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Photographs by Stephanie Sinclair

A Good Provider Is One Who Leaves

Jason DeParle (April 22) does an important service by putting a human face on migration. But economic remittances are not the only things migrants send back to their homelands. They also send back social remittances. Depending on what they have witnessed, migrants often demand more from their governments. They want institutions that work, political voice and jobs that are allocated on the basis of merit, not on whom you know. This is a piece of the puzzle that development planners and world bankers should not overlook.

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