

# Harmonized module for measuring and collecting information on migration and remittances after 2020

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# The harmonized module on migration and remittances: its goal and tasks for 2018

Improve data comparability.

Set up a single thematic module (HM), standardize estimations of the extent, characteristics, and impact of migration and remittances (2018).

Integrate HM into the HBS or the integrated survey with income and expenses sections (2019, TJ).

Study the relationship between the receipt of remittances and the level of households' welfare.

Optimize the way these indicators are factored into the development of public policy interventions aimed at reducing poverty, including as part of the actions to achieve the SDGs from the 2030 Agenda.

# The most relevant survey questions concerning international migration in 2021

1. Does the labor market's dependence on foreign workforce persist?	According to official statistics, the Russian labor market reverted to the situation from 2019, all the while experiencing a shortage of FW in the construction industry. The governments of the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan have launched a joint organizational recruitment pilot project (for maximum 10,000 FW where there is need for 200,000 in Moscow only).
2. How have foreign workers' migration intentions changed?	Migration as an unpredictable risk, or migration as the only way to compensate the loss of income in 2020?
3. How has the digitization trend affected international migration?	Computer literacy and financial integration—connection with the digitization of remittances.
4. What alternative data sources on migration are available for use?	For example, mobile phone data (MPD).

# What data/information about migration is in the highest demand during the pandemic?

## Context=IMPACT

1. The closure/opening of borders: the trend of reversal to pre-pandemic levels



- Changes in flows: entries/departures, the migration gain
- The group of “lingering migrants”: the maximal duration of stay (how many have moved from short-term migrants to long-term migrants, who stay for 12 months or longer)
- The structure of the return migration
- Migration intentions and obstacles for the recurrent migration

## Context=RESILIENCE

Migrants’ social-economic integration and mobility on the labor markets of destination countries:



- Access to healthcare (immunization, diagnostics)
- Access to digital financial services (financial integration)
- Access to other types of government support during the pandemic or critical situations caused by business shutdowns
- Labor mobility (the change of jobs)

# How have the tasks of the HM on migration and remittance changed during the pandemic?

## Context=IMPACT

- Collect evidence on the trends reflected in administrative data: a decrease in the migration gain in 2020; an increase in registrations for “work”.
- Expand the knowledge of the characteristics of migration in 2020 and 2021 (the duration of stay, the reasons for departure and (non-)return).

## Context=RESILIENCE

- Serve as a tool for tracking migrants’ social-economic integration:
  - access to, and the use of, healthcare services;
  - access to, and the use of, financial services;
  - access to, and the use of, various sources of financial support during crisis periods.
- Expand the knowledge of the practices of sending and receiving digital remittances.

*The HM as a tool for articulating statisticians’ and researchers’ consolidated position on the new norm in international migration in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia*

# The use of the HM to collect data about *migration* during the pandemic

BLOCKS	CHARACTERISTICS OF MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES	DURING THE PANDEMIC
<b>1. MIGRATION</b> (away for 3 to 12 months)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Duration of absence</b></li> <li>2. Country of destination</li> <li>3. Purpose of departure</li> <li>4. Current type of occupation</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Migration flows after the opening of borders</li> <li>- (Un)employment among migrants after the opening of borders, 2021</li> <li>- Redistribution of migrants across employment sectors</li> </ul>
<b>2. RETURNED MIGRANTS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Duration of the latest stay abroad</li> <li>2. Purpose of departure</li> <li>3. Employment status</li> <li>4. Reason for returning</li> <li>5. Migration intentions</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Category of migrants who were abroad during the border closure</li> <li>- (Un)employment among migrants during 2020 and 2021</li> <li>- Reasons connected with the pandemic: lack of a job, difficulties with documents, state of health</li> <li>- Intervals between departures for work</li> </ul>

# The use of the HM to collect data about *remittances* during the pandemic

BLOCK “Cross-border remittances” <i>Over the past 12 months</i>	CHARACTERISTICS	DURING THE PANDEMIC
Incoming	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Flows by countries</li> <li>2. Periodicity and amount</li> <li>3. (In)formal channels</li> <li>4. Purpose and spending of remittances</li> <li>5. Contribution to the family budget</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remittances flows after the opening of borders</li> <li>2. Change in the structure of spending</li> <li>3. Remittances’ ability to remain the main source of income after the pandemic</li> </ol>
Outgoing		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Backward flows of remittances to those who could not return to their homeland</li> </ol>

# The reconfiguration of the HM to collect data about *migration* and *remittances* during the pandemic

Block name	In place	To be added
1. Migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Migration flows after the opening of borders</li><li>- (Un)employment among migrants after the opening of borders, 2021</li><li>- Redistribution of migrants across employment sectors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Question about the change of the employment sector during the stay abroad</li><li>- ?</li></ul>



# The reconfiguration of the HM to collect data about *migration* and *remittances* during the pandemic

Block name	In place	To be added
Returned migrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Category of migrants who were abroad during the border closure</li><li>- (Un)employment among migrants during 2020 and 2021</li><li>- Reasons for returning</li><li>- Intervals between departures for work</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Question about the reasons for returning with a list of possible answers connected with the pandemic: lack of a job, difficulties with documents, state of health</li><li>- Question about the extension of stay during 2020 and 2021</li><li>- ?</li></ul>

# The reconfiguration of the HM to collect data about *migration* and *remittances* during the pandemic

CROSS-BORDER REMITTANCES	In place	To be added
Incoming	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remittances flows after the opening of borders</li> <li>2. Change in the structure of spending</li> <li>3. Remittances' ability to remain the main source of income after the pandemic</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Question about the way of sending/receiving remittances: in cash or digitally</li> <li>- Question about the availability of a bank card and its use for sending/receiving remittances</li> </ul>
Outgoing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Backward flows of remittances to those who could not return to their homeland</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Question about the purpose of remittances with a list of possible answers connected with the effects of the pandemic</li> </ul>

## Questions for discussion:

- To what extent the administrative data that your country has about international migration during 2020 and 2021 needs to be determined with more accuracy and detail by means of a survey?
- Which of the proposed additional questions do you consider helpful to make the available statistics on migration and remittances more accurate and complete?
- Which questions/modules from the questionnaire of the remittance recipients survey would you recommend to include into the updated version of the harmonized module?

Thank you!