

# USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA SOURCES FOR MIGRATION STATISTICS

SADC REGIONAL WORKSHOP

*Johannesburg, 17-21 March 2025*

# Migration in international frameworks?

# Agenda 2030



Target 10.7 : “Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”

Adopted  
September 2015 by  
193 member states  
17 goals with 169  
targets



Official recognition  
of international  
migration as force  
for development  
with direct and  
indirect references



# Agenda 2030



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**Target 17.18** : “enhance capacity building...to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, **migratory status**, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.”

Official recognition  
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# Agenda 2030

## SDG INDICATORS

244 total indicators (232 excluding duplication) with 30 migration-relevant indicators (5 direct, 24 in reference and 1 indirectly)

### Indicator Classification:

#### Tier 1

Conceptually clear with internationally established methodology and standards. Data regularly produced by countries.

#### Tier 2

Conceptually clear with internationally established methodology and standards. Data not regularly produced.

#### Tier 3

Conceptually unclear methodology or standards under-developed.

*None of the migration-relevant indicators are Tier 1*

Therefore, there is need for countries to collect, analyze and disseminate data for migration-related SDG indicators and to disaggregate data by migratory status across other indicators

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## HOW TO IMPROVE SDG INDICATORS?

1. Improve the concepts, definitions and comparability of migration data
2. Identify appropriate sources and methods to obtain reliable information
3. Highlight importance of the efficiency, reliability and sustainability of data collection by establishing national and regional coordination mechanisms and capacity building activities.

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES

Open SDG Data Hub : [www.sdg.org](http://www.sdg.org)

Promote the exploration, analysis and use of authoritative SDG data sources for evidence-based decision-making and advocacy

[Leave No Migrant Behind: The 2030 Agenda and Data Disaggregation](#)

Provide user-centric guidance on disaggregation of SDG indicators by migratory status



# New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (2016)

- Need for a comprehensive and coordinated approach to address the challenges and opportunities presented by large movements of refugees and migrants.
- Calls for the protection of the human rights of all refugees and migrants, regardless of their status
- Highlights the importance of international cooperation and solidarity in managing migration and providing support to affected countries

GCM

GCR

# Global Compact for Migration

- 1<sup>st</sup> inter-governmentally negotiated agreement, prepared under UN auspices, covering all dimensions of international migration in a holistic manner.
- It is a non-binding document that respects states' sovereign right to determine who enters and stays in their territory and demonstrates commitment to international cooperation on migration.
- It presents a significant opportunity to improve the governance of migration, to address the challenges associated with today's migration, and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development.
- GCM is framed in a way consistent with target 10.7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in which Member States committed to cooperate internationally to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration.



An iceberg floating in the ocean. The tip of the iceberg is above the water, and the much larger base is submerged below the surface. The sky is blue with some clouds.

# GLOBAL COMPACT FOR MIGRATION IN DEPTH

1. Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
2. Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin
3. Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
4. Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
5. Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
6. Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
7. Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration
8. Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants
9. Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
10. Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
11. Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
12. Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral
13. Use migration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
14. Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle
15. Provide access to basic services for migrants
16. Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion
17. Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration
18. Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences
19. Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries
20. Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants
21. Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration
22. Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits
23. Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration



# GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF GCM



People-centered



International cooperation



National sovereignty



Rule of law and due process



Sustainable development



Human rights



Gender-responsive



Child-sensitive



Whole-of-government approach



Whole-of-society approach





# GCM Objective 1: Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies

- A. Strategy for improving migration data at the local, national, regional and global levels, by harmonizing methodologies for data collection, and strengthening analysis and dissemination of migration-related data and indicators;
- B. Improve international comparability and compatibility of migration statistics and national data systems;
- C. Develop a global programme to build and enhance national capacities in data collection, analysis and dissemination to share data, address data gaps and assess key migration trends
- D. Collect, analyse and use data on the effects and benefits of migration, as well as the contributions of migrants and diasporas to sustainable development



# GCM Objective 1

- E. Support further development of and collaboration between existing global and regional databases and depositories
- F. Establish and strengthen regional centres for research and training on migration or migration observatories
- G. Improve national data collection by integrating migration-related topics into national censuses
- H. Conduct household, labour force and other surveys to collect information on the social and economic integration of migrants or add standard migration modules to existing household surveys

# GCM Objective 1

- I. Enhance collaboration between State units responsible for migration data and national statistical offices to produce migration-related statistics, including by using administrative records for statistical purposes, such as border records, visas, resident permits, population registers and other relevant sources, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data;
- J. Develop and use country-specific migration profiles
- K. Cooperate with relevant stakeholders in countries of origin, transit and destination to develop research, studies and surveys on the interrelationship between migration and the three dimensions of sustainable development

# Action Agenda on Internal Displacement

1. Durable Solutions
  2. Better Prevention
  3. Effective Assistance and Protection
- Rotating 'Champions' role: IOM, UNHCR, and UNDP.
  - Global Solutions Working Group
  - Internal Displacement Solutions Fund (IDSF).
  - Solutions Support Hub.
  - The Data for Solutions to Internal Displacement (DSID) Working Group



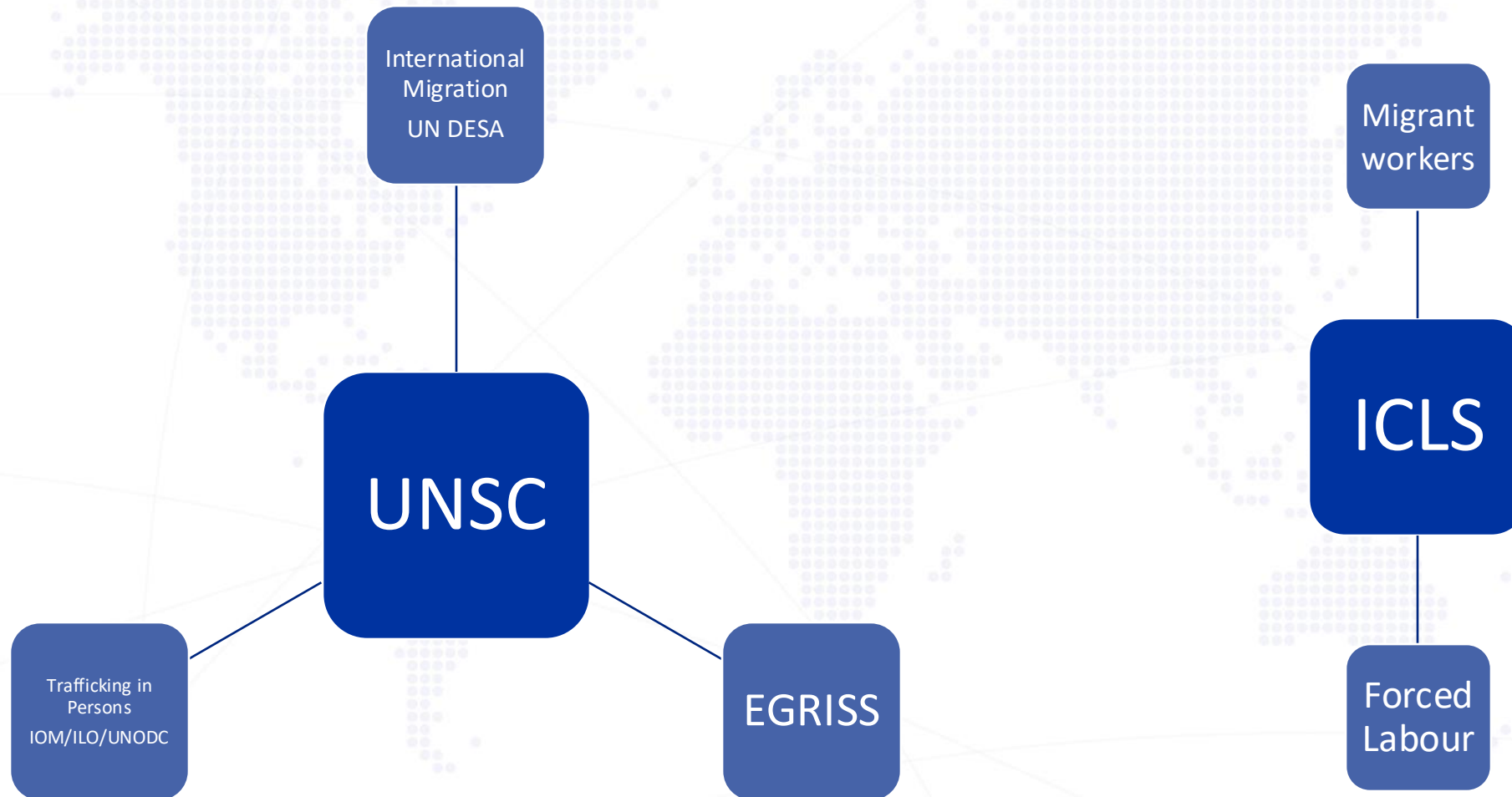
## **The United Nations Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement**

Follow-Up to the Report of the UN  
Secretary-General's High-Level Panel  
on Internal Displacement

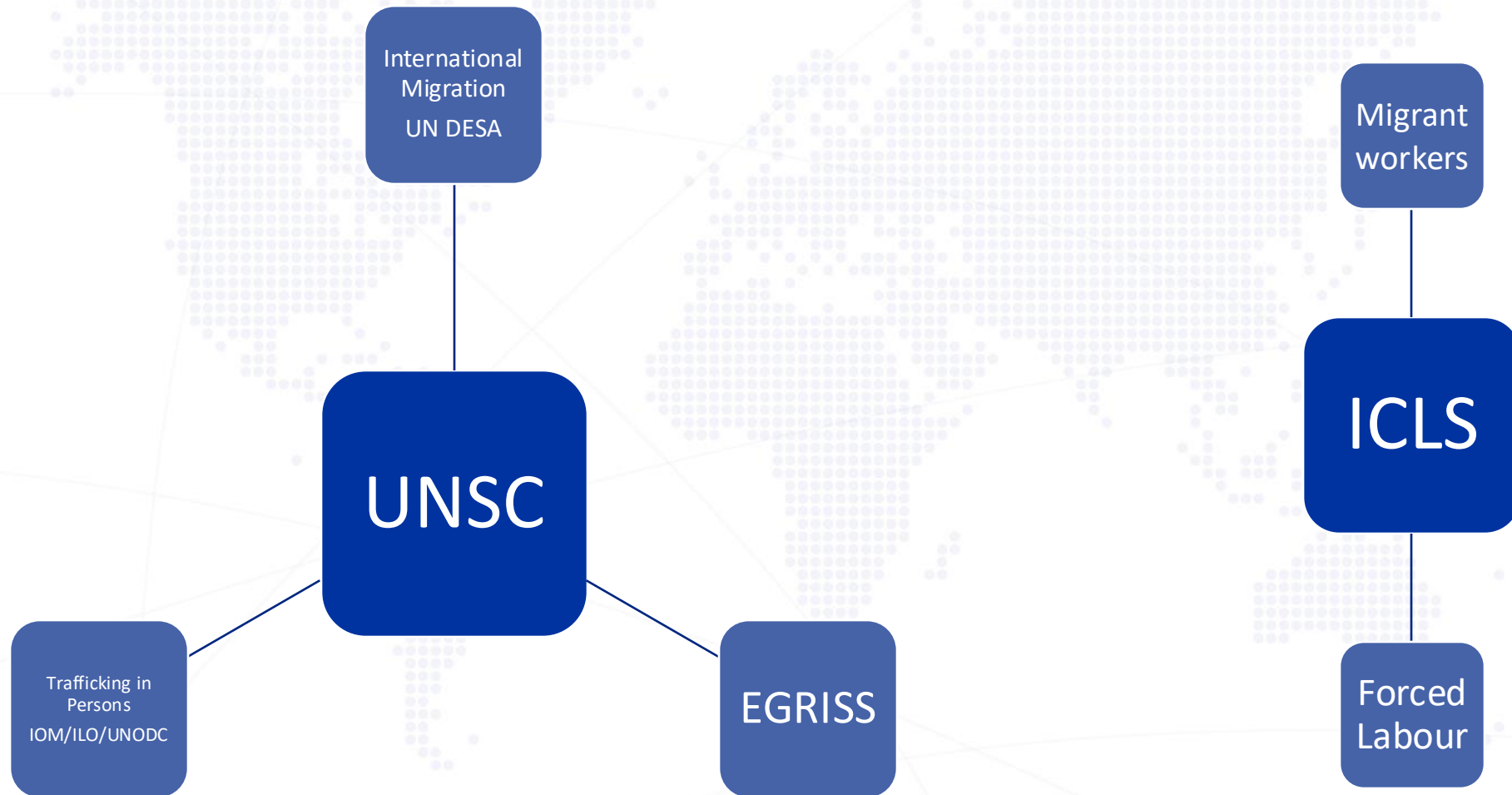
JUNE 2022



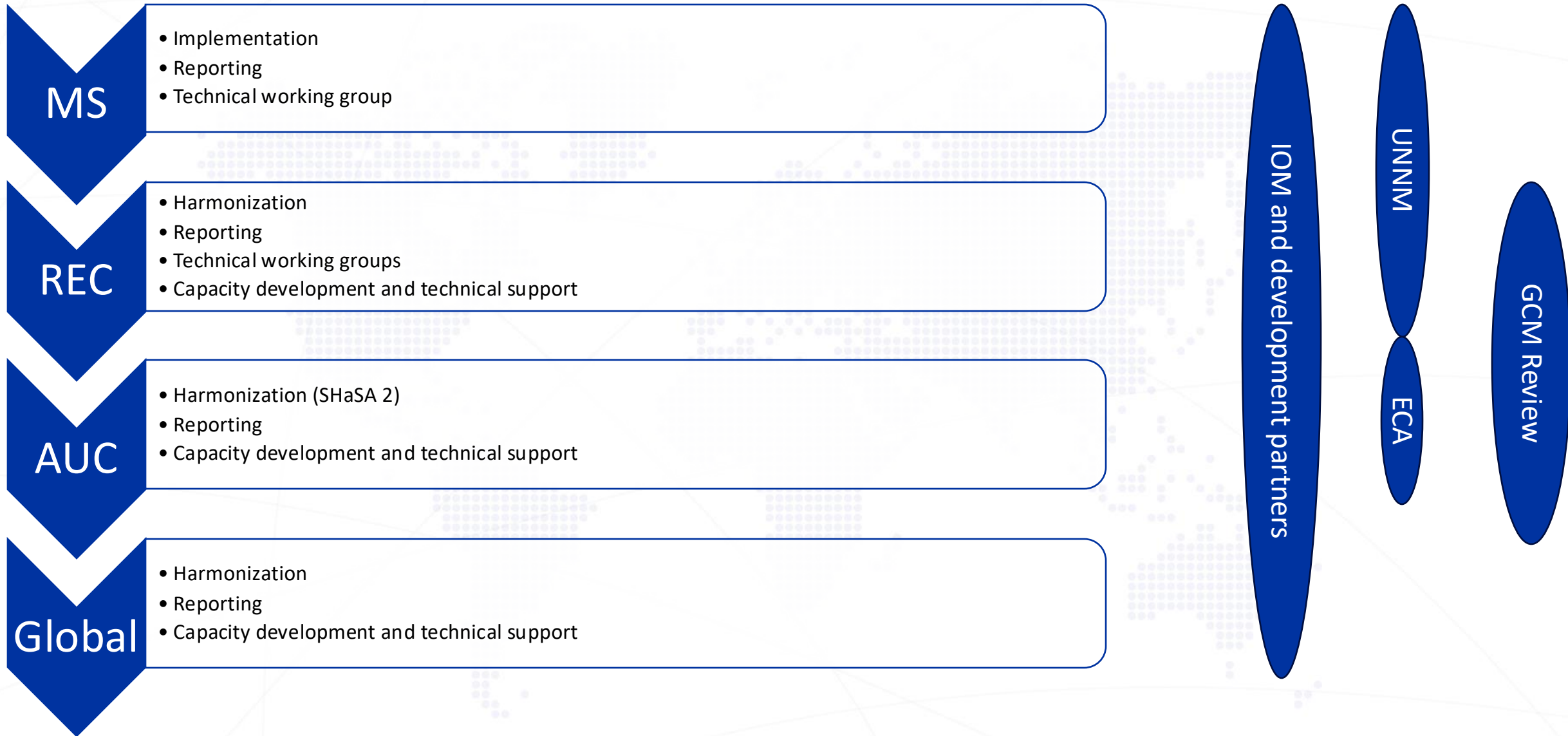
# Measurement standards



# Measurement standards – what else do we need?



# Migration and displacement statistics harmonization and capacity development in Africa





# AFRICA MIGRATION DATA NETWORK

- **First-ever network on migration statistics on the African Continent**, launched in April 2021
- Launched with the **African Union- StatAfric**, and technical support from **Statistics Sweden** and **OECD**
- Includes focal points from **53 AU Member States** (NSOs and migration-relevant ministries), **8 RECs** and **4 African Development Institutions**
- **Objectives:**
  - Promote the **exchange of good practices** on migration data issues on the continent
  - Facilitate **coordination and collaboration** in the implementation of migration-data-related initiatives
  - Promote the **sharing of migration data** across Africa
  - Contribute to the **harmonization** of migration concepts, definitions and data methods
- **Activities:**
  - **Online African School on Migration Statistics** (3 editions)
  - Webinar series, events & publications
  - [Website](#)



# IOM's role

- Technical assistance
- Training
- ICT systems for administrative data (e.g. MIDAS)
- Supporting international dialogue, whole of govt., whole of society approach
- Supporting coordination and harmonization
- Analysis
- Knowledge management and knowledge uptake for policy
- Advocacy for evidence programming

# THANK YOU!

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