Editorial

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African Human Mobility Review (AHMR) is one of the few peer-reviewed scholarly journals in the field of migration in sub-Saharan Africa. The objective of AHMR is to publish up-to-date, high-quality and original research papers alongside relevant and insightful reviews. As such, the journal aspires to be vibrant, engaging and accessible, and at the same time integrative and challenging. At the moment, AHMR publishes three issues per year in April, August, and December. The journal also publishes occasional special issues. In the past few years, a number of articles were received by the editorial office, of which, after the critical peer review process, selected articles were published. Our online publication has increased accessibility of information for practitioners, researchers, students, academicians and policy makers.

AHMR, Vol. 6, No1, 2020, presents a diverse selection of stimulating articles from various scholars in the field. The first article looks at the interlinkages between migration and inequality in Africa through the review of contemporary studies in several parts of the continent. The second article analyzes policies and programs concerning African immigrants and refugees following the 2008 xenophobic crisis up to 2016. The third article reflects not only on the results of the study itself, but on the methodological process issues that can lay a foundation for a better understanding of how to study the intersections of migration and local governance. The fourth article examines how social media strengthen in-group solidarities with the attendant consequences of loss of lives, properties, and inter-state diplomatic relations in post-colonial Africa. The fifth article identifies the barriers to belonging for young migrants in South Africa. The last article analyzes how a migrant association facilitates being, belonging and integration of migrants in the host society.

This issue offers a shared vision and understanding of a major predicament of policies and programs in the African continent. In this regard, authors provide an increasingly critical and compelling evidence-based reflection on emerging trends and economic, social, political and cultural issues in Africa. This issue also provides valuable information to researchers, policy makers, practitioners and students, shedding light on the complexities of human mobility in Africa. It is a precious collection of insightful articles on various aspects and issues of human mobility, dynamics and perspectives in the African continent. The opinions expressed in this editorial report are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of AHMR.

As always, we would like to thank the outgoing Board of Directors of AHMR, Dr Meselu Alamnie Mulugeta, (Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia), Dr Beneberu Assefa Wondimagegnhu (Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia), and Dr Sharon Penderis (University of the Western Cape). Their guidance and support make our journal possible, and we are deeply indebted to them for the time and effort that they put into our journal. It is also with sincere pleasure that I welcome the New Board of Directors of AHMR, Prof Vivienne Lawack, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa, Prof Jonathan Crush, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Canada, Prof Wilson Majee, University of Missouri, USA, and Dr Eria Serwajja, Makerere University, Uganda.

In 2020, we are proud to be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the University of the Western Cape. For the past six decades, the University of the Western Cape opened up education for all. During this landmark anniversary, we are also celebrating the partnership and joint ownership of the African Human Mobility Review (AHMR) with the Scalabrini Institute for Human Mobility in Africa (SIHMA).

I believe that this issue provides invaluable information to researchers, practitioners and students. It also dishes up thoughtful ideas to policy makers to make well-informed decisions about migration policies, programs and projects, by presenting the best available evidence from research in Africa.