

## **Abstract**

This thesis focuses on the phenomenon of remittances (money or products sent by migrants to their countries of origin) and their relation to current development discourse. The volumes of remittances are still growing and this revenue has become especially significant for developing countries. This thesis, therefore, does not only focus on the economic contribution of remittances but analyses them in a broader context. Its aim is to find whether and how do remittances contribute to the overall development of poor countries. This thesis offers a historical overview of developmental discourse and followed by specification of four key concepts of current development (empowerment, ownership, good governance and sustainable development), whereby this thesis constitutes a framework for further analysis. Remittances are substantially connected to the concepts of empowerment and ownership. They enable the recipients to meet their needs more freely and decide how to invest their money. From the point of views of good government concept, it is important, that remittances can help to put more pressure on the democratization of developing countries. Fulfilment of these concepts, as well as the stability of remittances, implies, that this revenue supports sustainable development in poor countries. This thesis is based on the interpretative analysis and its aim is to embrace in its complexity the complicated connection between remittances and development concepts. Conclusions of this thesis are supported by the case study of Bangladesh.