

Transnational Immigrant Entrepreneurs:

Presentation to ESBRI
Immigrant/ethnic Entrepreneurship
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Transnationalism a profound shift in development

Migration as the Human Face of Globalization

Hyper-migration

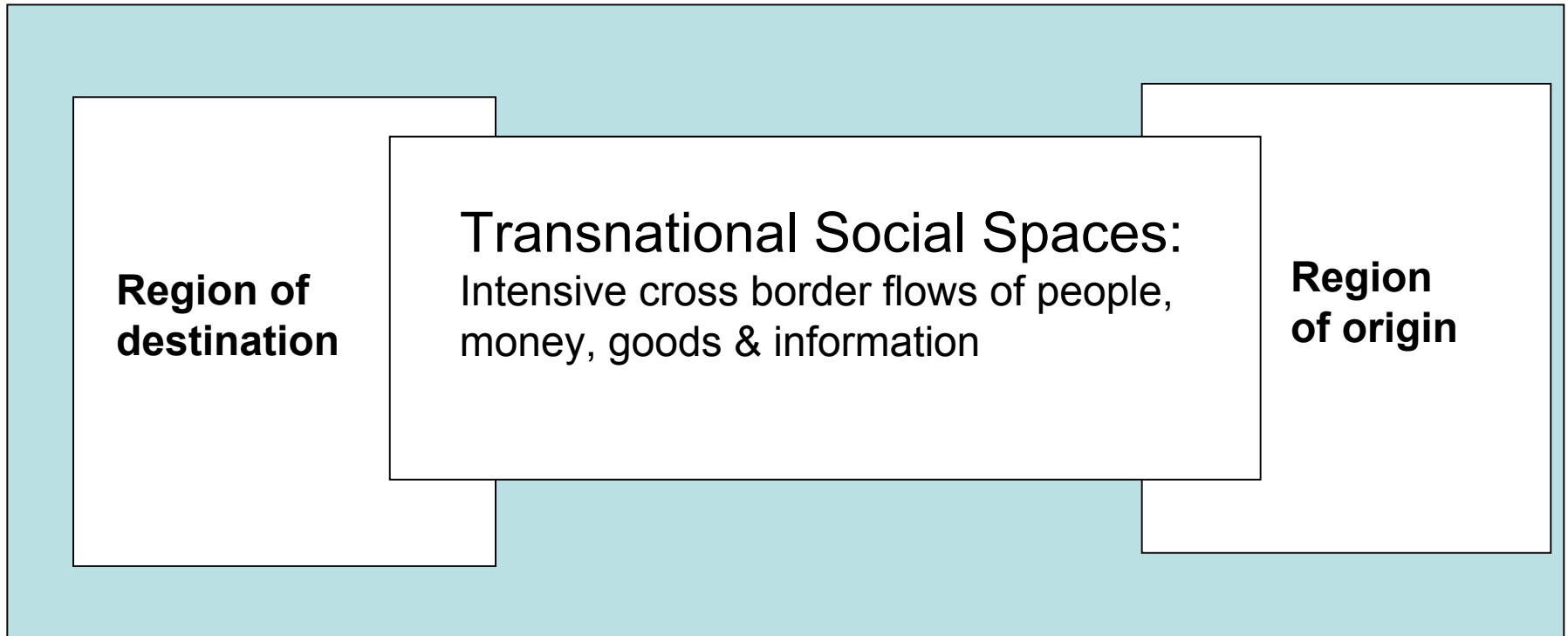
Difference today is

1. Trade
2. Travel
3. Telecommunications
4. Transfers

Beyond Remittances

1. Remittances are more than money.
2. Indication of deeper, wider, more dynamic exchange within communities.
3. These exchanges and actors are crucial to effective, relevant development work.
4. Redefine communities in which we work and how we work in/with them.
5. How to respond to new reality, new demands, new possibilities, new partners.

Migration in transnational social spaces



Transnationalism a profound shift in development

As a result:

Transnational communities

- dispersed geographically, but
- united by kin, culture, language, economics, etc.
- Resources, knowledge and ideas are shared within community at speed of modern business
- geography and national borders close to irrelevant.

→Leads to Transnational Entrepreneurs

Types of Ethnic and immigrant Enterprise

1. Circuit firms
2. Ethnic enterprises
3. Cultural enterprises
4. Return migrant enterprises, and
5. Home country Counterpart enterprise

The Response

Transnational Enterprises

1. Response to new opportunities of globalization
2. Response to lower cost and greater availability of technologies of trade
3. Response to existence of multi-stranded and deep cultural, national, ethnic ties.

Old or/and New phenomenon?

Importance for Destination Country

Destination Country – France, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Sweden, etc.

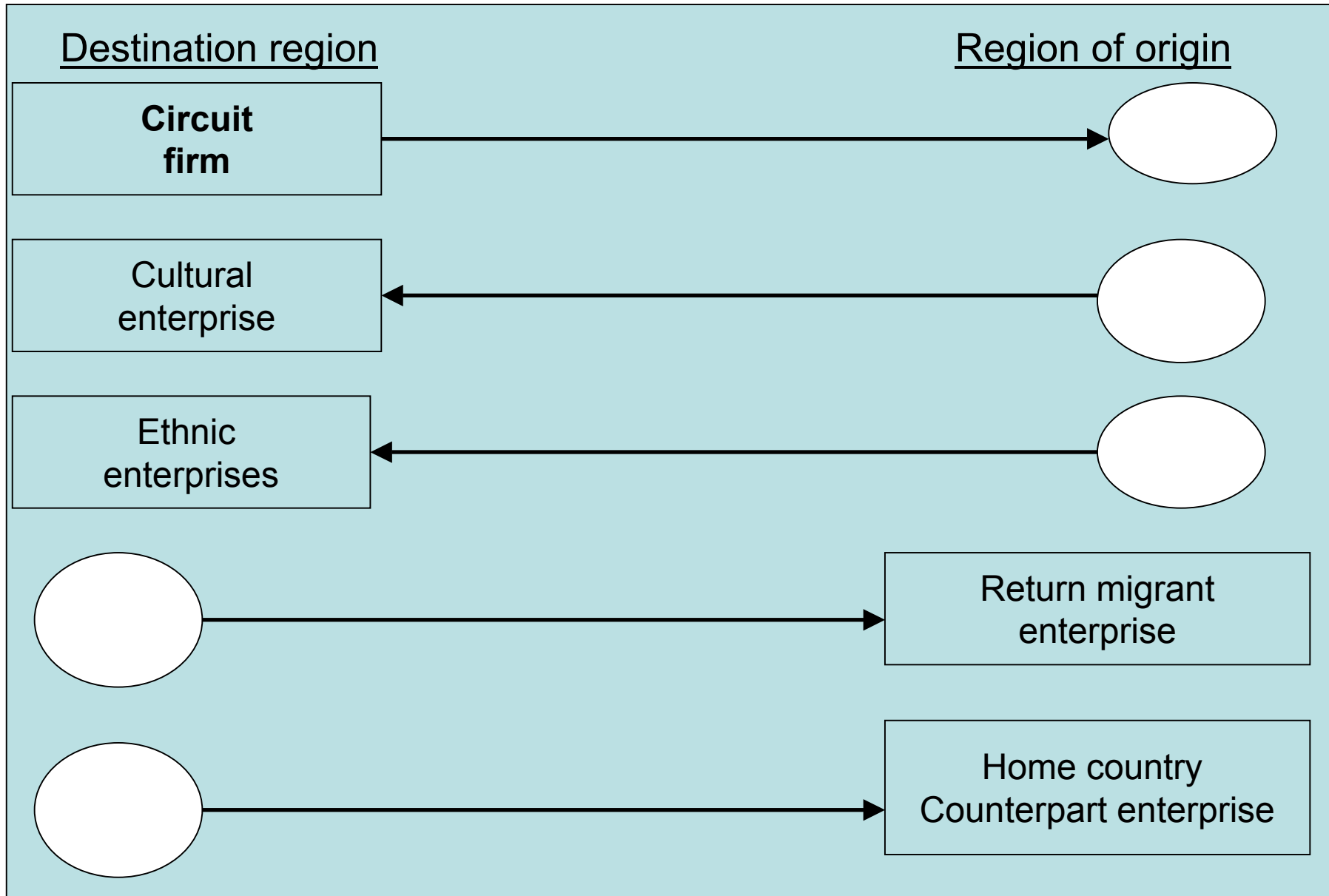
- Economic prospects of immigrants depend on host-country labour market as well as business (self-employment) opportunities
- Immigrant entrepreneurs do better economically than their waged co-ethnics
(Portes and Zhou 1999; Logan, Alba, and McNulty 1994; Wilson and Martin 1982, probably not in Sweden? →Mikael Hjerm 2004).
- Transnational immigrant entrepreneurship do better in integration perspective?

Importance for home country

Home Country – Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey, etc.

- Access to new capital
- Access to new (more profitable) markets
 - Large immigrant population in:
 - France and Netherlands → Moroccan & Turks
 - Sweden → Iraqis, Iranians, Turks and others Chileans.
- Transnational immigrant entrepreneurship do better economically (HCs) than ethnic entrepreneurship?
- Access to new technologies/ideas

Five types of enterprises:



Migrant workers

Migrant entrepreneurs

