

***Guide on the Use of Administrative  
Sources and Sample Surveys to  
Measure International Migration in  
the CIS Region:  
Sample Surveys***

Workshop on Migration Statistics  
Geneva, 17-18 May 2016



# Background

- Developed in 2015
  - Objective: Guide statisticians and other professionals in producing and using migration data from administrative sources and household surveys
  - Drafted by experts in administrative and survey data collection methods for migration statistics
- Consultation Jan-Mar 2016
  - Responses from 7 countries
- Final version to be submitted for publication in June 2016

# Structure of chapter:

## Sample survey overview

- 1.1. Topics for migration studies
- 1.2. Types of sample surveys
  - Introduction
  - Border surveys
  - Household surveys with migration questions or modules (general household surveys)
  - Specialized migration surveys (household migration surveys)
  - Other migration-specialized surveys
- 1.3. Choosing the most useful surveys

# Structure of chapter:

## Survey design and implementation

- 2.1. The complete survey process (introduction)
- 2.2. Survey design and coverage
  - Conditions for surveying migration
  - Defining the target population for studying the determinants and consequences of migration
  - The coverage of migration of entire households
- 2.3. Questionnaire design
  - Main requirements
  - Questionnaires for border survey and general household surveys
  - Questionnaires for migration-specialized surveys
- 2.4. Sampling
  - General issues
  - Disproportionate sampling of area units and two-phase sampling of households
  - Other methods of sampling for migration surveys
- 2.5. Other key phases of survey preparation
- 2.6. Data collection
- 2.7. Data management

# Structure of chapter:

## Assessment of sample surveys in the CIS Region and recommendations for improvement

- 3.1. Broad assessment of relevant sample surveys in CIS countries
- 3.2. Proposals and recommendations for improvement
  - General level
  - Specific level of survey implementation

# Consultation comments

- Comments received from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Germany, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and CISStat
- No significant comments on Survey chapter
  - Several editorial changes
  - Additional text added in one case to further explain a specific online survey carried out by the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees

# Main Recommendations: Survey Data

- *At a general level*
  - Coordinate the use of sample surveys with comprehensive national policy strategies at the regional, national and local levels
  - Conduct more in-depth assessments of national migration data systems
  - Strengthen collaboration between international organizations, foreign countries, and research institutions
  - Continue sharing and discussing national practices through international and regional meetings and fora.
  - Improve the comparability of migration data derived from sample surveys by following international standards and recommendations.
  - Report fully on methodological procedures and provide metadata

# Main Recommendations: Survey Data

- *Countries with unsatisfactory or partial measurements of yearly flows and stocks of migrants should:*
  - Adapt pre-existing national general household surveys to include basic questions to measure migration.
  - Implement or adapt border-crossing surveys to measure migration, through the addition of a few questions.
- *Countries that have recently undertaken surveys with relevant measurements of migration should:*
  - Increase the frequency and use of sample surveys to measure migration



# Main Recommendations: Survey Data

- *All countries should:*
  - Increase harmonization and comparability of migration information collected on sample surveys throughout the CIS region.
  - Search for ways to carry out more migration-specialized surveys in the region.

# Conclusion

- Surveys are an important and powerful way of measuring migration
  - As resources can be limited, it is important to:
    - administer surveys efficiently – including adapting of surveys already in place
    - communicate with other agencies
    - ensure that data requested are in line with international standards
- Final version of Handbook to be sent for publication in June 2016
- Way forward in implementing the recommendations of the handbook will be discussed in detail on Day Two of workshop