TF 1 Terms of Reference: Indicators

• Develop a standard set of data and indicators to address key development policy issues that are relevant for international migration and allow for effective monitoring and evaluation
  • Gender-responsive and child-sensitive
• Respond to policy concerns expressed by countries
• Not mandatory (will only serve as a guide)
• Identify a minimum set of indicators to facilitate global comparisons of the state of international migration statistics and address key development policy issues
• National: flexibility for countries to integrate their own national policy needs
• Consistent with Task force 2
• Consistent with other global indicators and avoid imposing an unnecessary burden on national statistical systems
• Disaggregation
  • Kept at the minimum to avoid unnecessary burden
Policy-Relevant Statistical Indicators

• Things to think about when developing indicators
• Measures of size, characteristics, impact
• Characteristics of good indicators
  • Relevant
  • Comparable
  • Valid
  • Reliable (over time)
  • Replicable
  • Timely
  • Comprehensible
• Data sources (if possible to calculate)
Overarching criteria for classifying international indicators on migration and related phenomena

• Why start with emigration (difficult to measure) before immigration (better developed)? Obviously not an exhaustive list, just examples?

• FLOWS
  • Emigration:
    • “Monitor flows of emigrants” should come first. Why “vs.”?
    • Monitor return of foreign citizens (own return migrants (thus immigrants), or migrants who left (returned to) a country?)
  • Immigration:
    • What about immigration of nationals?
    • What meant by “mobile citizens”?
    • Limit level of documented and “undocumented” migrants

• STOCK
  • Emigration:
    • Degree diaspora maintain economic and social links with country of origin
    • Dual citizenship depends on policies of both country of origin and destination. If allowed, encourages connection with origin country.
  • Immigration:
    • While integration is key, so are comparisons of well-being to native population to measure inequalities.
    • “Information”, aka Internet
    • Include descendants of migrants
Other possible areas of policy concern (Some included as indicators)

- Contribution towards population growth and decline
- Geographic distribution
- Policies to promote immigration of high-skilled labor, prevent outmigration of high-skilled, return of citizens moved abroad
- Health and well-being of migrants
- Public engagement/language acquisition (integration)
- Contributions to society (impact of migration on labor market, skills, services, wages, etc.)
- Remittances/Investment in countries of origin (development)
- Public Sentiment towards migrants
General Observations

• Level of disaggregation:
  • Too much? Not enough?
  • When want “current” and “prior” characteristics (e.g. industry, occupation, etc.)
  • Adequate level of geography?
• Additional Policy Issues: e.g. Do foreign student remain in labor force?
• Additional Target Groups: e.g. Immigration flows of both nationals and foreigners; environmental migrants
• Data sources: often found myself questioning their inclusion or exclusion
• Indicators
  • Subjective measures more problematic
  • Are many of these possible for less developed statistical systems?
FLOWS – Indicators on emigration and return migration

• Emigration Policies
  • Inflow data from destination countries
    • Will need information from EVERY country to determine flows (problematic)
    • Accessibility, especially for any demographic, geographic, or socio-economic detail (confidentiality restrictions)
    • Citizens who move to another country is relatively easy to ID in foreign sources by country of citizenship, but you don’t know non-citizens who left your country, unless have a “previous country of residence” variable.

• Confusing what you mean by “return migration”
  • Voluntary and forced returns of foreign citizens
    • This is a subgroup of emigration of foreigners (how does voluntary return differ from “regular” emigration?)
      • Some will meet residence criteria, some will not...how to separate them?
    • Dependent on administrative sources (expulsion data)?
    • How know if left voluntarily from national sources?

• Remittance flows better fit as stock indicator?
STOCKS - Indicators to support policies towards diaspora (national citizens abroad)

• Stocks easier than flows, but still same issues: need ALL countries, with detailed characteristics of nationals living abroad
  • Surveys of nationals living abroad limited by their still having a connection to country of origin (and proxy responses about their situation abroad)
  • Country of birth is common, but will you be able to ID nationality at birth (unlikely)?

• Dual citizenship by country, since dependent on laws of countries of origin/destination

• Additional indicators: Remittances sent, contribution towards development in origin country, if (allowed to) vote in origin country (dual-citizenship).

• Additional Target Group: Citizens born abroad? (children of diaspora)...what rights (e.g. citizenship, work permits, education) do they have in countries of origin and destination.
FLOWS – Indicators to support immigration policies

• Immigration of citizens (aka return migration)?
• Entry categories specific to legal migration
• For net migration indicator, need to know the outflows
• Longitudinal indicators: more appropriate for stocks?
  • Status change, duration of residence, etc. (some integration related, citizenship acquisition)
  • Mobile citizens=temporary migrants?
  • Retention rate, need to know if left country (how know?...visa expiration?)
STOCKS – Indicators to support the integration/well being/inclusiveness of immigrants

• Well developed list (prior TFs/OECD report?), includes gender and children
• Why different format from other lists? No data sources?
• Legal status difficult to measure.
• Stocks can also be used for estimation of net migration/flows, aside from integration issues.
• Reason for migration: legal or subjective reason, multiple reasons?
• Children of immigrants expands this beyond immigrants, but still a population of interest
• Knowledge of language related to duration of stay
• Additions: Political representation (especially for descendants of immigrants); Geographic/Spatial: Segregation Indices; Internet access; Savings account;
• Subjective measures: “Vulnerability and Discrimination” (underreported)
Fulfill TOR?

- Covers a wide-array of policy-relevant issues
  - Does it need to be complete?
- Responds to policy concerns expressed by countries (global consultation)
- Immigration stock indicators best developed
  - Gender-responsive and child-sensitive
  - Consistent with other UN indicators
- Minimum set of indicators? (has this been established?)
- Global applicability?
  - Eurocentric in terms of data sources?
- Excess Burden?
  - High level of disaggregation, but if not mandatory, is this an issue?
- Better Linkage with TF 2 regarding international mobility (non-resident mobile population)
- Not address “new data” sources (timeliness)
Questions to consider about indicators

• Missing areas of policy concern?
• Feasible
• Timely
• Reliable and Accurate
  • Qualitative?
• Flexible
• Pragmatic
• Reactive
  • Crises (humanitarian, natural disaster, etc.)
• New data sources
  • Big Data?
• Granular
  • Level of disaggregation
  • Level of geography (limited)