1. Background and context

The concept of international migration as a change of the country of residence is relatively easy to understand but difficult to capture because human mobility is not a discrete process; they used to permanently change their place of usual residence, particularly when taking into account rapid socio-economic developments in the contemporary world, and it becomes challenging for several reasons: migration mainly depends on the improvement of the quality of one's life and migrants keep changing their place of usual residence. The migrants do not always cross boundaries legally, even when they are moving legally, they do not always report their intentions of moving.

At the same time, data sources for internal migration is limited and definitions vary across countries.

This section explains the need to explore alternative data sources for migration statistics and compares the characteristics of traditional versus new data sources and how they complement each other in providing more timely and reliable statistics on migration.

- 1.1. The Rationale for using alternative data sources for migration statistics
- 1.2. Traditional versus new data sources