Poor Infrastructure Causes Migration in Africa – Bawumia

By: Emmanuel Yeboah Britwum

The Vice President, Alhaji Mahamudu Bawumia has expressed worry about the increase in migration and mobility in Africa.

According to him, lack of infrastructure, health care, and education in some communities are the major causes of migration across the continent.

He therefore entreated researchers to focus more on south-north movements, which he said are very significant, in terms of numbers of people involved in migration. "Migration and mobility are major human development issues.

It is no doubt that people who feel excluded in communities due to lack of infrastructure and healthcare are likely to move", he said.

Speaking at the opening of the Migration and Mobility Conference at the Institute of Statistical and Socio Economic Research (ISSER), Dr. Bawumia said government is continuously monitoring the need for effective policies in the areas of internal migrations, urbanization, refugees and asylum, among other things.

The immediate past Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Professor Ernest Aryeetey, who also doubles as a council member of United Nations University (UNU), on his part, said the main objective for organizing the conference is to allow researchers across Africa to participate and address the factors behind migration in Africa.

"It is our expectation that this conference will provide a solid platform to discuss and find solutions to migration in Africa", he said.

The International Conference on Migration and Mobility is being organized by the United Nations University, World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER), and the Africa Research Universities Alliance (ARUA).