

AN URBAN PLANNER'S THOUGHTS ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

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Abstract

The increasing number of immigration policies in the US has brought attention to the country's immigration problems. Despite the growing awareness of the need for immigration policies that address the economic factors that influence the motivation to cross the border, the recent changes have not done so. The paper argues that border control laws are not designed to address the root causes of immigration. Instead, planners should consider how to develop a sustainable economic development strategy for countries that are sending migrants.

Key words: urban planning; immigration reform; economic development; Socially Responsible Corporations

**IMMIGRATION REFORM AND URBAN PLANNING:
MOVING BEYOND BORDER CONTROL**

The rise of transnational movements and the issues related to climate change and political instabilities have reignited the concerns about immigration in the US and around the world. The sudden influx of refugees into Europe due to violent conflicts in the Middle East and Africa and the sudden increase of climate refugees due to the effects of climate change have also raised public awareness about the causes of mass migration. The events that happened in 2010 and 2017 are some of the most significant developments in the US immigration policy. The passing of Senate Bill 1070 in Arizona and the subsequent implementation of various immigration laws were among the most significant events. However, the multiple political and socio-economic issues that emerged from these developments have only highlighted the failure of the policies to reduce the flow of migrants into the country.

Throughout history, the American immigrant narrative has been predicated on the sentiments of nativism, with policies aimed at keeping out undesirable immigrants being the main focus. A review of immigration laws shows that these measures have not been effective at curbing immigration to the US. The executive orders signed by Trump and Arizona's SB1070 have been met with widespread criticism due to their failure to address the root causes of the country's immigration crisis. Instead of focusing on the more immediate factors

that contribute to the high transmigration rates, the focus of the orders has been on the border control measures that are aimed at criminalizing immigrants. Proponents of these legislative initiatives have argued that they are needed to address the racial tensions that have been caused by immigration. However, critics have noted that they do little to address these issues.

The phenomenon of migration is a global phenomenon that can be affected by various factors such as political, economic, and climatic conditions. The concept of immigration is linked to the relationship between countries and their populations. This is because the political and economic problems of sending nations are often the main factors that influence the movement of people within a given region. The phenomenon of climate change refugees, which was highlighted by Mellino and Eco Watch in 2016, shows that immigration is also intertwined with the ecosystem. It is therefore important to consider the various factors that influence the movement of people, including the environment and the risks that they face. Understanding the multiple factors that contribute to the movement of people cannot be separated from the impact of the receiving country. Unfortunately, despite the various factors that can affect migration, US policymakers have not been able to implement effective immigration policies. Instead, they have resorted to constructing a wall and modifying laws. These efforts have not helped in addressing the inequalities in the political stability and socio-economic well-being of the countries that are receiving and sending migrants.

The news media's portrayal of immigration as a controversial issue has prompted many questions

about the policies that have been implemented to prevent illegal border crossings. These include whether they have effectively stopped people from entering the country. As key figures in the management of regions and cities, urban planners can also play a role in addressing the issue. Urban planners can play a vital role in managing immigration rates by contributing to the discussion about the issue. This paper argues that policymakers should consider the various factors that affect the immigration rate when it comes to addressing the issue. The findings of this study suggest that the changes in immigration law and policy have not been able to reduce the incentive to migrate. The goal of any effort to manage the flow of migrants would be to identify the factors that contribute to their displacement. This paper aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the various factors that affect migration, and how they can be addressed through a strategy that addresses these factors.

This paper aims to analyze the factors that contribute to the increasing migration rates in different countries. The main focus of the study is on the failure of the foreign direct investment model to reduce the economic inequalities that contribute to the rise of immigration rates. It also suggests that a strategy that is geared toward addressing these issues could be beneficial for the development of sustainable social enterprises. According to the documents presented by SRCs, they are committed to becoming more sustainable and socially responsible by developing long-term relationships with their communities and workers. They also tend to pay a living wage and pay taxes in their home countries. These practices can help them generate more returns to their countries. Despite the relatively optimistic literature about the potential benefits of SRCs, the lack of critical and comprehensive literature on their legitimacy has prompted urban planners to conduct an investigation. This paper aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the literature on the subject, and it encourages them to start conducting such an examination as they are entrusted with the management of the regions and cities. Through this role, urban planners can provide a comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic impacts of a foreign investment portfolio that is SRC-diversified. This approach can help them identify areas of potential

growth and develop strategies to ensure that immigration reform does not become another identity-driven project.

Accordingly, the central thesis of this paper is not so much about SB1070 or immigration theory, in general, as it is about bringing to light the potential for actualizing an economic development strategy, consisting of an SRC-diversified investment portfolio, better attuned to the fiscal constraints and sustainability concerns of sending countries. Within this thesis, this paper suggests that urban planners collect and analyze pertinent data that give evidence of the positive impacts SRCs have made on local economies and on the environment, provide insight into the extent to which urban and regional land spaces may accommodate SRCs, and reveal the degree to which an SRC-diversified, local and regional economy bolsters quality of life.

This paper aims to analyze the various factors that have shaped the debate about immigration policy in the past few years. It explores the relationship between immigrant-nativism and contemporary immigration discourse. The use of race-identity in the justification of immigration policies is a controversial issue that should be integrated into this section. It is therefore important that the Trump administration's executive orders and SB70 are used to promote the discussion of the immigrant-nationalist nexus. The concept of immigration is often discussed in terms of its various factors, such as the push and pull factors that influence the movement of people. This section draws attention to the theoretical work of Miller and Castles, as well as other scholars such as de Haas, Fawcett, and Massey. The paper begins with a discussion about the inadequacies of the border control approach when it comes to managing migration to the US. It then moves on to discuss the various advantages of foreign investment in the country. Section 5 argues that this type of investment can be beneficial for economic development. In Section 6, it explains the various factors that urban planners should consider when it comes to collecting data on the contributions of social entrepreneurship (SRCs) to the ecosystem. These include the net returns that SRCs make to the workers and the economies of their destination countries. The data

collected by urban planners can help them plan for a more sustainable and responsible economy.

The scope of this paper is limited due to the complexity of the immigration topic. Besides the economic aspects, it also considers other factors such as climate change and political dictatorships that can affect the development of a society. This paper aims to introduce a framework for addressing these issues, which is focused on the sustainability of the economy.

2. A PERSPECTIVE ON IMMIGRATION IDEOLOGY: NATIVISM, SB1070, AND THE TRUMP-ERA EXECUTIVE ORDERS

During the presidency of Barack Obama, US policymakers started to rethink and change immigration laws. Some of these laws were successful. In 2010, for instance, after mass protests against the state's immigration law, the legislation known as SB1070 was approved by the Arizona State Legislature. The goal of the law was to prevent unauthorized immigrants from accessing social services and employment in the US. It also prohibited them from entering the country without permission. Individuals who violated the law faced fines of up to \$500 or up to a year in jail. The implementation of the new immigration law was more expansive, which led to the detention and deportation of thousands of individuals who were Mexican heritage.

In January 2017, following the inauguration of Donald Trump, he issued several executive orders that sought to restrict the entry of people from certain Muslim-majority nations into the US. These orders sparked mass protests across the country. One of these was Executive Order 13769, which banned individuals from seven countries from entering the US. Despite widespread outcries, the Supreme Court agreed to parts of President Donald Trump's travel ban on June 26, 2017. Then, on June 26, 2018, it upheld the revised version of the ban. Trump also signed an executive order that ended the program known as the DACA, which allowed certain young immigrants who came to the US as children to stay in the country. The other executive orders, which were related to the refugee program, were also aimed at revoking the work authorizations of certain individuals from countries such as Sudan, Nicaragua,

Haiti, and El Salvador. These individuals had been granted temporary protected status in the US.

The controversy surrounding immigration reform in the US has been fueled by racial and ethnic profiling. The laws that have been enacted in the country, such as the ones in SB1070 and Trump's executive orders, have been interpreted as discriminatory against non-white and non-European ethnic groups. These laws were enacted to protect the country's citizens from terrorists, not immigrants who are genuinely in need of protection. The racial implications of the law are especially apparent when it comes to the treatment of immigrants from developing countries, where most non-white individuals live. Critics of the bill argue that it gives local law enforcers too much power when it comes to detaining individuals who are considered to be "reasonably suspicious."

The issue of racial profiling is a central concern in the debate over the powers of immigration authorities. They can be used to target people based on their race or ethnicity. Critics noted that the detentions of people based on their identities were more likely to trigger feelings of alienation among immigrants and citizens in their homeland. They also expressed their concerns that the authorities would ignore the rights of individuals to due process. Believing that the fears of critics are not social paranoia, but rooted in a deeply embedded history of racial and cultural conflict, Peden (2009) argues that the fears of immigrants are not only not social paranoia but also reflect the racist stereotypes that emerged during the 19th century. Gold (2005) also notes that these stereotypes were made by behavioral scientists William McDougall and Edward Ross. Other studies also suggest that the rise of nativism in the US has something to do with immigration. They cite the Naturalization Act of 1792, which excluded non-whites from the country. This Act was later overturned, and only European immigrants were given citizenship. The concept of European immigration was established during the 18th century through a religious and citizenship-based ideology that encouraged Europeans to seek a better life in the New World. Those who spoke for European immigration claimed that America was a God-given land that provided them with the opportunity and liberty to succeed. The common goals of European

immigrants were to remove Native Americans from their native lands and to establish a society that reflected their social interests. These traits were regarded as traits that Europeans could easily identify with, and they were able to secure their place in the US. According to Fuchs (1990), these characteristics became the basis of American patriotism. He also claims that these traits were the creation of a new political culture that unified white Americans from various backgrounds. Studies have shown that the relationship between nationalism and race-identity has been established in the US by the rise of nativism. They also suggest that whiteness is regarded as the symbol of American-ness.

3. UNDERSTANDING IMMIGRATION HOLISTICALLY: EXTRAPOLATING THE PUSH AND PULL FACTORS

Knowledge about immigration processes have been formalized as three dominant, explanatory theories: the (1) neo-classical, (2) historical-structural, and (3) migration systems theories (Castles and Miller 1998). Scholars who have interpreted the various immigration behaviors elucidate that, while individuals *will* migrate under conditions of relative equality and for personal preferences, the economic imperative is a salient motivation and generally occurs from poor to rich countries (Ewing 2007, Massey et al. 1993, Castles and Miller 1998). While not yet a theory, the growing evidence of climate change as a causal factor of emigration warrants mentioning.

The more optimistic neo-classical theory argues that immigration, impelled by inequalities between countries in terms of income and finance capital, and perceived opportunities in education, employment, and business development, is a pursuit exercised by free will and free choice. As workers optimize labor opportunities by seeking work in other countries, they eventually contribute to equilibrium in the global labor market. Neo-classicists view the State as an obstructive force to this equilibrium when the State, in fact, capitalizes on opportunities created by surplus labor, usually at the expense of the immigrant (Castles and Miller, 21-22).

The neo-classical theory is partly true. Emigrating provides economic opportunities that can be converted into wages for immigrants, who remit

portions of earned income to family members in sending countries (Gold 2005, 264; Castles and Miller 1998, 93, 148). An UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) report revealed that remittances to low-income countries, which constitute a fairly large proportion of immigrant-sending nations, increased considerably by billions of dollars (US\$) between 1990 (3.5 billion) and 2011 (27 billion), comprising roughly 2% of GDP, whereas the share of remittances among more developed, higher-income countries declined (UNCTAD 2012, 9-10). The collective impact of remittances is reported by Adams, Jr. and Page (2005), who observed that remittances result in a decline of 2.1% of people living on less than a dollar a day and, correspondingly, elevate individuals from poverty. A sobering aspect is that remittances are not easily captured into economic development dollars (Waldinger 2010, 28).

Furthermore, de Haas (2008) points out that the neo-classical theory overlooks two important points: labor market imperfections that skew opportunities and the imperfect knowledge among immigrants “about the costs and benefits of immigrating” (6). For instance, wages in immigrant-receiving countries are often lower than expected and social discrimination creates barriers to higher-income employment, thereupon concentrating immigrants in low-skilled labor. These caveats in the neo-classical immigration theory give way to a neo-Marxian perspective that better accounts for the power disparities in global, economic relations influencing migration decisions.

The Marxian, historical-structural theorists accuse neo-classical adherents of romanticizing the labor market, as it never functions ideally. International economic relations are more realistically shaped by power differences arising from political and military dominance (Castles and Miller, 23). Such powers have distributed economic wealth and political influence disproportionately across the globe. Devotees to the historical-structural theory view immigration as emerging from these economic and political power disparities pervading the world economy. Another way in which the neo-Marxists depart from the neo-classicists is that, in the view of the former, the structural inequalities marking global relations indicate that immigration is often not a

choice for those facing dire economic circumstances. The life constraints imposed by socio-economic hardships in one place force people to look elsewhere for more gainful opportunities, even for basic survival (de Haas 2008).

Both neo-classical and historical-structural immigration theories originate in world systems theory, first postulated in 1974 by Emmanuel Wallerstein who perceived the global economy to be ranked according to degrees of wealth and, for that reason, coined the terms “core,” “peripheral,” and “semi-peripheral” to denote the differences in wealth concentrations of nations (Massey et al. 1993; Strikwerda 2000, 336-39). The histories of colonial dominance, militarization, and slavery underpinning these between-country inequalities define, as well, the differences among nations in the comparative advantages of, for example, labor capital, natural resources, etc. (Strikwerda 2000).

The migration systems theory is a contemporary interpretation of the historical-structural and neo-classical theories that focuses on the complex relationships between immigration processes and the multiple factors that affect their implementation. It also identifies the multiple networks that emerge from these relationships. The importance of relational links in migration systems theory is acknowledged by Fawcett (1989). These are the connections that shape the flow of people and are often influenced by the various factors that affect their movement. In addition to financial investments, multi-valent relationships also feature in migration systems theory. The relationship between migrants and their receiving country is often defined by colonialism. Through colonialism, the colonized nations of Western Europe, North America, and Oceania were able to create transnational networks. The patterns of immigration over the last two centuries show the effects of colonialism on the poor-to-rich countries. For instance, the US's colonization of the Philippines resulted in the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Filipinos. Other countries' immigrants followed similar migration patterns, such as those from Indonesia, Jamaica, and Algeria.

Although linkages are central considerations, or more clearly, the ways in which immigrants shape and are simultaneously shaped by the societies of receiving countries (Fawcett 1989, 672-73), migration

systems theory, like the historical-structural and neo-classical theories, sustains the notion that “the economic interdependence of nations” generates positive economic returns to the immigrant (Massey 1990, 68).

New studies on the effects of climate change on the security of citizens have been presented in recent years. These studies show that industrialization is linked to the development of climate change. Unfortunately, the number of cases of displacements due to climate change is not as well known. The media's attention has shifted the perceptions of people living in countries most vulnerable to natural disasters. Due to the increasing number of people affected by these disasters, the social welfare of these communities has become more important than the protection of their homes. Examples of this are the Philippines and Bangladesh, where many households that were severely affected by the typhoon Haiyan and the cyclone Ailas remain homeless and impoverished. Due to the effects of climate change, leaders of developing countries have been asking for permission to build new facilities and adapt to the effects of the natural disasters.

4. THE PARADOX OF BORDER CONTROL LAWS: THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

When immigration levels are at their zenith, governments generally respond in one of two, or both, ways: by building a wall as a means of physically deterring unlawful border crossings or by revising the legal language in immigration law to reflect the stronger restrictions in immigration policy. The US government has done both.

Re-tooling the legal language to change entry classifications either strengthens border control laws by imposing a ceiling on the number of immigrants allowed to enter, or expands the doorway to new immigrants by giving amnesty to undocumented persons. Amnesty has been previously granted to thousands of undocumented immigrants residing in the US, but the government has more commonly pursued policies that limit entry, in particular, the national origins quota in the 1920s; the Immigration and Nationality Act in 1865, which constrained immigration to family ties; and with IRCA (Immigration Reform and Control Act) in 1986, which imposed penalties on employers caught

employing workers without visas (Borjas 1994, 1669). Since the turn of the 21st Century, lawmakers have again passed a series of laws that have restricted entry.

The US government erected a wall along the border with Mexico to keep out unauthorized immigrants from entering the country. In 2010, the US President Barack Obama brought back the Dream Act, which would have granted asylum to children of illegal immigrants. Unfortunately, the Senate did not pass the bill. In January 2017, Trump signed an executive order that temporarily restricted the entry of certain individuals from certain Muslim-majority countries into the US. This ban, which was similar to the Arizona Senate Bill 1070, prompted lawsuits from multiple state legislators. In addition to restricting the entry of immigrants, Trump's other executive orders also targeted groups that are protected from deportation. The renewed immigration debate is a result of the various resolutions that have been passed in Congress.

Managing migrations by modifying the legal language governing entry has hardly curbed transnational movements. Scholars (e.g. Cornelius, et al. 1994; Borjas 1994) have demonstrated that there is little correlation between stricter immigration laws and the numbers of entering immigrants. Stricter border laws have not abated immigration.

Borjas (1994) further points out that, despite more restrictive language in immigration policy, the overall number of immigrants allowed into the US grew exponentially after World War II by more than fifty percent (1770) and has consistently grown since the 1970s, not lessened. The study of national data by Castles and Miller (1998) show that US annual migrant intakes averaged about 450,000 during the 1970s, an average that jumped to 600,000 per year in the following decade (84); in 1990, 1.5 million immigrants became permanent residents, a number that again increased to 1.8 million the following year (85); and, despite heightened regulations on undocumented immigrants flowing into the US, millions of applicants seeking resident status were nevertheless approved, the largest number of all countries with legalization programs (97).

Another example of the futility of border restrictions is the Homeland Security wall constructed along the US-Mexico border spanning

across Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. This wall has not prevented migrants from crossing over. As UC Berkeley professor, Michael Dear, wrote in an opinion editorial article for the New York Times, thousands of new detainments have not deterred migrants from crossing into the US ("Mr. President, Tear Down this Wall," *New York Times*, March 10, 2013). Evidently, the divergence of immigration entry rates from legislative strategies aimed at restraining transnational flows indicates that (1) immigration has to be managed more comprehensively (Ewing, 2007, 445-46) and (2) affirms the need to deeply explore alternative approaches to simply heightened border patrolling.

5. DIVERSIFYING WITH SRCS: A BETTER APPROACH TO FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT?

There is growing recognition in the US that immigration reform needs to address the deeply-rooted causes of population movements. The following quote taken from a federal study indicates that the cognizance is there: "Development and the availability of new and better jobs at home is the only way to reduce migratory pressure over time" (Castles and Miller 1998, 100). Regardless, in spite of this cognizance, the US government has continued to support economic development policies that have failed to improve both wage levels and living conditions in the sending countries.

The US has ardently subscribed to the more conventional FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) approach to economic development by promoting investments of multinational corporations (MNCs) in sending countries. The assumption that MNCs would liberalize markets and eventually lift sending countries out of poverty conflicts with the research findings illuminating the economic impacts of FDI policies. Data indicate that the rise in concentrations of MNC investments in sending countries has not corresponded with reduced wage inequalities (Noorbaksh, et al. 1999; te Velde and Morrissey 2002; OECD 2007). While jobs were created, wages were not fair. In most contexts, workers were paid less than a dollar a day. Furthermore, FDI has not automatically resulted in greater in-country tax payments (Goodspeed 2006). MNCs have been known to pay little trade taxes, a custom founded on the neo-classical rationale that reducing levies would

liberalize trade, encourage more economic investments, and cause domestic markets to flourish (UNCTAD 2000, 11-12). An OECD (2008) policy brief, confirming that FDI discourages tax payments, reported that “FDI decreases by 37% following a percentage point increase in the tax rate on FDI” (2). The case study of Malaysia by Salihu et al. (2015) provides additional proof of the negative tax burden for foreign-owned firms. History teaches the obvious lesson that economies of sending countries have not benefited as anticipated from the conventional FDI model.

An alternative foreign investment strategy, more ethical and compliant with humane ideals, would be to diversify the investment portfolio of sending countries with SRCs. Known to be legitimately concerned with the ethical mantras of conducting business – the economic, the social, and the environmental – company edicts that Williams (2007) labels the triple bottom line, SRCs hypothetically would be more likely to practice sustainability, pay living wages, and pay taxes. In summary, proponents anticipate that SRCs contribute more strongly to sustainable, socially responsible economic development.

6.ROLE FOR URBAN PLANNERS: PLANNING THE SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

Urban planners have diversified and multifaceted roles. One of these is the distinct role of planning and managing the economic development of cities and regions, a responsibility that consists of the intersecting tasks of balancing multiple stakeholder interests, including those of residents, and forecasting the benefits (e.g. wages, jobs generated, and city/regional revenue) derived from attracting economic investors without compromising the qualities of urban environments and life. Because urban planners are at the center of this hub of perspectives, in this role, they are in a crucial position to visualize and plan for spatial economic density, whilst emphasizing an SRC-diversified investment portfolio that meets the sustainable and long-term fiscal goals of cities and regions.

The planning component of managing economic development requires the production of ideas. Ideas are contingent on data that enable planners to understand not only the benefits of

economic development, but also the impacts of actions taken in pursuit of economic development. As so, urban planners are simultaneously ensconced in a multitude of “information systems,” referred to as the intelligence center, involving data that help to understand the potential success of any economic development initiative (Singleton et al. 2018; Kaiser et al. 1995). The urban planner’s role, in this respect, would encompass the collection of pertinent data about SRCs to evaluate impacts in terms of tax revenues, employment opportunities, wage levels, and urban/regional sustainability. Once interpreted, the data would allow urban planners to make informed decisions about the extent to which cities and regions could accommodate agglomerations of SRCs and how best to spatially manage and zone their placements within and around cities.

Despite the numerous promotional materials that claim that SRCs can make a positive impact on the environment, there has been a lack of critical studies examining the claims made in these materials. Some of the cases that have been presented in this field are those that focus on the impact of corporate social responsibility (CSR) practices on a company's profits. These studies also highlight the various factors that affect a company's profitability, such as the tension between its profits and its CSR activities. In addition, some studies also suggest that evolutionary theory can help companies understand the various aspects of CSR activities. The increasing number of studies examining the trade-offs between sustainable practices and company profits has raised our awareness of the various factors that affect the environment and human welfare. However, these studies do not provide a comprehensive analysis of the impact of SRCs on the number of jobs and the overall welfare of employees. Without the necessary data to inform urban planners about the various contributions of SRCs to their areas, they can only make educated guesses about the exact impact of these activities.

At least two databases maintained by Vigeo-Eiris and CSRHub rate and evaluate corporations on CSR activities. The shortcomings of these reported evaluative ratings is that they apply to a wide range of corporations and do not distinguish SRCs from MNCs demonstrating incorporated CSR practices. Therefore, comparisons cannot be made of the scale

and the extent to which SRCs benefit communities relative to that of MNCs engaged in CSR activities. These databases also fail to narrow the multiplier effects (i.e. wages, tax revenues) of socially responsible activities on municipalities, townships, or regions. Without narrowing the analysis of the impacts of CSR practices to smaller administrative boundaries, urban planners could not measure the comprehensive benefits to local areas and corresponding hinterlands. Localizing data enables urban planners to make contextualized economic development decisions.

Considering these knowledge gaps in the research material, this paper calls on urban planners to take the initial steps in collecting data, allowing for preliminary assessments. Firstly, gather data on the investment activities of SRCs from SRCs, government and non-government databases other than Vigeo-Eiris and CSRHub and measure the potential returns to cities and regions. Indicators of interest are (1) the number of jobs generated, (2) the gross and average wages paid to workers, which should be measured against the living wage, (3) average taxes paid to municipal and federal governments, (4) the types of sustainable practices in which the SRC is engaged, and (5) the impacts of these sustainable practices to the surrounding communities. Continuously tracking such data over time would allow urban planners to determine how well SRCs endure socially responsible and sustainable practices.

Analyzing the land and commercial properties in local districts to determine how much of their municipal land spaces have been allocated to special purpose entities (SRCs) and how they should be used to maximize the economic returns from these lands. This step also aims to identify the value of these lands and the impacts of urbanization on the environment. A land audit is a process that can be used to evaluate the spatial patterns of available land. It can also be used to identify the most sustainable uses of the land. The results of the study should be stored in a database and regularly updated. Once a land has been identified as being suitable for development, it should be banked for future use. This method would allow planners to focus on long-term planning goals and not only on the present. It would also help minimize the risk of over-development and

ensure that the development of sustainable economic strategies is carried out in a manner that is socially responsible. Aside from analyzing the spatial patterns of available land, a land audit can also be used to predict the potential holding capacities of various regions for commercial development.

Finally, track the environmental performance of SRCs. The environmental performance indicators should be drawn from the environmental mission statement of the SRC and the assessment be measured against the overall contribution of activities that uphold the sustainability of urban and regional ecosystems. The findings from such an assessment would enable urban planners to ascertain the collective returns from sustainable practices to residents and to ecosystems.

To verify the legitimacy of the economic, social, and environmental benefits claimed by the SRCs and to recognize their distinct contributions, urban planners should compare the performances by SRCs against that of MNCs in these domains. Moreover, when determining which SRCs to invite for investing in cities and regions, preference should be given to those with the most beneficial triple bottom line portfolio. The choices should ideally complement what is already provided by existing businesses.

Through the data collected by SRCs, urban planners can determine the degree to which they contribute to the development of cities and regions, as well as the environmental quality of the areas they serve. They can also identify areas where they can improve the economic wellbeing of their communities. The data collected by this project would be used to develop strategies and programs that support the implementation of sustainable development initiatives in rural and urban areas. It would also be used to identify areas of potential investment in the SRC-diversified portfolio. The data collected by this project will help inform the development of policies and programs that encourage sustainable practices. It will also help other countries improve their environmental conditions.

7. CONCLUSION

The rise of immigration concerns due to various factors such as climate change and political instabilities has only brought attention to the issue. Despite the growing awareness of the need to address

the country's growing immigrant population, the implementation of race-based immigration laws has not been able to do so. Instead of addressing the root causes of immigration, these laws reinforce the tired approach that has failed to reduce the flow of immigrants into the U.S.

Urban planners now have an opportunity to shift their attention away from the racial and ethnic identity of their communities and focus on a strategy that addresses the root causes of migration, which is the socio-economic motivation to leave. This concept is known as sustainable regional communities (SRCs). These communities are able to benefit from the environmental and socio-economic benefits of SRCs. Urban planners can benefit from the contributions of SRCs by developing a more effective immigration management strategy through the use of FDI. This model could potentially reduce the risk of unauthorized entry into the country and improve the efficiency of the immigration system. However, it is still not clear how this model would affect the various stakeholder groups it serves. Urban planners need to collect data on the land availability and sustainability of cities to make informed decisions regarding the development of sustainable economic and social policies for their communities. This data can help them identify areas where their governments can make the most progress in addressing the needs of their residents and communities.

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