

As a result of globalization, the number of international migrants moving to cities is rapidly increasing. The growing diversity resulting from it gives new dynamics to the urban economy and adds to the richness of city life. At the same time, international migration raises new challenges to urban management. It also questions existing urban governance models, since migrants are often affected by urban exclusion. Furthermore, local governments are seldom prepared to cope with the integration of people with different cultural, social and religious traditions, particularly in developing countries. Promoting civic identity, participation and representation among international migrants, while fighting the social and economic exclusionary attitudes that often pervade the recipient urban society, requires innovative programmes and policies, with a key role for local authorities. In this context, Un-Habitat's Global Campaign on Urban Governance has teamed up with Università Iuav di Venezia to carry out case study research on "Urban policies and practices addressing international migration" with the aim to help developing strategies to promote positive values of urban citizenship. Based on a comparative analysis of 10 cities, with different social and economic characteristics, the research has documented issues affecting international migrants in these cities, exploring policies and instruments geared to the integration of transnational migrants. This publication brings out the research results, extracting lessons that may be useful for other cities experiencing similar challenges. It also presents recommendations on how to deal with the most urgent issues city governments will need to address when getting to grips with international migration.

International Migrants and the City
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