

Realizing the objectives of the GCM: The role of relationships

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*IUSSP Scientific Panel on International Migration:
Strengthening the Knowledge Base for Policy*



Presentation:

1. Rationale: GCM underscores dimensions of migration dynamics that include drivers, conditions, flows and impacts, Development of an evidence-based system of indicators will benefit from extant scientific theory, methods and evidence regarding the interrelationships among migration and displacement, sustainable development, conceptualization of relationships environmental change and governance.
2. Nature of support for conceptualization of relationships: consultative process for the GCM
3. Role of conceptualization in implementation: ESCAP Voluntary Review process as a case
4. Emergent themes in analytic capacities in implementation of the GCM
5. Final thought

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1. Rationale: background

- **Willekens, Massey, Raymer and Beauchemin in their 2016 paper in *Science*** outlined the diversity and difference in effects of international migration on individuals, communities and social, economic, cultural and environmental contexts:

“The impact of migration on the individual and on sending and receiving communities and countries is only partly understood. [Economic effects can be very different from the impacts on society and culture; some gain from migration, whereas others lose. The lack of knowledge creates systemic risks and uncertainties and frustrates public debate and the formation policies](#)”
- In his ‘roadmap for improving the governance of international migration,’ **UN Special Representative on International Migration Peter Sutherland** advocated for the essential role of evidence in policy concerning migrants and refugees. Data were fundamental to the process, but research and analysis were – are – essential to go [beyond description to reveal the causes and consequences of international population movements. Analytic strategies concerning international migration and population displacement, moreover, must also be considered within broader contexts of development and social, economic and environmental change.](#) Initiatives in international migration cooperation must resonate with both the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly those that are migration-related, as well as with international covenants concerning human rights (UNGA 2017).
- **Ms. Louise Arbour, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration** guiding the preparations of the GCM, continued to affirm these perspectives throughout the preparatory process for the 2018 Global Compacts for Refugees (GCR) and the GCM. To be sure, her remarks to the session of the International Population Conference in Cape Town emphasized the need for reliable data and rigorous analysis on which to base sound policy choices concerning the [role of human migration and mobility in sustainable development, state security and human rights](#) (see also UNGA, [2018a](#)).

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**United Nations General Assembly
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Globalization and interdependence

**International migration and development
Report of the Secretary-General**

The “360 degree” approach of the Global Compact underscores its broad scope, ranging from migration drivers and circumstances to migratory flows and their impacts. The indicators should allow for and support the evaluation of progress made in implementing the Global Compact at the national, regional and international levels. **The development of the indicator set should benefit from the latest available scientific evidence regarding the interrelationships between migration, sustainable development and environmental change (para 68).**

2. Support for conceptualization of relationships: consultative process for the GCM

- General Assembly resolution 71/280, adopted in April 2017, established a preparatory process of consultation with stakeholders in policy and processes of international migration and mobility:
 - Member States
 - UN entities
 - UN Regional Economic Commissions
 - Civil society organizations
- Four themes in consultations:
 - Human rights of migrants
 - Drivers of migration
 - Cooperation and governance
 - Contributions of migrants

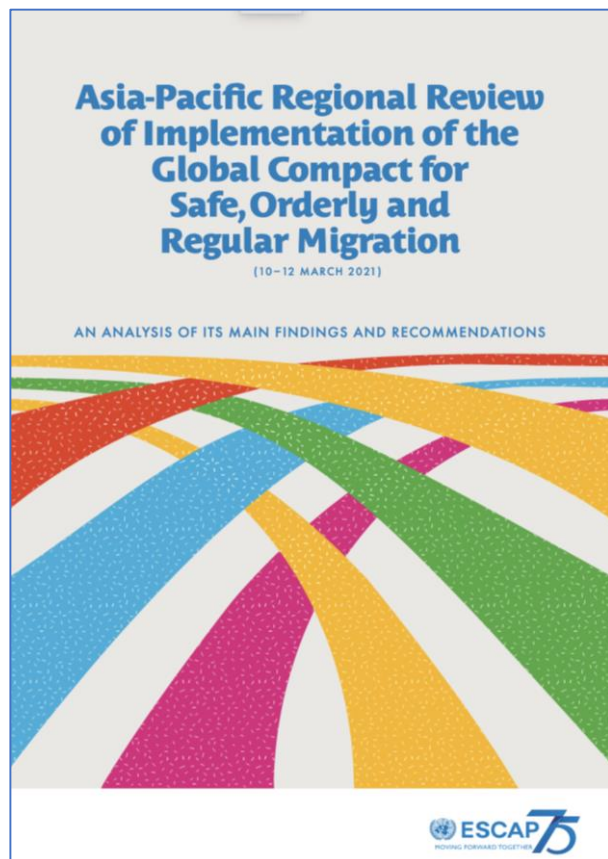
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2. Support for conceptualization of relationships: consultative process

- Kraly and Hovy. 2020. Data and research to inform global policy: the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. *Comparative Migration Studies* <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40878-019-0166-y>
- Results are organized by domains of empirical analysis:
 - a) Concepts and data regarding international migration and displaced populations; issues of measurement, data gap, and methods of data collection
 - b) Descriptive analysis: comparisons, trends, levels, composition and distribution
 - c) Explanatory analysis: causes and consequences of migration; migration behaviors and decision-making
 - d) Modeling migration; estimation, projections; monitoring and trajectories

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3. Role of conceptualization in implementation: ESCAP Voluntary Review process as a case



PART II Progress, challenges and opportunities for evidence-based implementation of the Global Compact for Migration in Asia and the Pacific

Chapter 2 Priorities, practices and challenges: Regional and national experiences in implementing the Global Compact for Migration

- 2.1 Member States
 - 2.1.1 Priorities
 - 2.1.2 Good practices and lessons learned
 - 2.1.3 Capacity-building
 - 2.1.4 Challenges
 - 2.1.5 Opportunities
- 2.2 Stakeholders
 - 2.2.1 Priorities
 - 2.2.2 Good practices and lessons learned
 - 2.2.3 Challenges
 - 2.2.4 Recommendations

Chapter 3 Building analytic resources: Emergent opportunities for regional and national implementation of the Global Compact for Migration

- 3.1 Four themes for enhancing regional and national implementation of the Global Compact for Migration
- 3.2 Analytic resources and capacities
- 3.3 Comparative analysis
- 3.4 Theories, models and forecasts
- 3.5 Capacity-building through partnerships, training and communication of information and evidence
- 3.6 Interpretation and discussion
- 3.7 Recommendations

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Consistent with General Assembly resolution 73/326, 19 July 2019, the survey of Member States was structured according to the clusters of Global Compact for Migration objectives forming the basis of four round tables proposed for the International Migration Review Forum in 2022:

Cluster 1: Ensuring voluntary, regular, safe and orderly migration (*Objectives: 2, 5, 6, 12, 18*)

Cluster 2: Protecting migrants through rights based border governance and border management measures (*Objectives: 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 21*)

Cluster 3: Supporting migrants' protection, integration and contribution to development (*Objectives: 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22*)

Cluster 4: Strengthening evidence based policy-making, public debate and cooperation for safe, orderly and regular migration (*Objectives: 1, 3, 7, 17, 23*)

- ✓ Priorities
- ✓ Good practices, lessons learned
- ✓ Capacity building
- ✓ Challenges
- ✓ Opportunities

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Priorities:

Member States:

- Relationships between migration and development
- Roles of climate change and environment hazards in migration processes
- Harmonization of statistical concepts and data, within national systems and among member states

Stakeholders:

- Role of explanatory research on migration-development linkages
- Understanding of acute environmental events on displacement and migration
- Inclusion of municipal and local authorities, stakeholders and migrants in knowledge generation and dissemination



Good practices, lessons learned and capacity-building:

Member States:

- Amplify role of migration in development planning and programs through government (whole of government approach)
- Programs to reduce vulnerability of migrants to trafficking and smuggling
- Understanding the role of access to health (including mental health) and social services in migrant inclusion
- Knowledge about migrant motivations in relationship to programs of support
- Understanding role of remittances in development processes and value of bilateral analysis
- Stakeholders:
 - Value of partnerships with civil society and migrants
 - Recognition of local context and processes

Challenges and opportunities

Member States:

- Regional patterns (intra-national) of relationships between migration and development and implementation of migration policy
- National accounting of human resources, migrant and non-migrant in relationship to development goals

Stakeholders:

- Integration of climate change and environmental hazards in legal frameworks concerning migrants
- Comprehensive perspectives on the complexities of migration and motivations of migrants
- Appreciation of salient differences among migrants in use of and access to services and programs
- Need for national policy revision to recognize factors promoting the inclusion and integration of migrants.

4. Emergent themes in analytic capacities in implementation of the GCM

1) Analytic resources and capacities

2) Comparative analysis

3) Theories, models and forecasts

4) Capacity-building through partnerships, training and communication of information and evidence.

4. Emergent themes in analytic capacities in implementation of the GCM

1) Analytic resources and capacities

2) **Comparative analysis**

harmonization of statistical concepts and data within national statistical systems

value of international comparison of migration flows, stocks and patterns of variation

3) Theories, models and forecasts

4) Capacity-building through partnerships, training and communication of information and evidence.

4. Emergent themes in analytic capacities in implementation of the GCM

1) Analytic resources and capacities

2) Comparative analysis

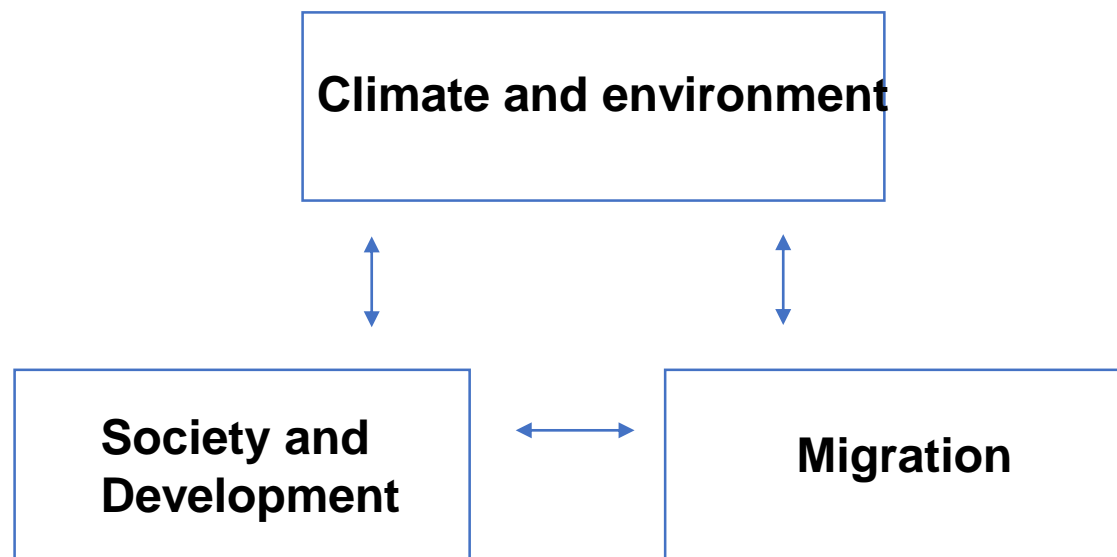
3) Theories, models and forecasts

understanding of the role of climate change and environmental processes in migration, mobilities and displacement

explanation of drivers of specific dimensions of migration: labor migration, insecurity, xenophobia

4) Capacity-building through partnerships, training and communication of information and evidence.

5. Final thought



- *Conceptual models of causes and consequences of migration*
- *Indicators of (the existence and nature) of relationships:*
- *(Multi) Variation (disaggregation) in*
 - *characteristics of migrants*
 - *characteristics of context:*
 - *across scale and over time*
- *Evidence-based policy*

Thank you