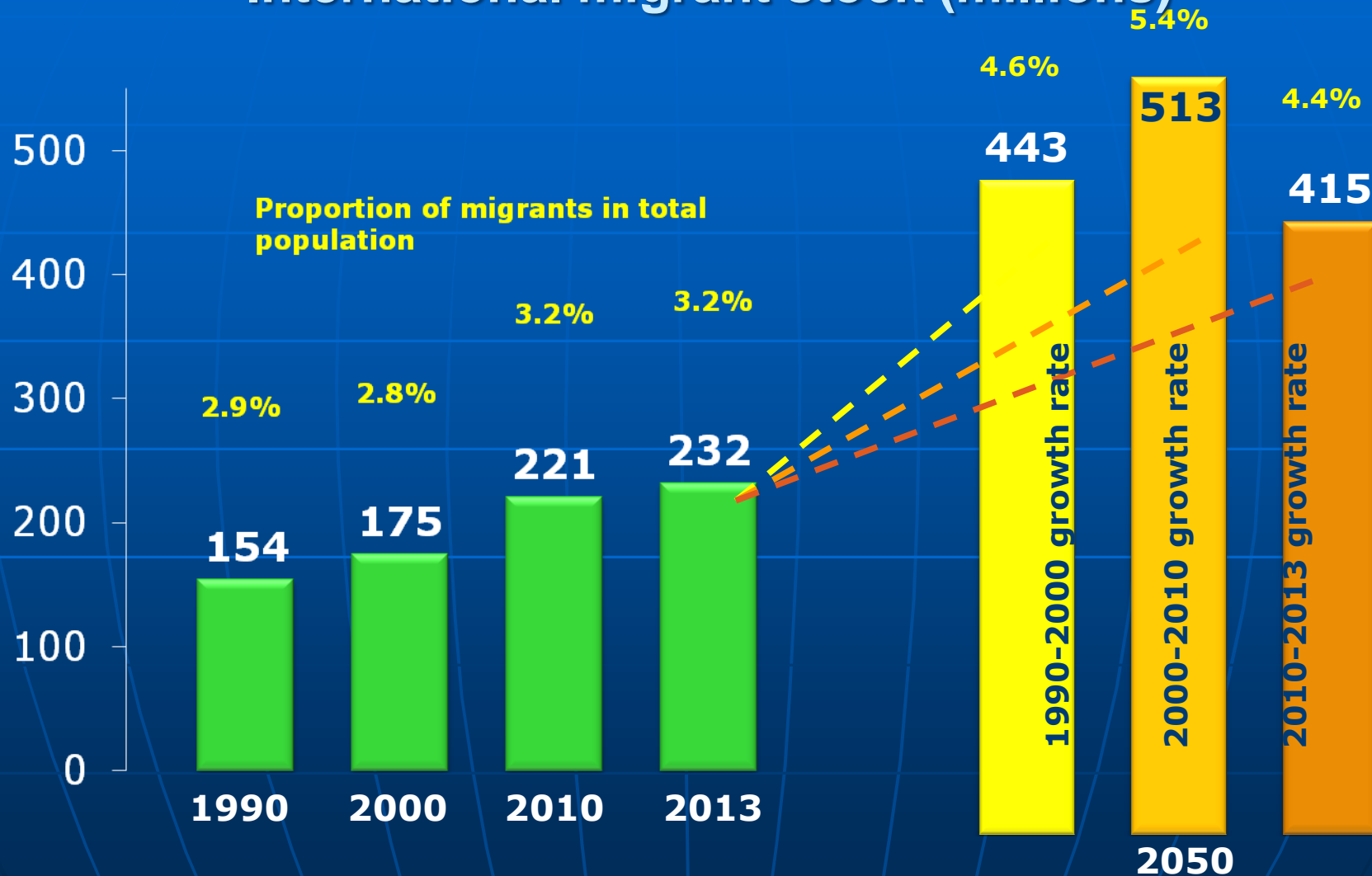# Building capacities for the production and use of migration data

Bela Hovy, Chief
Migration Section, Population Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
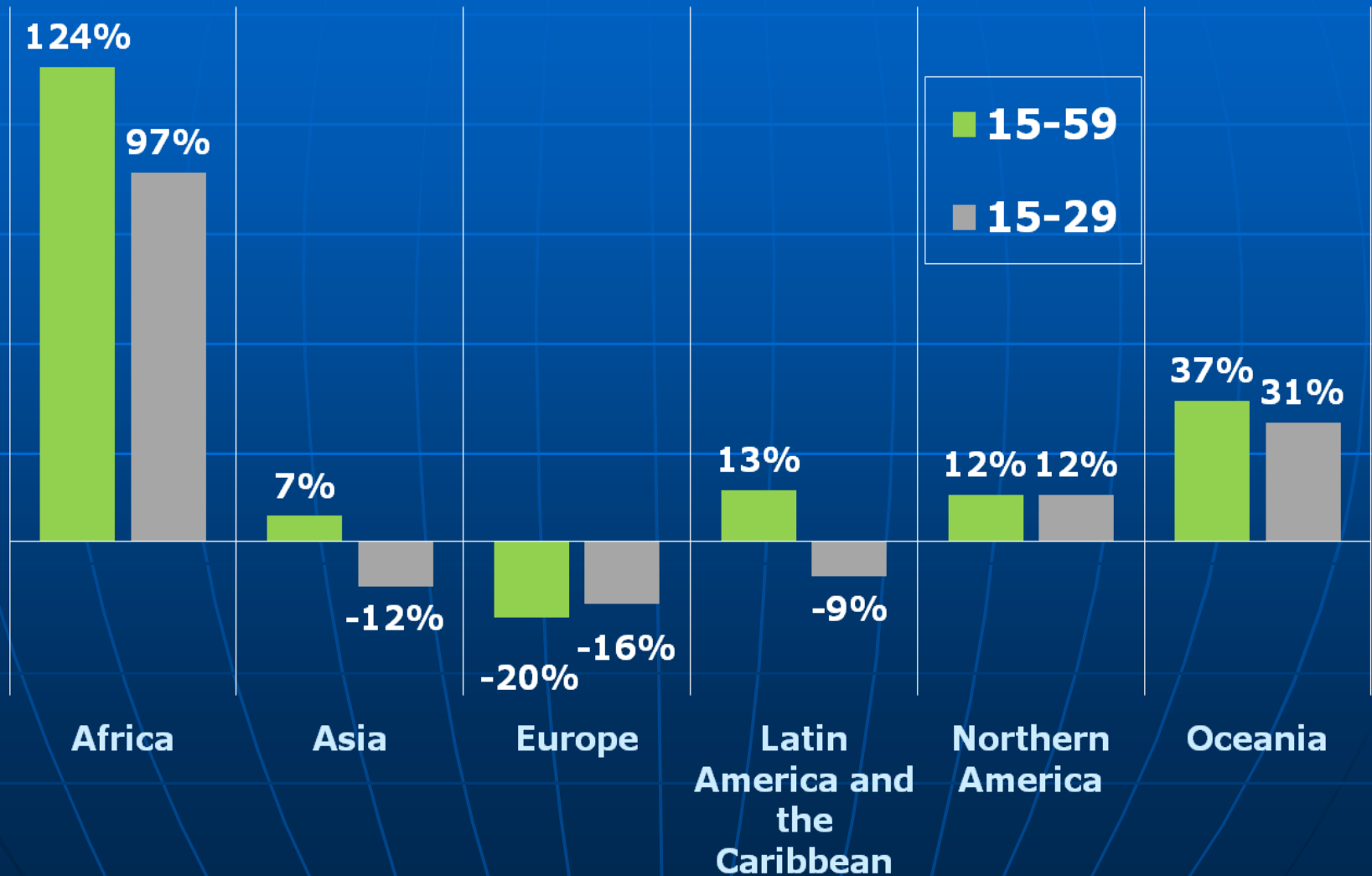United Nations, New York

Side event
Migration and the post-2015 development agenda:
Illustrative indicators and means of implementation
United Nations Statistical Commission
New York, 4 March 2015

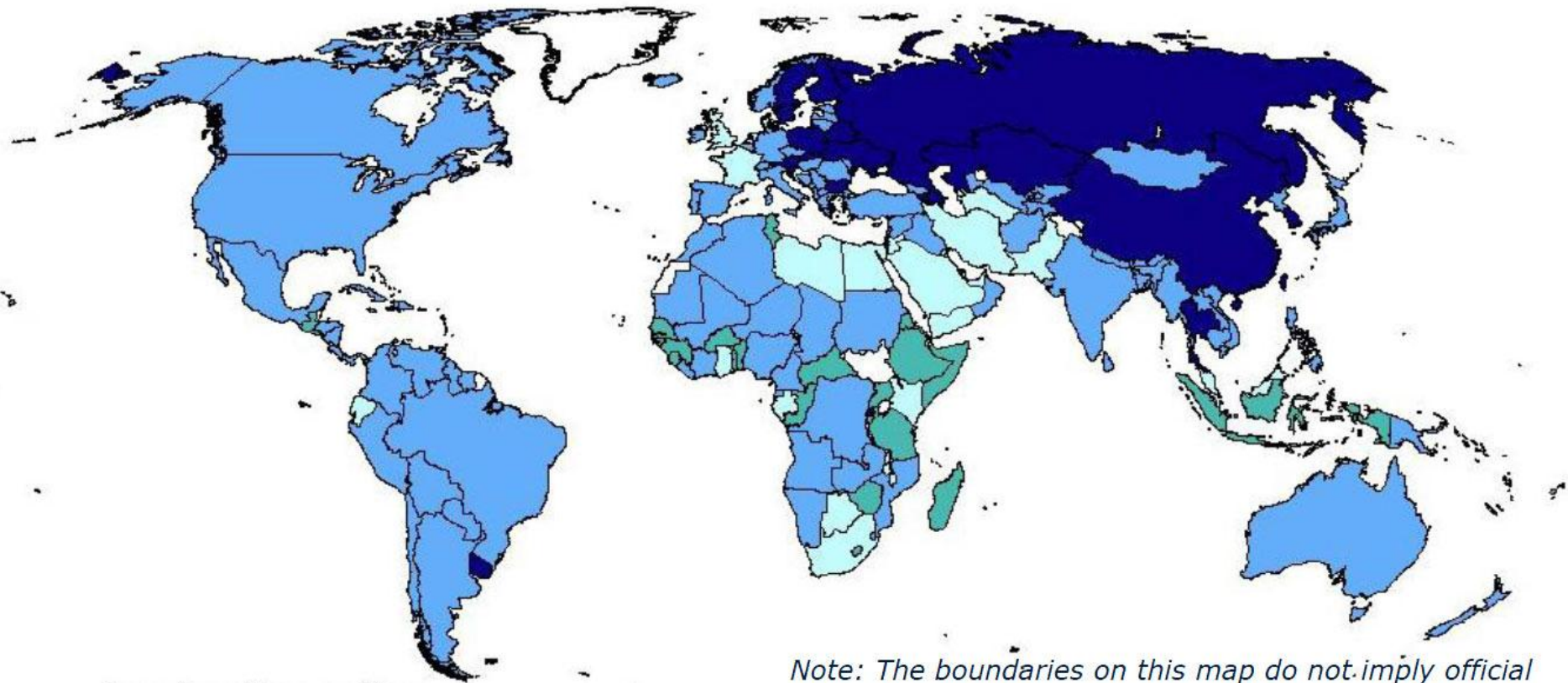# Planning for more international migrants
International migrant stock (millions)

Changes in working age population (15-59) and youth (15-29), 2015 – 2050

Government policies to influence the level of immigration, 2011

Note: The boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Immigration policy
- Raise
- Maintain
- Lower
- No intervention
- No data available

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013). International Migration Policies 2013. See www.unpopulation.org.

2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development Declaration

- *Acknowledge the important contribution of migration in realizing the Millennium Development Goals, and recognize that human mobility is a key factor for sustainable development which should be adequately considered in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda (para 8)*

- *Emphasize the need for reliable statistical data on international migration, including, when possible, on the contributions of migrants to development in both countries of origin and countries of destination; this data could facilitate the design of evidence-based policy- and decision-making in all relevant aspects of sustainable development (para 28)*

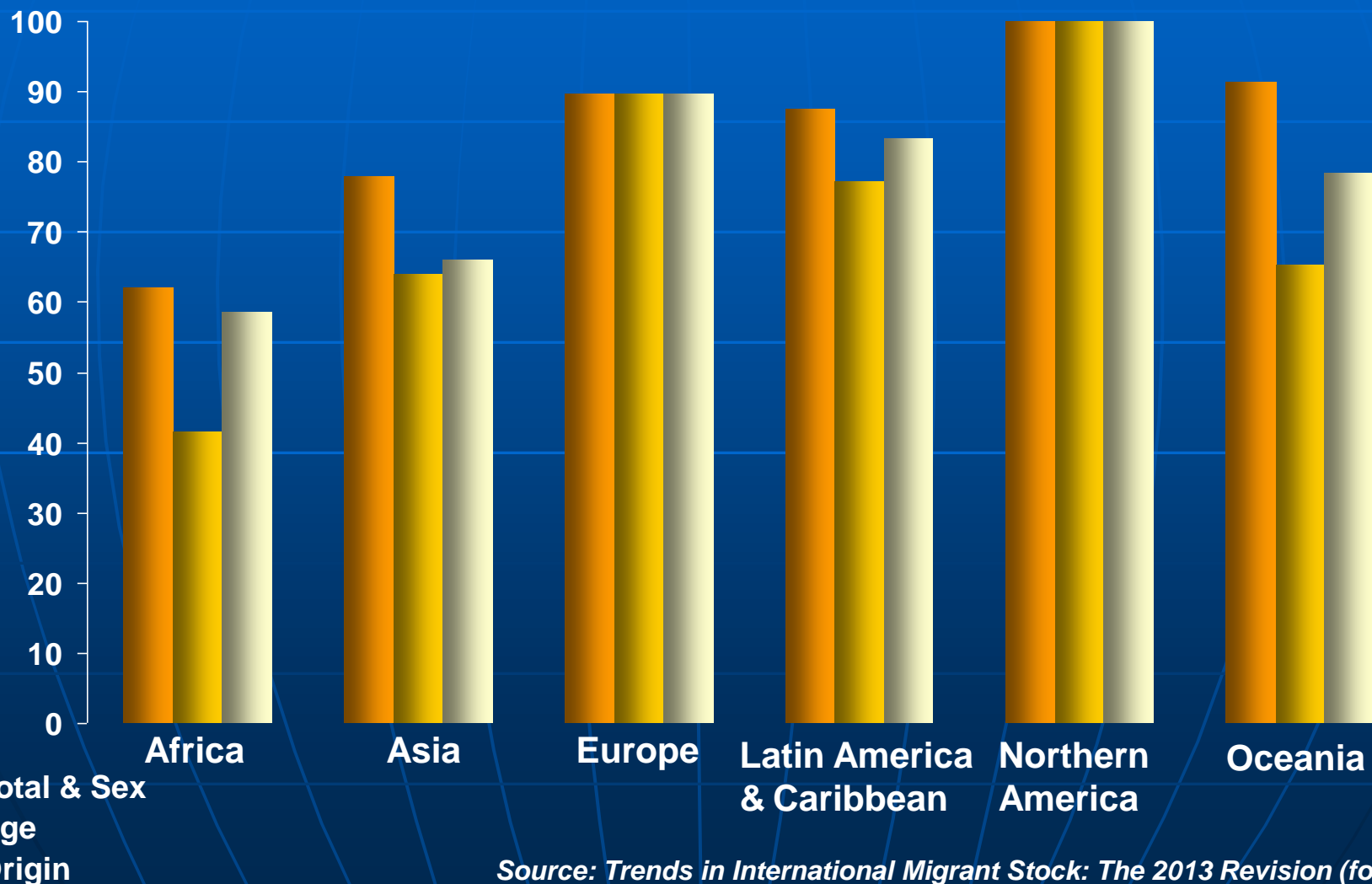# The post-2015 development agenda: The OWG targets in a nutshell

- Reduce the costs of migration (economic, social, human)

- Leverage the benefits of migration (for countries of origin and destination and migrants and their families)

- Facilitate regular, orderly and safe migration (through planned migration policies)

Availability of data - some examples

Country	Asked questions on		Data by country of birth	Data by citizenship
	Country of birth	Citizenship		
Botswana	2011	2011		
Ethiopia	No	No		
Ghana	2010	2010	2010	2010
Kenya	2009	2009		
Lesotho	2006	2006	2006	2006
Malawi	2008	2008	2008	
Namibia	2011	2011		
Nigeria	2006	2006		
South Africa	2011	2011		
Swaziland	2007	2007	2007	
Uganda	No	2014		
Zambia	2010	2010		
Zimbabwe	2012	2012		

Availability of data on the international migrant stock varies widely

Percentage of countries with data on sex, age and origin since 2000 census round

Legend:
- Total & Sex
- Age
- Origin

Categories: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America & Caribbean, Northern America, Oceania

Data availability by census round
1. International migrant stock, totals

UN Major area	1975-1984	1985-94	1995-04
Africa	71%	75%	48%
Asia	48%	66%	72%
Latin Am. & Car.	80%	83%	78%
Europe	51%	85%	87%
Northern America	100%	80%	80%
Oceania	79%	83%	88%
Total	65%	78%	72%

Data availability by census round
2. International migrant stock, origin

UN Major area	1975-1984	1985-94	1995-04
Africa	43%	48%	34%
Asia	14%	26%	42%
Latin Am. & Car.	67%	67%	59%
Europe	45%	70%	83%
Northern America	40%	60%	60%
Oceania	50%	63%	58%
Total	43%	54%	54%

Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: Implications for migration data

1. Implement existing recommendations (esp. census)

2. Utilize existing data including through dissemination and disaggregation (esp. admin sources and census)

3. Develop new sources (esp. household surveys)

4. Foster policy and institutional coherence (labour, education, health, finance, interior, development, …)

5. Integrate migration in national plans and policies (development, statistics, etc.)

Building national capacities for the production and use of migration data

1. Address all sources of data (census, admin. and surveys)

2. Bring together producers and users of migration data

3. Hold regional and in-country workshops

4. Provide technical support at regional level

5. Establish global survey programme

6. Make available dedicated resources