

# Exploring the Needs and Opportunities to Measure New Forms of Migration

UNECE Task Force on Measuring New Forms of International Migration

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# Introducing the Task Force:

Task Force members	
Melissa Randall, James Bach	United Kingdom
Paolo Valente, Andres Vikat	UNECE
Marcin Szymkowiak, Maciej Beresewicz	Poland
Elena De Jesus	UNSD
Rose Evra, Julien Bérard-Chagnon	Canada
Eloina Meneses, Pilar Garcia	Mexico
Tim Linehan	Republic of Ireland
Cinzia Conti	Italy
Danzhen You, Siraj Mahmudlu	UNICEF
Ana Damas de Matos	OECD
With support from	
Kim Dunstan, Pubudu Senanayake	New Zealand



# Objectives:



The objective of the Task Force is:

1. To investigate what the needs and opportunities are to measure new forms of migration.
2. To consider opportunities for joint research within the Task Force, for example to look for those leaving one country arriving in the destination country by a range of definitions.
3. To provide a review of what is happening and what is possible, with a view to formulate recommendations for national statistical offices ensuring consistency with existing standard terms and definitions.

# Aims:

- In this presentation we will discuss:
  - The progress of the task force.
  - The questionnaire developed by the task force and the responses.
  - The challenges faced in agreeing the scope and definitions for the task force.



# Progress:



Completion of objective 1; To investigate what the needs and opportunities are to measure new forms of migration

- A questionnaire was developed and completed by the members of the taskforce
- Additional responses provided by Stats NZ and UN
- Summary report produced, and analysis of responses discussed in a meeting of the task force

# Questionnaire Responses:

Are there any populations or types of movement you are interested in measuring that you do not currently measure? Why don't you currently measure them?

Population/Type of Movement	Description	Reason for not measuring them	Covered by UNSD conceptual frameworks?
Irregular Migration/Refugees	(No Universally accepted definition) - Entry, stay or work in a country without the necessary authorisation under immigration regulations.	A lack of reliable data to compute robust measures. The definitions are unclear and politically sensitive.	Yes (implicitly)
Diaspora	Those born/with citizenship in a country living overseas.	The reliance on data collections of other countries.	Yes
Population Present	An estimate of the number of people in a place at a given time/day.	Lack of resource and other priorities.	Yes
Long-term Migrant Stocks	Estimate of the Usual Resident population with a non-UK country of birth.	Lack of suitable data sources.	Yes

# Questionnaire Responses:

Are there any types of data which you don't currently use that you would be interested in exploring?

Data Type	Description	Do we have TF members with experience?
Border Data	Data that captures entry and exit from a country. Also interested in flight data.	Yes – UK, NZ
Mirror Statistics	Statistics produced by other countries.	Yes - Canada
Data derived from external organisations	Particularly interested in data related to migration in transit.	
Mobile Phone Data/Financial Transactions Data	Data that allows for accurate measures of migrant locations.	Yes - Istat (Italy)

# Questionnaire Responses:

- Each of these measures of migration will have an analogous measure of population that depends on it.
- For example, the irregular migrant stock will require accurate measures of irregular migration flows to update estimates.
- Most populations/movements of interest are covered by existing conceptual frameworks – additional support is required for measurement of specific populations.
- What is new for one NSO, has usually already been implemented by another NSO – This makes defining ‘new forms of migration’ difficult.



# Challenges with Definition and Scope:

- Members of the task force were asked: “How do you think we should define ‘new forms of migration’?”
- This led to multiple possible definitions based on individual's interests in this topic.
- Difficulty agreeing a definition for “new forms of migration” makes it hard to agree the future work of the task force.

# Suggested Definitions:

1. New Forms of Migration referring to a form of migration that an NSO/Organisation is interested in measuring but does not currently.
2. A definition of migration arising from the revisions to the 1998 recommendations, that members struggle to measure.
3. Forms of Migration that sit outside what we consider traditional forms of migration.

# Summary:

- Regardless of how we define “new forms of migration” we find that:
  - The new forms of migration of interest are covered by existing conceptual frameworks.
  - The difficulty comes from the measurement of this migration.
- Where a form of migration is new to one NSO, it often is already measured by another NSO.
- There is value in creating a set of case studies to share the experiences of NSO’s in measuring new forms of migration – learning from others’ experiences.

## Next Steps:

- Organise presentations within the task force on topics that members have raised as being areas of interest.
- Continue to meet regularly to discuss the outcomes of the presentations and resulting conversations.
- Prepare work plan for year 2 – Agreement on activities and planned outputs

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