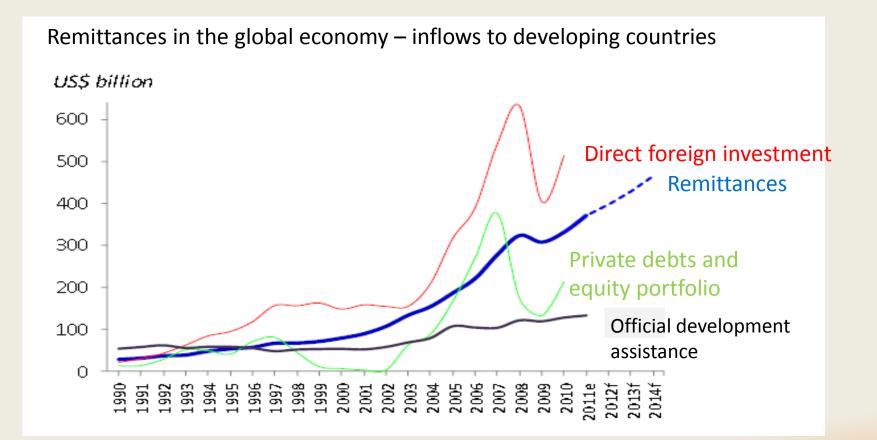




## Impact of Remittances on the Polish Economy between 1992-2012

Luca Barbone Brussels, January 24, 2013

#### Remittances in the global economy

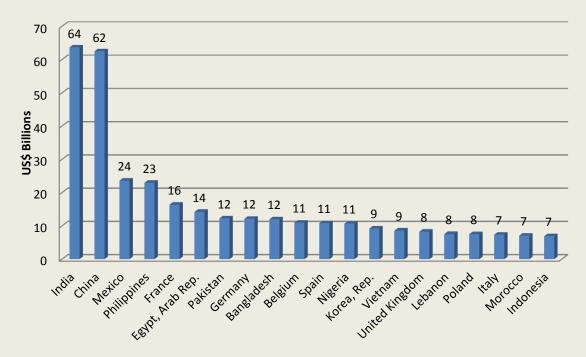




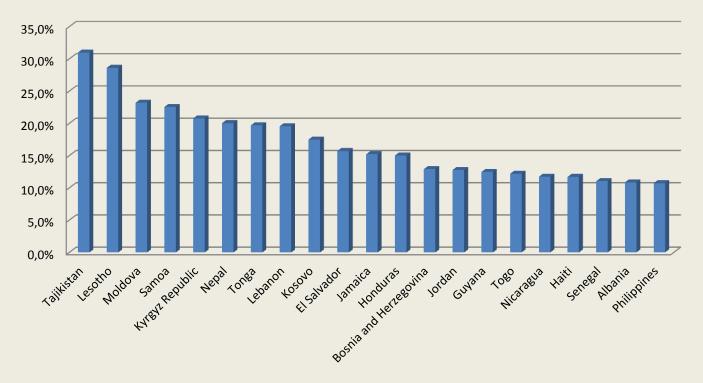
#### **Biggest recipients**

#### Fig. 2: Top Remittance Recipients

CASE



#### Largest recipients - % of GDP



#### Fig. 3 - Remittance Recipients, Percent of GDP



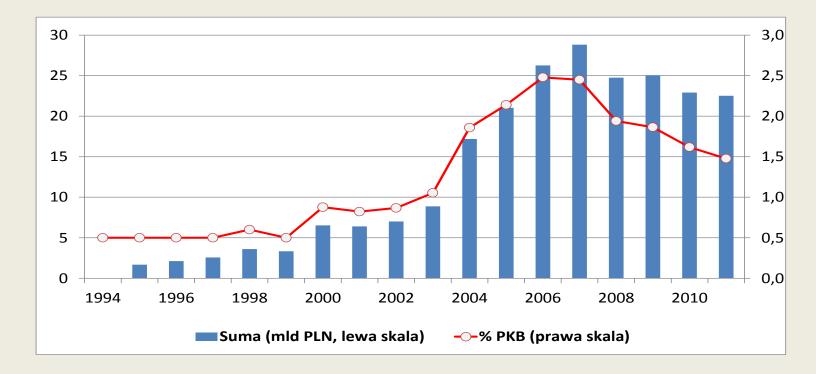
#### Center for Social and Economic Research



# Remittances to Poland macro approach



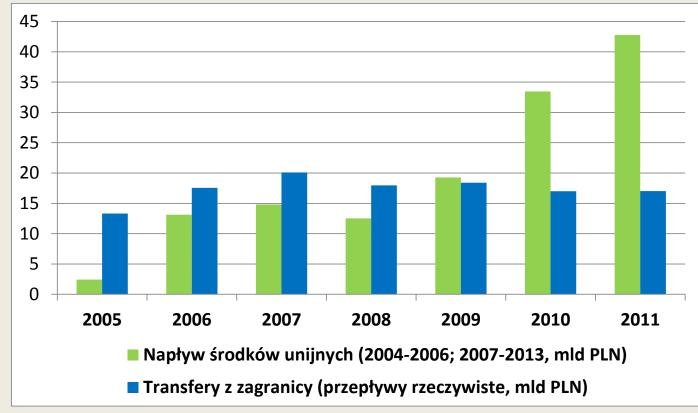
#### **Transfers to Poland – macro approach**



- Total compensation of employees (gross) for work in other countries in the period <1 year</p>
- Remittances (net excl. expenses abroad) part of remuneration for work during> 1 year



#### **Remittances in relation to inflow of EU funds**



➡ By 2008 - transfers larger than the EU funds

➡ After large budget for 2007-2013 - a clear advantage of EU funds in 2010



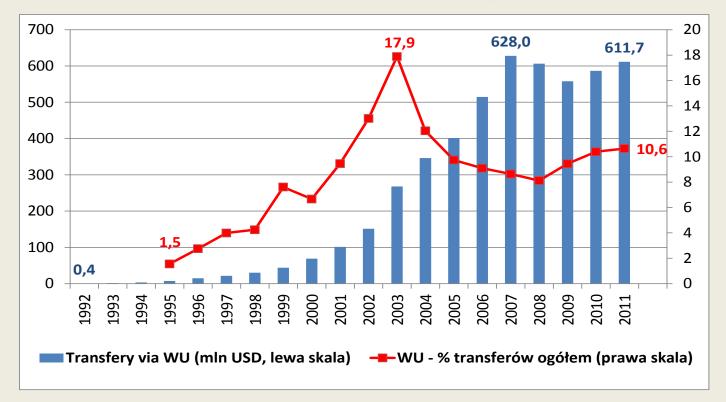
#### **Remittances – Contribution to Growth**

	Disposable Income			Household Consumption		GDP	
	actual		No-Remittance Scenario	actual	No-Remittance Scenario	actual	No-Remittance Scenario
		o/w, remittances					
	Real growth (%)			Real growth (%)		Real growth (%)	
1995-2011	56,8	436,2	53,8	94,0	90,4	98,9	96,9
Avg. growth	2,9	14,2	2,7	4,2	4,1	4,4	4,3

Source: CAS Macro Model

 In the No-Remittance scenario, the average annual growth of real income is lower by 0.2 percent, and household consumption and GDP - by 0.1 points. percent.

#### Transfers via Western Union 1992 – 2011; in relation to all transfers



WU transfers through the years 1992-2011 amounted to almost \$ 5 billion

Until 2003, growth rate higher than of total transfers (increase of up to 18%); then increasing role of other forms of transfer ("in pocket") => decline of WU share to 11% in 2011



#### **Remittances to Poland- Conclusions**

- Remittances have played an important role in the Polish economy (rising between 1995-2011 from 0.3 to 177% of GDP), but not as spectacular as in countries with very strong emigration. Until the launch of large EU budget 2007-13 (i.e. until 2009) they were higher than the EU funds.
- The absolute value and share in GDP of remittances rose significantly after Polish accession to the EU and the opening of the most European labor markets to Polish workers. This very dynamic growth was hampered by the financial crisis of 2008-2009

#### CASE

#### **Remittances to Poland-conclusions**

- The simulations for scenario "Polish economy WITHOUT remittance" show that the remittances increased the average annual growth of real disposable income by 0.2 percentage points (from 2.7% to 2.9%), which in turn resulted in a higher average annual rate of households' consumption by 0.1 percent (from 4.1% to 4.2% in real terms) and higher annual GDP growth by 0.1 percentage point. (from 4.3% to 4.4%).
- Thus, the Polish economy without remittances would have developed more slowly; we estimate that the level of GDP in 2011 was about US\$7 billion higher than in a case where remittances had not taken off.



## Remittances in household budgets

#### CASE

#### **Remittances in households**

#### 

How important is foreign income in the budgets of Polish families? What kind of families usually take advantege of such income Whether and to what extent the inflow of foreign income reduces poverty and impacts material/social status?

#### Source of data

Household budgets in 2008 (GUS – Central Statistics Office)

#### Definition and classification of foreign income

- Work
- Social benefits
- From other households



#### Main findings:

- 2,5% of households receive remittances, that is around 330,000.
- For one household there is 635 zł/person per month, which represents approximately 62% of its income
- 87%: income from employment, 8%: transfers from other households

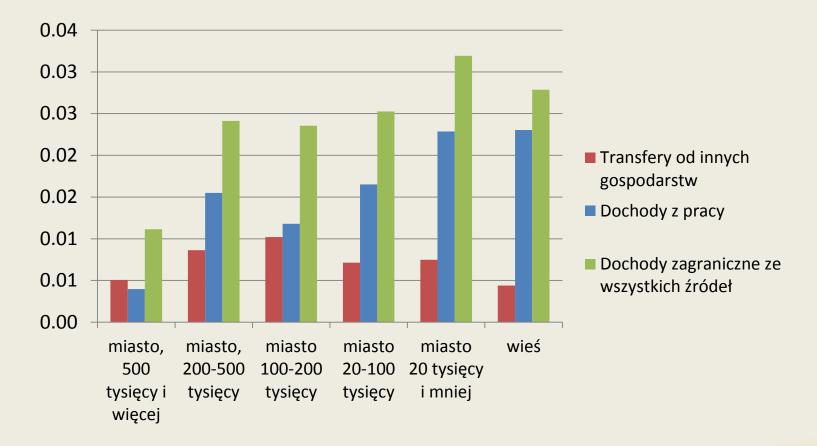
↔ The average for all households: 20 zł / per month, 2% of income

#### CASE

#### Households with foreign income (in %) per district



### Percentage of households with remittances, by place of residence





Impact of foreign income on diversification and poverty (households in general)

Diversification of revenue decreased slightly Gini index with no foreign income : 0.35 Gini index including foreign income: 0.34

The poverty rate decreases Poverty rate without remittances: 19% Poverty rate with remittances: 17%





WESTERN

### Thank you