

Essays on forced migration and labour market participation in developing countries

Citation for published version (APA):

Marchand, K. (2018). *Essays on forced migration and labour market participation in developing countries*. Uitgeverij Boekenplan. <https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20181213km>

Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/2018

DOI:

[10.26481/dis.20181213km](https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20181213km)

Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Please check the document version of this publication:

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PROPOSITIONS ACCOMPANYING THE THESIS

Essays on Forced Migration and Labour Market Participation in Developing Countries

By

Katrin Marchand

1. “Refugees are mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, children, with the same hopes and ambitions as us—except that a twist of fate has bound their lives to a global refugee crisis on an unprecedented scale.” – Khaled Hosseini
2. Policies regarding the rights and opportunities of refugees within one country should be coherent. Discrepancies between, for example, refugee and labour market policies should be avoided in order to minimize unintended barriers for forced migrants to engage in the local economy. (Chapter 3)
3. Migration has the potential to contribute to development through positive spill overs on small business development, not only by (return) migrants themselves, but also their household members. (Chapter 4)
4. Reintegration into the labour market is a crucial step towards the sustainable return of refugees to (post-) conflict environments. (Chapter 5)
5. Even when self-employment activities do not contribute significantly to economic growth and to employment creation, they contribute to households’ abilities to diversify income sources and sustain livelihoods. (Chapter 6)
6. Not all migrants are entrepreneurs; different kinds of migrants with diverse motivations are more or less likely to engage in entrepreneurship - with varying success rates.
7. Safe and legal access to labour markets for displaced populations is crucial to reduce their vulnerabilities associated with dependence on humanitarian assistance, to allow them to be self-reliant, and to foster their potential to contribute to economic growth and development.
8. “Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.” – Marie Curie
9. “The flower that blooms in adversity is the most rare and beautiful of them all.” – Mulan