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1 DATA

## COLLECT AND UTILIZE ACCURATE AND DISAGGREGATED DATA AS A BASIS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICIES



### Associated actions

- a. **Elaborate and implement a comprehensive strategy for improving migration data at local, national, regional and global levels**, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission, by harmonizing methodologies for data collection, and strengthening analysis and dissemination of migration-related data and indicators
- b. **Improve international comparability and compatibility of migration statistics and national data systems**, including by further developing and applying the statistical definition of an international migrant, elaborating a set of standards to measure migrant stocks and flows, and documenting migration patterns and trends, characteristics of migrants, as well as drivers and impacts of migration
- c. **Develop a global programme to build and enhance national capacities in data collection, analysis and dissemination** to share data, address data gaps and assess key migration trends, that encourages collaboration between relevant stakeholders at all levels, provides dedicated training,

financial support and technical assistance, leverages new data sources, including big data, and is reviewed by the United Nations Statistical Commission on a regular basis

- d. **Collect, analyse and use data on the effects and benefits of migration**, as well as the contributions of migrants and diasporas to sustainable development, with a view to inform the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related strategies and programmes at the local, national, regional and global levels
- e. **Support further development of and collaboration between existing global and regional databases and depositories**, including the IOM Global Migration Data Portal and the World Bank Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, with a view to systematically consolidate relevant data in a transparent and user-friendly manner, while encouraging inter-agency collaboration to avoid duplication
- f. **Establish and strengthen regional centres for research and training on migration or migration observatories**, such as the African Observatory for Migration and Development, to collect and analyse data in line with United Nations standards, including on best practices, the contributions of migrants, the overall economic, social and political benefits and challenges of migration in countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as drivers of migration, with a view to establishing shared strategies and maximizing the value of disaggregated migration data, in coordination with existing regional and subregional mechanisms

- g. Improve national data collection by integrating migration-related topics in national censuses, as early as practicable**, such as on country of birth, country of birth of parents, country of citizenship, country of residence five years prior to the census, most recent arrival date and reason for migrating, to ensure timely analysis and dissemination of results, disaggregated and tabulated in accordance with international standards, for statistical purposes
- h. Conduct household, labour force and other surveys to collect information on the social and economic integration of migrants** or add standard migration modules to existing household surveys to improve national, regional and international comparability, and make collected data available through public-use of statistical microdata files
- i. Enhance collaboration between State units responsible for migration data and national statistical offices** to produce migration-related statistics, including by using administrative records for statistical purposes, such as border records, visa, resident permits, population registers and other relevant sources, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- j. Develop and use country-specific migration profiles**, which include disaggregated data on all migration-relevant aspects in a national context, including those on labour market needs, demand and availability of skills, the economic, environmental and social impacts of migration, remittance transfer costs, health, education, occupation, living and working conditions, wages, and the needs of migrants and receiving communities, in order to develop evidence-based migration policies

**k. Cooperate with relevant stakeholders in countries of origin, transit and destination** to develop research, studies and surveys on the interrelationship between migration and the three dimensions of sustainable development, the contributions and skills of migrants and diasporas, as well as their ties to the countries of origin and destination.

"The actions reflected in this booklet are those included in the text of the GCM (A/RES/73/195). Associated actions are considered to be relevant policy instruments and best practices to fulfill the objectives and commitments outlined in the GCM."



### Example practices

For more practices, visit the Migration Network Hub's **Repository of Practices**

### Towards a global programme for migration data panel

In March 2019, the UN Statistics Division organized a high-level panel entitled "Towards a global programme for migration data." Referring to GCM Objective 1, this panel brought together representatives of countries, the donor community, statistical institutes, the United Nations system and civil society to discuss the development and implementation of a global programme on international migration statistics, as well as to share experiences and present initiatives to improve the collection and use of migration data and indicators in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the GCM (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2019).

### International Data Alliance for Children on the Move

In March 2020, UNICEF, IOM, UNHCR and OECD launched the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move, which brings together experts from national statistical

offices, migration-relevant line ministries, international and regional organizations, NGOs, academics and civil societies. The main objective of the Alliance is improving statistics and data on migrant and forcibly displaced children to support evidence-based policymaking that protects and empowers them (UNICEF, 2020a).

### **Free Movement and Migration (FMM) West Africa project**

The FMM supports the development of standardized migration-relevant data and country-level migration profiles (either new ones or updates of existing ones) and regional migration profiles through technical assistance and capacity-building support to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission, which consists of fifteen ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania. FMM is funded by the European Union and the ECOWAS Commission and jointly implemented by IOM, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and ILO (Schachter, 2019).

### **Mediterranean City-to-City Migration project**

Within the framework of the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration project, Amman, Beirut, Casablanca, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Oujda, Rabat, Sfax, Sousse, Tangiers, Tunis, Turin and other cities in the Mediterranean have elaborated and shared city migration profiles with the support of a local expert and the involvement of different stakeholders engaged on migration and inclusion at the local level. These profiles collected existing data on migrant populations, as well as mapped out related actors and activities that could support local policy-making and strengthen multi-stakeholder cooperation (ICMPD, n.d.).



## Relevant sustainable development goals



### SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

▪**10.7:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies



### SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

▪**17.18:** By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts