

DILIP RATHA

Head, KNOMAD

Lead Economist, Migration and Remittances

The World Bank

Washington D.C.

I am an economist specializing in migration, remittances and innovative financing. Currently I'm developing a low-cost remittance platform originally proposed in my TED Talk, while concurrently working on market-based financing solutions for poor households, small businesses, and low- and middle-income countries.

Related work includes remittance-linked loans, bonds and insurance products; diaspora bonds; and harnessing diaspora philanthropy. Relevant innovative financing tools include shadow sovereign ratings for unrated countries and future-flow securitization (of payment rights and other future flows) to access capital markets during a financial crisis.

In 2012, I founded KNOMAD, a global knowledge hub on migration, and in 2010, co-founded Migrating out of Poverty Research Consortium with its HQ at the University of Sussex. Around the same time, I also conceived the idea of the Africa Institute for Remittances. I serve as focal point on migration, remittances and diaspora bonds for the World Bank, and a co-coordinator of the Global Remittances Working Group that grew out of the G7 and the G20 processes.

During 2009-2015, I participated in the World Economic Forum global agenda council on migration. In 2015 I was affiliated with South Asia Institute, Harvard University as a Senior Visiting Fellow, and during 2011-13, with University of Sussex as a Visitor Professor of Economics. I served as the chair of the advisory group of Migrating out of Poverty Consortium during 2014-17, and as a member of the first advisory committee of the Migration Policy Center of European University Institute, Florence.

Prior to joining the World Bank, I worked as a regional economist for Asia at Credit Agricole Indosuez, Singapore where I advised institutional investors on Asian equity, fixed income and foreign exchange markets. I have also worked as an assistant professor of economics at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, and as an economist at the Policy Group, New Delhi. I have a Ph.D. in economics from the Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi where I also worked as a visiting lecturer and helped build a CGE planning model for India.

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/17/world/asia/17remit.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=dilip+ratha&st=nyt&oref=sloginIn October 2014, I was invited by TED to speak at TEDGlobal, Rio de Janeiro. This Talk, "The hidden force in global economics: sending money home," has 1.3 million views.

Writing in June 2017, Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank Group included this at the top of **five TED Talks that inspired** him.

“No one has done more than Mr. Ratha to make migration and its potential rewards a top-of-the-agenda concern in the world’s development ministries,” wrote Jason DeParle in “World Banker and His Cash Return Home,” New York Times, March 17, 2008. (Photo taken from the same article – shows a classroom in Sindhekela High School where I studied.)

Since the publication of my article on the significance of remittances in 2003, I have been fortunate enough to participate in all UN-level high-level forums on migration: Global Commission on International Migration, 10 Global Forums on Migration and Development, and three UN High-Level Dialogues on migration. During 2013-2015, I was able to contribute to the advocacy for including migration in the post-2015 development agenda. The **Sustainable Development Goals** now include targets to reduce remittance costs and recruitment costs, and I continue to lead, with others, the efforts to achieve these targets.

I blog on **PeopleMove**.