

SADC Workshop on the Use of Administrative Data for Migration Statistics

Recommendations

17-21 March 2025, Johannesburg, South Africa

Key recommendations

For SADC Secretariat

1. Advocate for effective collaboration between Immigration, Labour and Statistics for production and dissemination of migration statistics at national and regional levels.
2. Capacitate Member States (statistics, immigration and labour) on:
 - Supporting effective inter-agency administrative data governance frameworks (including for data sharing);
 - Statistical concepts and implementation of the latest UN endorsed recommendations on migration statistics and the integration of administrative data sources;
 - Digitalization of priority administrative data sources to support the production of migration statistics.
3. Leverage partnerships with relevant international stakeholders.



Key recommendations

For Member States

1. Establish a common understanding of the benefits of collaboration and data sharing to make increased use of various data sources, including administrative data, for migration statistics production.
2. Create/reinforce legal frameworks and institutional arrangements such as the national TWGs as per the approved SADC Guidelines for Migration Statistics by Statistics Committee and Ministerial Committee of Organ, including establishing MoUs.
3. Define a list of working priorities building on the roadmap developed during the course of the workshop.
4. Implement the UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration and Temporary Mobility, including updated statistical definitions, integrating census, surveys, and administrative records for the production of migration statistics.



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Key recommendations

For Member States

5. Finalize the mapping tool of administrative data adapted to migration statistics by May 2025, prior to SADC Statistics Committee for assessment and submission. This is a primary criteria for receiving training/technical assistance on the subject matter.
6. Understand, assess, and document data flows and quality of existing data, building on the finalized mapping tool and other available resources developed in the context of the CAD.
7. Define requirements for digitalization of administrative data workflows, including assessing if IOM tools such as MIDAS may be appropriate or can be adapted/expanded.
8. Align migration administrative data systems to the SADC harmonization guidelines and for the purpose of Implementing the new UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration and Temporary Mobility.
9. Learn from peers (peer-to-peer learning) in the region, including both producers and users of Statistics to enhance knowledge and capacity for development of migration statistics.



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