54ᵗʰ Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

Virtual session: 17 February 2023

https://iom-int.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V0bW-dECQhu0clhjicCs9A#/registration

11 AM EST Time Zone

Title of the event:
Developing institutional capacities for better data on migration for evidence-based policymaking.

Summary of event

The inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development presented a momentous opportunity to assess the impact of migration on a range of development issues and to understand better how development can impact on migration and migrants. Migrants make vital contributions towards progressing the SDGs (regardless of their sectoral focus). Without good data, disaggregated by migratory status, however, it is difficult to understand if (and to what extent) migrants are being excluded and the nature of their development contributions. For this reason, SDG Target 17.18 calls for greater support for developing countries to significantly increase the availability of "high-quality, timely and reliable data, disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity [and] migratory status."

The Global Compact for Migration is consistent with SDG Target 10.7 and culminates in 23 broad objectives for the achievement of safe, orderly and regular migration throughout the migration continuum. Objective 1 relates specifically to migration data. It is supported by eight recommended actions revolving around global efforts to: harmonize and increase national capacities in migration data collection; analysis and dissemination methodologies; support the Global Migration Data Portal; strengthen regional migration observatories and national data collection efforts; and increase migrant-specific surveys and the use of existing administrative records for expanding data coverage. Both the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/70/1) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (A/73/195) have recognized the importance of data as a basis for evidence-based policies. The UN Expert Group on Migration Statistics' Task Force 1 (TF1) is working towards developing clear guidance on a set of core and additional topics and indicators needed to address key policy issues relevant to international migration and to international migration and to allow for effective monitoring and evaluation.

However, no clear guidance on data and indicator sets has been agreed upon yet at the global and regional levels to help countries collect migration-related data. This poses challenges for addressing data gaps and prioritizing capacity development at various levels. Moreover, there is a need for holistic approaches to strengthen national statistical systems, by supporting them in improving the collection, processing, analysis, and use of quality, timely, and disaggregated data on migration. This helps develop an organizational approach in the field of migration data to enable governments to autonomously achieve their targets and objectives consistently, over time, with little or no external assistance.

In line with other initiatives such as the Data For Now initiative (Data4Now), which aims to develop countries' capacities to deliver the information needed by local and national policy and decision makers to achieve the 2030 Agenda, IOM is supporting member states from a longer-term systems-thinking perspective. Specifically, IOM works at country and regional levels with national statistics offices and critical governmental actors, civil society, media and other UN Agencies to identify the strengths and

weaknesses of existing data frameworks, while pragmatically addressing immediate and long-term national and regional needs.

Through its Capacity Development Approach to Migration Data, IOM's GDI supports such institutions with technical and operational tools, ensuring that they are properly maintained, valued and utilized so that the performance of specific institutional systems is permanently and sustainably enhanced. The Capacity Development on Migration Data approach of GMDAC is focused on two main challenges:

The ecosystem challenge: Institutions emerge from, operate in, and are influenced by their wider host institutional ecosystem, which is in turn defined by various regulatory frameworks, organizational structures, operational practices, resources, partnerships, and staffing capacities. IOM's approach aims at the institutionalization of new behaviors and practices in governments which are likely to require intervention across all or most of these highly interdependent elements.

The sustainability challenge: IOM works with governments to catalyze change from the very outset, by systemic and multi-disciplinary interventions that will ensure changes are protected and sustained over time.

In this context, this event aims to promote meaningful dialogue with the statistical community about how to ensure the inclusion of migrants in social statistics in order to inform policy and program design. Building on the work already undertaken by IOM at a regional level with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in Eastern Africa, and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and at a country level with the government of Mexico, this event aims to generate awareness about pervasive data needs and bridge data gaps for and regarding migrants.

Format of the event: Featuring representatives from a National Statistical Offices that are working with IOM (Mexico NSO), as well as regional entities such as IGAD and UNECE and IOM GMDAC, the 90-minute virtual event seeks to foster collaboration between the development and statistical communities to assess current difficulties, draw on shared experiences, and identify steps to advance the generation of migration data.

The event will start with a brief introduction from the moderator and will continue with short presentations from the panelists, followed by open panel discussions and Q&A sessions.

Organizer
Name of organization: IOM

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Event organization
Moderator: Dr. Koko Warner, Director of the Global Data Institute

	Name	Affiliation	Topic
Speaker 1	Taehohn Lee	Head, Data Governance and Capacity Development Unit of Global Migration Data Analysis Center / Global Data Institute (IOM)	*Sustainable Migration Data Capacity Development – Approaches and Perspectives*
Speaker 2	Paolo Valente	Statistician, Social and Demographic Statistics Section at United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	*Migration Statistic: a coordinated work with Member States*
Speaker 3	Charles Ogolla	Migration Statistician-Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Secretariat	*Improving migration statistics in the region: perspective from IGAD*
Speaker 4	Miguel Aguilar	Coordinator of Centro de Estudios Migratorios de la UPMRIP, Mexico.(Ministry of Exterior)	*The importance of coordination mechanisms at a national and regional level: the case of Mexico*