

Workshop May 31th, 2024

***MIGRATIONS FROM THE MENA REGION:  
A BLESSING OR/AND A CURSE?***



## ***Return Migration and Socioeconomic Mobility to Egypt***

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- **Theoretical Framework**
- **Literature Review**
- **Data and Methodology**
- **Findings**

# Questioning Causality

**The discussion's critical approach to evaluating whether migration per se has a causal impact on wage dynamics is commendable.**

**It raises an important point about the potential role of individual-level predispositions and investments in marketable skills prior to migration.**

**The discussion could benefit from a more detailed exploration of potential mechanisms.**

**For instance, it could delve deeper into the specific skills or experiences that migrants might acquire abroad that contribute to their improved outcomes upon return.**

# Areas of Improvement

## **1. Endogeneity Concerns:**

**The acknowledgment of potential endogeneity in the regression models is important. However, the discussion could further elaborate on the methods used to address this, such as the migrant-network instrument, and why this approach is appropriate.**

## **2. Comparison Across Time Periods:**

**The differences in outcomes before and after significant events (like the Arab Spring) are mentioned but could be more explicitly analyzed. A separate subsection focusing on these temporal changes would be beneficial.**

## **3. Policy Recommendations:**

**The section touches on policy implications but could offer more concrete recommendations. For instance, how can the findings inform specific policies on education, labor markets, or migration management?**

## **4. Individual-Level Effects:**

**The suggestion that return migrants might be endowed with time-constant characteristics that correlate with migration decisions warrants further exploration. Identifying these characteristics more concretely could add depth to the analysis.**

## **Questions**

**How does return migration influence socioeconomic mobility in Egypt?**

**What are the characteristics of return migrants in Egypt compared to non-migrants?**

**How have migration patterns and their impact on labor market outcomes changed in Egypt over the years?**

**What role do historical and geographic factors play in determining migration destinations for Egyptian migrants?**