Project Greenback 2.0 Remittances Champion Cities

Marco Nicolì and Ceu Pereira Payment Systems Development Group

Global Remittances Working Group Washington, DC October 10, 2014





- **Objective**: promote transparency and competition in the market for remittances and, ultimately, reduce prices for remittance services
- Migrants in champion city and beneficiaries in receiving countries: raise awareness and increase financial education and inclusion
- Remittance Service Providers: promote best practices and dedicated services
- Local and national authorities: facilitate remittance flows and improvements in the market



2013

• Launched Turin, Italy

2014

• Launched Montreuil, France

Lined up

• Frankfurt, Germany and London, UK

Pipeline

• USA, Canada, Balkans





Greenback 2.0

REMITTANCES CHAMPION CITIES

Turin

In partnership with



and in collaboration with

Banca d'Italia

Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale

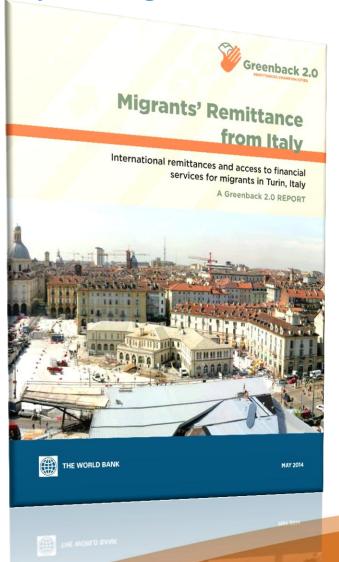
What is happening in Turin

- ✓ Survey completed in 2013
- ✓ Report «Migrants' Remittances from Italy» published in 2014
- ✓ Financial education for students, NGOs staff, SMEs
- ✓ Remittances «crash course»
- ✓ Education to «new clients» for banks, post office
- ✓ City Tour
- ✓ Workshops «Migrants meet providers»
- ✓ Information and awarness
- ✓ Market monitoring
- ✓ Challenge Fund: empowering migrants' ideas



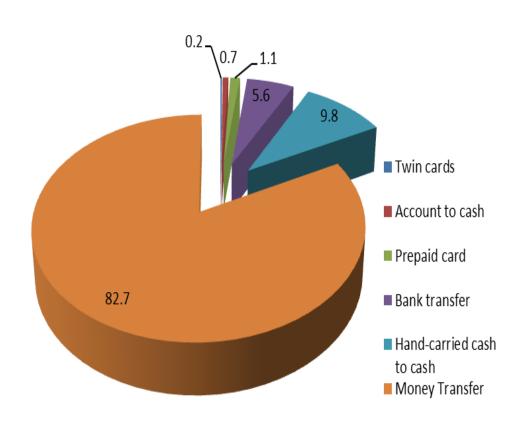
"Migrants' Remittances from Italy": key findings

- 480 interviews, migrants from Morocco, Peru, Romania
- Good level of economic and financial integration, widespread usage of financial services
- 83% remittances sent in cash through MTOs
- Misperception of remittances cost
- Remittances more resilient than income to worsening of economic conditions
- "Reverse" remittances



Remittances and access to financial services for migrants in Turin

- 80% have bank account in Turin
- 83% flows sent in cash through a money transfer operator in Turin
- Lack of financial education by migrants or lack of readiness for market players
- Project Greenback 2.0 trying to tackle both



Workshop for NGOs staff, migrants associations



- 30 entities participated
- Interactive sessions
- Introduction to migration, migrants' financial needs and behaviors
- Case studies on initiatives for financial inclusion, remittances etc.
- Practical exercise: how to reflect knowledge into existing or new activities



Financial education for students



- 200+ students and families impacted
- High-school students: direct impact on future remitters, indirect impact on families
- Interactive module developed around analogy between payments and travels
- Cooperation with Banca d'Italia and Museo del Risparmio

Remittances "Crash Course"

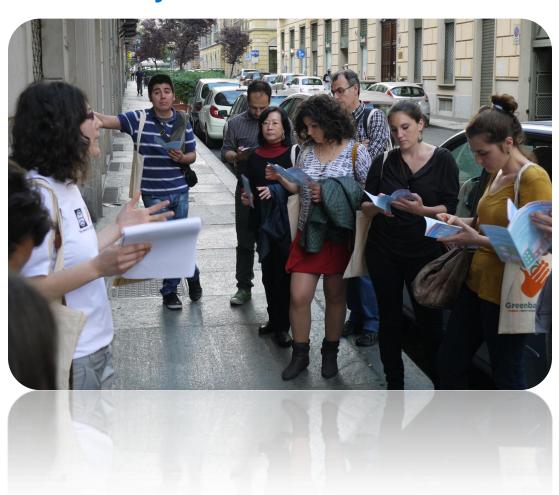
- A 10-minute course on tablet
- Given during social, sport, and cultural events, now testing at Poste Italiane offices
- Quiz and gadget to engage and get attention
- Profile to stimulate improvement
- Focus on remittance services price and conditions comparison
- 4,000 people!





Remittances City Tour

- 50+ migrants and community leaders
- Walk through the city with trained tour guides
- Meeting service providers, visiting locations
- Topics included description of services, how to compare, etc.
- Now part of "Viaggi Solidali" stable tour program



Workshop on "new clients" for banks

- In cooperation with Banca d'Italia
- Developed with CeSPI and CRIF Academy
- 20 banks joined



Migrants financial needs

- Remittances
- Savings and Credit
- Other financial products

Advanced financial profiles

- International dimension
- Migrants' SMEs

Relations

Migrants and Banks

Challenge Fund: empowering migrants' ideas

Open fund to promote migrants' ideas and initiatives



6 projects funded

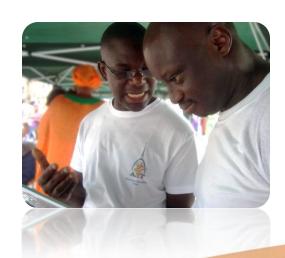
\$30,000

Awareness

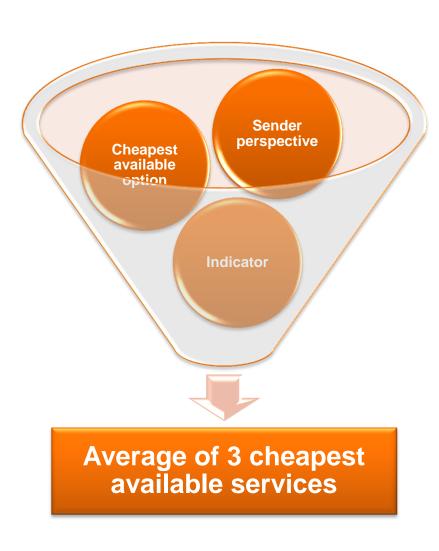
Education

Services

\$20,000 disbursed \$10,000 committed



Monitoring the market with a bottom/up approach



In Italy 7% in 2009 4.9% in 2014



4.5% in

2014





Greenback 2.0

REMITTANCES CHAMPION CITIES

Montreuil

Joining forces...







About Montreuil.. and why it became the second Remittances Champion City

	0-15	15-24	25 -54	55 +	All	%
Portugal	47	89	1,117	777	2,029	7.7
Italy	17	5	138	535	694	2.6
Spain	11	7	156	313	487	1.9
Other EU countries	202	196	1,244	328	1,970	7.5
Other Europe	27	70	517	281	894	3.4
Algeria	174	358	2,595	1,525	4,652	17.7
Morocco	55	170	1,498	534	2,258	8.6
Tunisia	31	97	1,006	523	1,656	6.3
OtherAfrica	217	699	5645	1,376	7,937	30.2
Turkey	11	34	430	103	578	2.2
Other	147	332	2,146	524	3,148	12.0
All	938	2,055	16,491	6,821	26,305	100,0





The survey – scope

- Being of active age (18-65 years old);
- Being born abroad, either in Mali, Côte d'Ivoire or Algeria;
- Having an income whatever its source (from a regular or punctual activity, a declared or undeclared one, etc.);
- Having sent remittances in the last 12 months preceding the survey.

	Number of contacted migrants	Number of surveyed migrants
Algerians	345	156
Ivoirians	339	148
Malians	289	124
Total	973	428

First finding: amounts sent are not negligible



EUR 532 per transaction / EUR 1269 per capita and per year



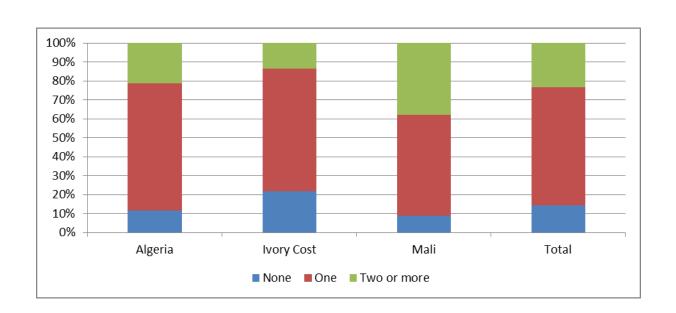
EUR 122 per transaction / EUR 1150 per capita and per year



 $EUR\ 150$ per transaction / $EUR\ 1894$ per capita and per year

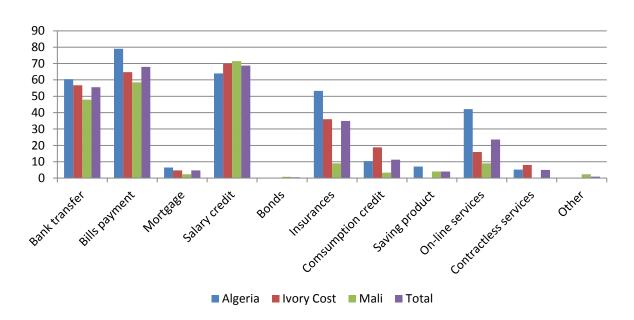
Second finding – migrants are rather well integrated financially

Migrants in Montreuil have bank accounts.....



Migrants use their bank accounts

.....and they use them rather intensively in a domestic context....

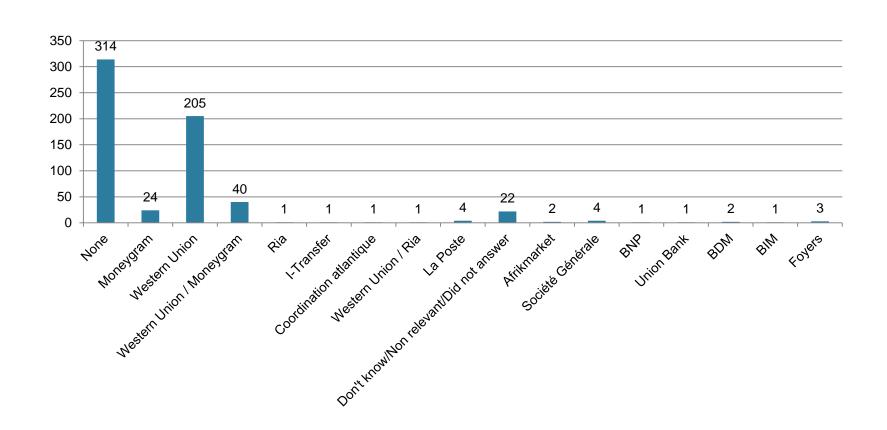


Third finding: migrants do not use their bank accounts to send remittances

..... they generally use other channels....

	Alger	ians	Ivoir	ians	Malia	ans	Tota	I
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Bank transfer	8	4.2	3	1.5	3	1.3	14	2.2
Bank account to cash	1	0.5	0	0.0	2	0.8	3	0.5
Money transfer	5	2.6	183	88.8	86	36.0	274	43.1
Twin bank accounts	1	0.5	0	0.0	1	0.4	2	0.3
Hand-carried cash to cash	176	92.2	19	9.2	141	59.0	336	52.8
Other	0	0.0	1	0.5	1	0.4	2	0.3
Did not answer	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	2.1	5	0.8
Total	191	100.0	206	100.0	239	100.0	636	100.0

Most frequently used operators



Fourth finding: migrants have a misperception of costs

The costs of banking channels are underestimated, whereas the costs of MTOs are overestimated...

	Algerians	Ivoirians	Malians
Bank transfer (from survey)	5.1	3.3	1.9
Bank Transfer (from RPW)	6.8	17.8 🖊	20.2
MTO (from survey)	9.2	8.9	10.6
MTO (from RPW)	8.3	5.6	6.2
Hand to hand (from survey)	0	3	5.6

Overall conclusion

Consistency with outcomes from Turin: migrants have bank accounts but do not use them to send money back home

Lack of financial education by migrants or lack of readiness for market players

Greenback 2.0 is trying to tackle both

Event to disseminate the findings of the survey and gather the main actors

28 October in Montreuil





- Workshops with migrants
- Presentation of the survey
- Discussion on future actions

THANKS!

mnicoli1@worldbank.org

remittanceprices.worldbank.org