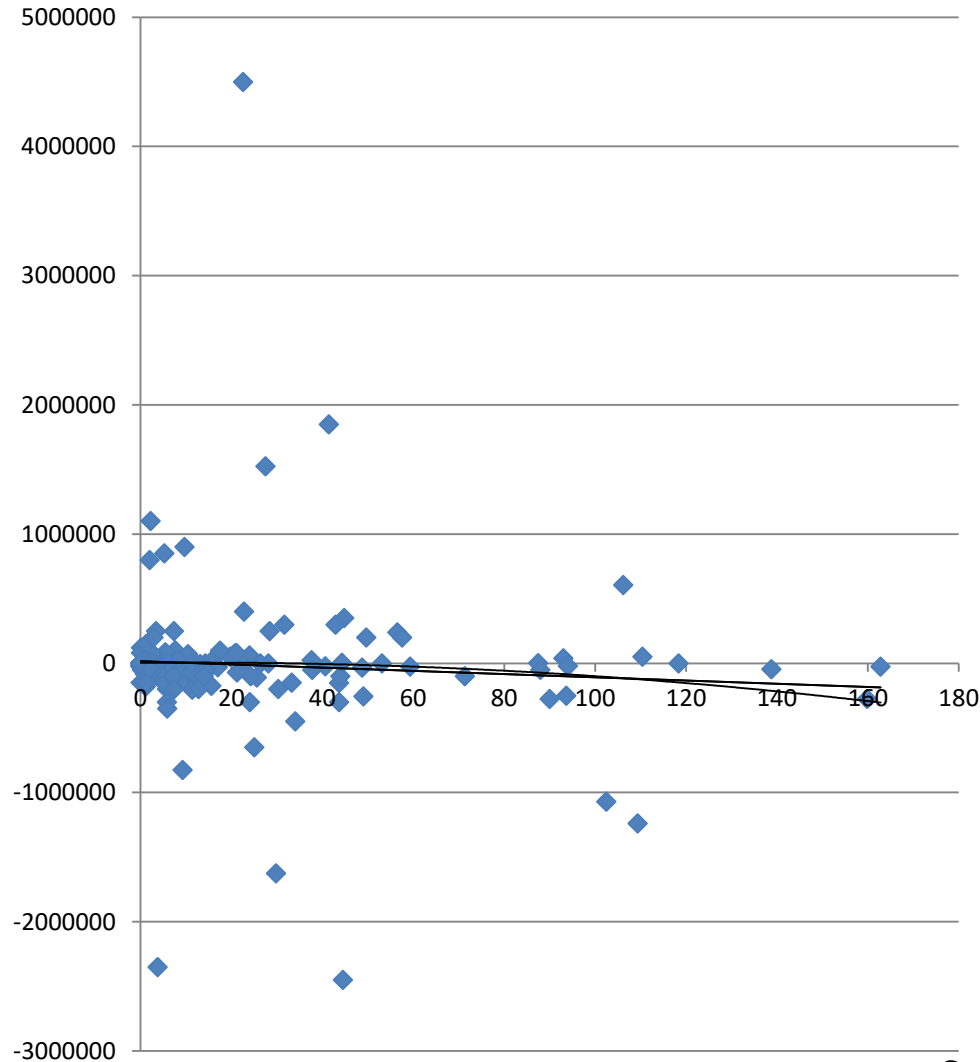
**Localised water stress is (if at all) mainly driving internal (i.e. short-distance) migration**



Source: WIR (2019)

# Water stress vs. Net migration (N=190)

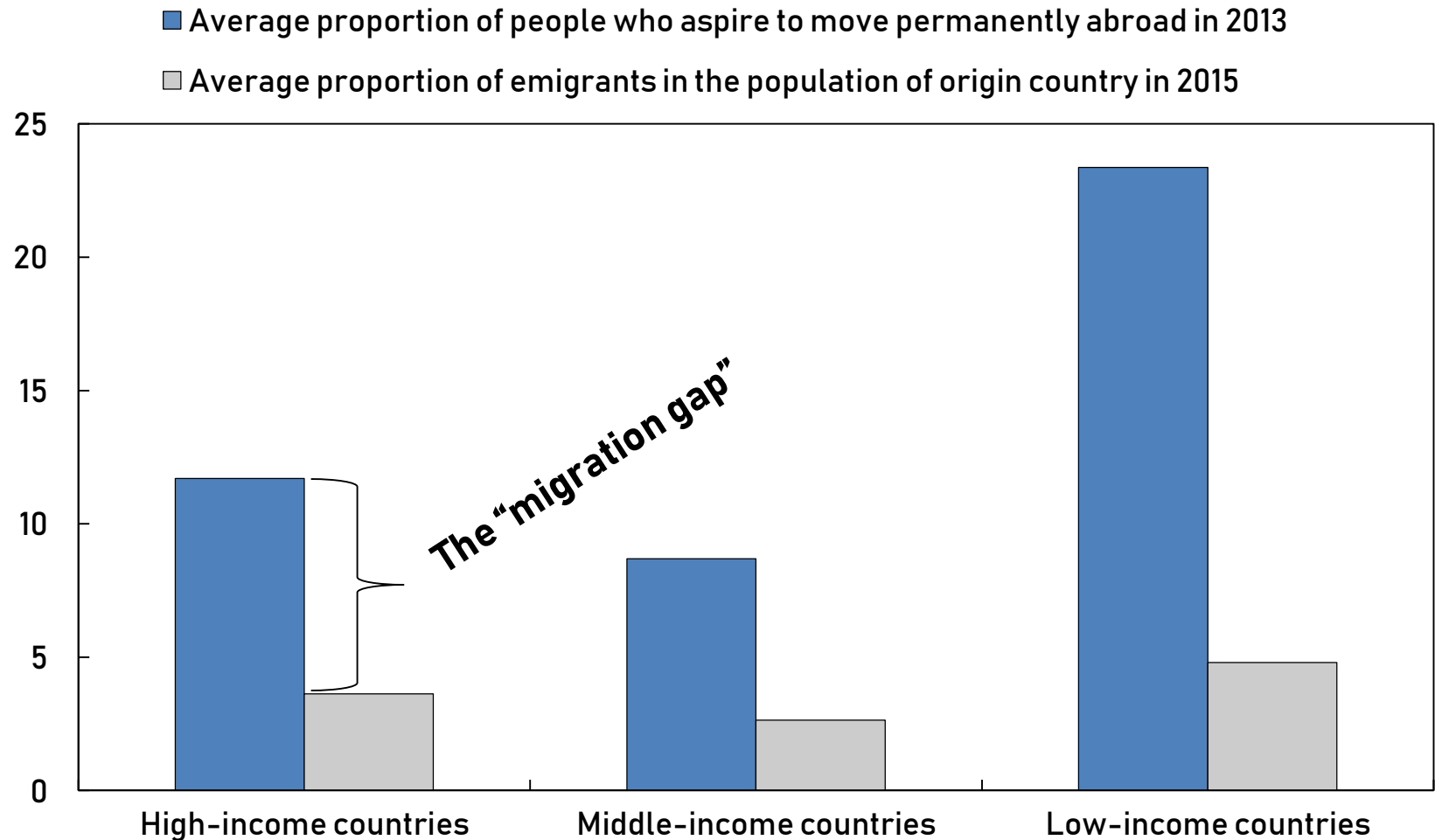
Net migration  
(past 5 yrs)



Level of water stress  
(freshwater withdrawal as a  
proportion of available  
freshwater resources)

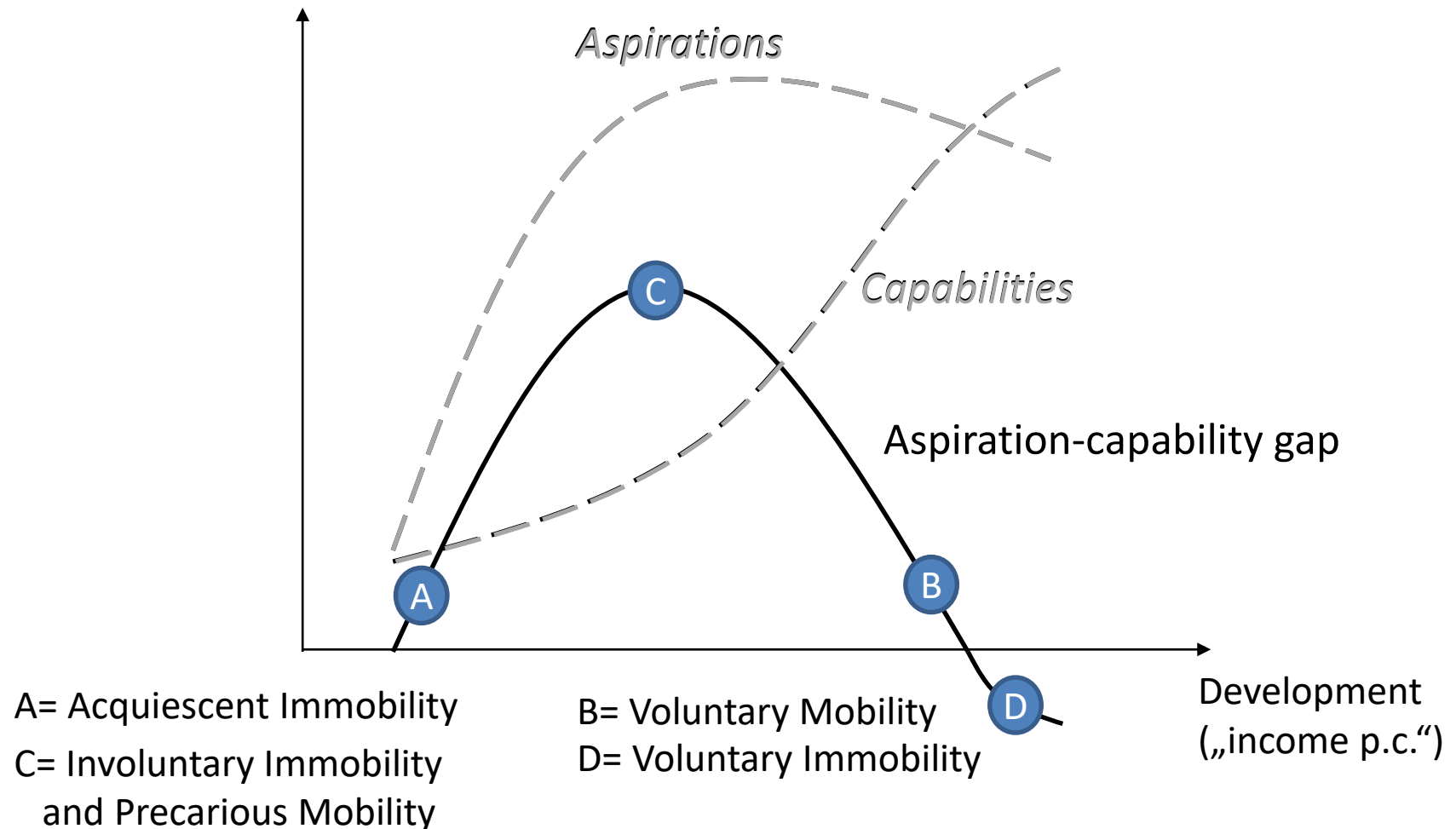
Source: Based on World Bank data

# Potential vs. actual migration

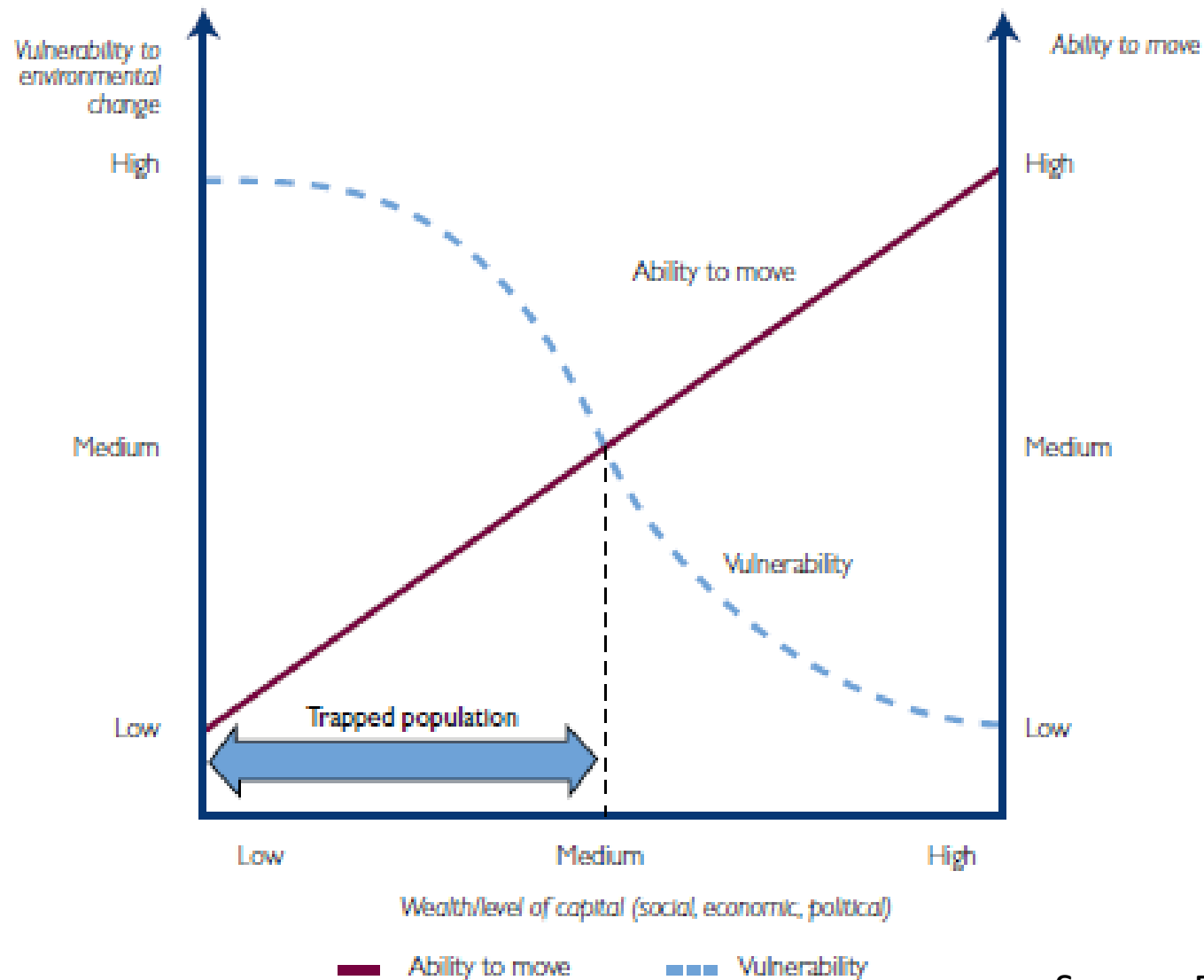


# (Non-)Migration as consequence of the aspiration-capability gap

(Cf. Carling 2002, de Haas 2010, Carling/Schewel 2019, Czaika/Reinprecht 2019)

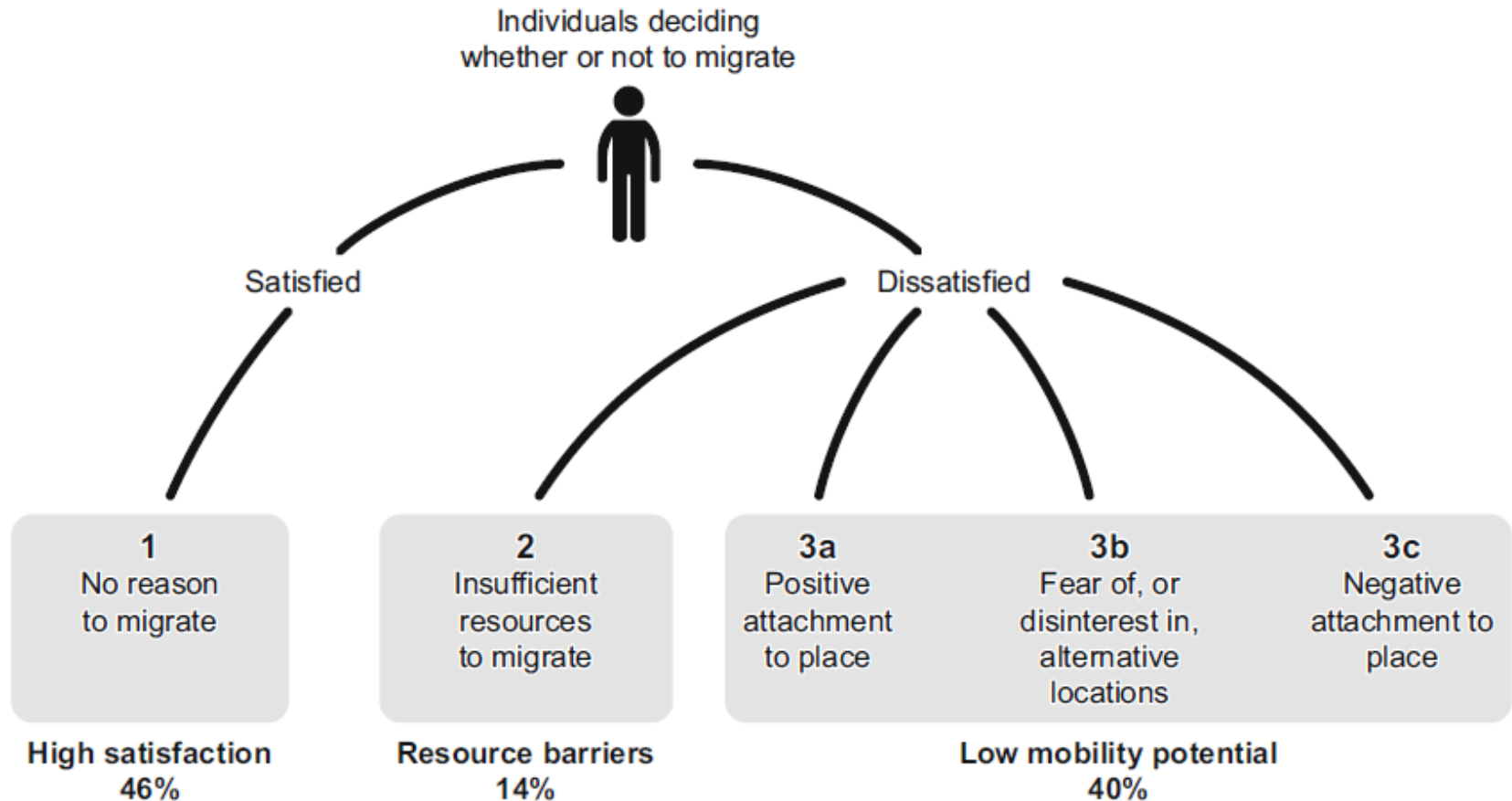


# Populations trapped in environmental stress situations



Source: Foresight (2011)

# Trapped or voluntarily immobile: Reasons for staying put



# Why people do not migrate – despite having good reasons (critique of „rational choice“)

Role of decision heuristics and cognitive biases (Czaika 2015):  
For instance:

## 1. *Status quo bias*

People have a strong preference for the context and situation in which they currently live in

## 2. *Endowment effect*

People usually value what they have higher than what they could have, even if both has objectively the same value.

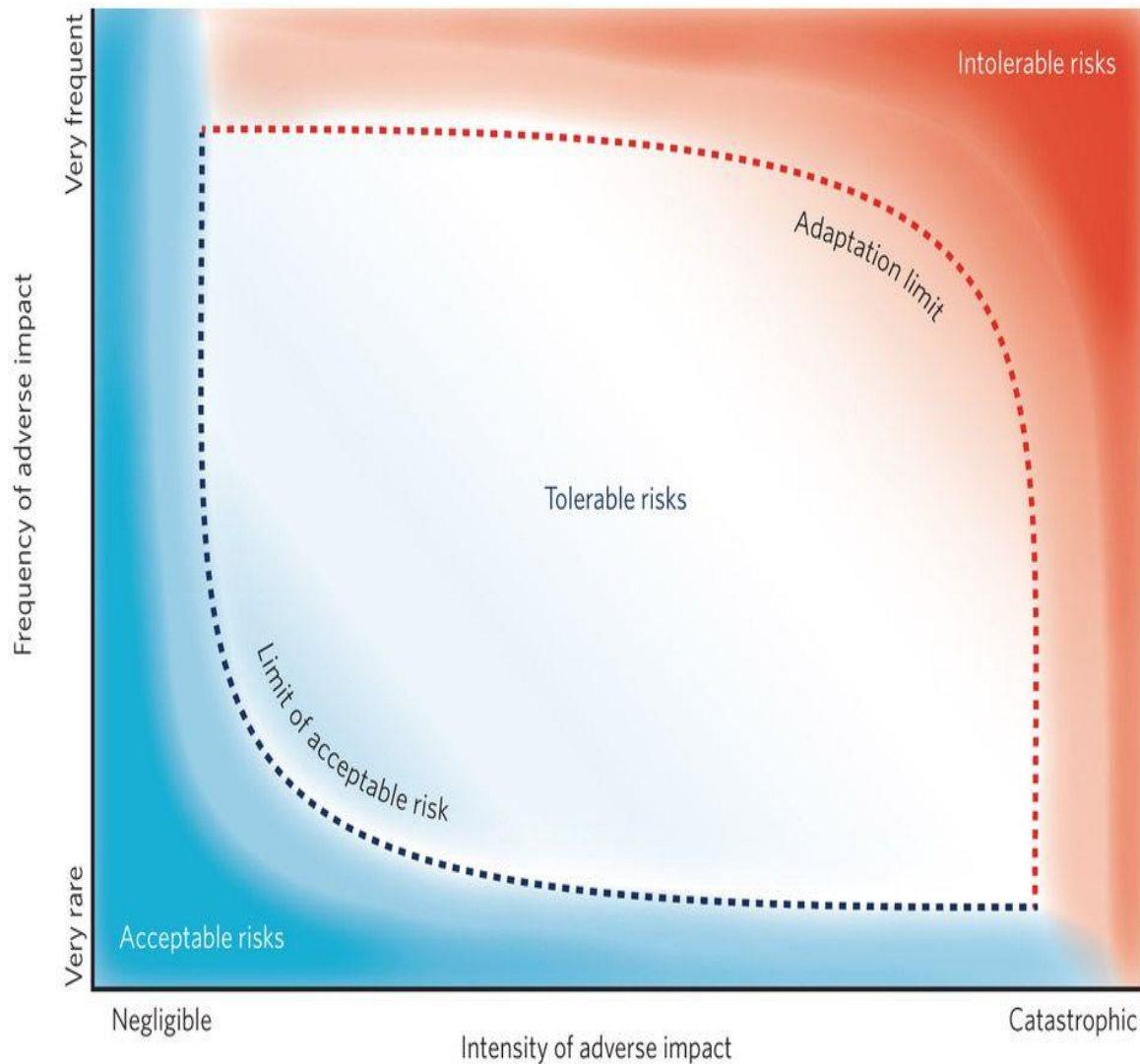
## 3. People do not ignore *sunk costs*

People with migration aspirations may hereby not migrate – or if migrated, do not return – because of past investments, for example in housing, social networks, or a business; or in non-transferable skills and knowledge such as language, some type of education, on-the-job training, etc.

## 4. People try to avoid future *regret* (higher for action than inaction!)

Potential migrants tend to decide against the risks of migration, even if the overall prospects seem poorer if they were to stay than if they were to leave

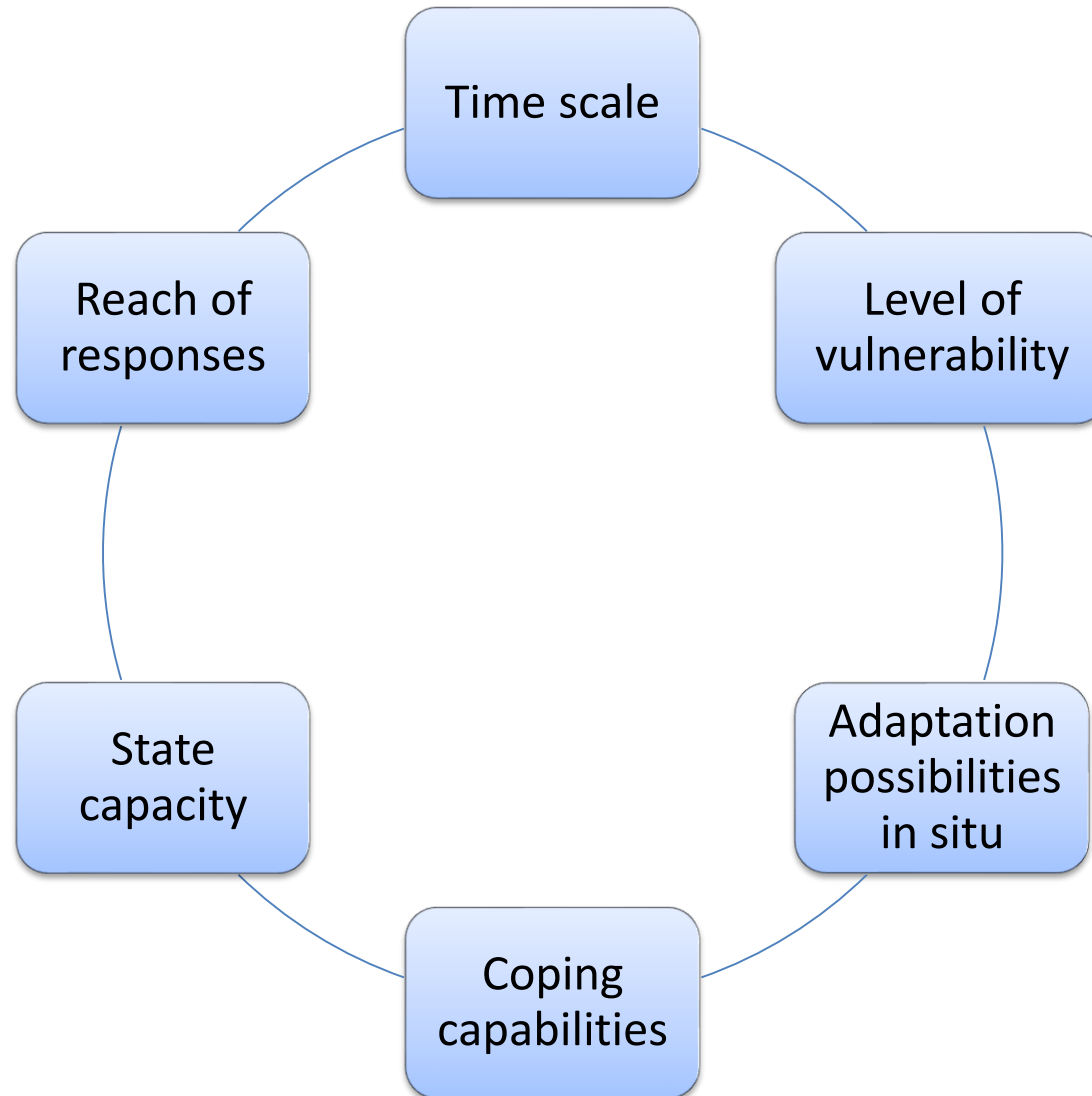
# Environmental stress and *in situ* adaptation



Source: Estrada (2013) Nature Climate Ch

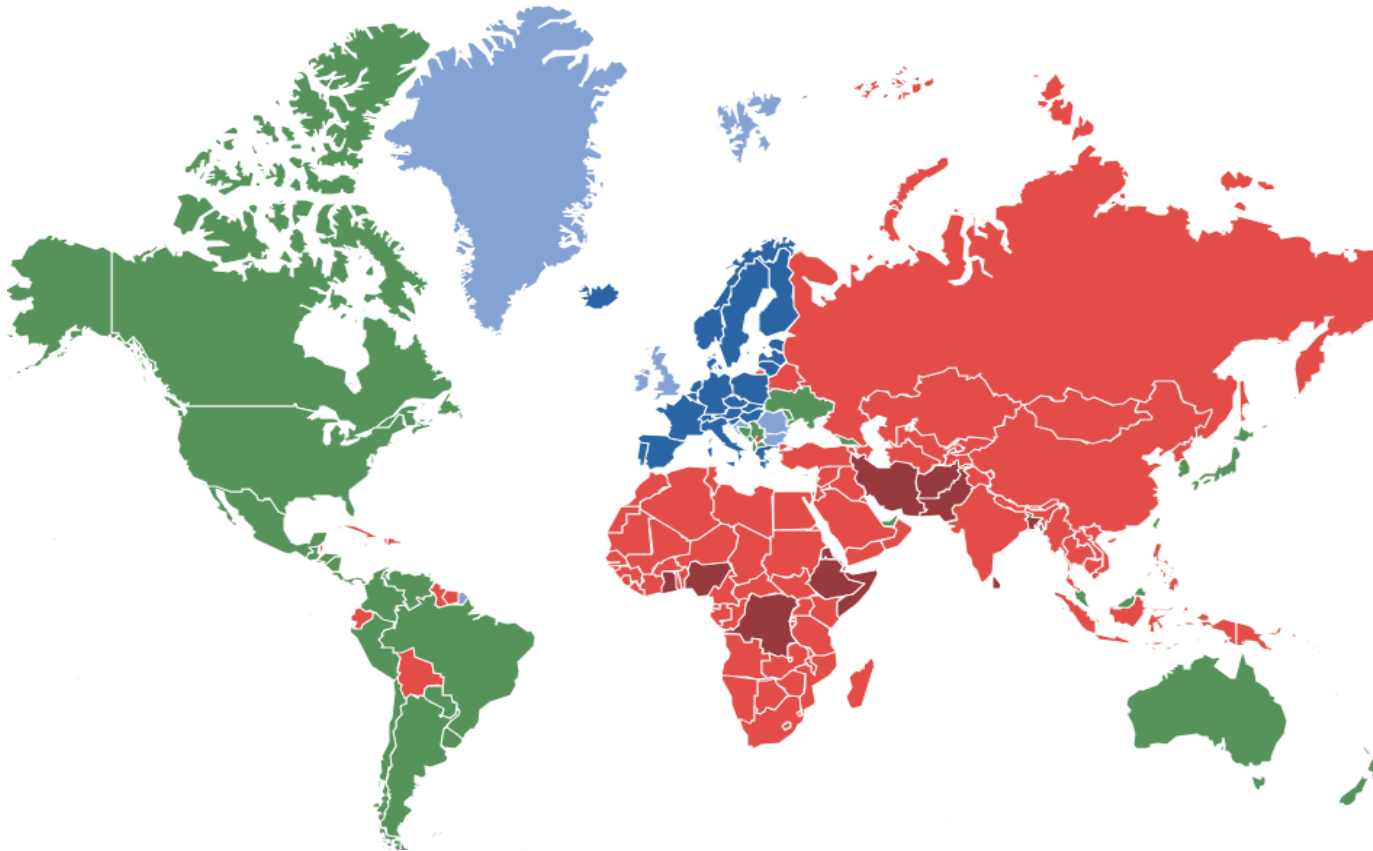


# Migration as adaption to environmental change - some key dimensions

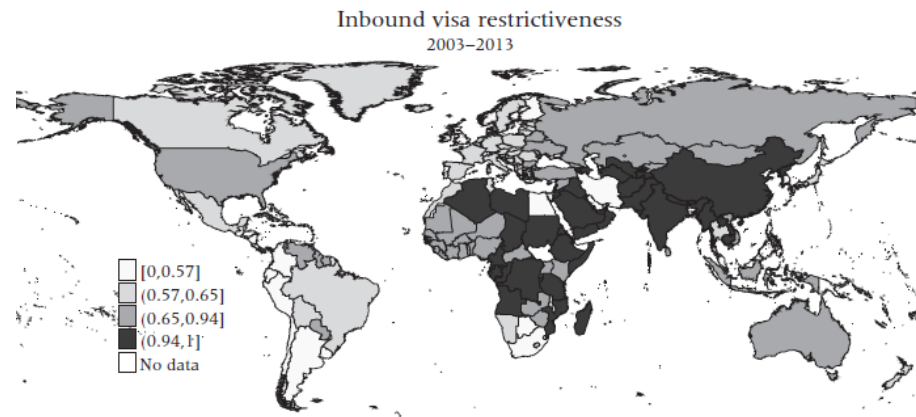
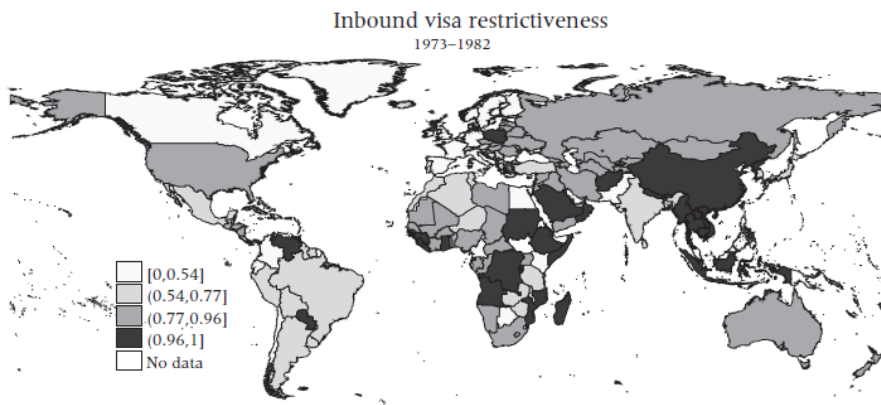


# Mobility (migration) barriers from a European perspective

...are reflecting broader global structural inequalities



# Inbound visa restrictiveness, 1973–82 vs. 2003–2013



Note: The four (quartile) intervals include an equal number of visa-issuing countries (of destination). Interval boundaries reflect level of (inbound) visa restrictiveness of 0<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile, which can and do change over time.

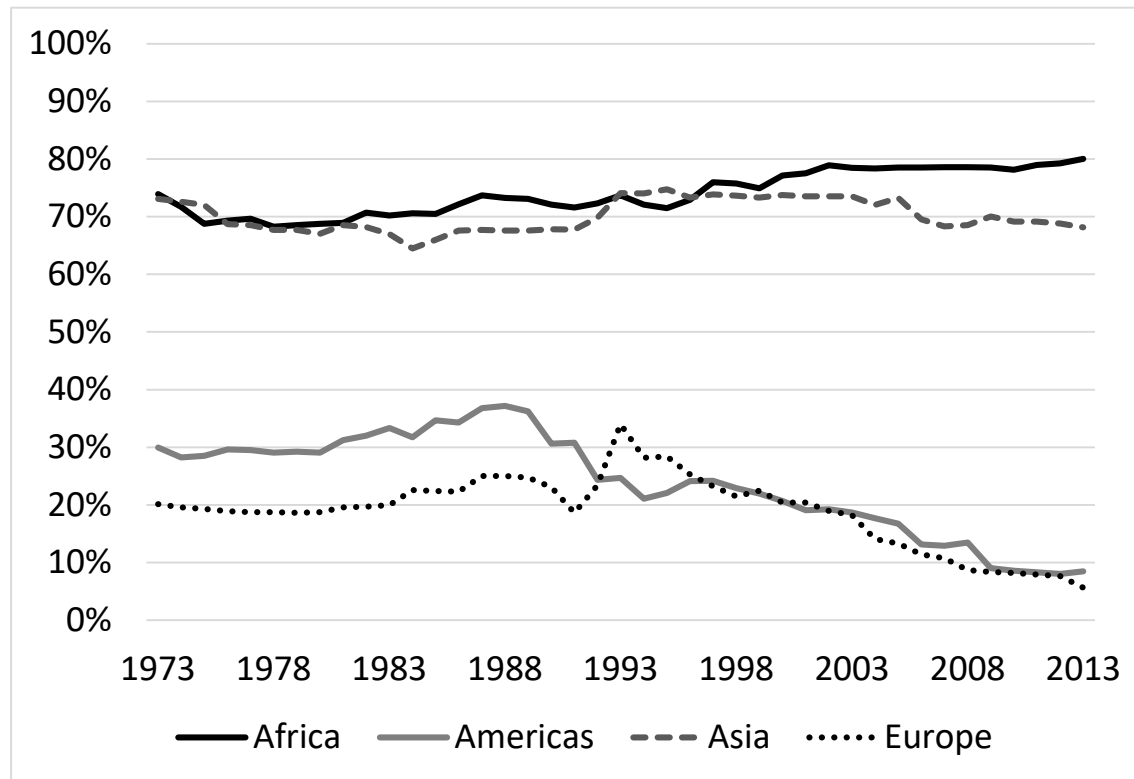
Source: Czaika et al (2018) based on DEMIG Visa database

## Visa restrictiveness by level of development:

High-income destinations (GDP per capita > 4036 US\$): **64.56 %**

Low-income destinations (GDP per capita < 4036 US\$): **81.38 %**

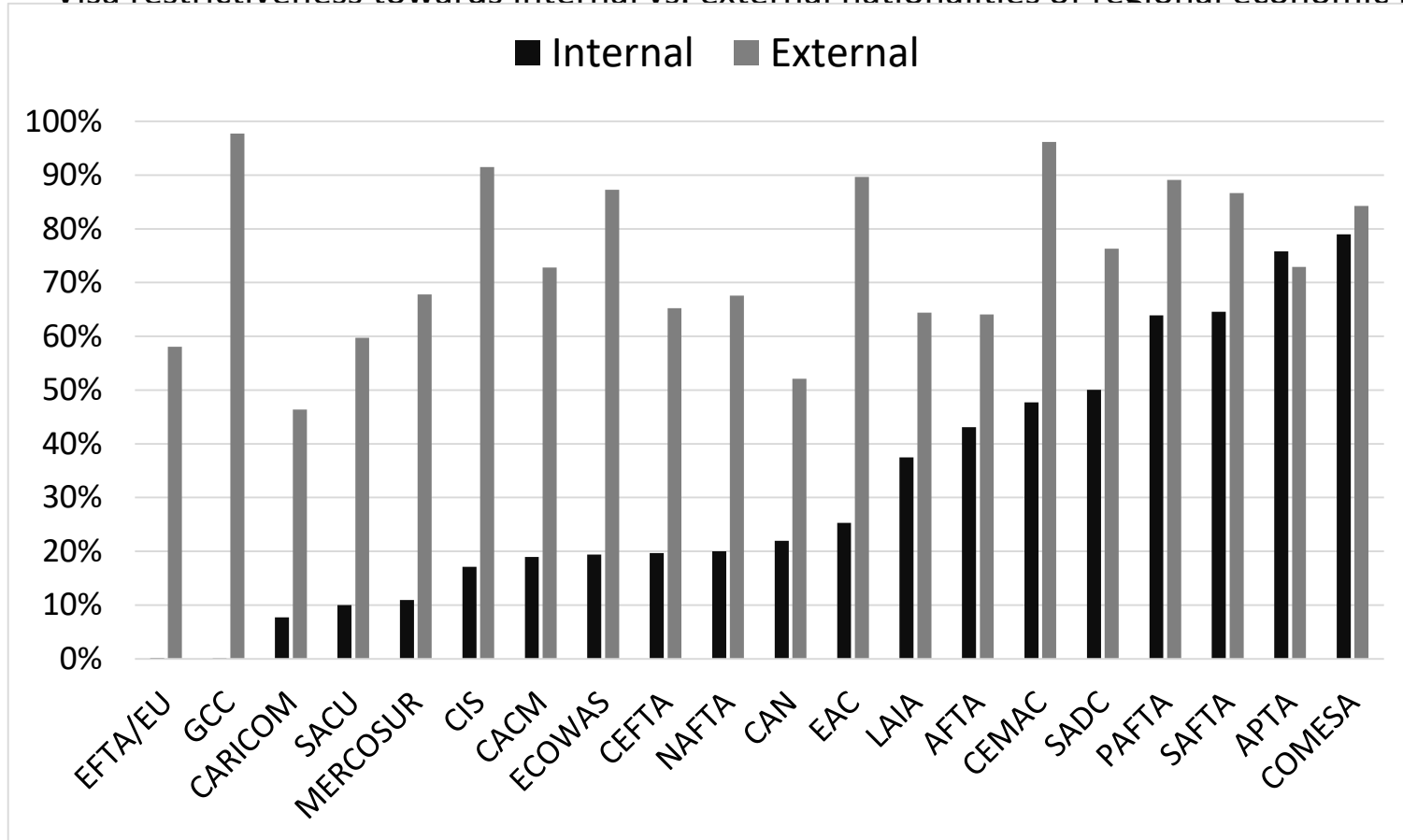
## Outbound visa restrictiveness towards OECD citizens, 1973–2013, by continent of destination



Source: Czaika et al (2018) based on DEMIG Visa database

# Internal opening and external closure

Visa restrictiveness towards internal vs. external nationalities of regional economic blocs



Source: Czaika et al (2017)

Note: AFTA: ASEAN Free Trade Area; APTA: Asia Pacific Trade Agreement; CACM: Central American Common Market; CAN: Andean Community; CARICOM: Caribbean Community; CEFTA: Central European Free Trade Agreement; CEMAC: Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa; CIS: Commonwealth of Independent States Free Trade Agreement; COMESA: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa; EAC: East African Community; ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States; EFTA: European Free Trade Association; EU: European Union; GCC: Gulf Cooperation Council; LAIA: Latin American Integration Association; MERCOSUR: Mercado Común del Sur - Common market of the South; NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement; PAFTA: Pan-Arab Free Trade Area; SACU: Southern African Customs Union; SADC: Southern African Development Community; SAFTA: South Asian Free Trade Agreement

# The Impact of Mobility Barriers

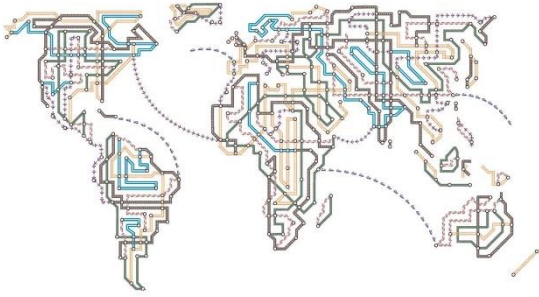
- **Restrictive visa (and migration) policies generate a number of unintended consequences:**
  - often lead to **irregular migration** ('deflection into irregularity')
  - generate a **smuggling business**
  - push (temporary) migrants into **permanent settlement**
  - "interrupt" international mobility and **migration circulation**
- **Costs of restrictive visa policy:** Visa system cause considerable administrative costs which are not covered by the visa fees
- **Visa waivers** save on administrative costs and, much more importantly, **spur international tourism, business and scientific activities** by facilitating the cross-border mobility of people
- **Liberalized visa policies can in particular enable poorer countries to benefit from economic integration and globalization**

# Concluding remarks

- The vast majority of people never migrate (despite having migration aspirations!).
- There is a **stark mis-match** between the **global demand for migration opportunities and its supply** which is constrained by broader structural obstacles (incl. restrictive policies).
- This mismatch is set to grow in the coming decades with rising inequalities, increasing youth cohorts in the Global South—especially in SSA—and tough immigration restrictions in much of the Global North
- With many people wanting to migrate, yet never capable for moving, the question arises:

## **What are the implications and long-term consequences of a growing ‘trapped population’ (with unfulfilled migration/life aspirations)**

- Implications for local (dis-)integration, engagement in home community, (lack of) investment in livelihoods, education etc.
- Unfulfilled migration aspirations of larger number of people may hamper (human, economic, political) development and social cohesion of home societies



Thank you very much for your interest!

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