



Migrating from, remitting to rural NWFP
Preliminary findings from an SDPI study

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Outline

- 1. Rationale**
- 2. Remittances removing risks?**
- 3. Migration inducing risks**
- 4. Road ahead**



Why study migration in rural NWFP?

- **Highest dependence on foreign remittances in rural NWFP with 9% of monthly income**
 - **Risks in the region: instability, natural disasters, poor health indicators & wide gender gaps**
- ⇒ **Does migration strengthen HHs & individuals or rather increase their vulnerability?**



Objectives

- 1. Investigate** role of transnational migration to the Gulf States for vulnerability & resilience of the sending villages
- 2. Disseminate** findings widely to relevant stakeholders in order to improve migration management & livelihoods in the sending regions



Research locations

- **Dir & Swat with highest transnational migration 1981-2006 as population share**
- **Two mountain villages in Upper Dir & Swat, each, +/- 1800 Inhabitants, each**



Village characteristics

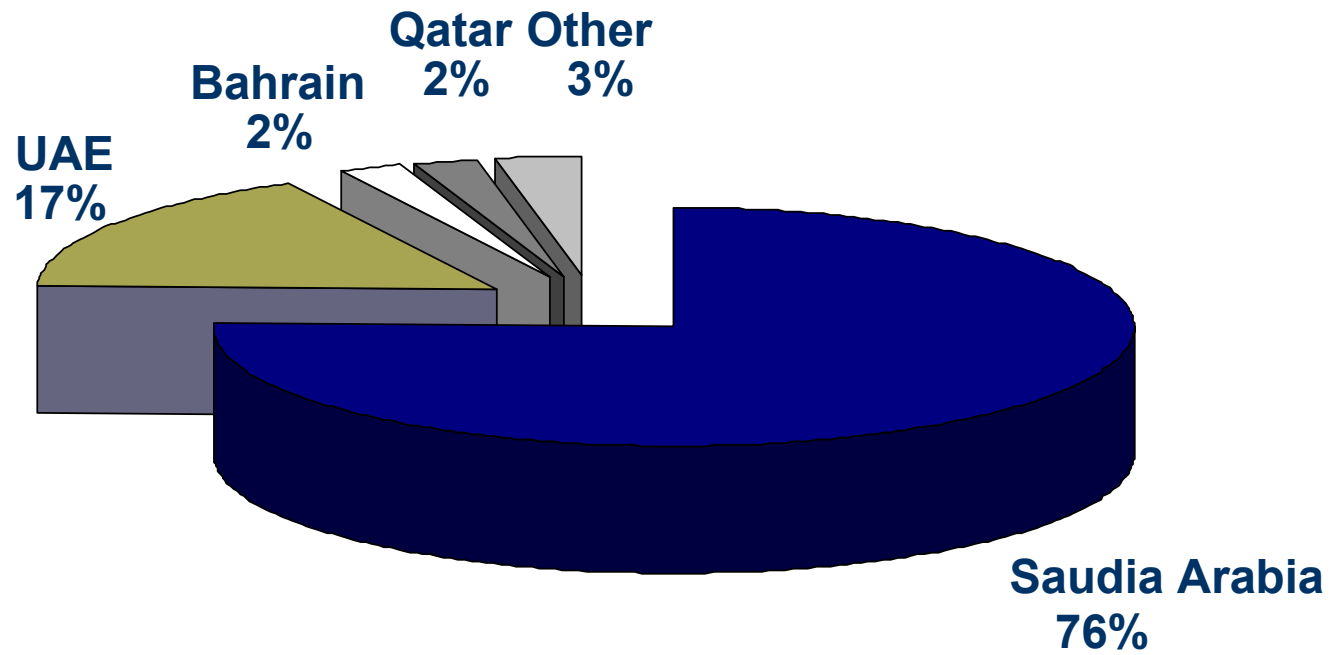
- **Subsistence agriculture.**
- **Subsistence livestock dairy/poultry production.**
- **Poor physical infrastructure.**
- **Proximity to forests.**
- **Remittance based economy.**



Migration & migrants' profile

- **55% HHs send up to 4 migrants**
- **All male, majority below 30 years & primary education**
- **40% migrants domestic, 60% abroad**

Main destinations

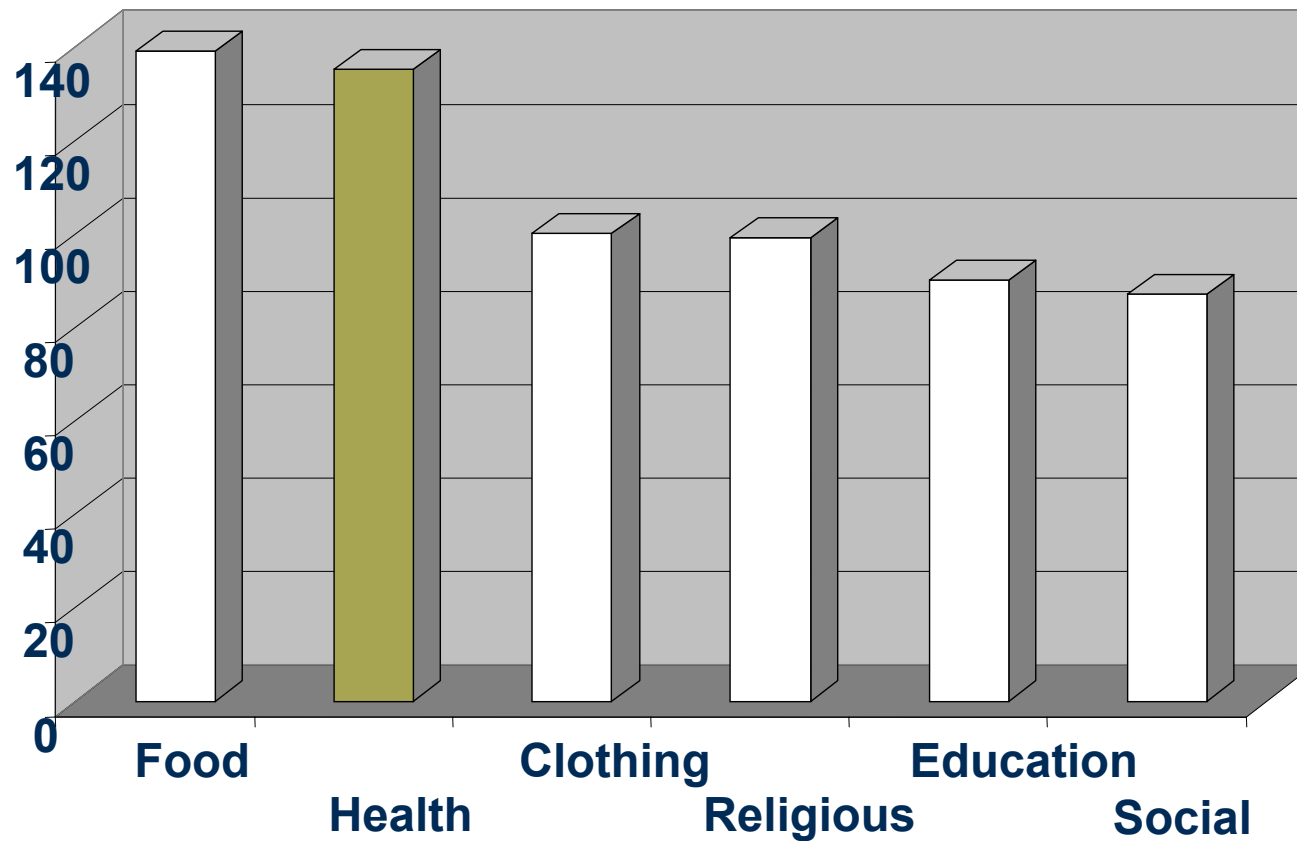




Remittances for survival ...

- **Remittances 3rd most important source of livelihoods, most important source of cash income**
- **Remittances mainly accessed & controlled by migrant's wife & mother**
- **Used for food, health, clothing, education**

Use of remittances

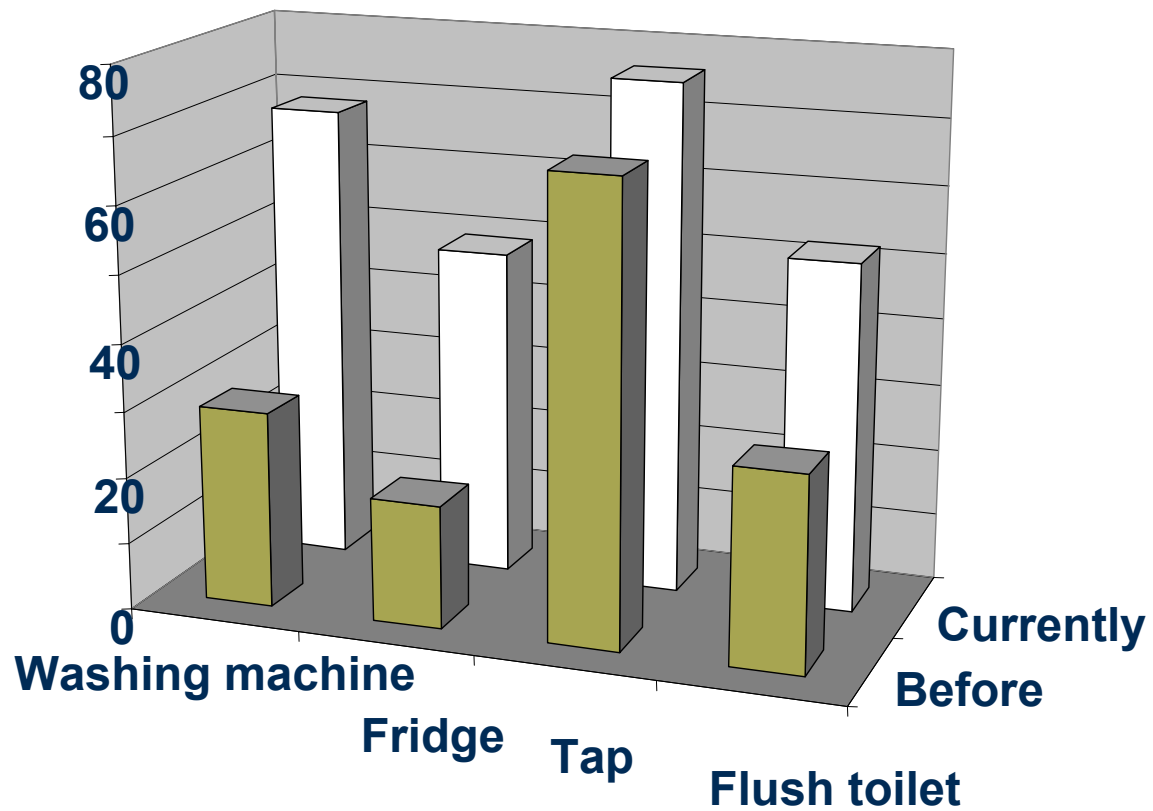




Remittances for survival ...

- **Used for food, health, clothing, education**
- **But: No significant differences in food intake, health status, education between households with & without migrants**

But: Improved housing before & after







Employment creation

- **Hiring of agriculture/construction workers.**
- **Investment in small-scale trade/transport sector.**



Gender-biased risks

- **Increasing females workloads.**
- **Greater dependencies.**



Road ahead: migration management

- **Extend migration-related welfare activities to main sending regions, especially education & training**
- **Enhanced information, regulation & protection of migrants**
- **Linking development interventions with migration, e.g. business development, financial infrastructure**
- **Use & improve linkages between migration sources & destinations**



Road ahead: livelihoods

- **Awareness-raising regarding education & health**
- **Improve infrastructure & stimulate economic development in sending regions rather than pushing people abroad**



Thanks !