

High-level Seminar on Population Censuses and Migration Statistics in CIS Countries

Enhancing Evidence Base of Migration Management & Policy Development: IOM approaches and actions

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Evidence-based policy-making on migration remains one of the cornerstones of the management for developmental results. Access to the relevant, accurate and timely statistical data is essential for effective decision making and policy planning on migration. Thus, supporting governments in their efforts to improve the existing evidence base and capacities to effectively manage statistical data on migratory processes has been a long-standing strategy of IOM throughout the world.

At present, IOM activities focus in the following four areas of enhancing the evidence base and statistical data for migration management:

- 1) ***Research: support in the development of the research base on migration.*** Migration remains understudied because of its dynamic nature; existing analytical tools often fail to capture the dynamics of the processes, especially when it concerns undocumented mobility. IOM interventions include support in developing methodological frameworks of data analysis that address data gaps faced by the national statistical agencies; conducting research/studies on selected migration issues in the new and emerging areas of interest;
 - 2) ***Technical cooperation & capacity building to manage migration data.*** Some of the examples of IOM projects include country assessments of existing migration data systems; creating Country Migration Profiles, support in the development of the integrated information systems and the databases on managing data on specific categories of migrants (for ex., a unified database for social assistance to migrants in Lithuania, a Database of Ecuadorian Migrants in Spain, Moldova Country Migration Profile);
 - 3) ***Regional cooperation: enhancing comparability of migration statistics on the regional level*** and support to the development of coherent approaches and unified tools in managing migration; building up interstate cooperation and data sharing mechanisms. Specific interventions include support to technical cooperation, capacity building and institutional collaboration among key stakeholders;
 - 4) ***Awareness raising on the interlinks between migration and development*** and piloting approaches towards mainstreaming migration into developmental planning. Specific actions include gathering meaningful data on the impact of migration on various socio-economic areas, as well as support in data collection & analysis which shifts migration policy debates from the issues of the economic costs of migration to the issues on the rights, protection and the well-being.
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