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**Migration, Development and Subjective Well-being – A model
for discussion**

Abstract

From the last decade, a number of studies have been carried out on the relations of happiness and migration. Synonymously used, happiness, subjective well-being and life satisfaction appeared in the academic debates on migration and development as a proxy for utility on one hand and as a complementary element to development indices on the other. By today, research on migration and well-being has gained its own *raison d'être* as a specific research line within migration literature, bearing clear political relevance for migration policy-makers both in sending and destination countries. However, despite the recent boom of investigations in this line, there is still much to do in practice as well as in theory. This paper focuses on the latter and is written with the aim of proposing Fred van Raaij's dynamic model of economic behaviour as an interpretive framework and a starting point for further debates on migration, development and subjective well-being.