

# Migration and the 2030 Agenda



A Guide for  
Practitioners

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UN MIGRATION

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## List of Abbreviations

<b>2030 Agenda</b>	2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
<b>GFMD</b>	Global Forum on Migration and Development
<b>GMG</b>	Global Migration Group
<b>IDM</b>	International Dialogue on Migration
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration
<b>JMDI</b>	United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>MAPS</b>	Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental Organization
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>UNCT</b>	United Nations Country Team
<b>UNDAF</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks
<b>UN DESA</b>	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
<b>UNDG</b>	United Nations Development Group
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNSDN</b>	United Nations Social Development Network



# Introduction

Migration and Development

What is the 2030 Agenda?

How do the Sustainable Development Goals Relate to Migration?

Promoting a Collaborative Approach

Using this Guide



**Migration is a global phenomenon that impacts the lives of most people. An estimated 258 million people are international migrants (UN DESA, 2017), and in our increasingly interconnected world, millions more are impacted through family ties, economic exchanges and cultural connections. Migration is a powerful driver of sustainable development, for migrants themselves and their communities in countries of origin, transit and destination.**

Migrants represent approximately 3 per cent of the world's population, but they produce more than 9 per cent of global GDP, some USD 3 trillion more than if they had stayed at home (IOM and McKinsey & Company 2018). Migrants often bring significant benefits to their new communities in the form of skills, strengthening the labour force, investment and cultural diversity. They also play a role in improving the lives of communities in their countries of origin through the transfer of skills and financial resources, contributing to positive development outcomes. However, if migration is poorly managed, it can also negatively impact development; migrants can be put at risk, communities can come under strain and development gains can suffer.

As much as migration has an impact on development, migration is also affected by development. The development contexts in which people live, where they move to, and the places they go through to get there play a role in shaping people's resources, aspirations, motivations and opportunities to migrate. Conflict, climate change, labour markets and other development-related factors can all impact the drivers and nature of migration.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides an overarching framework to address this complex and dynamic relationship between migration and development and to better understand how migration and migrants can shape development outcomes and vice versa.

## What is the 2030 Agenda?

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) in September 2015. The Agenda consists of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 accompanying targets. These goals and targets were formulated through a participatory and multi-stakeholder process that involved states, global civil society and many other actors. The 17 Goals are successors to the 8 Millennium Development Goals (2000) and aim to be a comprehensive set of targets that tackle poverty and inequality.

The 17 Goals cover a range of sustainable development<sup>1</sup> issues, including poverty and hunger, health, education, gender equality, climate change and others. The 2030 Agenda takes action in critical areas of importance: People, Planet, Prosperity Peace and Partnership. Its objectives include for all human beings to enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives, to end poverty and hunger in all their forms, to protect the planet from degradation and take urgent action against climate change, and to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies. By tackling such a wide range of development issues, the Agenda aims by 2030 to make significant progress across the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental.

Key features of the 2030 Agenda are its emphasis on universality, inclusiveness and partnerships. The SDGs are applicable to all countries, regardless of development status. This recognizes the shared responsibility the international community has towards sustainable development, as well as the interconnected nature of today's sustainable development issues. By calling for all countries to play an active role in promoting development, the 2030 Agenda recognizes that issues will only be tackled effectively if a holistic approach is taken. To this end, the SDGs call for a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development. Given the multi-disciplinary nature of the Goals and their applicability to all countries, making them a reality requires strong and proactive multi-stakeholder collaboration by engaging a wide range of actors in all aspects of implementation.



## How do the Sustainable Development Goals Relate to Migration?

The 2030 Agenda recognizes migration as a core development consideration, which marks the first time migration is integrated explicitly into the global development agenda. The Agenda is relevant to all mobile populations regardless of whether internal or cross border, displaced or not: “goals and targets will be met for all nations and peoples and all segments of society.” It recognizes migrant women, men and children as a vulnerable group to be protected, and as agents of development. All types of migration should also be considered, including displacement.

The central reference to migration is made in target 10.7 under the goal “Reduce inequality in and among countries”, calling to “facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.” Many other targets also directly reference migration, and for others migration is a cross-cutting issue that should be considered. Implementation of the SDGs provides an opportunity to protect and empower mobile populations to fulfil their development potential and benefit individuals, communities and countries around the world.

### MIGRANTS, INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) defines a migrant as “any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of **(1)** the person’s legal status; **(2)** whether the movement is voluntary or involuntary; **(3)** what the causes for the movement are; or **(4)** what the length of the stay is. IOM concerns itself with migrants and migration-related issues and, in agreement with relevant States, with migrants who are in need of international migration services.”

Although there is no universally accepted definition of the term, an international migrant has been defined for statistical purposes as a person who changes his or her country of usual residence. A long-term migrant is a person who establishes resi-

dence in a different country for a period of at least a year, while a short-term migrant moves to a country for a period of at least three months but less than a year.<sup>2</sup>

While most refugees are migrants according to these definitions, it should be noted that refugees are governed by a distinct legal framework. The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol define a refugee as any person who, “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinions, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection that country.”<sup>3</sup>

## Promoting a Collaborative Approach

The inclusion of migration in the Sustainable Development Goals sets an important precedent for how migration governance can progress in years to come. The principle of universality that underpins the Goals is especially significant for migration, as it can promote international collaboration on the issue. The applicability of all SDG targets to all countries underlines how each has a role to play in migration, and provides a framework for progress towards more effective international governance of migration that is based on global partnerships. This moves beyond the notion of classifying countries as origin, transit or destination and assigning migration roles and responsibilities to them accordingly, and instead proposes that all countries must engage in migration governance together. This can also help move the migration and development agenda away from focusing solely on how migrant women and men can contribute to countries of origin, and towards a more holistic view that acknowledges migration as a multi-faceted reality that can make a positive contribution to development outcomes.

The inclusion of migration in the SDGs also paves the way towards greater collaboration between the migration and development sectors and, through this, towards greater policy coherence. The 2030 Agenda has been named a “declaration of interdependence” (United Nations, 2016). It encourages going beyond governance as usual and under target 17.14 calls to “pursue policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors”. The Agenda requires stakeholders to move to a whole-of-government approach to achieve policy coherence on migration governance. The migration-SDG connections reach far beyond implementing migration policies, and entail integrating migration across governance sectors. By strengthening coherence between migration and development agendas, migration policies can improve development outcomes, and development policies can improve migration outcomes.



## Using this Guide

This [guide](#) is designed to serve government actors, both national and local, involved in any process of Sustainable Development Goal implementation, including those working specifically in migration, and those working in other sectors who are interested in integrating migration. It is also for government actors working in the migration field who wish to integrate the SDGs into their work.

The focus of this guide is to help policymakers implement the migration aspects of the SDGs. Policymakers can use this guide to integrate migration into local or national development planning, by designing and implementing interventions that relate to migration in the context of the SDGs. These interventions may take the form of legislation, policies, programmes, projects or other activities, and may relate to core migration topics or integrate migration into activities in another sector. For example, policymakers may use this guide to design interventions that directly address human trafficking, as well as interventions in the health sector that help protect victims of trafficking.

For actors with experience in migration mainstreaming, this guide offers a new approach that is based on the 2030 Agenda. For those with no experience in migration mainstreaming, it offers an introduction on how migration and development are linked in the context of the SDGs, and how to take action around these connections.

**Section 1** is a thematic overview of the ways in which migration is included in the 2030 Agenda and the main opportunities this presents. It offers thematic explorations of direct and indirect connections to migration throughout the Sustainable Development Goals and targets. This enables actors to consider how the SDGs are most relevant to their particular local or national migration contexts. You can find two complementary tools at the end of the guide that help illustrate these linkages: (i) a comprehensive booklet which outlines the linkages between migration and each SDG and (ii) a poster which summarizes these linkages.” by “You can find on our website two complementary tools that help illustrate these linkages: (i) a comprehensive [booklet](#) which outlines the linkages between migration and each SDG and (ii) a [poster](#) which summarizes these linkages.

**Section 2** provides operational guidance and a suggested process for implementing migration aspects of the SDGs. It provides actors with a flexible framework for integrating migration into SDG implementation that can be modified to fit their local or national context. The process is not intended to be prescriptive or exhaustive, as migration policymaking must respond to local and national migration dynamics and institutional contexts, and 2030 Agenda implementation can take many forms.

**Tools** for each step of the process assist actors as they engage with stakeholders, set priorities, assess their data needs and other activities throughout implementation.

**Case studies** are referenced throughout, providing real world examples of how various actors have implemented the Sustainable Development Goals and targets.

**References** to relevant sources of information have been included for each step of the process, as well as in the annexes.

## Endnotes

- 1** 'Sustainable development' is used in this document to describe "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (as defined in the Brundtland Report, available from: [www.un-documents.net/our-common-future.pdf](http://www.un-documents.net/our-common-future.pdf)). Sustainable development will be referred to also as simply 'development'.
- 2** United Nations, *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration*, Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 58, Rev.1 (Geneva, 1998).
- 3** United Nations, *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees*, Art. 1A(2) (Geneva, 1951). Also see refugee definitions in the *1951 Refugee Convention*, *1969 Organization of African Unity (OAU) Convention* and *1984 Cartagena Declaration*. See [www.iom.int/key-migration-terms](http://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms).



# Section 1

## **Overview of Migration in the 2030 Agenda**

Direct Connections

Cross-cutting Connections



# Overview of Migration in the 2030 Agenda

The relevance of migration in the context of development is firmly rooted in the introduction of the 2030 Agenda:

***“We recognize the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development. We also recognize that international migration is a multi-dimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses. We will cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants regardless of migration status, of refugees and of displaced persons. Such cooperation should also strengthen the resilience of communities hosting refugees, particularly in developing countries. We underline the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship, and recall that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received.”***

(United Nations, 2015)

This shows how “migration is not a development ‘problem’ to be solved, but a mechanism that can contribute to the achievement of many of the Goals” (Foresti and Hagen-Zanker, 2017). Similarly, the International Organization for Migration Director General has stated:

***“The vast share of...migration is safe, legal, orderly – and is not only inevitable but beneficial; the lives of countless migrants, their families and home and host communities are the better for it. IOM strongly believes that we should embrace this reality, and together seek ways to positively leverage the benefits of migration. That is, we should not focus efforts on trying to stop migration, but rather on creating conditions in which migration is a choice and not a necessity, takes place along legal channels and acts a catalyst for development.”<sup>1</sup>***

With this understanding, facilitating, not restricting, migration is the priority, as is expanding the possibilities for people to realize their human development aspirations and potential through mobility. The 2030 Agenda supports this view of migration and, if effectively implemented, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) could help move migration governance and cooperation at local, national, regional and global levels towards a holistic approach.

The inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda presents a range of opportunities:

- By touching on a variety of migration topics, the SDGs demonstrate the multi-dimensional nature of migration and enable progress across different issues.
- The SDG migration targets are universal and relevant to countries with all types of migration contexts, including both developed and developing countries.
- The SDGs have the potential to raise awareness of migration topics and their interconnection to development.
- The SDG follow-up, review and reporting processes will help identify lessons learned and best-practices related to all aspects of migration, as well as improve migration data, strengthening evidence on the links between migration and development (IOM, 2017c).

The 2030 Agenda is part of a backdrop of other important global processes that have boosted recognition, momentum and further opportunities for migration as a development force. Some are directly related to migration, such as the Global Compact for Migration (GCM). Others have indirect implications for migration, such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (IOM, 2017g). The development of the GCM signifies that all aspects of migration governance will continue to be a key focus for the international community going forward. The GCM “will be the first intergovernmentally negotiated agreement prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner”<sup>2</sup> It will have a firm rooting in the 2030 Agenda, and will provide a significant opportunity to improve the governance of migration, address the challenges associated with it, and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development.

A central principle of the 2030 Agenda is inclusivity; it includes a pledge to “leave no one behind” and to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first. To achieve this, migrants and migration must be considered in all aspects of implementing the SDGs and targets. Migrants are numerous and can be a particularly vulnerable group affected by multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination, and therefore deserve particular attention. The 2030 Agenda identifies refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants among the vulnerable people who must be empowered, and whose needs should be addressed (IOM, 2017g).

Many SDG targets can only be fully achieved if migration and migrants are considered. Not doing so may limit progress made by constraining the comprehensiveness and sustainability of efforts. For example, migrant children make up a large portion of the global child population, and therefore should be considered when implementing education targets. If governments proactively include migration and migrants during implementation, the greater the likelihood of meeting the targets effectively and sustainably.

Another example of the relevance of migration in the SDGs is that many address key drivers of displacement. A sudden influx of large numbers of persons, whether refugees or persons displaced internally within the borders of their own country, can pose development challenges for host communities. Progress in the SDGs is thus fundamental for the well-being of these populations as well as the social and economic well-being of the communities that



host them. Well-adjusted development plans that both reinforce the services and resources of communities most affected by the displacement, and foster the productive capacity and positive contributions of displaced persons, can promote progress towards Goals that benefit both displaced populations and affected communities.

Beyond their consideration and inclusion, it should be understood that migrants and migration have an active role in contributing to sustainable development. Migrants and migration dynamics affect outcomes across development sectors and vice versa: migration can be a supporting factor in achieving various Goals and targets, as well as a complicating or additional factor to consider.

Not all development issues in the 2030 Agenda make direct reference to migration; for example, migrants are not mentioned in climate change targets and diaspora are not mentioned in partnerships for development targets. Nevertheless, the complex and bidirectional links that migration has across development sectors requires that synergies and trade-offs are identified and considered in the implementation of all targets.

This section provides an overview of the correlation between migration and the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, with a focus on:

- **direct connections** where migration-related issues are explicitly stated and
- **cross-cutting** connections where the topic may affect or be affected by migration.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) contain several targets that directly reference migration, as listed below.<sup>3</sup>

<b>Student Mobility</b>	→ Increasing international student mobility	4.B	
<b>Human Trafficking and Exploitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Combating all types of trafficking and exploitation</li> <li>→ Addressing trafficking and exploitation of women and children</li> </ul>	5.2, 8.7, 16.2	
<b>Labour Migration and Employment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Promoting decent work</li> <li>→ Combating child labour and the worst forms of child labour</li> <li>→ Combating trafficking for forced labour</li> <li>→ Addressing the feminization of migration</li> <li>→ Improving labour migration governance</li> </ul>	8.5, 8.7, 8.8	
<b>Migration Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility</li> <li>→ Implementing planned and well-managed migration policies</li> </ul>	10.7	
<b>Remittances</b>	→ Lowering remittance transaction costs	10.C	
<b>Migration Data</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Improving data across migration topics</li> <li>→ Increasing disaggregation of data by migratory status</li> <li>→ Increasing disaggregation of migration data by other variables</li> </ul>	17.18	

## Student Mobility



**Target 4.B: By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.**

↳ Increasing international student mobility

Target **4.B** calls for expanding the number of cross-border scholarships available. The promotion of student mobility provides an opportunity to increase the number of education migrants, thus increasing higher education opportunities for people from least developed countries and other under-served areas. Meeting target 4.B could also help increase the knowledge and skills transfer of migrants, if there are well-managed migration policies to encourage this transfer.

## Human Trafficking and Exploitation



**Target 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.**



**Target 8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.**



**Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children.**

The SDGs renew national and global commitments to combating all forms of human trafficking and to protecting victims of trafficking (IOM, 2017b).

#### ↳ Combating all types of trafficking and exploitation

Target **8.7** can help States work towards strengthening the protection of exploited and trafficked individuals, the prevention of trafficking and exploitation, and the prosecution and redress related to these crimes. Achievement of this target could involve countries developing policies and partnerships at local, national, regional and international levels, strengthening legal frameworks and policies, promoting dialogue and cooperation on counter-trafficking, developing victim identification and assistance mechanisms, and facilitating the collection and analysis of human trafficking data.

#### ↳ Addressing trafficking and exploitation of women and children

The SDGs address trafficking in women and children through targets **5.2** and **16.2**, encouraging actors to use a gender- and age-sensitive lens when addressing human trafficking. This would allow actors to focus on certain types of trafficking to which women, girls and boys may be particularly vulnerable, such as trafficking for sexual exploitation, forced marriage or trafficking of children for forced begging.

### **Relevance to other Goals**

The focus of the SDGs on decent work and safe working conditions can also help address trafficking for forced labour. The eradication of trafficking for forced labour and other forms of exploitation and abuse requires increasing opportunities for decent work, facilitating safe migration and improving labour standards (for example, through the implementation of internationally recognized standards such as the International Recruitment Integrity System Code of Conduct); all actions which the 2030 Agenda pursues through Goal 8, target 10.7 and others (O'Neil et al. 2016).

Ending human trafficking requires a deeply multi-sectoral effort. Progress towards eradicating poverty (Goal 1), improving gender equality and women's empowerment (Goal 5), promoting full and productive employment and decent work (Goal 8), providing access to justice for all (Goal 16), and facilitating safe and regular migration through target 10.7, would help address human trafficking in all its forms.



**Target 8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.**

**Target 8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.**

**Target 8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.**

### ↳ Promoting decent work

Promoting decent work (Target **8.5**) is an integral component of the 2030 Agenda, as seen in Goal 8, and this entails many direct links with labour migration (ILO, 2014). Some SDG targets directly highlight ongoing, emerging and overarching issues of labour mobility, and many others address factors that shape labour migration dynamics (Mosler Vidal, 2017).

### ↳ Combating trafficking for forced labour

### ↳ Combating child labour and the worst forms of child labour

Target **8.7** addresses forced labour, trafficking for forced labour, child labour and all other types of labour exploitation.

Target **8.8** seeks to uphold the rights of all types of migrant workers. Taking a rights-based approach that promotes international rights frameworks, including labour standards, would help improve the situation of many migrant workers facing vulnerabilities by helping address common challenges, including those relating to working conditions, wages, social protection, occupational safety, migration status and access to health care (including access to sexual and reproductive health). By strengthening ethical recruitment practices and helping eliminate recruitment fees, the achievement of this target would also help address human trafficking, debt bondage and forced labour (IOM, 2017e).

## Relevance to other Goals

The SDGs recognize that increasing numbers of migrant workers are female (the “feminization of migration”) by highlighting the need to protect migrant domestic workers (target 5.4). Working in a largely informal and unregulated sector, women migrant workers are commonly subject to labour exploitation and abuse. For example, common practices such as tying visas and therefore migration status to a single employer can increase the risk of women workers being exposed to abuse, exploitation and sexual and gender-based violence.

By recognizing a plurality of labour migration issues, encouraging a multi-stakeholder approach and calling for improved migration governance under target 10.7, the SDGs also indirectly call for improved labour migration governance. This entails effective, human-rights based and gender-responsive systems of labour migration, which include institutions, actors and processes to protect the rights of all migrant workers, at the same time considering employment, labour market, skills and demand-side factors. Improved governance could also entail greater international cooperation, for example through regional initiatives and partnerships between countries through, for instance, bilateral labour agreements and cooperation on ethical recruitment labour rights, skills recognition, and/or portability of social benefits.

The SDGs address through various other goals some of the potential drivers of international labour mobility. For example, by recognizing links between migration and education (4.B and 4.4), they recognize the links between skills, labour markets and migration, and by associating labour mobility targets with Goals on decent work and inequality (Goals 8 and 10) as well as on gender (Goal 5), they recognize the dynamic interplay between employment, inequality, gender and migration. In this way, the SDGs recognize that progress in other areas will affect labour migration dynamics (ILO, 2013).





### **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.**

↳ Facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility

Target **10.7**, under Goal 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries, acknowledges that effective migration governance is key for safer, more orderly and more regular migration. It also acknowledges the need for global, regional and national migration regimes and comprehensive policy frameworks to manage migration for the benefit of all. This includes promoting regular migration that respects the rights of all migrants, and leveraging the positive development impact of migration for migrants themselves as well as for all communities and countries.

↳ Implementing planned and well-managed migration policies

In practice, comprehensive and effective migration management involves a wide range of action areas. This includes but is not limited to migration mainstreaming and capacity-building, protecting migrant rights and promoting all migrants' well-being, improving migrant integration in host communities, promoting regulated labour mobility, improving migrant health, mitigating and addressing migrants' vulnerabilities and developing specialized programmes for refugees and internally displaced persons, facilitating family reunification, addressing irregular migration and providing pathways to regularity, addressing the needs of host communities, countering migrant smuggling and trafficking, facilitating resettlement, assisted voluntary return and reintegration of migrants, and developing durable solutions for displaced persons (IOM, 2017a and 2017d).<sup>4</sup>

## WHAT DOES TARGET 10.7 MEAN?<sup>5</sup>

**Orderly migration:** There is no definition of this term within the 2030 Agenda. This document will use IOM's definition of orderly migration: "the movement of a person from his or her usual place of residence to a new place of residence, in keeping with the laws and regulations governing exit of the country of origin and travel, transit and entry into the host country."<sup>6</sup> This underlines a State's right to regulate entry as a basis for being able to ensure migrants' proper treatment, granting rights, enforcing law and managing relationships with host communities.

**Regular migration:** IOM defines regular migration as "migration that occurs through recognized, authorized channels."<sup>7</sup> The regularity of migration does not solely refer to the method used to cross a country's border, as migrants can enter a country through regular channels, but find themselves in an irregular situation after a period of time.

**Safe migration:** There is no common definition for the concept of safe migration. A migrant can be in an unsafe situation while or after having migrated through regular channels; conversely, a migrant can be in a situation that is both safe and irregular. A migrant's situation can change from safety to unsafety throughout the various phases of their migratory process, and thus the definition should encompass all stages of the process, including at the country of origin, transit, country of first asylum and country of destination. Further, safe migration should also be considered for internal migration, and also for those left behind who do not finish their intended journey. Safe migration is not a static concept and is one that primarily is concerning the well-being of and reduction of risk for migrants. The needs of different categories of migrants, as well as factors which could make any migrant vulnerable, should also be considered.<sup>8</sup>

## Relevance to other Goals

Effective migration governance is also promoted indirectly through other Goals and targets. For example, targets 8.7 and 8.8 call for improved governance in areas of human trafficking and labour migration respectively, Goal 16 on the promotion of the rule of law, equal access to justice for all and monitoring detention practices, and target 17.14 calls for countries to enhance policy coherence (IOM, 2017i). These and other Goals uphold human rights approaches benefiting migrants, and can advance more effective, sensitive and gender-responsive migration governance across sectors. Making progress towards other SDGs plays a key role in addressing many of the drivers of forced displacement. Therefore, aside from working towards building durable solutions, achieving progress in targets on poverty (Goal 1), food insecurity (Goal 2), weak governance (Goal 16), climate change (Goal 13) among others will help prevent the number of crises and disasters in the future, thus reducing the resulting displacement, which is a key hindrance to sustainable development.



## DEFINING WELL-MANAGED MIGRATION POLICIES

Working towards safe, orderly and regular migration will require a better understanding and implementation of policies that foster improved migration governance. A common understanding of what ‘good migration governance’ means, and a method to assess policies associated with migration governance, need to be grounded in agreed international standards and the growing baseline of evidence-based good practices, while being flexible and adaptable enough to suit a diversity of national contexts and migration realities.

In an effort to better define what constitutes good migration governance, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) developed the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF). The IOM Council welcomed the formulation and adoption of the MiGOF via resolution 1310 in November 2015, making it the first – and so far the only – detailed articulation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

According to this Framework, a State moves towards ensuring that migration is humane, orderly and benefits migrants and society when it:

- Adheres to international standards and fulfils migrants’ rights;
- Formulates policy using evidence and a ‘whole-of-government’ approach;
- Engages with partners to address migration and related issues;

As it seeks to:

- Advance the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society;
- Effectively address the mobility dimensions of crises;
- Ensure that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.<sup>9</sup>

## Remittances



**Target 10.C: By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent.**

↳ Lowering remittance transaction costs

Global remittance flows are large – approximately USD450 billion of remittances are thought to have flowed into developing countries in 2017<sup>10</sup> – and dwarf traditional types of development financing, and can be more stable. Remittances are multidirectional, voluntary and private monetary transfers that migrants make, and can present many economic and social opportunities and challenges to both senders and recipients.

Remittance transaction costs can be high, which lessens the impact of remittances, burdens migrants and can discourage the sending of remittances through formal channels. This can affect migrant women in particular, as they often send smaller amounts of money than migrant men, though more regularly.<sup>11</sup> Target **10.C** aims to reduce these costs by capping transaction fees. Often this involves increasing competition and transparency in the transfer market through cost-comparison tools and diversifying the supply of providers, thus helping migrants make informed decisions.

## Relevance to other Goals

Meeting target 10.C could have potential positive effects for remittance recipients. Remittances can help increase household incomes, therefore facilitating cheaper remittances could help meet poverty eradication targets under Goal 1. Remittances can also lead to higher household savings and investment, which would help meet target 1.5 and others. Remittances can increase household expenditure on health care and education, and have been associated with positive outcomes for family members in these areas, thus helping meet Goals 3 and 4. Meeting target 10.C could also encourage remittances to help local, regional or national level development through initiatives that encourage their investment into certain activities, such as specialized development initiatives. Nevertheless, it should not be forgotten that remittances are private monetary transfers and senders and recipients are free to decide on their use.

These opportunities should be realized while taking a rights-based and gender-responsive approach, in order to improve the conditions under which remittances are earned, sent and used by migrant women and men and their families. This means mitigating and addressing the risks of exploitation and abuse (including human trafficking), promoting ethical recruitment practices and improving pre-departure orientation, among other measures, to promote the well-being of all migrant workers.

Any remittance-related development initiatives should also recognize the importance of increasing financial inclusion for all migrants; this means strengthening financial literacy and improving access to regulated, reliable and efficient financial services for all remittance senders and recipients.

## Migration Data



**Target 17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, 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.**

↳ Improving data across migration topics

There are significant gaps in the quantity, accuracy, timeliness, comparability (over time and across countries) and accessibility of migration data. Currently, migration data that are poor or difficult to access and understand make it challenging for decision-makers around the world to create sensitive and intelligent migration policy. Low-quality, scattered or poorly disseminated information can also distort public debate on migration.



For example, systematic data are lacking on migrants' contribution to the economic growth of receiving countries across industries. Regular data collection and sharing on this could help improve political conditions to inform sensitive migration policy and debate. There is an acute lack of quality regular data on certain migration topics, which makes it difficult to create evidence-based policy in these areas. For example, reliable data on undocumented and irregular migrants are especially difficult to obtain. As this represents a significant share of the migrant population in many countries, this keeps large numbers of migrants statistically invisible and makes it hard to manage irregular migration and meet the needs of migrants. Further examples of data gaps include the impact of migration policy, migratory movements to and from rural areas, return migration, and others. There is a need to work towards data disaggregated by migratory status, as this would help provide information on topics such as migrants' living standards, including access to health care, education and social protection, and also for migration data to be disaggregated by age, sex and other variables.

The SDGs create an immediate need for a greater quantity and quality of migration data. This is the case across migration issue areas, such as migration governance, labour migration, human trafficking, and many more. It is a challenge to measure the migration-related SDG targets, especially as the existing global-level indicators for these targets are difficult to operationalize and most do not have well-established methodologies.<sup>12</sup>

#### ↳ Increasing disaggregation of data by migratory status and other variables

A key focus of the SDG implementation process is to promote greater disaggregation in monitoring data so as to better serve certain vulnerable groups. This includes disaggregating data by migratory status and other variables. This is an opportunity to gain better data on different dimensions of migrants' situations, allowing for a better understanding of their living conditions and how migration impacts health, income, education and other areas.

# Cross-cutting Connections

Migration and migrants can be integrated into the implementation of other targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, as demonstrated below. It is possible to link migration to every Goal in the 2030 Agenda; the topics listed here and targets explored are not exhaustive but illustrate some of the most obvious connections. Depending on the country context, migration may also be relevant to other areas. Comprehensive SDG Target and Migration Correlation in the annexes provides a list of relevant SDGs and targets and how migration relates to them.

<b>Poverty and Growth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Migrants should be included in implementation of all poverty targets</li> <li>→ Migration should be seen as a mechanism to boost poverty-reduction efforts and growth for different countries</li> </ul>	1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.A, 1.B, 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 10.1	  
<b>Social Protection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Migrants should have access to and be included in social protection coverage and policies</li> <li>→ Migrant domestic workers should be afforded social protection</li> </ul>	1.3, 5.4, 10.4	  
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Migrants should be included in universal health coverage and all health targets</li> <li>→ The distribution of the global health workforce should be improved</li> <li>→ Understanding migration is crucial to strengthen health emergency preparedness, develop inclusive health policies and enhance access to migrant-sensitive health services</li> <li>→ The health of migrants will improve through progress in many other targets</li> <li>→ Improving the health of migrants is a fundamental precondition to work, be productive and contribute to society, contributing to other targets</li> </ul>	3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.7, 3.8, 3.B, 3.C, 3.D, 5.6, 8.7, 8.8, 10.7, 10.C	   
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Migrant children should be included in education targets</li> <li>→ Manage the global demand and supply for labour migration by improved matching of skills</li> <li>→ Education of migrants will improve through progress in other targets, including cheaper remittances, and safe and orderly migration</li> </ul>	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 10.7, 10C	 

**Gender** → Protection of migrant domestic workers 5.2; 5.3, 5.4, 5.A, 5.C  
 → Address gender-related vulnerabilities of migration  
 → Help women use migration to help empower themselves  
 → Inclusive progress in other targets will address potential negative and discriminatory migration drivers for women



**Children** → Combating child trafficking and child labour 1.2, 4.2, 4.5, 4.A, 5.1, 5.2, 8.7, 10.7, 16.2, 16.3  
 → Migrant children should be included in child poverty and education targets  
 → Inclusive progress in other targets, such as on safe and orderly migration, health, justice and others, will improve child migrant protection



**Cities** → Working towards building inclusive cities, such as by expanding affordable housing, will benefit migrants; their needs should be considered in implementation of relevant targets 11.1, 11.3, 11.B, 11.C  
 → Foster participatory urban planning to include migrants  
 → Migrants should be included in all targets relating to urban disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster risk management (DRM)



**Climate Change** → Migrants should be included in all targets relating to disaster risk reduction and management, including on early warning systems 1.5, 10.7, 11.5, 13.1, 13.3  
 → Migration should be recognized as a potential climate change adaptation (CCA) strategy and way to build resilience  
 → Education and awareness-raising efforts on climate change should include the mobility dimensions of climate change



**Citizenship, Rule of Law and Inclusion** → Expanding legal identity will directly help reduce statelessness, help create pathways out of irregular migration, and protect the legal rights of migrants 10.2, 16.3, 16.4, 16.7, 16.9, 16.B  
 → Expanding legal identity will indirectly help foster migrants' inclusion, improve their access to basic services, and help counter human trafficking and organized crime  
 → Strengthening rule of law will help migrants in many ways, such as by improving access to justice and addressing migrant detention, and addressing potential drivers of displacement



**Diaspora and Partnerships for Development** → Including migration and migrants in development partnerships 8.9, 9.2, 12.B, 17.3, 17.5, 17.13, 17.16, 17.17, 17.18





**Inclusivity is particularly important to the poverty targets given its linkages to so many other development outcomes. Migrants can make significant contributions to development efforts in both their countries of origin and destination, and so migration should be integrated in the planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of initiatives related to the poverty targets. Also, there are connections between migration and growth and poverty reduction that should be solidified.**

↳ Migrants should be included in the implementation of all poverty targets.

All implementation on poverty targets should ensure inclusivity and integrate migrants; a proactive approach is needed to address the rights and interests of different migrant groups.

All data on poverty should record migratory status as a separate variable as possible. This would improve information on migrants' relationships to poverty.

↳ Migration should be seen as a mechanism to boost poverty-reduction efforts and growth for different countries.

Migration can be a poverty-reduction tool for migrants and their families. Through remittances, higher and/or diversified incomes and many other mechanisms, migration can be associated with positive impacts on household finances through improved savings, assets, investments, insurance and access to financial services. Moreover, migration is often a strategy for households to manage the risks of poverty and food insecurity, building resilience to fluctuations in agricultural production, income and employment. Migration is also associated with positive outcomes in education and health for migrants themselves as well as their family members, and can help increase access to basic services. These migration-induced effects can help meet progress towards targets **1.1**, **1.2**, **1.4** and **1.5** under Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere. To boost these effects and empower all migrants to be agents for development, efforts should focus on promoting safe migration and lowering its cost. The integration of migrants should also be seen as an enabler of their development contributions; policy frameworks can be put in place that optimize the labour, skills, expertise, remittances and other dynamics of migration for development use (JMDI, 2016b). Therefore, migrant integration – through promoting the well-being and protecting the human rights of all migrants – should be considered a tool to support the development potential of all migrants.

Migration can be a considerable poverty-reduction tool and growth mechanism. For example, migrants send USD441 billion remittances per year to developing countries (World Bank, 2016), often reducing poverty rates in many countries, and contribute significantly through knowledge and skills



transfer to various industries, such as the health sector. Migrants also significantly contribute to economies of host communities by increasing the tax base, boosting aggregate demand, raising productivity through more efficient allocation of skills in labour markets, promoting more entrepreneurship and innovation, and helping gross domestic product growth through these and other mechanisms. Aside from making progress towards the same Goal 1 poverty targets as above, this is linked to targets **1.A** and **1.B** on creating sound policy frameworks for poverty eradication and development planning. It is also linked to targets **8.1**, **8.2** and **8.3** on decent work and economic growth, by boosting productivity, innovation, entrepreneurship and target **10.1** on income growth.

## Social Protection



**Social protection coverage for migrants tends to be low: 22 per cent of migrants have no access to official coverage, and less than 1 per cent of migrants moving between low-income countries are entitled to this coverage (Hagen-Zanker et al. 2017a). Further, migrants can often face vulnerable situations and discrimination, especially those with irregular status, in informal employment and refugees. A lack of social protection tends to increase vulnerabilities, and can put migrants at higher risk of poverty and marginalization; therefore, proactively expanding social protection for migrants is integral to meeting relevant targets.**

↳ Migrants should have access to and be included in social protection coverage and policies.

Target **1.3** calls to “implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable,” and migrants need to be included in these measures (ILO, 2013).<sup>13</sup> This means ensuring they are both eligible for and effectively participate in these social protection systems, and are not discriminated against based on the sex, age or migratory status, among other factors.

Target **10.4** calls to “adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.” If migrants are excluded from social protection coverage, progress towards meeting this target would be limited.

↳ Migrant domestic workers should be afforded social protection.

Target **5.4** calls for migrant domestic workers to be afforded social protection.

## Relevance to other Goals

Improving social protection for migrants would help contribute to Goal 1 on poverty and Goal 10 on inequality. Migrant workers contribute to social security systems, generating government resources to deliver social protection programmes through taxes. Social protection is also linked to economic development; it is an investment as it can increase worker productivity (ILO, 2013).

## Health



**Although there are no health-related goals explicitly linked to migration targets, migration is increasingly recognized as a social determinant of health, and can impact the realization of many of the SDGs. Although migration does not cause disease, migrants face disproportionate health vulnerabilities in some contexts. Addressing the health of migrants is a precondition for social and economic development, as the good health of migrants is a fundamental precondition to work, be productive and contribute to society.**

Goal 3 aims to “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages” and addresses a range of health topics. Migrants face different health risks at the various stages of the migration lifecycle and in accordance with individual characteristics. In some contexts they can be at higher risk of infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and mental health problems and often have low access to health care (Barragan et al. 2017). Therefore, to ensure progress towards these targets is inclusive, migrants’ specific health needs must be addressed proactively under all health targets.

↳ Migrants should be included in universal health coverage and all health targets.

Target **3.8** calls to achieve universal health coverage. It is important to include migrants under health coverage schemes, guaranteeing the continuity of quality services and social protection throughout the whole migration cycle. Many migrants, particularly those who are in an irregular situation, as well as displaced persons, face legal, policy and financial restrictions to health-care services, and often face distinctive vulnerabilities to health. Even when they do have formal access, they often have difficulties using health services due to cultural and language barriers, stigma and structural barriers. To understand migrant health needs and monitor variables relating to the health of migrants, it is important to develop data collection and surveillance mechanisms (Hagen-Zanker et al., 2017). Achieving this will contribute to the achievement of other health targets for migrants (Tulloch et al., 2017).



- ↪ The distribution of the global health workforce should be improved under the SDGs.

Target **3.C** calls for better management of human resource development and deployment in the health sector. This is linked to migration as the migration of health workers has impacts on health systems in different countries. Therefore, this target involves implementing well-designed skill policies, including ethical recruitment codes such as the World Health Organization's ethical code of recruitment for medical staff. It can also involve skill partnerships with returning migrants or diaspora communities to strengthen health systems in countries of origin through the education of health personnel. The realization of the SDGs can help improve the distribution of the global health workforce and alleviate health worker shortages.

- ↪ Understanding migration is crucial to strengthen health emergency preparedness, develop inclusive health policies and enhance access to migrant-sensitive health services.

Target **3.D** calls to “strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.” This requires the strengthening of health emergency preparedness and management capacity of all countries, relating to the International Health Regulations (IHR). The volume, rapidity and ease of today's travel pose new challenges to cross-border disease control, and it is crucial to understand migration and mobility to better prevent, detect and respond to disease outbreaks. Multi-sectoral collaboration to strengthen country- and regional-level core capacities is important to implement the IHR, as discussed in the IOM's Health, Border and Mobility Management (HBMM) framework.<sup>14</sup>

- ↪ The health of migrants will improve through progress in other targets.

Targets **3.1**, **3.2**, **3.7** and **5.6** focus on sexual and reproductive health. Migrant women and girls, especially those who have been trafficked or are in an irregular situation and who have been victims of abuse and sexual or gender-based violence, often lack access to appropriate health care, information and education. They often experience negative outcomes, such as unwanted pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, higher maternal, under-5 and neonatal mortality, and certain mental health issues.

Target **3.3** focuses on communicable diseases. Migrants in some contexts may be susceptible to infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, malaria and others due to factors such as hygiene, nutrition, living conditions, access to preventive and curative health care and social protection, as well as a heightened vulnerability and exposure to risk factors. Mobility also can result in poor continuity of care, as populations frequently on the move are often unable to complete prescribed treatment regimens, provide reliable medical records or obtain routine or preventive care.<sup>15</sup>

Target **3.4** focuses on non-communicable diseases and mental health. Migrants may leave countries healthy, but those travelling to higher-income countries can face increased risk for a variety of non-communicable diseases, such as diabetes and coronary artery disease, as they adjust their lifestyles. For other migrants, displacement, trafficking, traumatic conditions in transit and resettlement, or living prolonged periods in a state of uncertainty about their fate, can impact negatively on mental health and well-being (Schinina, *forthcoming*).

Target **3.B** focuses on vaccines and essential medicines. Migrants and internally displaced people, along with the host communities, should be included as target populations for all vaccines offered in the national programme to ensure herd immunity. Ensuring access among migrants to essential medicines is important to achieve universal health coverage, guaranteeing continuity of care throughout the phases of the migration cycle.

## Relevance to other Goals

Many migrant workers face insecure working conditions that negatively impact their health as well as put them at risk of different types of abuse. Targets 8.7 and 8.8 focus on promoting decent, safe and secure working environments, which will reduce occupational risks, protect labour rights and ensure equitable access to social protection across industries.

Promoting target 10.C will improve the health of families impacted by migration. Remittances receiving households tend to show improved health-care access and health outcomes compared to non-receiving households.<sup>16</sup> Pocket spending on health should be reduced and social protection schemes implemented to guarantee long-term health access to families. Remittances can also feed into government health spending; where remittances are a large proportion of national GDP, they increase resources available for public spending through taxes.

Improving conditions under which migration takes place will positively impact migrants' health. Therefore, promoting orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration under target 10.7 will improve the health of migrants.

Inclusively expanding social protection under targets 1.3 and 1.5 will improve access and provision of health care for migrants.

Improving the management of urban migration, through various targets under Goal 11, could help significantly improve the health of urban migrants and decrease their health risks in the long term.

Addressing the health of migrants has positive knock-on effects. It is indirectly linked to progress in other targets, for example by reducing long-term welfare costs, facilitating integration and contributing to social and economic development.





**Goal 4 calls to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.” Roughly 1 in 70 children worldwide live in a country different than that of their birth, and their access to quality education can be limited (Nicolai et al. 2017). The 2030 Agenda’s ‘leaving no one behind’ principle should encourage migrant children to be proactively considered under several education targets, and present opportunities to expand and improve the access and quality of their education.**

↳ Migrant children should be included in education targets.

Given the high numbers of migrant children around the world, including them in education planning and provision is essential to meeting targets. For example, target **4.5** calls to “ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including ... children in vulnerable situations.” This includes migrant and displaced children. Migrant students can face difficulties accessing education, can be excluded from education due to language or socioeconomic barriers, and often achieve poorer learning outcomes.

↳ The SDGs can help manage the global demand and supply for labour migration by improved matching of skills.

Target **4.4** calls to “substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.” Target **4.3** calls to ensure equal education access to technical, vocational and tertiary education. Integrating migrants would help address the relationship between labour migration and education, and strengthen links between the supply and demand of skills.

↳ Education of migrants will improve through progress in other targets, including cheaper remittances, and safe and orderly migration.

Receiving remittances can help families improve education access and outcomes for their children; meeting target **10.C** could help improve the education of migration-affected children. Improving conditions under which migration takes place can positively impact migrants’ education. Therefore, promoting orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration under target **10.7** can also help improve the education of migrants.

## Relevance to other Goals

Migrant education is also a long-term strategic priority and investment (Nicolai et al., 2017). Including migrant children under education targets is indirectly key to achieving a range of other Goals. Quality education contributes to improved livelihoods and health outcomes, lower incidence of poverty, higher incomes, reductions in gender inequities and higher political participation for individuals. This can also help foster a stronger integration of migrant children in host societies. Inclusive education can also help protect children from harmful practices related to migration, such as human trafficking.

## Gender



**Goal 5 aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. More women are migrating independently than before, termed sometimes the ‘feminization of migration’. At the same time, migrant women face a number of vulnerabilities due to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination they may face in origin, transit and host communities.**

For example, women and girls account for 71 per cent of all trafficked victims detected globally, and females represent 96 per cent of victims trafficked for sexual exploitation. Moreover, migrant women and girls may face gender-specific and discriminatory barriers to their mobility, which may result in an increased use of irregular migration channels, heightening the risk of sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation.<sup>17</sup> These differentiated vulnerabilities are often not recognized in migration governance; therefore, it is important to address the different needs of migrant women, men, girls and boys in migration policy and programming going forward. This requires extensively assessing gender-related inequalities and vulnerabilities associated with migration.

However, viewing a particular group of migrants, such as women and girls, solely as ‘vulnerable’ can downplay their agency and overshadow the empowering effects migration can have. Therefore, it is necessary to also promote the positive opportunities offered by migration for women and girls – such as education and economic independence – to support their own empowerment. Gender and migration activities in the context of achieving the SDGs should seek to balance how migration can contribute to all people’s capabilities, regardless of gender, with how migration can also expose them to new or increased risks.<sup>18</sup>



- ↳ Protection of migrant domestic workers is explicit underlined in the SDGs.

Target **5.4** calls to “recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.” Most migrant domestic workers are women and adolescent girls.<sup>19</sup> Low-skilled migrant women often work in less-regulated and less-visible sectors than migrant men, placing them at higher risk of exploitation and labour and human rights violations, as well as at greater risk of sexual and gender-based violence. Addressing this target would enhance the well-being, dignity and status of migrant domestic workers.

- ↳ The SDGs can help address gender-related vulnerabilities of migration.
- ↳ The SDGs can help women use migration to help empower themselves.

Target **5.2** helps address the vulnerability of migrant women and girls to exploitation, abuse and human trafficking. Migrant women and girls are often at risk of physical, sexual and psychological abuse or violence along migration routes and at their destinations.

Migration can be a source of empowerment for women; it can offer access to education and careers, allowing women to earn higher incomes, enjoy more autonomy, and enhanced social and economic status and participation (O’Neil et al. 2016). Overall, protecting and promoting migrant women’s rights, including labour rights, would enhance their potential to become agents of development. It is critical to address gender constraints that prevent women from fully realizing their productive potential. The potential for migrant women’s empowerment should be harnessed by promoting safe migration for women, capturing the specific needs of migrant women and taking a gender-responsive approach to target 10.7, as well as by addressing several other targets, including those related to decent work. This would also help progress towards meeting target **5.C** on women’s empowerment, **5.A** on increasing women’s access to financial services, and others.

- ↳ Progress in other targets can help address potential negative and discriminatory migration drivers for women.

Tackling gender inequality under target **5.3** and taking a gender-responsive approach with other targets could help reduce certain gendered drivers of migration. Gender-based violence or discriminatory practices such as early or forced marriage, domestic violence or female genital mutilation, as well as other gender-based socioeconomic challenges, such as discrimination or higher unemployment, may lead women and girls to migrate.



**Children make up a substantial share of migrants and refugees. There are 50 million migrant children (including internal migrants), and half of the world’s refugees are children (UNICEF, 2016). One in every eight migrants is a child.**

Child migrants face considerable risk in migrating; they are often in vulnerable situations and face challenges along migratory routes and upon arrival in transit and host communities,<sup>20</sup> where there may be barriers to receiving State protection or a threat of detention, especially if they are irregular. Young children and babies born along migratory routes are particularly vulnerable, as are unaccompanied child migrants who can be subject to exploitation or human trafficking. Moreover, children of irregular migrants may face statelessness if the conferring of statehood from mother to child is not allowed by a country’s legislation.

↳ Migrant children should be included in child poverty and education targets.

Target **1.2** calls for reducing the number of children living in poverty. Poverty reduction efforts need to include migrant children to achieve this effectively. To fully realize targets **4.A**, **4.2** and **4.5**, governments must facilitate and administer education for child migrants. The SDGs call for improving the quality of and access to education and vocational training for all children.

## Relevance to other Goals

Other Goals and targets could help improve protection and safety for child migrants. Target 8.7 on forced labour and human trafficking can address child labour and child trafficking. Targets on gender can address discrimination and violence against girls (5.1 and 5.2), targets on human rights and access to justice for all (target 16.3) can address abuse, detention and denial of basic services that child migrants face, targets on health (Goal 3) can support access to quality health-care services for migrant children, and promoting safe and orderly migration under target 10.7 should also include protecting the rights and interests of child migrants.





**Migration has become an increasingly urban phenomenon, as internal migrants move from rural to urban areas, international migrant workers are likely to move to cities, and displaced persons are increasingly concentrated in urban areas (Lucci et al. 2016). Key drivers of migration from rural to urban areas include poverty, vulnerability, food insecurity, lack of employment or income-generating activities, and perceptions of better opportunities for employment, access to health services, education and social protection in cities. Some non-economic drivers include conflict, political instability, natural-resource depletion and degradation, and the impacts of climate change, many of which operate concurrently.**

For example, over 60 per cent of refugees and 80 per cent of internally displaced people are thought to live in urban areas (JMDI, 2016), and every day approximately 120,000 people migrate to cities in the Asia-Pacific region alone (IOM, 2017). As a result, cities are at the frontline of different migrant dynamics. For example, cities can be decisive in migrant integration, and as they form centres of opportunities for migrants, they can also strongly shape migrants' contributions to sustainable development and have the power to maximize these contributions.

Local authorities often manage education, health care, housing and social services for migrants, as well as sometimes documentation and/or legal identification processes.<sup>21</sup> Migrants can be especially vulnerable populations within cities. For example, they tend to be disproportionately represented among the urban poor in informal settlements, as in many cities in low- and middle-income countries, new arrivals are often forced to settle there. Migrants living in cities as a result of displacement can spend years in increasingly protracted situations.<sup>22</sup> Migrants may also face linguistic, legal, social and administrative barriers to social protection, low knowledge of local environmental and social contexts, and/or multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. These factors reduce the ability of migrants to access resources and opportunities in cities, such as housing, employment and basic services such as health care, as well as their ability to receive support from formal and informal systems and networks. Therefore, without effective management of urban migration, many migrants face heightened risks and vulnerabilities and local authorities must take extra care to proactively address the needs of migrants in their cities.

Goal 11 calls to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” and focuses on inclusively addressing the specific needs of urban populations. This should include addressing the risks migrants face in urban settings (WEF, 2017).

- ↳ Working towards building inclusive cities, such as by expanding affordable housing, will benefit migrants; their needs should be considered in the implementation of relevant targets.

Target **11.1** calls to “ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums,” which should positively impact all migrants across cities. More affordable housing, such as through low-income public housing or subsidies, would help reduce the need for informal settlements, squatting and slums. The target should also include proactive rather than reactive planning of settlements to accommodate urban growth, for example as a result of the arrival of urban migrants.

- ↳ Foster participatory urban planning to include migrants.

Target **11.3** promotes a participatory and inclusive approach to city planning and management and calls to “enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.” Urban governance should promote migrant participation in planning and management processes, thus helping to include them in economic and spatial planning and in the delivery of services.

- ↳ Migrants should be included in all targets relating to urban disaster risk reduction (DRR) and disaster risk management (DRM).

Targets **11.B** and **11.C** encourage cities and human settlements to adopt policies on resilience to disasters and holistic disaster risk management in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. This is key going forward, as the likelihood of being displaced by a disaster today is already 60 percent higher than it was four decades ago.<sup>23</sup> Migrants are often more vulnerable to disasters in urban areas. As informal settlements in peri-urban areas of less developed countries are often hazard-prone and poorly planned, they may be among the first and worst affected by disasters. Further, a relative lack of access to adequate housing, employment and services renders migrants even less able to cope when disasters occur. As urban migrants often have increased vulnerability to hazards, they need to be included in disaster risk management targets. Additionally, in the future there will be increasing numbers of ‘trapped’ people who are unable or unwilling to move away from hazardous areas where vulnerabilities to environmental change are very high (Foresight, 2011).

## Relevance to other Goals

Migration should be integrated into land management, urban planning, and natural resource planning under targets such as 12.2. This planning should be as coordinated as possible, as these areas are linked. For example, increased demand for goods and services by migrants can put additional pressure on infrastructure and increase energy consumption, so policies need to factor in the needs and impact of migrants. Low-carbon development plans will also need to include population projections that include migrants to ensure that greenhouse gas reduction targets can be met.





**The 2030 Agenda makes reference to climate change throughout its targets, recognizing that the adverse impacts of climate change and other stressors such as environmental degradation represent a serious threat to development. It also reinforces important international frameworks developed in recent years, such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).**

Migration, environmental degradation and climate change are deeply intertwined (Wilkinson et al. 2016; IOM, 2017m; Mach, 2017). For instance, today twice as many people are displaced by weather-related natural disasters than by conflict and violence, a number expected to grow as climate risks intensify (IDMC, 2016; Foresight, 2011). Further, these dynamics occur against a demographic backdrop of growing populations and rapid urbanization in many countries, where migration and urbanization are quickly increasing even before taking into account climate change. Migration should be recognized as an integral component in climate change policies and practices. Priorities in this regard include minimizing forced migration due to environmental and climate change through local adaptation where possible, facilitating safe migration as an adaptation strategy where this becomes necessary, and including migrants and other vulnerable groups in disaster risk reduction and management. Migrants commonly face heightened risks in disasters, as they often live on marginal, un-serviced land that is especially exposed to natural hazards, such as landslides and floods. Crises such as these may lead to the infringement of their rights, such as the access to health care, food or education.

It is essential that migrant women, men and children and their specific needs and vulnerabilities are considered in prevention, preparedness and resilience programming under Sustainable Development Goal implementation. Although the climate change-related targets do not make direct reference to displacement or migration, considering migration would present an opportunity to link local, national and global efforts to combat climate change and help prevent displacement. This is important because addressing displacement is in itself a means of promoting sustainable development, and if plans do not consider the links between climate change and migration, they are likely to cost more in the long term and be less effective.

- ↳ Migrants should be included in all targets relating to disaster risk reduction and management, including early warning systems.

Target **1.5** calls to “build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters”, while target **13.1** calls to “strengthen resilience and adaptive

capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries”. Migration should be recognized as a potential climate change adaptation (CCA) strategy and disaster risk reduction (DRR) measure. Individuals or households may migrate to reduce risk from environmental stressors and livelihood threats (Adger et al. 2014; Melde, 2017). In small island developing States, along coasts, and other increasingly marginal ecosystems, some may be unable to return (Wilkinson et al., 2016). Developing more resilience against climate change allows households to better manage environmental risks and therefore also helps manage the level and pace of migration.

- ↳ Migration should be recognized as a potential climate change adaptation (CCA) strategy and a way to build resilience.

Target **11.5** calls to reduce the number of deaths and mitigate the negative impacts of disasters. Migration and migrants should be included in implementation efforts of this target, in disaster risk reduction and management and in emergency response and early warning systems. For example, inclusive early warning systems can be developed by disseminating information to the population in a variety of languages (Melde, 2017).

- ↳ Education and awareness-raising efforts on climate change should include the mobility dimensions of climate change.

Target **13.3** calls to “improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning”. Efforts on this target should include a migration component to strengthen awareness and action of mobility dimensions of climate change. Migrants should be included specifically in education and awareness-raising. They are often at higher risk of climate change hazards due to living in hazard-prone areas, a lack of support networks and services, and being unfamiliar with their environment, amongst other reasons. Migrants must be informed of climate change risks they face and how to reduce their vulnerability to these risks, by being integrated into early warning systems for sudden-onset hazards, ensuring they receive and understand the warnings and have prepared themselves to respond. This could mean providing information in a variety of languages, accessing undocumented people through different information channels and ensuring early warning systems are gender-inclusive. Early warning systems must also consider changing migration patterns. These patterns are based on risk assessments or data of the population that can change rapidly, for example as people inhabit previously uninhabited hazard-prone areas. Therefore, early warning systems, and climate change mitigation and adaptation plans in general, must consider changing mobility dynamics, including ‘trapped’ populations as previously mentioned.<sup>24</sup>

## Relevance to other Goals

Climate change considerations should be integrated into the implementation of target 10.7 migration policies, as expanding safe opportunities for mobility can in itself reduce the vulnerability of populations forced to move by the impacts of climate change (Adger et al., 2014).



**Goal 16 promotes “peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development”. Lack of citizenship and/or legal status can prevent migrants from becoming full members of society, and thus hamper integration (Long et al., 2017; IOM, 2017j). Goal 16 calls to provide legal identity for all, which is key to protecting the rights and interests of migrants and can help foster inclusion.**

Further, the inclusivity of the SDGs calls for equitable access, regardless of migrant status, to health, education, decent work and more, and legal identity and birth registration are crucial to achieving this. Goal 16 also calls to improve institutions, including by making them more transparent and participatory, promoting the rule of law, and combating discrimination. These are all key topics for migrants across societies and contexts.

- ↳ Expanding legal identity will directly help reduce statelessness, help create pathways out of irregular migration and overall protect the legal rights of migrants.

Target **16.9** calls for States to “provide legal identity for all, including birth registration”. This directly helps to end statelessness, end patterns of irregularity among migrants, especially among children, and allows migrants to apply for citizenship or residence permissions and the respective rights to which they are entitled.

Target **16.7** calls to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels. Migrants should be proactively included in all aspects of decision making relating to policy and programming in migration and development, as far as possible.

- ↳ Expanding legal identity will indirectly help foster migrants’ inclusion, improve their access to basic services and help counter human trafficking and organized crime.

Meeting **16.9** can indirectly help facilitate progress in other targets. When migrants lack documentation or are unable to access citizenship, residency or legal status, they may obtain documentation on the black market and can be at greater risk of human trafficking. Thus, progress in target 16.9 can help target 16.4 on organized crime, and all targets on human trafficking and exploitation (Long et al., 2017).

- ↳ Strengthening rule of law will help migrants in many different ways, such as by improving access to justice and addressing migrant detention, and also as part of addressing potential drivers of displacement.

Target **16.3** calls for States to “promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all”, which is key to improving all migrant groups’ access to justice, addressing migrant detention, and generally protecting and promoting migrants’ rights of all kinds, regardless of their age, gender and other characteristics. It also plays a role in addressing the drivers of certain types of migration by combating discrimination, human rights abuses, gender inequalities and more.

Target **16.B** calls for States to “promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development”, which is key to migrant inclusion and integration in different settings.

## Relevance to other Goals

Expanding birth registration and legal identity are vital first steps to allow migrants access to basic services. Having a legal identity and relevant paperwork helps remove barriers for social protection, education, health care and other services. For example, the most important factor governing migrants’ access to health care remains their legal status (IOM, 2017h). This will also generally help inclusion and integration, and help progress towards target 10.2 on social, economic and political inclusion and Goal 10 on reducing inequalities.

## Diaspora and Partnerships for Development



**The 2030 Agenda, both as an underlying principle and as stated in Goal 17, calls for expanding partnerships for development. Goal 17 calls to “strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development” and calls for the use of innovative, multi-stakeholder partnerships to make progress in all aspects of development. Migration is an important factor for development, and migrants are actors for development and poverty reduction for themselves, their families, and communities of origin and destination. Therefore, to effectively mobilize and improve possible partnerships for development, migration must be included in development planning.**

↳ Including migration and migrants in development partnerships

Meeting targets **17.16** (“Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries,



in particular developing countries”), **17.17** (“Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships”) and **17.18** (“Enhance capacity-building support to developing countries ... to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data”) requires the promotion of migrant partnerships of all types and leveraging these relationships for development.

Remittances play a role in development for migrants, households and countries, and their impact can be further improved if they are made cheaper and if migrant workers, including migrant domestic workers, are protected. This also speaks to target **17.3** which calls to “mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources” and to target **17.13** on macroeconomic stability.

Diaspora investment, philanthropy and other types of financing can be leveraged for development across sectors, improving health, education, job creation, industry growth, infrastructure and more. This would also help progress under target **17.5** to “adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries”.

## Relevance to other Goals

Returning migrants or engaged diaspora members bring knowledge and skills transfer to communities, which can foster higher productivity, more innovation and other positive impacts. Migrant and diaspora entrepreneurship creates employment, and can lead to greater industrialization, innovation and trade (Goal 9).

Targets 8.9 and 12.B could include engaging diasporas to invest, promote and take part in sustainable tourism which can help promote employment and growth in this sector (Riddle, 2017).

Cooperation between local, regional and national levels of government with diaspora groups can foster positive political engagement, dialogue and progress. Protecting and promoting the rights of migrant women can also help boost migrants’ contributions to development, for example, by aiding education and health outcomes through remittances sent by migrant women, and empowering diaspora women organizations to play a greater role in skills transfer.

- 1 Available from [www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our\\_work/ODG/GCM/Director-General-Statement-Second-Informal-Thematic-Consultation.pdf](http://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/ODG/GCM/Director-General-Statement-Second-Informal-Thematic-Consultation.pdf).
- 2 United Nations, Global Compact for Migration. Available from <http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/migration-compact>.
- 3 United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, “Integrating migration into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, *Population Facts*, No. 2015/5. (December 2015). Available from [www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/publications/populationfacts/docs/MigrationPopFacts20155.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/publications/populationfacts/docs/MigrationPopFacts20155.pdf).
- 4 IOM, *Protection of the Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Migrants and the Specific Needs of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations* (Geneva, 2017). Available from [www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our\\_work/ODG/GCM/IOM-Thematic-Paper-Protection-of-Human-Rights-and-Vulnerable-Migrants.pdf](http://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/ODG/GCM/IOM-Thematic-Paper-Protection-of-Human-Rights-and-Vulnerable-Migrants.pdf).
- 5 The concept of “safe, orderly and regular migration” has a long history in multilateral consultations. In 2004, States agreed that they must find “ways to manage [migration] more effectively, to make it safe, orderly, and beneficial for migrants and societies,” as part of the International Agenda for Migration Management (IAMM). A summary of the 2006 UN General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development states that “national strategies to address the impact of international migration on development should be complemented by strengthened bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation. [Participants] considered that such cooperation was needed to promote legal, safe and orderly migration, reduce irregular migration and improve the chances of reaping the full benefits of international migration.” In the Declaration adopted at the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, Member States recognized “the need for international cooperation to address, in a holistic and comprehensive manner, the challenges of irregular migration to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, with full respect for human rights” and Member States further advocated for the inclusion of migration in the negotiation of the post-2015 development agenda (IOM, 2017f).
- 6 Available from [www.iom.int/key-migration-terms](http://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms).
- 7 IOM, *Glossary on Migration*, 2nd ed., IML No. 25 (Geneva, 2011).
- 8 IOM’s GMDAC, “Understanding and Measuring ‘Safe’ Migration”, (Germany, 2016). Available from <https://gmdac.iom.int/sites/default/files/presentations/safe%20migration/Final%20report%20Nuremberg%20workshop%2018%2008%2016%20%28002%29%20SHARED%20WITH%20PARTICIPANTS.pdf>.
- 9 IOM, *Migration Governance Framework*, C/106/40 Council 106th Session (2015).
- 10 World Bank Group, *Migration and Development Brief 27* (2017). Available from <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/992371492706371662/MigrationandDevelopmentBrief27.pdf>.



- 11 Maelan Le Goff, IZA World of Labor, “Feminization of migration and trends in remittances” (France, 2016). Available from <https://wol.iza.org/uploads/articles/220/pdfs/feminization-of-migration-and-trends-in-remittances.pdf>.
- 12 IOM’s GMDAC, Migration Data Portal. Available from <http://migrationdataportal.org/sdgs>.
- 13 In this context, the ILO calls specifically for the extension of social protection to residents, including migrants, through the four basic social security guarantees outlined in the ILO Social Protection Floors Recommendation, No. 202 (2012).
- 14 IOM, *Health, Border & Mobility Management: IOM’s framework for empowering governments and communities to prevent, detect and respond to health threats along the mobility continuum* (Geneva, 2016). Available from [www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our\\_work/DMM/IBM/updated/Health\\_and\\_Humanitarian\\_Border\\_Management.pdf](http://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/DMM/IBM/updated/Health_and_Humanitarian_Border_Management.pdf).
- 15 D. Mosca, et al. “The Importance of Migrants’ Health for Sustainable and Equitable Development.” In *Migration and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda* (Geneva, 2012).
- 16 For example, Maria Cristina Zhunio, Sharmila Vishwasrao and Eric P. Chiang, “The influence of remittances on education and health outcomes: a cross country study.” In *Applied Economics*, 44:35 (2012).
- 17 Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), *The Gender Dimensions of Human Trafficking* (2017). Available from <http://icat.network/sites/default/files/publications/documents/ICAT-IB-04-V.1.pdf>.
- 18 See UN Women, *Turning promises into action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* for a comprehensive exploration of gender in the SDGs. Available from [www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/2/gender-equality-in-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development-2018#view](http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/2/gender-equality-in-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development-2018#view).
- 19 11.5 million (17.2%) of the world’s 67.1 million domestic workers are migrants; 8.4 million (73.4%) of migrant domestic workers are women or adolescent girls (ILO, 2015).
- 20 IOM/UNICEF, *Harrowing Journeys* (2017). Available from [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/harrowing\\_journeys.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/harrowing_journeys.pdf).
- 21 JMDI, *The Local Agenda on Migration and Development: The Second Mayoral Forum on Mobility, Migration and Development Quito Outcome Document* (Quito, 2015). Available from [http://migration4development.org/sites/default/files/en\\_-\\_quito\\_outcome\\_document\\_-\\_final\\_revised\\_version\\_0.pdf](http://migration4development.org/sites/default/files/en_-_quito_outcome_document_-_final_revised_version_0.pdf).
- 22 For emerging approaches on displacement situations, see IOM’s *Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations* (PRDS). Available from [www.iom.int/progressive-resolution-displacement-situations](http://www.iom.int/progressive-resolution-displacement-situations).

- 23** Migration dynamics aside, the specific ways in which cities grow can often increase displacement risks, as weak urban governance and management is linked to higher displacement. For example, the use of cheap construction materials and more unregistered new buildings can result in higher numbers of people becoming affected by disasters or displaced.
- 24** For more on this and planned relocation specifically, see the *Nansen Protection Agenda on Cross-Border Disaster Displacement* and A. de Sherbinin et al., *Preparing for Resettlement Associated with Climate Change* (2011).



## Section 2

# Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals

An Integrated Approach

Engaging Stakeholders

The Implementation Process

1. Kick off
2. Prioritization
3. Implementation
4. Monitoring and Reporting



## Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals

### An Integrated Approach

**The implementation of migration-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda should be integrated with other sustainable development initiatives and should engage all levels of government and across sectors.**

#### Engaging with Wider Sustainable Development Goal Implementation

Engagement with United Nations-led global processes, including for the 2030 Agenda, takes place through national governments. In each country, governments are responsible for translating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into legislation and policies, and developing a plan of action to address them. Goal reporting should also be done at the national level, as follow-up and review will take place over a 15-year period at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).

Any actions to implement the migration-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda must not occur in silos. It is also important to achieve the greatest possible level of coherence with other SDG strategies and processes taking place within government. This guide helps achieve coherence with other SDG efforts assisted by United Nations agencies. It acknowledges and supports other organizations' guidance on implementation, recognizing that the international community must work together to achieve the SDGs and should learn from each other's approaches and, where relevant, draw from them. Existing SDG guidance from the United Nations Development Group, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), several United Nations statistical bodies and other organizations has been considered and built upon in this guide, and this guidance is referenced at the end of each section in the tool Further Resources.

#### Engaging vertically

Engagement with the 2030 Agenda is critical for all levels of government. While the SDGs are global, their achievement will depend on how effectively sustainable and inclusive development strategies are implemented at subnational levels. A little over half the global population now lives in cities, and with this figure projected to grow to two-thirds of the global population by 2050 (UN DESA, 2014), subnational actors need to be empowered and equipped to carry forward the 2030 Agenda in a way that is responsive to their context and the realities they face. Local governments within countries are ideally positioned to transform the 2030 Agenda into concrete and efficient action; they can best adapt Goals and targets to particular contexts, communicate and encourage the importance of local action to citizens, and play a crucial role in service delivery.<sup>1</sup>

There is growing recognition by the international community of the importance of engaging the local level in development. In his Synthesis Report on the post-2015 agenda, the United Nations Secretary-General noted that many of the investments to achieve the Goals will take place at the sub-national level and be led by local authorities. A roadmap for localizing the SDGs has been drawn up by the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, UNDP and United Nations Habitat to support cities and regions in their realization of the 2030 Agenda. The New Urban Agenda also recognizes that cities have a key role in enabling development and will help strengthen their role in the implementation of the Goals.

The importance of the local level is particularly relevant in the context of migration, as migration has become increasingly urban. For example, every day an estimated 120,000 people are migrating to cities in the Asia-Pacific region, and by 2050 the proportion of people living in urban areas is likely to rise to 63 per cent (UN ESCAP, 2014). Cities are now at the forefront of migration dynamics around the world. They are the entities that not only strongly influence the well-being and resilience of migrants, but are also influenced by migrants, who themselves can be key players in a city's development, growth, resilience and sustainability.

Without engaging local level government, national government cannot understand, reflect or adequately respond to the country's migration realities. In the context of the SDGs, this means that it is especially important for local level actors to be included in the implementation process. This will require strengthened vertical policy coherence across government levels to ensure that local and regional authorities are empowered by national governments to implement their own strategies. Strengthening vertical policy coherence also enables local government actors to feed their expertise and knowledge up to national government so that national legislation and policies can be more relevant to the realities experienced on the ground.

## **Engaging horizontally**

Migration has complex relationships with different governance sectors. To address these appropriately and work towards sustainable and well-managed migration governance, governments should take a cross-sectoral approach. The implementation of the SDGs requires adequate horizontal policy coherence, which would ideally be achieved by mainstreaming migration across sectors; a process by which migration is integrated into policies in diverse areas by "assessing the implications of migration on any action (or Goals) planned in a development and poverty reduction strategy".<sup>2</sup> Policymakers need to work together, for example, to integrate the health needs of migrants, including sexual and reproductive health, into local and national development strategies, policies and activities. Solidly integrating migration into existing Goal implementation processes at the country level will help achieve this, especially if these processes already take a whole-of-government approach.

## Engaging Stakeholders

All implementation efforts should take a multi-stakeholder approach as far as possible. Inclusivity and multi-stakeholder collaboration are crucial to realizing the SDGs, especially regarding migration. By addressing so many different migration topics, the targets can engage actors beyond the policymaker domain. For example, labour migration targets can bring together central banks and employers, and disaster-related targets can involve migration specialists in disaster risk reduction for the first time. Further, some migration targets combine development approaches and have the potential to involve more development actors. For example, target 8.8 takes a rights-based approach while target 10.C has a growth-focused perspective. Ensuring all steps of the process include different perspectives will help make migration interventions more effective and sustainable.





# The Implementation Process

For the purposes of this guide, the process for implementing the sustainable development goals and targets has been divided into four steps: Kick-off, Prioritization, Implementation, and Monitoring and Reporting. At each step there are suggested activities and possible outputs to complete in collaboration with stakeholders. This guide also includes tools designed to help organize and inform actors as they work through the implementation process. Suggestions for stakeholder participation are highlighted at each step, as well as connections to relevant case study examples.

There is no single approach to implementing Sustainable Development Goals and targets. The process outlined in this guide does not need to be carried out sequentially and not every step will be relevant to each implementation process. Implementing bodies are encouraged to adapt this process to fit their unique context.



**This step involves identifying or establishing an institutional framework to manage the process, and raising awareness by engaging government and non-government stakeholders on migration in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).**



### Stakeholders may be engaged in this step:

- as recipients of and partners in public awareness-raising
- as advocates
- by having an active role in knowledge sharing

## 1 Identifying Stakeholders

Implementing bodies should engage early with diverse stakeholders to gain perspectives on migration priorities and actions. One of the first steps for implementing bodies is to identify a range of stakeholders to include in their implementation.

**Civil Society Organizations** (CSOs), in particular migrant organizations, as well as migrants, including diaspora members, migrants in the local or national area, and representative organizations

These stakeholders will usually be closest to migrant and diaspora communities. Representing a direct voice for migrants, they can be best positioned to put forward the views and interests of certain migrant groups and can act as mediators between these groups and government. Engaging them inclusively and proactively, for example by including migrant women's associations, may enable other individuals to be reached who would otherwise not be represented, thereby helping to empower migrants in the SDG process.

Civil Society Organizations can play a key role in awareness-raising on migration and development. They often have valuable experience in advocacy around migration and development, as well as important outreach and coordination functions that can be tapped. Having valuable front-line experience of migration and development issues means they can share knowledge and insights with practitioners, assisting with technical capacity-building.

Given their close contact with migrants and potential service delivery role, these can assist with prioritization and needs analyses, so they can offer their unique view of migrant needs in specific territories.

As many organizations are also direct service providers, they can play a key role in the implementation of migration interventions as needed. These interventions often provide direct assistance to migrants, particularly at the local level, for example by providing shelter, protection services, or (re)integration assistance.<sup>3</sup> The capabilities of CSOs should thus be evaluated and considered when planning migration interventions. Further, given any service provision functions, CSOs should be considered potential data sources and potential partners when formulating SDG monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

**Local and regional authorities**  
(if not a locally led SDG process)

Local and regional authorities are recognized as ‘first responders to migration’ (New York Declaration). Coordination with and involvement of local and regional authorities will ensure policies are realistic and responsive to real needs at the territorial level. It also ensures local and regional authorities’ buy-in and ownership over implementation of national policies at the local level.

**Private sector**, including businesses and business leaders in the local or national area, and recruitment agencies

Private sector actors can be useful partners, particularly on labour migration issues. Apart from being involved in job creation, the private sector can also be linked to migrant or diaspora entrepreneurship and investment efforts. Larger organizations who may be involved in global labour supply chains are also relevant, particularly in the area of labour rights (e.g. trade unions). Private sector actors can also be useful partners in implementing certain interventions, as some may include SDG-related actions as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. Therefore, private sector partners should be actively included in prioritization and implementation stages of the SDG process. Recruitment agencies should also be engaged regarding labour migration, human trafficking and other topics.

**Academia**, including universities and research centres

These institutions can offer significant thematic and technical expertise across migration topics and can provide guidance on approaches and specific interventions. They can also assist with data collection, analysis and general research.

**Development cooperation partners**, including bilateral and multilateral donors, regional or international cooperation agencies and other bodies

Development cooperation partners are key collaborators that shape intervention funding and implementation; they may be more likely to support SDG-related migration and development interventions if they are engaged early in the process.

Regional and international bodies can also help share lessons learned and practices related to migration and development with other member states, regions or territories, as well as assist in setting any guidelines and promoting capacity-building.



## 2 Deciding on Institutional Set-up

Deciding on an institutional set-up is a necessary first step for all Sustainable Development Goal implementation activity and will determine how the process is carried out. Choosing or identifying an institutional set-up involves considering any existing relevant SDG implementations or development planning processes and how they relate, as well as assessing the capacities of stakeholders who could take a leading role if the processes occur in parallel. Institutional arrangements for migration-SDG implementation will depend on local or national context. This guide refers to the institutional set-up as the ‘implementing body’.

Ideally, any migration-SDGs activity, whether a one-off project or wider mainstreaming exercise, should be linked directly to broader Goal implementation and development planning efforts. Actors must assess and map any existing SDG implementation efforts in the local or national area. Where another SDG process is taking place, actors must evaluate how best to integrate into or coordinate with this process. Further, actors should consider how to relate to any relevant development planning processes, for example annual development planning. It is important to coordinate and cohere with other SDG and development strategies, including those initiated by other government actors or the United Nations.

Given this is the first time migration is so saliently recognized as a global development topic, it is important to ensure migration is integrated with other SDG efforts to set a precedent and improve policy coherence. Ensuring integration can also help increase political buy-in for migration policy and programming, as governments and development cooperation partners are interested in seeing how interventions that relate to migration can contribute towards wider efforts on the Goals of the 2030 Agenda. This might also help to attract additional resources.

For example, United Nations country team (UNCT) countries develop a results framework for development: a UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). In these cases, actors should try to ensure that migration is included as a priority topic in the framework by taking part in relevant consultations. This would enable more United Nations programming to consider migration and could help attract resources and funding.

## MAINSTREAMING, ACCELERATION AND POLICY SUPPORT (MAPS)

Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) was adopted by the United Nations Development Group as a common approach to its support of 2030 Agenda implementation at the country level. The MAPS approach includes the following core components:

- Mainstreaming work to raise public awareness on the 2030 Agenda and to ensure the principles and goals of sustainable development found in the 2030 Agenda are fully integrated into national and subnational policy formulation, planning and budgetary processes.
- Analytical work that informs policymakers of the drivers and bottlenecks to sustainable development at the country level, and that contributes to the design of policy interventions that can accelerate progress towards achieving SDGs nationally by 2030.
- Policy support, in terms of coordinated approaches that will enable the United Nations to deploy technical expertise and advice to Member States in support of SDG implementation in a coherent and integrated way.<sup>4</sup>

National actors should decide how their objectives and activities will relate to MAPS missions in their countries. It would be beneficial to engage proactively with these missions, as forging partnerships in SDG implementation is key and there may be possible synergies across activities. Implementing bodies may consider how to engage with each stage of the mission. Possible ways to do this include ensuring migration is considered when taking stock of the national development agenda and prioritizing policy areas to help ensure that migration priorities are recognized and reflected in resulting country roadmaps (note that where a United Nations Development Assistance Framework already includes migration topics this provides an easy entry point). It could also involve considering migration as a potential accelerator for development,<sup>5</sup> helping develop migration-related interventions, specialized training or capacity-building sessions, or improving disaggregation by migratory status in relevant monitoring frameworks. In doing this, it is a good idea to work with the United Nations country team or directly with the MAPS mission, or the International Organization for Migration when they are included in the MAPS activities.

Integration into SDG implementation and/or development planning cycles may not always be possible. There may not be relevant SDG efforts in place, local or national development planning cycles may not sync up, or for other reasons it may not be realistic or advisable to integrate into these efforts. In these cases, the process may be carried out separately and actors may design a separate institutional set-up. This set-up will depend on factors such as institutional capacities and overall aims of the SDG process. Possible options for the institutional set-up include:

### **One government ministry, institution or body leads the process.**

At the national level, this may be the migration, statistical, national development planning, or other ministry. The ministry with the most responsibilities regarding migration issues could be beneficial as it would bring in higher technical expertise across migration areas, and use existing relationships and its convening power with migration stakeholders to facilitate collaboration. This may, for example, be appropriate if countries have fairly clear ideas of where targeted migration legislation, policy and programming should be strengthened. The national statistical office or ministry leading could be beneficial to ensure strong monitoring and evaluation functions and/or where a known objective is to



build longer-term migration data capacity. The development planning ministry leading would be beneficial if countries wish to focus predominantly on mainstreaming migration across development planning in different sectors. Countries may also choose to have two ministries lead together. This could strengthen the process by adding greater expertise in certain activities and strengthening horizontal coherence. For example, the migration ministry and national statistical office may choose to jointly manage, clearly delineating roles and responsibilities for each activity: the migration ministry leading the prioritization and intervention design process and the national statistical office leading the monitoring and evaluation. At the local level, this may be the local government unit or body responsible in the relevant area. The decision of who will lead at the local level depends on context, including institutional capacity and objectives of the SDG process. Whether this approach is taken at the local or national level, the leading body must take care to engage horizontally with other ministries, agencies and government units throughout the process, both to increase coherence and help boost awareness, engagement and political buy-in.

**A coordinating institution, council or working group leads the process.**

This dedicated body could coordinate activities between relevant government actors, and can be created at both the local and national levels.<sup>6</sup> If at the national level, this body should be inter-agency. In addition to coordination, this body could hold some decision-making power.

**An external organization leads the process through facilitation and coordination.**

One or several organizations, such as the International Organization for Migration or United Nations Development Programme, could facilitate the implementation process on behalf of either local or national government actors. Actors may also choose one of the above set-ups, and consult regularly with an external organization who provides ongoing technical guidance.

Once an institution or body is selected to lead the process, terms of reference should be drafted to formalize its composition, mandate, function and various other details.



## CASE STUDY: GHANA

**Terms of reference** were created by the dedicated migration-SDG body in Ghana and has been included in the case study.

 See full case study → p. 132

Ongoing efforts should be made to remain in line with other SDG processes in the locality or country even if there is a lack of formal integration. To ensure coherence, implementing bodies should set up regular coordinating mechanisms with focal points involved in the other processes, and consider how to coordinate activities during each step and activity. Some ways to align efforts could involve ensuring activities can be explicitly related to local or national development objectives and, as far as possible, aligning certain steps directly, such as by syncing reporting cycles and platforms. Where relevant, actors should also advocate for migration to be integrated in future cycles of the local or national development or SDG planning process.



### CASE STUDY: ARMENIA

#### **Set-up led by the National Statistical Service**

The National Statistical Service adopted a multi-stakeholder approach to the activities, and included many ministries and civil society actors.

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### CASE STUDY: GHANA

#### **Set-up led by an Inter-Agency Technical Working Group**

The working group facilitated a regular mechanism for designated focal points from different ministries to meet. It also built on previous governance processes and working groups established for other migration activities, such as the development of Ghana's national migration profile.

 See full case study → p. 132



### CASE STUDY: ETHIOPIA

#### **Set-up led by a Task Force on Migration and the SDGs**

The task force was chosen as it built on existing migration governance structures: Ethiopia's active interministerial task force on human trafficking. Though finalization of this set-up is ongoing as of June 2018, discussions have focused on how to adapt the task force, expand its remit and cover a wider range of migration and development topics so that it can lead the SDG-migration process. This process was facilitated by providing awareness-raising and capacity-building on migration and the SDGs to members of the task force.

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### 3 Awareness-raising

Awareness-raising regarding how migration is reflected in the 2030 Agenda and how migration and development affect one another is critical to successful implementation. As the inclusion of migration in the global development agenda is a new precedent, it is especially important to build an understanding of the links between migration and development so they are understood during public and political discourse. Awareness-raising is a valuable opportunity to kick-start multi-stakeholder engagement on the Sustainable Development Goals. Implementing the 2030 Agenda requires broad collaboration and inclusive dialogue, and may entail new partnerships across government, including policymakers from different sectors who may not be traditionally involved in migration, and partnerships with civil society, the private sector, academia and the public.

Awareness-raising involves horizontal and vertical engagement with different levels and sectors of government, civil society, academia and others, and sharing information tailored to stakeholders' roles and responsibilities. This should include initial activities at the start of SDG implementation, as well as some activities throughout, for example awareness-raising may be part of technical capacity-building during implementation. Note that it may be necessary to do some awareness-raising activities with selected stakeholders even before the institutional set-up is determined. Integrating with other relevant local, regional or national SDG public awareness-raising activities is recommended.

The objective of awareness-raising is to improve public and practitioner understanding and promote broad ownership of the 2030 Agenda in relation to migration.

#### **Awareness-raising for practitioners**

The objective of awareness-raising for practitioners is to sensitize policymakers on the implications of migration in the 2030 Agenda. Implementing bodies should consider who their primary target audience is. As stakeholders will have varying levels of understanding of and experience related to migration and development, implementing bodies should determine what activities would best fit the context and outline an appropriate sequence. If this process is being undertaken as part of a wider SDG implementation process, awareness-raising will need to include stakeholders from the leading body. There should also be some awareness-raising activities directed towards policymakers outside of traditional migration domains in other development sectors; the objective being to explain why migration is relevant to their particular sector and introduce them to the rationale and process of migration mainstreaming. If not already engaged in the process, the National Statistical Office should also be included, as they are responsible for SDG monitoring and reporting.

Strong practitioner understanding of the migration-SDG links is key to developing political commitment. Activities for practitioners should include a strong knowledge sharing component regarding good practices and lessons learned from other migration and development projects.

## Awareness-raising for the public

The objective of awareness-raising for the public is to introduce migration in the context of the SDGs, and to build overall understanding of migration and development linkages and why they are relevant. Actors should design strategies to fit their context and audience, targeting audiences and using corresponding communications and media platforms as appropriate. Local and national media should be engaged in these efforts and could receive training to help strengthen informed media coverage on migration in the SDGs, and then would be able to support and contribute to public awareness-raising efforts. National government may have a broader communications reach, better access to traditional media outlets and more resources available. Local government may be well positioned to raise awareness about the relevance of migration and the SDGs to local communities and can encourage involvement of local civil society and community-based organizations.

Public awareness-raising activities should be inclusive and ensure that perspectives and participation from people of all cultures, genders and origins are included, such as women, youth, refugees and minorities. Tailored communications approaches may be needed to ensure relevant messages reach specific groups. For example, efforts should be made to include diaspora in awareness-raising activities and therefore communications planning should consider how to effectively identify and reach communities residing in other countries.

## Sample Awareness-raising Activities

### Briefings and sessions

Organizing thematic briefings on migration and the 2030 Agenda with representatives from various ministries at different levels, civil society, the private sector, and others. These can be on a one-on-one basis or in a group meeting. For example:

- Holding technical sessions specific to different governance and development sectors. These could be on considering how migration affects outcomes in this sector and vice versa, with a view to help design, develop and implement migration-sensitive sectoral policies that support the achievement of other development and sectoral policy objectives.
- Holding briefings with SDG focal points or champions to build awareness and strengthen technical understanding around migration aspects of the 2030 Agenda.
- Engaging with different United Nations bodies in the area to identify how migration can be incorporated in their activities. This may involve integrating specialized training sessions on migration and development into their capacity-building activities.
- Holding annual or biannual sessions on good practices and lessons learned regarding migration and development projects in different localities or countries.



<b>Print and electronic materials</b>	Disseminating thematic print and electronic materials on migration and the 2030 Agenda and the local, regional or national migration context to relevant audiences.
<b>Traditional media</b>	Reaching out to the public using traditional media, publicizing SDG implementation efforts through articles and press briefings.
<b>Social media</b>	Communicating information about migration and the SDGs directly to the public using social media platforms such as Twitter or Facebook.
<b>Civil society organizations</b>	Collaborating with relevant civil society organizations to use their outreach capacity to help disseminate communications, especially those working on migration issues, including diaspora organizations.
<b>Cultural events</b>	Leveraging culture to share information and raise awareness through activities such as local fairs, concerts, bike rides and radio sessions, taking care to include activities popular with certain migrant and diaspora groups, as well as to conduct these in local languages where this is relevant.
<b>Informal education</b>	Using informal education to reach young people, through youth groups or conferences.
<b>Media training</b>	Conducting media trainings to introduce migration in the SDGs to journalists and others working in media, and sensitize these as to the importance of particular migration and development linkages.

## CASE STUDY: ETHIOPIA

### **Training sessions**

As a first step in the project, a joint awareness-raising and capacity-building training was organized for government stakeholders from different ministries and was carried out in close collaboration with the National Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Taskforce Secretariat under the Attorney General's Office. The objectives of the training were to introduce stakeholders to migration in the SDGs, sensitize them on the concept of migration mainstreaming, and build their capacity to design concrete ways to do this.

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## CASE STUDY: GHANA

### **Capacity-building workshop**

Over two days, a series of presentations and group exercises took place on thematic topics as well as operational guidance. This introduced concepts of migration and development, and discussed the linkages between migration and certain sectors, such as health, education, employment, labour rights, agriculture and others. The workshop also included the involvement of national stakeholders.

 See full case study → p. 140



## Migration

### EC-UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI)

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2010 Raising Awareness. In *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A handbook for policy-makers and practitioners*. GMG, n.p.

2017 Guidance Note on how to integrate human mobility into United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs). GMG/IOM, Geneva.

### International Organization for Migration (IOM)

2013 *Migration and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda*. IOM, Geneva. Available from [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migration\\_and\\_the\\_un\\_post2015\\_agenda.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migration_and_the_un_post2015_agenda.pdf).

2017 *Global Compact Thematic Papers*. IOM, Geneva.  
Available from [www.iom.int/iom-thematic-papers](http://www.iom.int/iom-thematic-papers).

2017 *No. 26 International Dialogue on Migration: Follow-up and Review of Migration in the Sustainable Development Goals*. IOM, Geneva. Available from [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/rb26\\_en.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/rb26_en.pdf).

### Migration for Development

n.d. M4D Community online Knowledge Exchange, E-Discussions and more.  
Available from [www.migration4development.org/en/M4D/community](http://www.migration4development.org/en/M4D/community).

## General

### International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

n.d. The SDG Knowledge Hub (website). Available from <http://sdg.iisd.org>.

### Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

n.d. Getting to know the SDGs. In *Getting Started with the Sustainable Development Goals: A guide for stakeholders*. Available from <https://sdg.guide>.

### United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

n.d. The Sustainable Development Goals: What local governments need to know (website). Available from [www.sdgs.uclg.org](http://www.sdgs.uclg.org).

### United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

2017 *Institutional and Coordination Mechanisms: Guidance Note on Facilitating Integration and Coherence for SDG Implementation*. UNDP, Geneva.

2017 Awareness Raising: Getting to Know the SDGs at Subnational Level. In *Roadmap for Localizing the SDGs*. UNDP, Geneva. Available from [www.uclg.org/sites/default/files/roadmap\\_for\\_localizing\\_the\\_sdgs\\_0.pdf](http://www.uclg.org/sites/default/files/roadmap_for_localizing_the_sdgs_0.pdf)

n.d. Raising Awareness. Localizing the SDGs (website). Available from [www.localizingthesdgs.org/library/tools/raising-awareness](http://www.localizingthesdgs.org/library/tools/raising-awareness).

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### United Nations Development Group (UNDG)

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2015 Section B1: Building Awareness. *Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Reference Guide to UN Country Teams*. UNDG, New York.



**This step involves selecting Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets to address in a migration context, and can also involve adapting targets from their global formulations to better fit context.**



**Stakeholders should be engaged in this step through active consultation.**



There is a very wide range of SDG targets related to migration, spanning many different topics across sectors. These cannot all be tackled at the same time and not all will be relevant. Each local area or country has a migration context that makes certain targets more important than others. The aim, therefore, is to prioritize SDG targets that relate to key relevant migration and development topics and objectives, to facilitate progress in the issues that matter most to a local area or country.

This step can be undertaken by organizing multi-stakeholder consultations. These will help identify and assess migration and development objectives in the context of the 2030 Agenda in order to prioritize and, in some cases, adapt SDG targets.

## 1 Prioritizing Sustainable Development Goals and targets

Implementing bodies should decide on a number of targets to address. A realistic number of targets should be selected, given the actors' capacity and resources and overall scope of SDG activity. Consultations can be held to:

- Assess the area or country's migration situation in the context of the 2030 Agenda
- Choose a selection of migration-related SDG targets to address.

Implementing bodies must consider how to structure consultations most efficiently. Implementing bodies can choose to organize one or several consultations, depending on the context and needs. For example, individual consultations may be held in different regions of a country. If several consultations are held, care must be taken to synthesize discussions and outputs inclusively.

To ensure the prioritization exercise is successful, it is crucial that the views of diverse stakeholder groups are included. This will help develop more

comprehensive and robust prioritization outcomes, as well as help build broad ownership of the SDG process as a whole. Consultations should be vertically and horizontally inclusive, involving different ministries and levels of government, and should take care to include those involved in existing local or national development plans. Representatives from the relevant statistical agency should be included so they can comment on the monitoring potential of certain topics. Sessions should also include non-State actors, including civil society organizations such as migrant groups. If it is not possible to involve all directly in consultation sessions, input from selected stakeholders may be sought through interviews or written statements.

Consultations should discuss migration and development objectives for the area or country, and prioritize targets based on these objectives.



## CASE STUDY: ARMENIA

The Armenian Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia held a workshop in November 2016 to discuss which SDG targets should be prioritized. This was done through discussions with participants from government, civil society, academia and more. Stakeholders critically examined SDG targets in relation to migration and development issues in Armenia. A list of priority targets were identified.

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## Prioritization Tools

A variety of tools are available to help in the prioritization process. Often individual tools do not provide comprehensive guidance, so it is best to use several tools together.

- **Tool: Prioritization Discussion Guide** can be used to help guide discussions during consultations.
- **Tool: Prioritization Principles** can be used to think strategically when choosing targets.
- **Comprehensive SDG Target and Migration Correlation** lists every Goal and selected targets and provides migration relevance. Actors may use this list to prioritize targets directly, and/or choose targets based on relevancy.
- **Section 1** of this guide provides direct and cross-cutting connections between the SDGs and targets and migration organized by theme.
- **Various United Nations tools**, including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) tools identified in this section, United Nations Development Programme's Rapid Integrated Assessment (UNDP, 2017, RIA p. 86) and SDG Accelerator and Bottleneck Assessment (ABA), all of which can help pinpoint migration and development areas for focus.



## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION'S TOOLS

**MiGOF:** Implementing bodies can use IOM's Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF) to help assess what migration issues need to be prioritized (IOM, 2015). Because the MiGOF covers essential elements of migration management, governments can use it to identify and prioritize areas needing improvement. Implementing bodies may consult the MiGOF to help conceptualize priority areas, and/or if target 10.7 is prioritized, it can be used to discuss which elements of this target are most important locally or nationally.

**MGI:** If an assessment using IOM's Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) has been carried out, it can also be used as a diagnostic tool to help choose targets. Developed with the Economist Intelligence Unit, the MGI is a tool for countries to assess their migration governance in relation to target 10.7, to track progress on adoption of "well-managed migration policies" and advance conversations on migration governance. The MGI uses over 90 qualitative questions to measure government performance across six domains:

- Adherence to international standards and fulfillment of migrants' rights, a whole of government approach to migration policies
- Engagement with partners to address migration-related issues
- Advancement of the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society
- Effective action on the mobility dimensions of crises
- Assurance that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner

This tool functions as a policy-benchmarking framework to help governments evaluate their migration policy and set priorities. The framework is based on policy inputs, offering insights on policy levers that countries can use to strengthen migration governance (note that it is not intended to measure outcomes related to migration policies and institutions). The framework can assist countries to comprehensively evaluate their migration governance and identify areas that could potentially be improved. The MGI has been carried out in almost 40 countries and will extend to more.

Both the MiGOF and MGI are especially relevant for national-level implementing bodies. Where there is a recent migration profile on a country, this can also inform discussion on prioritizing targets. Sections of migration profiles that explore the impact of migration in the country across certain development areas, such as health and the environment, may be especially helpful when identifying priority areas.

**MCOF:** For implementing bodies concerned with migration crises, IOM's Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) may be of use.<sup>7</sup> Migration crises in this context include any disaster or emergency situations, and may be sudden or slow in onset, can have natural or man-made causes, and can take place internally or across borders. This analytical and planning framework is used to support governments to better prepare for, respond to and recover from migration crises, and contributes to the MiGOF's objectives of good migration governance. Implementing bodies can use the MCOF to help them formulate interventions for target 10.7 and other SDG targets, if they are seeking to address the mobility dimensions of a crisis.

## Goal or Thematic Perspective

Implementing bodies may wish to consider their priorities either from a Goal or thematic perspective. A Goal perspective entails selecting relevant Sustainable Development Goals and directly choosing targets from them, and a thematic perspective entails considering different migration topics first, and then finding relevant targets. If, for example, the scope of a standalone project is targeted on a specific area such as migrant children, this topic can be taken as a starting point and relevant targets found under various Goals (thematic perspective). If a wider mainstreaming programme is taking place on Goal 3 Good Health and Well-being, targets under this Goal could be identified such as target 3.8 on universal health coverage (Goal perspective). As seen in Section 1, it is important to be aware that Goals and targets often intersect. Actors can choose either approach or combine them, depending on their context and interests in migration and development, and so it is recommended that actors cross-check other Goals for relevant targets.

## Coordination, Review and Approval

If this process is taking place independently of other SDG processes, implementing bodies should coordinate with these other processes to ensure coherence, both in the way targets are selected and which targets are ultimately chosen. The list of prioritized migration-related targets should be discussed with other implementing bodies to ensure coherence with their SDG objectives and focus areas. Care must be taken also to coordinate with any sector-specific SDG processes, for example within health or education ministries.

Whichever approach is taken, the final list of prioritized targets should be approved by all involved. Implementing bodies could synthesize consultation discussions or written responses to put together a list of proposed prioritized targets, and these could be circulated to all relevant stakeholders for final approval. Alternatively, a validation workshop could be held to do this. Following approval from all involved, a list of final prioritized targets and all outputs and discussions should be synthesized into a document and made publicly available.



## 2 Adapting SDG Targets

Implementing bodies may choose to adapt prioritized targets. This involves developing local or national formulations of the targets to make these more reflective of context. Note that this is not a mandatory step, as specific aims that implementing bodies have within targets can be reflected in the indicators (see Monitoring and Reporting section).

Adaption of the targets may be done under the following circumstances.

- A target reflects an important migration and development topic to an area or country, but its aim is not directly applicable. For example, countries may already have remittance transfer costs under 3 per cent, thereby meeting target 10.C, but still wish to focus on a different aspect of remittances, such as increasing their use for development. Therefore, the implementing body may choose and adapt target 10.C to reflect this aim.
- A target reflects a broad aim and government has a more specific aim. For example, implementing bodies may prioritize target 10.7 and adapt it to reflect aspects of migration governance of priority, such as strengthening asylum processes or improving integration. Implementing bodies may also prioritize targets 8.7 or 16.2 on trafficking and adapt them to highlight a relevant type of trafficking, such as labour trafficking in a particular industry.
- The implementing body wishes to add interim targets to make gradual progress in certain areas before 2030. This may be more suited to quantitative targets. For example, an implementing body prioritizes target 10.C and creates interim targets reflecting aims to reduce remittance costs to 9 per cent by 2020, 6 per cent by 2025 and 3 per cent by 2030.

Implementing bodies may choose to adapt only some of their prioritized targets and keep others as written. Where targets are adapted, they should reflect changes necessary while remaining as close as possible to the global formulation. Any adaption of targets should be undertaken under the same multi-stakeholder processes as prioritization, and final versions of the targets should undergo the same review and approval process.



## Part one: Migration Context Discussion

To discuss which migration and development topics are most important to the local/national context. Discussion questions may include:

- What are key migration and development issues to tackle locally/nationally and why? How do these issues relate to migration and development issues at the local/national (or other) level?
- What are key challenges related to migration and development locally/nationally?
- What are key opportunities related to migration and development locally/nationally?
- What are possible emerging issues for migration and development in the time up to 2030 locally/nationally? What major issues could arise in the next five years? What about the five years after that? How do these issues relate to migration and development issues at the local/national (or other) level?

## Part two: Prioritization Discussion

To discuss which agreed number of SDG targets to prioritize, based on the previous discussion. Consultation participants can discuss and choose targets from all possible ones. This approach could be taken if more than one session is planned, as it may be complex to undertake in one session. Given there is such a wide range of migration-related Goals and targets, to streamline the process participants could be given a shortlist of targets to discuss in sessions, pre-selected by the implementing body. Alternatively, implementing bodies could ask participants to provide written inputs on proposed targets before the sessions for discussion. This could be useful when engaging with civil society organizations. Each organization could be asked to submit one written input on which targets they think are most important.

Discussion questions for each target may include:

- Why should this be prioritized?
- How is this applicable to local/national migration and development issues?
- What migration and development sub-issues for local/national attention are under this?
- If target 10.7 is considered, which areas are the most important to address locally/nationally?
  - Institutional capacity
  - Migrant rights
  - Safe and orderly migration
  - Labour migration management
  - Regional and international cooperation and other partnerships
- How might migration and development issues relating to this target change before 2030 locally/nationally?
- What are the main challenges in addressing this locally/nationally?
- What extra resources are needed to address this locally/nationally?
- How does this target link to local/national/other relevant development plans?
- Are there any local or national migration and development issues that should be addressed, that are not reflected in the chosen targets? What could be ways to include them?





### **Applicability**

Identifying SDG targets that are of particular relevance to a local or national context, taking into account its migration and development situation and objectives, and identifying sub-issues of particular interest within them.

### **Linkages**

Explicitly linking targets to relevant local and national plans and strategies, ensuring objectives in these targets are considered, and mapping to them where possible. This also includes linking to relevant United Nations frameworks that are already aligned to national priorities, such as United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. Linking the prioritization exercise to relevant development plans is key as it can help boost buy-in among stakeholders, help strengthen outcomes of local/national development objectives and overall help work towards policy coherence. Consideration could also be given to linking with relevant actions in the Global Compact for Migration that will be prioritized.

### **Impact**

Recognizing where progress in a particular migration and development topic holds a significant and necessary challenge for the country at local or national levels, and where attention would have a large impact. It is necessary to consider the potential synergies and trade-offs between selected targets and other targets, whether they are linked to migration or not. As explored above, integrating migration into implementation of certain targets can yield positive knock-on effects in other areas; these effects and any potential trade-offs should be identified and considered.

### **Future Consideration**

Taking a forward-thinking perspective to consider and address the area or country's possible migration and development needs and scenarios over the years until 2030. Doing this helps ensure that possible emerging objectives can be identified and prioritized.

### **Constraint Recognition**

Identifying and considering any challenges or constraints that could affect intervention success, and to realistically consider the ability to meet targets.



## Migration

### International Organization for Migration (IOM)

- 2015 Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF). IOM, Geneva.
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- n.d. Migration & 2030 Agenda: Armenia Project Report. Internal document, IOM, Geneva.

### International Organization for Migration and Global Forum on Migration Development (GFMD)

- n.d. Migration Profiles Repositories. Available from [www.gfmd.org/pfp/policy-tools/migration-profiles/repository](http://www.gfmd.org/pfp/policy-tools/migration-profiles/repository).

### Global Migration Group (GMG)

- 2010 Situation analysis and assessment and How to identify strategic goals and priorities. In *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A handbook for policy-makers and practitioners*. GMG, n.p.

## General

### Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

- 2017 *SDG Index and Dashboards 2017 Report*. SDSN, n.p. Available from [www.sdgindex.org](http://www.sdgindex.org).

### United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- 2016 Conducting a needs assessment to define priorities and localize the SDGs. In *Roadmap for Localizing the SDGs: Implementation and Monitoring at Subnational Level*. UNDP, New York.
- 2017 *Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) Tool to facilitate mainstreaming of SDGs into national and local plans*. UNDP, New York.
- 2017 *SDG Accelerator and Bottleneck Assessment*. UNDP, New York.
- 2017 Section B3: Adapting SDGs to National, Sub-national and Local Contexts. In *Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Reference Guide to UN Country Teams*. UNDG, New York.



**This step involves translating migration and development priorities into concrete interventions.**



**Stakeholders may be engaged in this step by:**

- Actively participating in consultation and planning
- Implementing role in interventions where relevant
- Mobilizing resources

The implementation step is significant because it is when tangible activities can be designed and implemented to further migration and development objectives under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with the overall aim to improve migration governance and ultimately contribute to sustainable development. It is best that this exercise is carried out as part of wider SDG implementation and/or development planning efforts. In these cases, the steps taken to choose, design and implement migration interventions may follow those of the other efforts and this section may be used as additional guidance.

Actors should engage with all relevant stakeholders, including as far as possible civil society organizations and migrants in finalizing the design and implementing interventions. Actors should also keep in mind that in many cases, for example in migration mainstreaming exercises across ministries, strong political support will be needed to push forward the implementation process. Transparency and wide consultation, as well as ongoing awareness-raising, capacity-building and knowledge sharing may help towards this. Capacity-building and knowledge sharing are key ongoing steps to help build an inclusive and proactive culture of continuous learning around migration and the SDGs.

The guidance here is applicable for policymakers focusing on taking action around SDG targets that explicitly reference migration, as well as targets where migration is a cross-cutting theme. Those focusing on the latter type of targets, where migration will be mainstreamed into different sectors, would benefit from further specialized advice on designing interventions in their particular area. Guidance in this section will help policymakers navigate the process of these interventions, i.e. how to mainstream migration into a particular sector. When looking at designing specific interventions, actors can also consult other resources, such as the *Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development* by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the *Handbook on Migration Mainstreaming* by the Global Migration Group, which includes a compilation of programmes and activities across sectors, and other resources referenced at the end of this section.



## 1 Choosing Approach and Interventions

Actors must determine what interventions are most effective and appropriate in the context of the targets they are prioritizing. A number of different interventions could be taken forward in different contexts: at a policy level or at a programmatic level, or a combination of both.

Conducting a review of existing relevant structures and mechanisms may be a useful exercise to start developing ideas on what interventions would be best. This involves assessing institutions, strategies, legislation, policy frameworks, plans and projects that are relevant to migration and development against prioritized SDG targets. This will help to map and review potential synergies and trade-offs between migration-related interventions, help identify any incoherence, which could be horizontal (within policy areas) or vertical (between levels of governance), and help ensure there is no duplication of effort.

### TOOLS FOR REVIEWING FRAMEWORKS

**The MGI:** This tool is for national level actors. If a Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) assessment has taken place for the country, policymakers can use this tool to strengthen policy coherence across migration governance domains. As the framework is based on policy inputs, the assessment can help governments diagnose where there may be gaps in the way they formulate their national migration governance.

**Policy coherence indicator tools:** Tools have been developed that use specialized indicators as a diagnostic tool for policy coherence. For example, the UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative's *Guidelines on Mainstreaming Migration into Local Development Planning* can be used as a tool for governments to identify institutional, policy and intervention gaps or weaknesses in their migration governance. Indicators are offered across issues such as migrant rights, inclusive education, inclusive employment, inclusive health care that focus

on the processes and structures needed to promote policy coherence. These indicators have accompanying questions that practitioners can answer to identify any specific incoherence, helping them design ways to amend them. This tool is tailored to the 2030 Agenda; indicators are linked to SDG targets and implementing bodies can consult the ones they wish to focus on depending on the targets they have prioritized. Although the tool is designed for subnational-level actors, national actors may also use this by adapting indicator questions slightly.

**United Nations Development Programme's Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA):** Where a wider mainstreaming exercise is taking place, RIA can be used to help review readiness regarding SDG implementation in certain areas. Specifically, it can help actors map out existing relevant migration and development frameworks, with a view to identifying gaps that new interventions can help address.

Consultations or meetings can be held to discuss all of the chosen targets (and indicators if these have been established) and brainstorm ways to progress them given existing policies, legislation and other frameworks. Alternatively, sessions could be held for each target. These sessions should include all actors directly involved in formulating or reporting the indicators for that target, as well as those from other areas indirectly related, such as from other ministries, to help ensure policy coherence.

The number, nature and format of these sessions will depend on context, including factors such as timeframes, resources and capacity. Discussions should include the definition of target beneficiaries of interventions, identification of stakeholders relevant to implementation (including governmental and non-governmental actors), discussion of resources needed, and possible ways to increase these if needed. There should also be an assessment of existing technical capacity to carry out interventions; some capacity-building may need to be undertaken. Where interim targets have been set, actors should consider how to meet them given their timeframes.

Implementing bodies may also wish to consult with IOM or other organizations on potential interventions. Organizations can have significant experience in various SDG target areas and can help propose interventions tailored to local or national context that are policy- or programme-based. Past examples of migration mainstreaming projects can also be consulted, for example, the UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative's Success Stories highlights some of these and links them to the 2030 Agenda.<sup>8</sup>

## Examples of possible interventions

### Implementing a new policy and/or legislation

Governments may wish to implement a new policy and/or legislation as a way to address the migration-related Goals and targets they have prioritized. This can be an effective way to bring about a transformative change across one or multiple targets. For example, in Ecuador the government implemented a human mobility law in 2017. This piece of legislation makes a direct contribution to SDG 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"). Other possible interventions under this category could include developing and implementing specific plans and policies at the national and/or local level that connect development agendas to migration. For example, in Jamaica a National Policy on Migration and Development was finalized in 2017 to provide a framework for integrating international migration into developing planning.

### Mainstreaming migration into other policies, strategies and/or legislation

A policy coherence approach that considers how other policies in areas such as labour, housing, health or agriculture affect and are affected by migration can be applied by mainstreaming migration into other policies. For example, a government may integrate migration into its labour and education strategy and policies, factoring migration dynamics and migrants' skills into labour market forecasts and planning of national demand and supply of skills.

### **Mainstreaming migration into development programming**

There may be development programming that has not necessarily been designed with migration in mind, but where it could be beneficial to incorporate migration objectives. This could be relevant to development programming in any sector. The aim here would be to understand whether migration issues are relevant to that programme and how the programme could be adapted to address them. The scale of this type of intervention will vary. The migration-SDG exercise as a whole could already be considered part of this.

### **Designing and implementing migration programming**

For some SDGs/targets designing and implementing migration programming will be appropriate. For example, if a government decides to take action on target 8.8 (“Protecting labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment”) they may decide that a specific programme that promotes ethical recruitment will contribute towards progress on this target.

### **Adopting rights-based approaches**

Actors can use human rights-based approaches to address various SDG-migration linkages. For example, to further certain prioritized targets, governments may choose to strengthen migrant access to justice, improve access to basic services for urban internally displaced people, provide assistance in protracted refugee crises, uphold internationally set labour rights, or address various issues around child migrants, using rights-based approaches.

### **Technical capacity-building and knowledge sharing**

These are necessary interventions to build an inclusive and proactive culture of continuous learning around migration and the SDGs. They should be continuous and take place at all levels of government. Specific capacity-building activities might involve a workshop series on the SDG implementation process or specific training on migration and development. For example, the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization delivers training on mainstreaming migration into both national and local policy planning processes. Knowledge sharing activities might include peer-to-peer learning or online knowledge management platforms such as the Migration for Development portal ([www.migration4development.org](http://www.migration4development.org)).



## CASE STUDY: ECUADOR

In this migration mainstreaming implementation, actors designed and implemented various policies and programmes relating to migration and development in the region, through mainstreaming migration into different government units' planning. For example, units within the Provincial Government, including Food Sovereignty, Health Services, Domestic Violence and Disability and others, started including migrants and displaced persons as their beneficiaries.

 See full case study → p. 137

## 2 Mobilizing Resources

Sources of funding may need to be identified for interventions. If this is taking place under a wider SDG implementation process, implementing bodies should follow whichever resource mobilization strategies this entails. If not, or in addition to this, a resource mobilization plan can be drafted to show which proposed interventions require additional resources, and strategies for approaching development cooperation partners and other funding sources. This could be especially useful if many interventions are planned and/or substantial new resources would be required.

Care should be taken to budget not only for the immediate intervention, but for any supporting activities as well. For example, mainstreaming migration across legislative frameworks in different sectors may require significant capacity-building across some ministries or departments.

When considering how to mobilize resources, government actors may hold bilateral meetings and group consultations with development cooperation partners and other potential partners to explore funding options. These sessions should also include relevant government agencies and any other actors who may be involved in implementation. They should discuss government actors' objectives and funding gaps, and funding partners' interests in particular areas. Possible funding sources include:

- Existing local and national strategies and sources of funding for development activities
- Other SDG-related funds (e.g. the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda available for United Nations country teams)
- Migration specific funds from development cooperation partners and multilaterals
- Innovative migration-related sources of finance, for example, remittances, especially to help achieve projects at a local level and other diaspora contributions that could help fund any interventions, including through any dedicated foundations or private sector initiatives

### 3 Develop and Implement Action Plan

Government actors should finalize details of intervention planning and adopt these plans formally. If this is taking place as part of wider SDG implementation, they should follow whichever formalized planning processes this entails. If not, or in addition to if they choose, they should draft a working Migration-SDG Action Plan. This will summarize prioritized SDG targets, interventions towards addressing them and provide more detail on their design and implementation. See Implementation Tool: Action Plan Criteria.

The plan should undergo review before adoption. If taking place at the national level, the plan can be discussed at an interministerial workshop. If taking place at the local level, the plan can be discussed at multi-stakeholder local workshops. Ideally, the review process will include representatives from civil society, academia, international agencies and others. Such workshops should aim to validate and approve the plan by discussing interventions identified, confirming they relate effectively to the SDG targets and the local or national context, reviewing actions required, timeframes, stakeholder involvement, budget and other details. The implementing body should finalize the plan as per any input from all review processes before adopting the plan.

It is advisable to maintain the plan as a living document. This is to account for updates or potential changes in SDG-migration interventions, and also to allow for more SDG-migration interventions to be designed and added before 2030.





LOCAL OR NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	SDG TARGETS ADDRESSED
..... 	..... 
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

## Interventions

A list of interventions to address these targets. For each include:

- A description of the intervention, type of policy process, legislative change, programmes or projects.
- The rationale behind this intervention
- Roles and tasks of implementing actors at each stage of the intervention (including the relationship and coordination between them)
- Timeframe
- Expected outcomes and outputs
- Any supporting activities, such as training, capacity-building or advocacy
- Resources required for the intervention and description of funding arrangements
- How monitoring and evaluation will take place (This will be informed by indicators and monitoring and reporting mechanisms as established in Monitoring and Reporting.)

*Note:* Where interim targets have been set, timeframes of activities and expected results must reflect how to achieve them.



## Migration

### Alliance 8.7

n.d. Alliance 8.7 website. Available from [www.alliance87.org](http://www.alliance87.org).

### Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC)

n.d. CTDC website. Available from [www.ctdatacollaborative.org](http://www.ctdatacollaborative.org).

### European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) and International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

2013 *Migration and Development Policies and Practices: A mapping study of eleven European countries and the European Commission.* ECDPM/ICMPD, n.p.

### Foresti, M. and J. Hagen-Zanker

2017 *Migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.* Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London.

### Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA)

2016 *The Sustainable Development Goals and Migrants/Migration: Regarding the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.* GMPA, n.p.

### Hong, A. and A. Knoll

2016 *Strengthening the Migration-Development Nexus through Improved Policy and Institutional Coherence.* Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD), n.p.

### International Organization for Migration (IOM)

2011 *Labour migration from Colombo Process countries: Good practices, challenges and ways forward.* IOM, Geneva.

2014 *Handbook to develop projects on remittances: Good practices to maximize the impact of remittances on development.* IOM, Geneva.

n.d. *The Essentials of Migration Management.* IOM, Geneva. (Updated version forthcoming.)

### International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Global Migration Group (GMG)

2010 *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A handbook for policy-makers and practitioners.* IOM/GMG, Geneva.

### International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Migration Policy Institute (MPI)

2011 *Developing a Road Map for Engaging Diasporas in Development: A handbook for policymakers and practitioners in home and host countries.* IOM/MPI, Geneva.



## **International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI)**

- n.d. *Comment intégrer la migration dans la planification locale? Guide Méthodologique: A l'attention des collectivités territoriales Marocaines.* IOM/JMIDI, Maroc.
- 2015 *White Paper: Mainstreaming migration into local development planning and beyond.* IOM/JMIDI, n.p.

## **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

- n.d. *Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development.* OECD, Paris.

## **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

- n.d. *Promoting Development Approaches to Migration and Displacement: Five UNDP Specific Focus Areas.* UNDP, New York.
- 2015 *Guidance Note: A Development Approach to Migration and Displacement.* UNDP, New York.
- 2017 *Municipalities and People on the Move: Cities' Development Policies for Successful Local Management of Migration and Displacement.* UNDP, New York.

## **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

- 2016 *Cities Welcoming Refugees and Migrants Enhancing effective urban governance in an age of migration.* UNESCO, France.

## **United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI)**

- n.d. My JMIDI Toolbox. Available from [www.migration4development.org/en/resources/toolbox/training](http://www.migration4development.org/en/resources/toolbox/training).
- n.d. *Guidelines on Integrating Migration into Decentralised Cooperation.* JMIDI, Brussels.
- n.d. *Migration for Development: A Bottom-Up Approach.* JMIDI, Brussels.
- 2012 *Mapping Local Authorities' Practices in the Area of Migration and Development.* JMIDI, Brussels.
- 2015 *The Local Agenda on Migration and Development: The Second Mayoral Forum on Mobility, Migration and Development Quito Outcome Document.* JMIDI, Brussels.
- 2016 *Migrants' Integration as a Pre-requisite for Development: The Role of Cities.* JMIDI, Brussels.
- 2016 *Summid Calabarzon: The LGU's Guide to Mainstreaming International Migration and Development in Local Development Planning and Governance.* JMIDI, Philippines.
- 2016 *Mainstreaming Migration and Development in Local Governance: A Local Governance Approach and Experiences from Region 4A-Calabarzon.* JMIDI, Philippines.
- 2017 *Success Stories: A collection of good practices and lessons learnt by local actors harnessing the development potential of migration.* JMIDI, Brussels.
- 2017 *Policy Brief: Policy Coherence in Migration and Development at the Local Level.* JMIDI, Berlin.

## **World Health Organization (WHO)**

- 2010 *WHO Global Code of Practice of the International Recruitment of Health Personnel: Sixty-third World Health Assembly.* WHO, Geneva.

## General

### **Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, UN Habitat and UN Development Programme (UNDP)**

n.d.                      *Toolbox for Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals. Localizing the SDGs* (website). Available from <http://localizingthesdgs.org>.

### **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

2016                      *Better Policies for Sustainable Development 2016: A New Framework for Policy Coherence*. OECD, Paris.

### **United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)**

2015                      *The Sustainable Development Goals: What local governments need to know*. UCLG, Barcelona.

### **United Nations Development Group (UNDG)**

2016                      *Building Awareness, Creating Horizontal Policy Coherence and Creating Vertical Policy Coherence*. In *Mainstreaming 2030 Agenda*. UNDG, Geneva. Available from <https://undg.org/2030-agenda/mainstreaming-2030-agenda>.

### **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

n.d.                      *Development Finance Assessment and Integrated Financing Solutions: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Era of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda*. UNDP, Bangkok.

2017                      *Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA): Tool to facilitate mainstreaming of SDGs into national and local plans*. UNDP, New York.

### **United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)**

2015                      *Module 6, slides 55-60 and 64*. In *UNITAR-UN Development Group Briefing Kit for SDGs*. UNITAR, Geneva. Available from <http://cifal-flanders.org/new-unitar-un-development-group-briefing-kit-for-sdgs>.

### **United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC)**

2017                      *Foundational Course on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (online course). UNSSC. Available from [www.localizingthesdgs.org/library/view/270](http://www.localizingthesdgs.org/library/view/270).

### **United Nations Women**

2018                      *Chapters 5, 6*. In *Turning promises into action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 2018*. UN Women, Geneva.

### **Universiteit Leiden**

n.d.                      *SDG Initiative online courses*. Available from [www.sdginitiative.org](http://www.sdginitiative.org).

**This step includes collecting, monitoring, reporting and analysing data relating to migration and the SDGs. It provides advice on how implementing bodies can take steps towards improving the overall quality of migration data.**



**Stakeholders may be engaged in this step by:**

- Consultation as a potential data source
- Assistance in capacity-building

### Understanding Monitoring and Reporting

Monitoring of some kind is a necessary component of any activity relating to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Whether implementing bodies are carrying out one small-scale SDG-migration project or a whole-of-government migration mainstreaming exercise across ministries, they need to monitor progress towards SDG targets and report at the local, national and/or global levels. As the SDGs are a country-owned process, the responsibility of SDG reporting lies with national governments.

Establishing effective local and national reporting structures is a way to strengthen accountability towards the 2030 Agenda. It is key that regular reporting takes place at the local and national levels, because countries are only asked to report at the global level twice before 2030. Further, reporting enables government to use the SDG monitoring process as an ongoing management tool. A strong indicator and reporting framework can be highly valuable, as it can help turn the SDG framework into a tool for government to inform migration policy and programmes.

Monitoring and reporting also has a strong capacity-building dimension to it. Meeting follow up and review requirements for the Goals is challenging and can present a significant burden to governments, in particular to national statistical offices. To globally monitor SDG progress, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group (IAEG) on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators developed a list of 232 individual global indicators, including some on migration. Collecting and monitoring data for the indicators is difficult and, as will be explored in this section, especially so for some of the indicators relating to migration. If governments develop alternative indicators or monitoring mechanisms, their migration data capacity will likely also need to improve. In all cases, therefore, large amounts of new migration data will be required, and there is a

need to improve migration data locally, nationally, regionally and globally for the purpose of SDG monitoring. This will in turn require new methodologies, funding and capacity-building. 2030 Agenda initiatives can be seen as a key opportunity to strengthen migration data, and there are a number of steps that governments can take to this end.

Monitoring and reporting can involve undertaking a data mapping exercise, developing new indicators, improving disaggregation of data, establishing reporting systems, and taking steps to improve migration data capacity in the context of the SDGs.

The approach suggested in this guide is to choose SDG priorities, develop indicators to measure progress for these priorities, and then design and implement specific interventions. It should be noted that some actors may not implement interventions relating to the SDGs, and may only be able to or choose to report on the SDGs without taking implementation action. Alternatively, in some cases implementing bodies may decide to choose SDG priorities, design and implement interventions, and only then develop indicators. It should be noted that if indicators are developed first around migration priorities, interventions can be more meaningful as they strive to meet the indicators that reflect priorities.

Government actors will have to report back on SDG targets, specifically using indicators established or chosen. Necessary data on indicators must be reported as previously agreed to the assigned reporting body, or reported directly. Once interventions are operational, it may be necessary to refine or make some changes to indicator methodologies, for example adding actors or adjusting the timing of data collection. Methodologies for indicators should be revisited and adapted as appropriate.

SDG monitoring need not end at indicator reporting. There is a need to continuously evaluate interventions and other formal or informal methods of monitoring and evaluating can be established for this.<sup>9</sup> Implementing bodies may establish evaluations to assess changes in indicators in relation to particular interventions, through regular inspection, appraisal, research and other processes, helping move towards an evidence-based approach to intervention design and decision-making on migration and development. There should be feedback loops between any monitoring mechanisms and the refinement of interventions, or design and planning of future interventions. Ideally interventions would also include mechanisms to allow for feedback from citizens, including migrants. Creating opportunities for voices to be continuously heard on the intervention is especially key if this is a permanent legislative change.

Implementing bodies should ensure others can learn from their interventions and the SDG implementation process as a whole. This can be done by making programme or project results available online, promoting knowledge products based on interventions and organizing and/or taking part in events on knowledge sharing in migration and/or development to promote good practices and lessons learned.

## **Integrating into a Larger Initiative**

Where the monitoring and reporting step is integrated into activities led by a wider SDG process, the guidance in this section should be adapted as appropriate. Each of these activities – the data mapping, indicator development and reporting – can be either carried out independently and integrated into a wider SDG process, or can be used to help inform a wider SDG process where they wish to focus on migration. For example, if there is a country-level exercise taking place to gauge the feasibility of producing different SDG indicators across sectors, implementing bodies can use the data mapping template or areas of suggested migration data to help identify existing migration data sources, such as censuses, administrative data, household surveys, big data sources and more.

## **Acting a Different Levels of Government**

The guidance in this section applies broadly in the same way to actors at all levels of government; where activities should differ, this is noted and differentiated advice is provided. However, there are some initial points to keep in mind at different levels.

National Statistical Offices (NSOs) should take a leading role in SDG monitoring, reporting and any other data-related activities. In consultation with national-level policymakers, NSOs should lead the process of indicator development, gather and coordinate data provision, and report indicators. Alternatively, another body such as the migration or development planning agency or the main implementing body of the SDG process could lead. If this is the case, there should be close collaboration of this body with the NSO. If the country has taken part in any migration data initiatives with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in the past, such as conducting a Migration Profile or a Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) assessment, any technical working groups or other bodies that were formed to enable this process could lead.

At the local level, implementing bodies will need to decide how to engage with national statistical offices. If there are local-level, regional or federal-level statistical offices, they could lead this step. If there are no such bodies and statistical offices only exist at the national level, local implementing bodies may agree to collaborate with them if needed. The NSO could provide input and guidance in agreed stages of the process. The nature of this collaboration will depend on the context and capacities of local-level policymakers and statisticians.

At all levels, close collaboration between implementing bodies and relevant statistical bodies during monitoring and reporting is important. This helps ensure that SDG targets and general planning are broadly measurable, and in turn that indicators are accepted and relevant for policymakers.

## 1 Migration Data Mapping

To formulate SDG monitoring systems that are as meaningful as possible, it is advised to carry out a data mapping exercise to comprehensively evaluate migration data available. Implementing bodies may choose to carry this out for each target chosen, or only for some as needed. Once targets have been chosen, implementing bodies need to take stock of existing data relevant to the targets to establish what is available and what the indicator options may be. This can be done with a data mapping stage to gather information on what data is already captured that may be relevant to that target and how it is used. If there is already a sufficient overview of migration data available or local or national indicators in place that can be used for the targets, the data mapping step can be skipped.

If the aim is to monitor the migration-specific targets, implementing bodies should first examine if they can already produce the global indicators that relate to migration as set by the IAEG. Note that many of the global indicators that relate to migration have relatively under-developed methodologies; many are classified Tier III indicators, meaning they do not have internationally established methodologies or standards, and relevant data are not regularly produced by countries.<sup>10</sup> Nevertheless, countries should check if they are able to produce these indicators as described by the IAEG, as this facilitates global comparability of migration data. On page 96 below are the global indicators that directly reference migration, and their custodian agencies. Note that for many of these indicators, the development of methodologies is still ongoing, and efforts are ongoing across United Nations agencies to refine these indicators and offer guidance to States.

Data mapping will involve a stock-taking of the data availability for each of these indicators by consulting the metadata and comparing data availability against this, including the level of disaggregation.<sup>11</sup> The data mapping exercise will need to go further, even if aiming to measure the targets referenced here. Governments should build an overview of data available in each area that goes beyond this.

A list should be created of potential data sources and actors, including government agencies, local offices or others, who may hold data relevant to a particular target (see the Comprehensive SDG Target and Migration Correlation in the Annexes for further guidance). For example, in the case of target 10.C, at the national level this may be the central bank and the finance ministry and, in the case of a health-related target where migration is to be integrated at the local level, this may be the local health units who collect relevant administrative records. It is important to ensure that existing data sources on migration are used as effectively as possible, and to try to build on data processes that already exist. Therefore, common migration data sources such as population and housing censuses and household surveys should be included, as well as different administrative data sources and, if possible, non-traditional sources of migration information such as from big data.<sup>12</sup>

International, non-governmental and other actors can also be included, for example the World Bank or national human rights institutions (NHRIs); however, implementing bodies should keep in mind that data used for indicators must be accurate and reliable. Implementing bodies should also check whether a migration profile is available for their country by visiting the Global Forum on Migration and Development repository.<sup>13</sup> As these profiles



contain comprehensive information on migration data sources available in each country, if one has recently been conducted they can be used to support this process. If there is a profile available but it is not recent, implementing bodies should determine whether the information on data availability is still applicable and whether it can be used or not. Local actors may also make use of the profiles, as these outline sub-regional data available in countries. Actors should also consult IOM's Global Migration Data Portal,<sup>14</sup> which may contain relevant information on existing migration data.

Following this, interviews or consultations should be held with chosen stakeholders to gather or consolidate information on relevant data to be captured and processed for the target. Note the suggested data areas are for targets that directly reference migration and do not cover the data needs for targets in other sectors. For targets in other sectors, the data mapping exercise may focus on investigating the extent of disaggregation by migratory status of all data collected in a particular sector.



**TOOL** Data Mapping Template



**TOOL** Suggested Areas for Data Mapping

Information gathered should include the following specifications:

- What relevant data is collected or received, including variables by which this is disaggregated
- How and how often it is collected or received
- How it is stored
- If, how and when it is shared with other organizations
- If and how it is reported.

Once this has been done with each stakeholder, there will be a comprehensive view of all available data for a target. The results of the data mapping should be analysed to determine if there is adequate data around a particular migration topic, whether there are any key gaps where data is not collected but may be needed and, if so, how these could be addressed.

## GLOBAL INDICATORS

## CUSTODIAN AGENCIES

<b>3.C.1</b> Health worker density and distribution	WHO (see <a href="#">metadata</a> )
<b>4.B.1</b> Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study (quantifying the public effort that donors provide to developing countries for scholarships)	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (see <a href="#">metadata</a> )
<b>8.8.1</b> Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status	International Labour Organization (ILO) (see <a href="#">metadata</a> )
<b>8.8.2</b> Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status	International Labour Organization (ILO) (see <a href="#">metadata</a> )
<b>10.7.1</b> Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of yearly income earned in country of destination	World Bank (WB) and ILO; under development (see <a href="#">work plan</a> )
<b>10.7.2</b> Number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies	UN DESA and IOM; under development (see <a href="#">metadata</a> ) Note as explored below, it is not possible for governments to directly self-report on global indicator 10.7.2 as it is formulated.
<b>10.C.1</b> Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted	World Bank (see <a href="#">metadata</a> )
<b>16.2.2</b> Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (see <a href="#">metadata</a> )
<b>17.3.2</b> Volume of remittances (in United States dollars) as a proportion of total GDP	World Bank (see <a href="#">metadata</a> )
<b>17.18.1</b> Proportion of sustainable development indicators produced at the national level with full disaggregation when relevant to the target, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.	Under development; see UN Stats work plans for Tier III indicators <a href="#">page</a> for information.



## CASE STUDY: ARMENIA

The implementation actor conducted an extensive review of national migration data sources, including statistical and administrative data sources, to evaluate data availability across migration topics. The exercise examined migration data capturing, storing, processing, sharing, dissemination and publishing. As a result of this data mapping, national proxy indicators were developed for the five prioritized targets.

 See full case study → p. 125

## 2 Developing Indicators

Once there is a view of the data available for prioritized targets, implementing bodies should consider which indicators can be reported on. If the mapping exercise reveals that global indicators can be reported, these indicators should be used so that progress can be comparable to that of other countries. If global indicators cannot be reported, or as an addition to the process, governments may develop proxy indicators to monitor targets separately at the local or national level.

This could be a good approach for governments for several reasons. Firstly, not all global indicators are appropriate for national use. For example, some do not allow for self-reporting at the country level, such as indicator 10.7.2 “number of countries that have implemented well managed migration policies”. Secondly, as seen above many of the global indicators that relate to migration have relatively under-developed methodologies. Thirdly, proxy indicators can be valuable as they are tailored and context-driven in that they can build on existing migration data capacities and reflect migration priorities for local or national government. Proxy indicators enable governments to monitor progress towards particular local or national migration objectives that are not reflected in global indicators.

This will be especially relevant much of the time in the context of integrating migration across SDG implementation, because most global indicators do not mention migration. For example, if actors are mainstreaming migration into certain education targets, they will find the relevant global indicators will need to be adapted as they do not mention migration – at the very least by introducing the migratory disaggregation of these (see next section for guidance on disaggregation). By monitoring these indicators every year until 2030, governments can track progress in prioritized migration issues.

In this way, although proxy indicators may not always be comparable with those of other countries, they can generate meaningful reporting on migration and strengthen accountability for governments in achieving migration objectives under the 2030 Agenda. To strike a balance between global SDG monitoring and local/national relevance, implementing bodies may wish to use a mix of global-level and proxy indicators. Where this is taking place outside a wider SDG process in a country, representatives from this process need to be kept informed of steps to ensure any other monitoring

processes are aligned as closely as possible. In some cases, the NSO may be leading both processes already; where they are not they should be kept informed of activity in this area by any other actor.

Implementing bodies can choose how many indicators to create for each target depending on capacity and resources; often each has between one and three. The following principles should be used to guide the development of indicators:<sup>15</sup>

- Indicators should reflect local or national priorities and measure aspects of the target that are relevant to context.
- Indicators should be constructed from reliable and well-established data sources.
- It should be possible to collect the data for the indicator on a regular basis over time.
- Indicators should build as far as possible on existing data capture and processes, to keep the additional burden low and to help ensure the sustainability of measurement. Use the data mapping to help ensure this.
- Indicators should be straightforward to interpret and easy to communicate to the public and civil society.
- Preference should be given to outcome indicators, rather than process or input indicators. Indicators should measure outcomes as much as possible; for example, rather than ‘number of returnee training programmes available’, use ‘proportion of returnees graduating from training programmes who are employed within a year’.
- Indicators should be as consistent as possible with relevant international standards and guidance. While the indicators themselves will be different than SDG global indicators, they should still follow internationally set terminology and definitions where possible, for example, those included in the *UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration*.<sup>16</sup>



## TOOL Indicator Template



## TOOL Indicator Development Checklist

Data systems and processes may need to be adapted to ensure data are collected appropriately. For example, implementing bodies may learn that data needed for an indicator may already be captured, but not reported or analysed. How far new data systems and processes can be developed will depend on resources and capacity available. Often processes can be adapted relatively easily. For example, often relevant data is collected by different stakeholders but not collated by one agency; in these cases, it may not be too burdensome to set up a data sharing mechanism between the stakeholders so that one actor can compile and disseminate the data.

Each indicator should be accompanied by a brief description of metadata and methodology. In addition to this, where baseline data is available this may be included – if the data are available or in the case of an indicator already operational. See the following example of proxy indicators for target 10.7.

If a country has taken part in an MGI assessment with IOM, governments can use these results to report on progress in achieving target 10.7 and other migration-related targets by reporting and tracking their score across the various migration governance domains. While these only measure inputs, the MGIs provide a useful metric to measure progress in migration governance.<sup>17</sup> Where a country-level assessment has taken place, it is a good idea to keep track of this assessment and use it as one possible way to measure progress towards the SDGs. The final list of indicators should be formally reviewed and adopted by the implementing body and all other relevant stakeholders.

## EXAMPLE: DEVELOPING PROXY INDICATORS FOR TARGET 10.7

In some countries, governments developed proxy indicators for target 10.7, recognizing that global-level indicators for the target are not fit for this purpose. In these cases, indicators were developed taking into account local and/or national context, as well as relevant migration and development

strategies and objectives. As a result, the indicators in each case highlight particular priorities for that country under 10.7, as diverse as asylum and fair recruitment.<sup>18</sup> These allow countries to measure incremental progress in those areas until 2030, and support future evidence-based policymaking.

COUNTRY	NATIONAL INDICATOR(S)	BACKGROUND
<b>Republic of Moldova<sup>19</sup></b>	<p>Number of bilateral agreements on employment abroad</p> <p>Number of bilateral agreements on social security</p>	<p>In 2016 the Government of the Republic of Moldova and UN country team undertook a process to prioritize and modify SDG targets, and to develop relevant indicators for them. A mapping exercise took place to consider data availability against global indicators, identify any gaps in national data towards these indicators, and propose additional proxy indicators where relevant.</p> <p>One of the Republic of Moldova's priorities under target 10.7 was to improve regular, equitable and well-informed processes for migrants by facilitating bilateral migration agreements and improving certain labour rights provisions. The proxy indicators for this target reflect these priorities.</p>
<b>Nepal<sup>20</sup></b>	<p>Proportion of migrants receiving complete orientation before migration</p> <p>Recruitment cost borne by migrant labour (average cost in USD for Malaysia, the Republic of Korea and Middle East)</p>	<p>A baseline report on the SDGs was drafted by the Government of Nepal's National Planning Commission (NPC) in consultation with sectoral ministries, civil society, the private sector, development partners, and academia institutions. This report included the development of national proxy indicators for some targets.</p> <p>Indicators developed for target 10.7 reflect a focus on labour migration, and relate to increasing migrant training and reducing recruitment costs. Further, the latter focus is made especially relevant as it monitors costs in three specific common migration corridors for Nepal.</p>

**Armenia<sup>21</sup>**

Per cent of returned migrants who undertook paid work during the last seven days

Proportion of individual asylum applications granted

In 2016, the Government of Armenia started a process of migration-SDG nationalization, led by the NSO with the help of IOM. This included the development of proxy indicators for selected SDG targets.

These indicators reflect identified national priorities of improving the labour market integration of return migrants, and of strengthening the efficacy of national asylum systems. These also take into account national data capacity and use a range of existing data sources; the former uses a regular household survey and the latter records from the migration ministry.

**Georgia<sup>22</sup>**

Increase in number of agreements on circular migration

Number of beneficiaries of circular migration agreements

Number of employed migrants (in Georgia)

Number of Georgian citizens employed abroad through intermediary recruitment agencies

In 2015, the Government of Georgia established a joint technical working group including the National Statistics Office, experts from different line ministries and UN country team. Government bodies were asked to provide priorities and relevant indicators in line with the SDGs, and several of these included migration.

To measure target 10.7, stakeholders chose to monitor circular migration and labour market integration of immigrants and emigrants, showing a focus overall on labour migration. By monitoring both the number of agreements and beneficiaries of circular migration agreements, these indicators attempt to measure both inputs and outputs.

**The EU<sup>23</sup>**

Number of first time asylum applications (total and accepted) per capita

In 2016, the European Commission adopted the report *Next Steps for a Sustainable European Future*, which presents the EU's plan to integrate the SDGs in the European policy framework. This includes an indicator framework to monitor progress towards the SDGs in an EU context.

These indicators aim to measure how EU policies contribute to the 2030 Agenda, and preference was given specifically to indicators measuring impacts and outcomes of EU initiatives. These indicators were built using data that was already available and regularly produced. This indicator was developed to help measure Goal 10, and uses existing Eurostat data.

### 3 Disaggregation by Migratory Status

Strengthening disaggregation of data by migratory status is called for specifically in the SDGs and is key to integrating migration across the 2030 Agenda. This disaggregation helps practitioners see beyond statistical averages in development data and understand migrants' socioeconomic and other characteristics, such as their health, education, employment and income status. Improving disaggregation is a particularly important area of focus because it is linked to migration mainstreaming. Disaggregating data in health, education, agriculture, labour market and other sectors by migratory status will provide new information on migrants in these areas. This will shape discussions on migrants' situation and needs in these sectors, enabling policymakers to address them. In this way, improved disaggregation is a prerequisite for successful migration mainstreaming, as it makes it easier to consider migration as a cross-cutting theme across sectors.

As a result of data mapping, implementing bodies may find that new indicators are not needed to measure certain targets, and instead the objective may be simply to add disaggregation by migratory status, or other migration variables, to existing indicators. These could be indicators that are already produced in a certain sector by a certain government agency, for example annual mental health statistics from the national health ministry. They could also be global-level SDG indicators, for example indicator 4.3.1, "Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex". The IEAG recommends that 24 global SDG indicators can be disaggregated by migratory status,<sup>24</sup> however, governments using global indicators may find they can disaggregate more than that. While some indicators cannot be disaggregated at the global level as they are composite indicators or collected by different countries, individual countries may indeed be able to disaggregate more than twenty-four.

In practice, disaggregating data by migratory status involves including the following variables into administrative registries and census-based data collection:<sup>25</sup>

- Country of birth, including foreign-born and native-born population
- Country of citizenship, including non-citizens (as well as stateless persons) and citizens.

Governments may wish to take further steps and collect variables on:

- Reason for migration
- Duration of stay in the country
- Country of birth of individual and parents (to determine first- and second-generation migrants)
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Internal migrants or internally displaced persons (IDPs)<sup>26</sup>
- Regular and irregular migrants.

It may be possible to use existing census microdata to achieve this. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) data can disaggregate many global SDG indicators by nativity status for different countries; therefore, statistical offices or relevant stakeholders should make full use of this, if possible.<sup>27</sup>



Where relevant, practitioners should also work to strengthen disaggregation of migration data by variables such as age, sex, occupation, employment status and others to gain deeper insights into migrant populations. For example, disaggregation by these variables for victims of trafficking and forcibly displaced people will help practitioners better address their needs.

## 4 Reporting Indicators

The follow-up and review process for the 2030 Agenda is intended to be “open, inclusive, participatory and transparent for all people and will support the reporting by all relevant stakeholders.” At the same time, managing SDG reporting efficiently requires extensive coordination, as it can be complex; there are four layers to SDG follow-up and review at the global, regional, national and thematic levels. Therefore, local and national indicator reporting mechanisms are needed that are systematic and transparent and, at the same time, minimize the reporting burden. Governments may choose different reporting approaches depending on capabilities and context.

A mechanism should be set up to report migration indicators. Reporting mechanisms could establish new processes or indicators could be integrated into existing reporting platforms, such as those reporting other local or national development progress against plans. At the national level, either NSOs, migration or development planning agencies, or another coordinating body, should publish indicators. At the local level, the relevant government agency or implementing body should do so using a locally owned platform such as the website of the relevant local administration, and could consider additionally reporting through a platform managed by the NSO. Ideally this information should be published in the national language(s), as well as English.

Whichever approach is taken, these should be features of any indicator reporting platform (UNECE, 2017):

- **Transparency:** An outline of relevant metadata and methodology should be included, including definitions of indicators and data sources.
- **Timeliness:** Reporting of indicators should be timely. Depending on the periodicity of measurement and on government capacity, indicators could be published either on a continuous basis or at agreed regular intervals. The time series should begin from 2015 if older data are available, otherwise at the first available date.
- **Accessibility:** The public should be able to access the indicators and they should be presented in an accessible way. For example, a simple table on a dedicated part of the website, or an Excel table available for download.

SDG monitoring and reporting processes provide a useful opportunity to create and strengthen vertical coherence on migration data. For example, the use of online monitoring and reporting systems can provide easy methods for vertical coordination in government. This means coordinating with levels and actors to work towards aligned and, where possible, integrated reporting and monitoring across local, national, regional and global levels.

At the local level, actors must consider coherence with national-level reporting. Care must be taken to ensure that information gathered by local government is used in national reporting in so far as it can be, possibly through additional reporting through a platform managed by the NSO, national development planning agency or another national-level body. Where local and national-level indicators are the same and use the same methodology (for example, for more standardized metrics such as for trafficking), local indicators should be fed directly into national-level reporting. In other words, local indicators should aggregate up to national indicators.

At the national level, all migration indicators and information should be reported alongside any other national-level SDG reporting. Member States are encouraged to develop specialized national reporting platforms (NRPs) for reporting SDG indicators. If the country already has an NRP in place, migration indicators should be integrated on this platform so they are reported alongside other SDG indicators.

National-level actors also must consider coherence with regional and global level reporting. Where national indicators are the same as any regional or global indicators, these should be fed into appropriate systems and aggregated directly. Again, care should be taken to ensure data integrated vertically shares the same methodology and is of the same standard of quality.

Regional mechanisms for engagement include the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (de la Mothe et al., 2015). Implementing bodies seeking to coordinate with regional-level migration data processes should also consult the Global Migration Data Portal to take stock.

The High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is an intergovernmental platform to oversee 2030 Agenda follow-up and review processes at the global level, at meetings held every four years. One of the HLPF's functions is to facilitate SDG progress review of Member States through Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), which are voluntary and State-led reports. Where these are taking place in a country, implementing bodies should ensure migration indicators and any other migration-SDG developments are included. Note that while the format of VNRs is open to adaptation by countries, reporting to the HLPF often takes place by Goals, rather than targets. Where a country is planning to report to the HLPF on a particular Goal – such as 10 on reducing inequalities – the implementing body should ensure that any relevant migration targets under this Goal, such as 10.7, are reported. Where a sectoral target is reported against using data disaggregated by migratory status, implementing bodies should also ensure this disaggregation is present in the final reporting. For example, any reporting of targets under Goal 3 on health should include information on the migratory status indicators, where available.

Before 2030 there will be a number of annual thematic reviews which could feed into the HLPF. These reviews will be led by specialized agencies or commissions and offer in-depth technical reviews of specific issues. Though not country led, where they exist for migration, trafficking or other migration-related topics, implementing bodies should ensure that their migration-SDG activity and monitoring are included. The GFMD could play a role in helping broker this in the future; the body submitted migration-specific recommendations to the HLPF in 2017<sup>28</sup> and will continue to report to the HLPF in the future.



Overall, countries and regions can take different approaches to SDG reporting at the national, regional and global levels. To keep abreast of these approaches and consider how migration can be integrated into them, actors should consult various relevant resources on an ongoing basis, including those from the SDG National Reporting Initiative.<sup>29</sup>

### EXAMPLE: VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS

A number of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) to-date mention migration. Out of 43 VNRs for 2017, 29 included the terms *migration/migrant, refugee, human trafficking/traffic in persons, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and/or remittances*. Several reported on migrants in the context of leaving no one behind, highlighting migrant-specific vulnerabilities in certain sectors and sharing good practices to mitigate the impact of these vulnerabilities. For example:

- Thailand reported that it provides health insurance for documented and undocumented migrant workers and their dependents. Further, all children in Thailand, regardless of nationality or legal status, can enroll in any educational institution (including the children of documented and undocumented migrant workers).
- Slovenia reported that it recently published a dictionary to facilitate communication between immigrants and medical staff.
- Jordan reported that a sector-wide collective bargaining agreement (CBA) was signed in the garment sector in 2013 and renewed in 2015, a sector in which 80 per cent of workers are migrants.
- Chile reported that it had improved access to health for migrants through its Supreme Decree No. 67 (2015), which provides health system access to migrants in an irregular situation, without a visa or without documents, by making these equal beneficiaries of Chile's financial entity for health state funds (Fonas, Fondo Nacional de Salud).

Some chose to highlight developments in migration governance at the national or regional level. For example:

- Kenya reported that under its Intergovernmental Authority for Development, a Regional Migration Policy Framework was established and it operationalized the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCMM). The NCMM is a platform for government ministries, state departments and agencies to address migration-related challenges in the country.
- Portugal reported on its *Strategic Plan for Migration 2015-2020*, the national interministerial political instrument that aims to address Portugal's changing and complex migratory dynamics, and on its *Plan for Immigrant Integration*.

Some chose to highlight the importance of migration to development and the economy, for example remittances and labour market contributions. For example:

- Sweden reported that to reduce transaction costs for remittances sent from Sweden, the Swedish Consumer Agency established a free price comparison service online called Money from Sweden, which allows for a simple comparison of costs and transfer times of various service providers.
- Qatar reported it had high and increasing labour demands, which surpass national labour supplies. As a result, it is experiencing an influx of migrant workers to help build structures for the reception of the 2022 World Cup.

Some highlighted particular migration topics such as human trafficking, and policies and laws put in place to help prevent it. For example:

- Uruguay reported that in 2015 an Inter-Agency Table for the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons was created, and highlighted the adoption of the Agreement against the Smuggling of Migrants between several Mercosur States.
- Belarus reported on its ongoing strong collaboration with UN agencies in combating human trafficking.

Some mentioned refugees and IDPs as a consequence of human-made and natural disasters. For example:

- Nigeria reported that the government had embarked on several peace building initiatives and programmes to manage IDP movements, after security crises such as those in the North-East and in the Niger Delta regions led to multiple IDP camps.

Once monitoring and reporting mechanisms for SDG indicators are established, implementing bodies need to go further to evaluate progress made against the SDGs. Independent reviews may be conducted, regularly or on an ad-hoc basis, analysing progress made towards migration targets. Indicators reflect progress against certain metrics, but a wider process of evaluation is needed to assess what is behind changes in the indicators.

## 5 Building Migration Data Capacity

Data is a particular challenge in migration governance, where current information is so scarce and data capacities are constrained across countries and topics. Policymakers need timely, reliable, accessible and comparable data on international migration to manage migration effectively and protect the rights of migrants.<sup>30</sup> While the lack of data can be an immediate challenge for SDG monitoring, the 2030 Agenda is a key opportunity to improve the collection, analysis, sharing and management of migration data. For governments implementing targets relating to migration, their capacities will improve across a number of migration topics and target 17.18 should encourage the practice of increased disaggregation by migratory status across data. However, governments would benefit from going further and considering ways in which migration data could be strengthened in the longer term. Improving migration data is a crucial step to improving migration governance, and the SDG implementation process can help kick-start efforts to do this.

There is an urgent need for improved development data across the board in all SDG implementations. Meeting the requirements of SDG follow up and review mechanisms is difficult for most countries, especially for many developing countries with low statistical capabilities. The challenge is even greater when considering that as of late 2017, no data exist for two-thirds of the 232 official internationally set SDG indicators (OECD, 2017). This means that not only should practitioners mobilize around improving migration data for SDG reporting, they should do so alongside other stakeholders and under ongoing efforts of the 'data revolution' in the context of the 2030 Agenda.



## HOW CAN WE IMPROVE DATA?<sup>31</sup>

**Using existing data capture tools better.** Governments should ensure that they are using and compiling all available sources of migration data, including population and housing censuses, household surveys and administrative sources. Further, these existing data collection tools should collect as much meaningful migration data as possible. For example, censuses should collect information on country of birth, country of citizenship and year of arrival, and household surveys could include a set of core migration questions and periodic specialized migration modules. Administrative data tools should also ensure migration is considered effectively, for example by ensuring that data from population registers, work and residence permit databases, asylum applications, and border points collect adequate migration variables (CGD, 2009).

**Optimizing data processes.** Very often migration data are scattered between government agencies, making it difficult to gain an accurate overview of the situation and trends, and to assess the efficacy of a policy or programme. Administrative data may also be a useful tool for local government, who may collect relatively little statistical data. These sources could capture data on migrants' use of basic or other government services at a city or regional level. Governments benefit from sharing migration data and this improves the potential for policy coherence. Therefore, they could focus on increasing the integration of migration data from different sources, including surveys and administrative data from different agencies. Compiling data from different sources also helps build a richer picture of migration by capturing differ-

ent features and socioeconomic characteristics. Governments could also strengthen and expand integrated survey systems. Further, governments should consult what data other actors collect in their country – academia or international organizations may collect data at the local or national level on a variety of migration topics through their research or operations, which may be helpful for SDG monitoring. This can be done by including diverse actors in any data mapping exercise.

**Mainstreaming migration.** Working towards migration mainstreaming into local or national development planning can help improve migration data. If migration is integrated into local or national development plans, collecting migration data becomes more of a political priority, and more resources for migration data capacity-building could become available. Hence, aside from integrating migration into the SDGs, all relevant stakeholders should push for migration to be considered more systematically as a parameter in different development sectors going forward.

**Tapping into non-traditional data sources.** Governments can help efforts to increase the availability and quality of migration statistics that use innovative data sources. This could include untapped sources of big data. For example, in emergencies and post-disaster situations it is difficult to find accurate data on migration flows. Several recent studies have used call detail records (CDR) from mobile phone networks to track population movements in these scenarios.<sup>32</sup>

### EXAMPLE: MIGRATION DATA ANALYSIS UNIT, EGYPT

In April 2017, Egypt's Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) and IOM launched a Migration Data Analysis Unit. The Unit aims to fill information gaps on migration by conducting assessments and producing key statistics on migration issues to support the development of evidence-based policy and enhance overall migration management in Egypt. This will also help produce migration data relevant to the SDGs. IOM or-

ganized several trainings and a study visit to IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre for CAPMAS and other government officials, to build staff's capacity regarding migration data collection and management.<sup>33</sup> In this way, the Unit is helping fulfil migration-related SDG monitoring and reporting requirements, as well as introducing significant capacity-building efforts on migration data within the national statistical office.

Activities on migration data capacity-building should be ongoing. They can and should be undertaken during and after any migration-SDG implementation effort. If a specialized interagency working group or body was established to lead the monitoring process for migration-SDG efforts, it is a good idea to maintain continuity and have them lead these activities. Throughout efforts to do this, there should be ongoing cooperation of data representatives with policymakers, so that developments in migration data can be used to improve policy and, in turn, policy needs are reflected in data activities. Further, efforts should be made to ensure activities are as cross-sectoral as possible and to coordinate with other institutions and stakeholders, remembering that migration data and specifically disaggregation should be improved across different governance and policy areas.

Activities on migration data capacity-building might include (Laczko, 2016):

- **Creating local, national or regional SDG-migration data action plans**, setting out priorities and strategies to improve the availability and quality of migration data in the context of the 2030 Agenda. Where relevant, these plans should be fully integrated with local or national action plans for statistics.
- **Working towards creating institutional and legal frameworks for statistics** that proactively support the development of best-practice legislation, standards, policies and practices on migration data.
- **Strengthening cooperation and coordination between national statistical offices, ministries and other organizations** that produce migration data, with a view to better harmonize migration data concepts, and improve data sharing and integration mechanisms.
- **Making concerted efforts to strengthen and expand quality migration data collection** in areas that are especially lacking, and helping advance the creation of concepts, methodologies and data quality assurance frameworks in these areas. Training could be devised for policymakers on certain migration topics.
- **Organizing workshops or consultations with government representatives and other practitioners** to build capacity and share best practices on migration data:
  - Based on particular themes: Sessions could explore the key challenges or barriers to successfully collecting data in this area, and ways around them. They could explore topics which are difficult for all to collect data on, such as irregular migration, human trafficking or hate crimes. Or they could dig deeper into investigating selected research topics such as the impacts of different types of migration on development.
  - In particular sectors: Sessions could be organized in specific governance or development sectors to take a whole-of-sector approach to addressing migration data in that area. These sessions should focus on assessing how to disaggregate that sector's data by migratory status across the board. They could also explore research topics particular to that sector and migration, for example, examining the effects of certain labour market policies on migration, such as vocational skills provision. These sessions within a particular sector would be highly valuable, as they are necessary to intelligently mainstream migration.



- **Developing and strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships** across government, academia, civil society, private sector and others involved in the production and use of migration data, locally, nationally, regionally and internationally. This should also include collaboration with key migration partner countries to facilitate data exchange on migration statistics and areas such as recruitment and migrant labour rights.
- **Creating or contributing to open data or data sharing initiatives** to lower information costs and make migration data available to a range of different stakeholders to develop the evidence base for migration policymaking and programming.<sup>34</sup>
- **Mobilizing resources for migration data capacity-building.** This could mean seeking this as part of any development assistance available for statistics, as well as seeking this under any financing available through migration-specific development assistance.
- **Engaging with IOM and other relevant international agencies to improve migration data capacity through specific tools**, for example:
  - Developing or updating an existing Migration Profile. These profiles enable governments to comprehensively take stock of their migration data, as they identify data using standardized templates and reports, produce various migration indicators, and offer data recommendations. This helps work towards improving and better using the evidence base for migration policy, and constitutes capacity-building in itself as governments are involved in their production. It also creates opportunities for greater international comparability and coherence of migration data.
  - Consulting guidance on migration data capacity-building and best practice examples from IOM's Global Migration Data Portal.<sup>35</sup> The portal provides information on international data sources on migration and reports on a list of standardized international-level migration indicators for countries. Governments should engage with the platform as a learning tool, for example by consulting its background analyses and other evaluative resources.
  - Taking part in available data capacity-building activities offered by IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre. Technical workshops and training are held in many different countries on migration data needs and solutions under the SDGs, including specifically on global-level indicators and disaggregation by migratory status.<sup>36</sup>
  - UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) will start a migration data capacity programme and conduct a number of trainings across Latin America and Asia from 2018.<sup>37</sup>
- **Participating in regional and international dialogues on migration data.** There is increased international attention on improving migration data,<sup>38</sup> and governments should use this momentum to share experiences with others and improve their own migration data practices. Governments should take part in relevant fora such as the IOM, UN DESA and OECD International Forum on Migration Statistics, and keep abreast of any initiatives in migration statistics led by the IAEG and other UN bodies. Further, they should open dialogues with relevant states on how to support bilateral or regional migration data improvements, and take part in relevant regional initiatives.

- **Participating in regional and international dialogues on development data.** There is a call in the international community to start a ‘development data revolution’.<sup>39</sup> This presents an opportunity to make a stronger case for migration data capacity-building. Migration should be integrated into wider efforts to improve data on development, and governments should stay abreast of developments in this area and adhere to international guidance on development data, such the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data Prepared by the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for statistics (HLG-PCCB, 2017), and any regional initiatives.





## TOOL Data Mapping Template

### SDG target:

10.C By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent.

### Suggested data areas:

- Remittances, for example, transfer costs, volumes remitted
- Impact of remittances, for example, proportion for consumption/investment

Institution (Department if relevant)	Data collected or received Disaggregation.	How and how often collected/ received? (monthly, quarterly, annually)	Stored how? (Paper, Excel, Other)	Shared with whom? (Institution/ Department)	Shared how and when? (Paper, Excel, other)	Reported where, in what format, how often?
World Bank	Transfer fees to and from the country, for USD200 and USD500	Mystery shopping exercise (researchers pose as customers to contact diverse service providers) <sup>40</sup>	Database	Public	Shared online quarterly (see reported)	Online: <a href="http://remittanceprices.worldbank.org/en">http://remittanceprices.worldbank.org/en</a>
Central Bank	Total volume of remittances sent in and out of the country, by destination country	Automated from commercial banks, monthly	Database	Ministry of Economics	Monthly, Excel	Public reports online, quarterly
	Information on household remittance use, including proportion spent on consumption and investment	Specialized household surveys, ad hoc	Isolated Excel records of survey results	-	-	Studies are shared online as reports; ad hoc
Statistical Agency	Whether households received remittances in last 12 months (Yes/No)	Household survey, annual	Database of integrated household survey results	-	-	Raw data and qualitative reports on household survey including this online, annual

### Any other relevant data collected in this area:

-

### What are key challenges or barriers to successfully collecting data in this area?

It is difficult to capture data systematically on usage of remittances and on non-formal remittances flows.

### How could data collection be improved in this area?

More data collection on the usage of remittances, either through regular specialized surveys or adding a question in the annual household survey.





## TOOL Suggested Data Areas for Mapping

Target	Suggested data areas
4.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Education for country's nationals abroad, for example, data on access and enrolment</li> <li>→ Education for migrants within country, as above (include access to education and learning opportunities for migrant minors especially)</li> </ul>
5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Trafficking of women and girls, including the proportion of identified victims who are female and the purpose for which they have been trafficked</li> <li>→ Any violence against or exploitation of women related to migration, including sexual or gender-based violence</li> <li>→ See also targets 16.2 and 8.7</li> </ul>
8.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Human trafficking standardized metrics such as number of identified victims of trafficking, number of traffickers arrested/charged/prosecuted/convicted, number of trafficking investigations started/completed. Metrics should aim to include whether detected trafficking happens across international borders and, if so, which ones, type of exploitation for which people were trafficked, and gender and age of persons involved</li> <li>→ Other forms of modern slavery, including forced labour, forced marriage, and child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers</li> <li>→ Kinds of government policy, legislation and practice are in place to address human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery</li> <li>→ Data on child migrants</li> <li>→ See also targets 5.2 and 16.2</li> </ul>
8.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Labour migration statistics, for example, volume of migrant workers per industry, including seasonal workers</li> <li>→ Labour migration governance, for example, ratification, implementation and compliance of ILO instruments</li> <li>→ Female labour migration, including on domestic workers</li> <li>→ Other data for example on recruitment costs, labour rights violations including occupational injuries, irregular migrant workers, migrant contributions to economies</li> </ul>
10.7	<p>Migration Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Adherence to international standards and fulfillment of migrants' rights</li> <li>→ Whole-of-government approach to migration policies</li> <li>→ Engagement with partners to address migration-related issues</li> <li>→ Advancement of the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society</li> <li>→ Effective action on the mobility dimensions of crises</li> <li>→ Assurance that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner</li> </ul> <p>IOM's MGI framework may be consulted to identify sub-areas under the six domains above, which can inform a government-led data mapping exercise</p> <p>10.7.1 Recruitment Cost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of yearly income earned in country of destination</li> </ul>



- 
- 10.C**
- Remittances, for example, transfer fees, total volumes remitted
  - Impact of remittances, for example, proportion used for consumption/investment
- 
- 16.2**
- Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000
  - Population disaggregated by sex, age and form of exploitation
  - Trafficking of children, including the proportion of identified victims who are children and the purpose for which they have been trafficked
  - Any violence against or exploitation of child migrants
  - See also targets 5.2 and 8.7
- 
- 17.18**
- Existence of and compliance to local or national migration data plan, migration data legislation
  - Extent of disaggregation across development and governance sectors by migratory status and other migration variables
  - Overall ability to report on SDGs and migration
- 

**Data Sources** Data mapping should focus on gathering information from government ministries, agencies and other bodies. However, implementing bodies may also consult international data sources. These could include, for example:

- Compiled diverse data on the Global Migration Data Portal
- The Migration and Remittances Database by the World Bank, on remittances
- The UN Population Division's Global Migration Database, OECD Database on Immigrants in OECD countries and UNHCR Statistical Online Population Database on migration patterns and human rights
- Gallup World Poll (GWP), on migration patterns
- UNESCO UIS, on international student mobility
- The Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative, IOM, [www.ctdatacollaborative.org/](http://www.ctdatacollaborative.org/)
- Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labour and Forced Marriage, ILO and Walk Free Foundation, in partnership with IOM

For more information on data sources, view the Global Migration Data Portal.

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### Target and Goal addressed

Target 4.B on international student mobility: “By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.” Under Goal 4 on education.

### Indicator

Number of scholarships awarded to nationals for enrolment in higher education abroad, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.

### Definition(s)

Scholarships: Financial aid awards for individual students. Financial aid awards include bilateral grants to students registered for systematic instruction in private or public institutions of higher education to follow full-time studies or training courses abroad (OECD).

### Unit of measurement (e.g., expressed as %)

Total number of scholarships awarded for higher education abroad.

### Relevant international standards (if any)

Further information on defining scholarships under target 4b:  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002455/245570e.pdf>

Global indicator 4.B.1 “Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study.”

### Data source(s)

Records from Ministry of Education on nationals studying under scholarship agreements abroad.

### Methodology (detail on data collection)

The Ministry of Education will consolidate all of its records on different scholarships awarded into a single spreadsheet or document, to be disaggregated as per the specifications below. They will send this information to the National Statistical Office, who will report total figures.

### Periodicity of measurement

Annual

### Disaggregation

- Gender of scholar
- Country of study
- Level of award (diploma, Bachelor’s Degree, Master’s degree/postgraduate diploma, PhD, post-doctoral research)
- Subject of programme

### Lead actor involved / other actor

Ministry of Education  
National Statistical Office

### Baseline, if available

-





## TOOL Indicator Development Checklist

- ↳ **Reflect local or national priorities and measure aspects of the target that are relevant to context**
- ↳ **Constructed from reliable and well-established data sources**
- ↳ **Possible to collect the data for the indicator on a regular basis over time**
- ↳ **Build as far as possible on existing data capture and processes, to keep additional burden low and help ensure sustainability of measurement**
- ↳ **Straightforward to interpret and easy to communicate to the public and civil society**
- ↳ **Preference given to outcome, rather than process or input, indicators and should measure outcomes as far as possible**
- ↳ **As consistent as possible with relevant international standards and guidance and follows internationally set terminology and definitions where possible**



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## Endnotes

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- 2 GMG, *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning* (Geneva, 2010). Available from [www.globalmigrationgroup.org/system/files/uploads/UNCT\\_Corner/theme7/mainstreamingmigration.pdf](http://www.globalmigrationgroup.org/system/files/uploads/UNCT_Corner/theme7/mainstreamingmigration.pdf).
- 3 See JMDI 2016a for more on CSO's potential role as migration service providers as well as in other migration and development functions.
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- 5 See [www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/sustainable-development-goals/sdg-accelerator-and-bottleneck-assessment.html](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/sustainable-development-goals/sdg-accelerator-and-bottleneck-assessment.html).
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- 11 Available from <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/metadata-compilation/>.
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- 13 Available from [www.gfmd.org/pfp/policy-tools/migration-profiles/repository](http://www.gfmd.org/pfp/policy-tools/migration-profiles/repository). Migration profiles may be produced by IOM, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), the European Commission (EC) and other partners. See also *Migration Profiles: Making the Most of the Process* (IOM, 2011).

- 14 Available from <https://migrationdataportal.org>. The Portal features country pages with key global migration indicators, including information on Migration Governance Indicators for relevant countries.
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- 22 Available from <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/georgia> and <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/10683Annex%20-Preliminary%20version%20of%20Nationalized%20SDGs%20Georgia.pdf>.
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- 26 On forced displacement, this disaggregation may vary according to context. In some cases, governments may find it easier or wish to collect information by 'asylum seekers and displaced people' rather than by 'refugees and IDPs'.
- 27 See <https://international.ipums.org/international/index.shtml>, and K. Jeffers, J. Tjaden and F. Laczko (2018), *Leaving no migrant behind. A pilot study of measuring progress towards SDG Goal 17.18 through disaggregating harmonized census data by migratory status*. IOM, Geneva. Also see IOM (2018), *A Pilot Study on Disaggregating SDG Indicators by Migratory Status*. IOM, Geneva.
- 28 Available from <https://gfmd.org/gfmd-and-2030-agenda>.
- 29 Available from [http://reports.opendataenterprise.org/CODE\\_StrategiesforSDGreporting.pdf](http://reports.opendataenterprise.org/CODE_StrategiesforSDGreporting.pdf).
- 30 See IOM/GCM, *Thematic Paper: International Migration Statistics*, Laczko, 2016 and Bilsborrow, 2016.
- 31 See *Data Bulletin: Informing a Global Compact for Migration – Improving Data for safe, orderly and regular migration* UN DESA, OECD and IOM. Available from <https://publications.iom.int/books/data-bulletin-informing-global-compact-migration-improving-data-safe-orderly-and-regular>. Also see Laczko, 2017.
- 32 See Frank Laczko and Marzia Rango, "Can Big Data help us achieve a 'migration data revolution?'" *Migration Policy and Practice*, IV(2), April–June.
- 33 See <https://egypt.iom.int/ar/node/3113>.
- 34 For example, IOM, in partnership with US-based NGO Polaris, has recently launched the Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC) ([www.ctdatacollaborative.org](http://www.ctdatacollaborative.org)). CTDC is the world's first human trafficking data portal to include data contributed by multiple agencies. The portal allows certain types of data to be publicly accessible for the first time in a secure manner.
- 35 Available from <https://migrationdataportal.org>. Background on topics is available from <https://migrationdataportal.org/themes> and tools on data, searchable by topic, is available from <https://migrationdataportal.org/tools>.
- 36 See IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre website for information (<https://gmdac.iom.int/>).
- 37 See <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/tierIII-indicators/files/Tier3-10-07-02.pdf> and UN DESA online resources on an ongoing basis for more information.

- 38** In 2013 at the UN High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, governments agreed on the need for more reliable statistical data on international migration and development. In the UN Secretary-General's 2016 report, "In Safety and Dignity: Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants", there is a call to improve data on migration. Available from [http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/in\\_safety\\_and\\_dignity\\_-\\_addressing\\_large\\_movements\\_of\\_refugees\\_and\\_migrants.pdf](http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/in_safety_and_dignity_-_addressing_large_movements_of_refugees_and_migrants.pdf).
- 39** UN IEAG on a Data Revolution for Sustainable Development, 2014
- 40** Available from <https://remittanceprices.worldbank.org/en/methodology>.



# Case Studies

Armenia

Ghana

Ecuador

Ethiopia



**The government of Armenia started a process to nationalize the migration-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through IOM’s project “Monitoring Progress in Achieving Migration Targets of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. During this project, migration and development issues in Armenia were examined in the context of the SDGs and relevant targets were prioritized. Following this, a set of proxy indicators were developed to measure progress against these targets. Finally, a migration data mapping exercise was undertaken and steps were taken to improve national migration data collection and usage.**

## Methodology

- ↳ **SDG prioritization:** Prioritizing SDG migration targets according to national objectives.
- ↳ **Migration data mapping:** Mapping migration data to SDG monitoring needs and conducting a gap analysis.
- ↳ **Indicator development:** Developing proxy indicators to measure progress towards prioritized targets.
- ↳ **Indicator monitoring and evaluation:** Setting up appropriate data systems and processes to operationalize the indicators, to ensure necessary migration data is captured and reporting of the indicators can begin.

The project was led by the Armenian Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia (ArmStat), given its strong focus on migration data and its overall objectives to develop and monitor SDG indicators on migration. The exercise overall included wide consultation of migration stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, academia and the public, and engaged almost 100 people through direct consultation and/or workshops in the first two stages.

## Prioritization

A workshop was held in November 2016 to discuss which SDG targets should be prioritized. This was done through discussions with participants from government, civil society, academia and more. Stakeholders critically examined SDG targets in relation to migration and development issues in Armenia. Five targets were chosen as the most relevant. Following this, a validation workshop was held to discuss the targets further. During discussions, sub-themes under some of the targets were identified that were particular

priorities for Armenia. For example, labour migration and return migration were identified as important components for Armenia under target 10.7.

Following both workshops, the prioritized targets were adapted to make them more relevant to an Armenian context. Below is a list of the prioritized targets and their adapted formulations.<sup>1</sup>



Participant introducing the results of Armenia's work on the Migration Governance Indicators at the workshop on "Localizing SDGs: Development of National Indicators for SDG targets in the area of migration and development" © IOM Armenia 2016 (Photo: Matevosyan)

## MIGRATION & EDUCATION



**Target 4.B.** By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.

**Proposed national target:** By 2020, substantially expand the number of scholarships available to Armenian citizens for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries, and work towards linking migrants' education to labour markets.

## LABOUR MIGRATION



**Target 8.8.** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

**Proposed national target:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, focusing on migrant workers abroad, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.



## MIGRATION GOVERNANCE



**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.

**Proposed national target:** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies and laws, focusing on strengthening management of labour outmigration, return migration, and national asylum processes, as well as improving capacity to strengthen national migration governance in the future

## DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT



**Target 17.16.** Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries.

**Proposed national target:** Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals, focusing on engaging the diaspora to support national development through knowledge and skills transfer, remittances and financial investment.

## MIGRATION DATA



**Target 17.18.** By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, 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.

**Proposed national target:** Enhance capacity-building support 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, and improve data systems and processes to support proactive, sensitive and intelligent policy across topics in national migration management.

## Migration Data Mapping

In parallel, a migration data mapping exercise took place. This reviewed national migration data sources, including statistical and administrative data sources, to evaluate data availability across migration topics. The mapping exercise examined migration data capturing, storing, processing, sharing, dissemination and publishing. To do this, 19 interviews were conducted across government agencies and other organizations. The ministries of Education and Science, Labour and Social Affairs, Diaspora, Health Care, Foreign Affairs, Economic Development and Investments, the State Employment Agency and State Migration Service were interviewed, as well as the Central Bank of Armenia, three departments of the police service and various international organizations.

The mapping exercise revealed that while much valuable migration data was collected by different bodies in Armenia, national migration statistics could be made more robust and there was incomplete data captured on a number of specific topics. For example, there was a need for more reliable statistics on emigration and immigration in different labour market sectors, as well as increased data capture on other topics, including for example return and reintegration, diaspora engagement, remittance utilization and migrant rights. The mapping exercise identified a series of specific migration data challenges and corresponding actionable recommendations. For example, to derive the greatest possible benefit from the human capital of the Armenian diaspora, there is a need to improve data collection regarding the education, skills and knowledge of Armenians abroad. One recommendation was to extend existing data collection on Armenians studying through government programmes abroad to include information on their professional activities after graduation. Several of the recommendations were adopted, including some on changes to be made to the national Integrated Living Conditions Survey (ILCS). In this way, the data mapping helped identify where migration data was lacking, and helped strengthen the capacity of ArmStat on migration data.

## Developing Indicators

Proxy national indicators were developed for the five prioritized targets. These targets were developed based on existing Armenian migration data capacities and required no additional resources or data capture. Some indicators include selected data from non-government actors. Overall these include a mix of input and outcome indicators, and of existing international indicators and some newly developed national methodologies.



## Metadata for Selected Proxy Indicator in Armenia

### Indicator

% of returned migrants who undertook paid work during the last 7 days.

### Definitions

Participating in paid work as defined by specification in the ILCS as below.

### Goal and target addressed

10.7, also 8.8

### Unit of measurement

% of total returned migrants

### Relevant international standards (if any)

-

### Data source(s)

Integrated Living Conditions Survey (ILCS)

### Methodology

ArmStat will take a count of those who respond to the question in Section B: 'Since January 1, 20xx, has [NAME] migrated to another Marz or another country within 3 and more months?' with

- '2. Yes, migrated and returned after absence less than 3 months'; and
- '3. Yes, migrated and returned after 3-12 months absence'.

Of those who responded 'Yes' to 2 or 3 above, ArmStat will collate their answer to the question in Section D: 'Did you have any paid work or profitable job (own business) during the last 7 days, even if you worked only for one hour (include the work in a farm, family enterprise)?'

ArmStat will report the percentage of those who responded 'Yes' to the above question in Section D as a percentage of those who are returned migrants as per the question in Section B.

In addition to this, ArmStat will detail the following disaggregation points during reporting.

### Periodicity of measurement

Annual

### Disaggregation

For all, disaggregate by:

- Gender
- Which Marz or country they returned from
- Reason for return

For those who respond 'Yes' to the Section D question, disaggregate by answers to:

- 'The main type of economic activity in your workplace or business'
- 'What is your employment status?'
- 'At your work/ activity you work: 1. Full time 2. Part time 3. Overtime'

For those who respond 'No' to the Section D question, disaggregate by answers to:

→ 'Please record the reason why you didn't work during the last 7 days.'

Data points for all of the above are included in the ILCS.

**Lead actor involved/other actor**

ArmStat

**Comments**

Given that all of the above disaggregation points are already collected by the ILCS, this indicator is an opportunity to go beyond the percentage figure, allowing stakeholders to learn more about employment issues facing returned migrants.

Note that this will include those returning from both internal and international migration.

For reference: ILCS Questionnaire 2015, available from [www.armstat.am/file/doc/99501303.pdf](http://www.armstat.am/file/doc/99501303.pdf).



## Selected Proxy Indicators

SDG Target	Selected indicators developed
4.B	<p>Number of scholarships awarded to Armenian nationals for enrolment in higher education abroad, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, including for exchange.</p> <p><b>Data sources:</b> Records from RA Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU)</p>
10.7	<p>% of returned migrants who undertook paid work during the last 7 days.</p> <p><b>Data sources:</b> Armenian Integrated Living Conditions Survey (ILCS)</p> <p>Proportion of individual asylum applications granted.</p> <p><b>Data sources:</b> State Migration Service (SMS) asylum seekers registration electronic database</p>
17.16	<p>Number of development initiatives where Armenian nationals abroad are included as active partners.</p> <p><b>Data sources:</b> Records from various bodies, including SMS, Ministry of Diaspora, Armenian Development Agency (ADA), AGBU, major national universities</p>
17.18	<p>Proportion of SDG indicators produced at the national level with migration disaggregation.</p> <p><b>Data source:</b> National-level SDG data (as established by the SDG Council or other relevant body)</p>

## Conclusion

Throughout this project, the 2030 Agenda offered a conceptual framework for Armenia to identify key national migration and development issues, and to effectively monitor them. The prioritized targets reflect a range of issues, from labour rights to diaspora engagement and return migrant reintegration, showing the diversity of the SDGs' migration and development scope. The project also succeeded in strengthening National Statistical Offices capacities to enhance migration data collection and management, with a view not only to monitor migration progress in the context of the 2030 Agenda, but also to improve national migration data in the long term.

**In February 2018 IOM launched the two-year project “Integrating Migration into National Development Plans: Towards Policy Coherence and the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals at National and Global Levels”. This project was funded by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Sub-Fund of the Peace and Development Fund, of which the People’s Republic of China is a major contributor. Implemented by IOM Ghana, the objective of the project is to support the Government of Ghana in mainstreaming migration into national development policies and achieving policy coherence, in line with the SDGs.**

## Methodology

- ↳ **Establishment of a dedicated migration-SDG body:** Setting up an inter-agency Technical Working Group (TWG) on migration.
- ↳ **Capacity-building activities on migration and the SDGs:** Conducting capacity-building activities for the TWG.
- ↳ **Other activities TBD:** Based on priorities identified by the TWG, two initiatives from the 2016 National Migration Policy (NMP) action plan will be selected and further developed.

## Institutional Set Up

The first activity of the project involved establishing an institutional body to move forward activities relating to migration and the SDGs in Ghana. A dedicated inter-agency body was established in the form of a Technical Working Group on migration. Following this, terms of reference for the body were established, detailing its objectives, mandate, and various other functions and processes.



**INTEGRATING MIGRATION INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS: TOWARDS POLICY  
COHERENCE AND ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGs AT NATIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS  
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INTER-AGENCY TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP**

### **Background and Purpose**

In September 2015, the UN General Assembly agreed on an ambitious, global sustainable development agenda for the next 15 years and adopted a new global development framework, namely the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The 2030 Agenda calls for action from governments and other stakeholders on 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets. Unlike the Millennium Development Goals adopted more than a decade earlier, the new Agenda has explicitly incorporated migration as a global priority to develop a universal policy agenda. Migration policy is specifically mentioned in SDG target 10.7, which focuses on facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration through well-managed migration policies. In addition, the Agenda implicitly highlights the importance of safeguarding migrants' rights and needs by securing equal access of all to education, decent work, livelihoods, social protection, and health. The need to develop a global framework for addressing migration and development was further stressed at the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants held on 19 September 2016. This summit led to the adoption of the New York Declaration, which among its many commitments, aims to strengthen the global governance of migration and protect migrant rights. To operationalize global commitments at the national level, governments and partners strive to achieve overall policy coherence and mainstreaming migration into national development plans and sectoral policies. With migration so prominently enshrined in the new development agenda, it becomes essential for the international community to support the efforts of countries to:

- Continue improving national migration strategies and policies to create the right conditions for migrants and migration to positively contribute to sustainable development;
- Ensure policy coherence and mainstream migration into other sectoral policies and national development plans;
- Pilot innovative approaches towards the practical implementation of coherent, development-oriented and SDG-aligned national policies.

This was in line with the priorities set in the 2030 Agenda's SDGs, and to achieve the ambitious objective of mainstreaming migration into national development policies and ensure policy coherence. As part of the project implementation, an inter-agency technical working group is to be established to help track progress on the migration-related SDG indicators.

The objective of the project is to enable the Government of Ghana and its partners to mainstream migration into national development policies and achieve policy coherence in line with national SDG priorities.

This will be achieved through five main activities:

- Promote the formation of an inter-agency technical working group to track progress on migration-related SDG targets. The working group will identify priorities, map existing gaps and identify potential data sources.
- Develop country reports regarding the SDG objective on migration management, including relevant data.
- Conduct trainings to build the capacity of local stakeholders.
- Raise awareness of migration-related SDGs and targets.
- Test the action plan.

### **General Role of the inter-agency technical working group**

The inter-agency technical working group will play the general role of assisting in implementation, monitoring and evaluating the project.

**Specific functions:** The inter-agency technical working group will:

- provide guidance and direction to ensure the establishment of a national migration governance structure, which is the first step towards implementing the NMP;
- exchange information to track progress on migration-related SDGs;
- gather relevant information from institutions in support of project implementation;

- provide guidance and support in addressing possible obstacles encountered throughout the course of the project;
- oversee the progress of project implementation; and
- assist in evaluating the project.

#### **Composition of inter-agency technical working group:**

The group will be composed of an SDG focal person from each institution;

- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration
- Ministry for Employment and Labour Relations
- Ministry for Gender, Children and Social Protection
- Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
- Ministry of Planning
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Finance
- The Bank of Ghana
- Centre for Migration Studies
- Ghana Immigration Service
- Ghana Police Service
- National Development Planning Commission
- Ghana Statistical Services
- Office of Diaspora Relations – Office of the President
- Civil Society Platform for the Implementation

#### **Responsibilities of the inter-agency technical working group, IOM Accra:**

- Provide a draft agenda for each meeting and share it with members to get their input.
- Facilitate each meeting, adhering to the agreed agenda.
- Ensure close adherence of the work of the inter-agency technical working group to the agreed annual work plan and use each meeting to review action points agreed at the last meeting.
- Update on progress against the annual work plan to the Project Steering Committee.

#### **Responsibilities of members:**

- Attend monthly meetings. Only in exceptional cases could representatives be designated in case of absence.
- Contribute to discussions and decisions for project implementation.
- Provide regular reports to their respective ministries, department, agencies, institutions and organizations.
- Communicate issues that may be affecting project implementation to the inter-agency technical working group and project team.

#### **Financial requirement and logistical support**

Administrative and logistical support for organizing the inter-agency working group meetings will be borne by IOM. Members of the inter-agency technical working group will be entitled to a transport allowance at the end of each meeting.

## Capacity-building

A capacity-building workshop was held on migration and development in the context of the SDGs. Over two days, a series of presentations and group exercises took place on thematic topics as well as operational guidance. This introduced concepts of migration and development, and allowed for discussion on the linkages between migration and certain sectors, such as health, education, employment, labour rights and agriculture. Participants then discussed these linkages in the context of Ghana. The workshop also provided participants with practical advice on how to integrate migration considerations into their respective sectors, with a view to contributing to sustainable development under the 2030 Agenda. The workshop also included the involvement of national stakeholders. One session on how to conduct public and practitioner awareness-raising activities on migration in the SDGs was co-facilitated by a representative from the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Ghana.



## Feedback from Participants

***“These kinds of workshops are very useful because they bring out good ideas and constructive approaches at working. Mainstreaming migration into national development plans are also very brilliant ways of tackling our development challenges. However, we will require logistics support from the various sectors to be able to put in practice whatever we discuss. It is obvious that no one single sector can handle the issues of migration alone. We must join efforts and resources to be able to attain the desired results.”***

Ms Victoria Natsu, Acting Executive Secretary, Human Trafficking Secretariat, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection

***“I have learnt from the workshop how migration dynamics will help me to better position education resources. Migration is not bad. It can either develop or derail our objective settings. As an expert in the field of education, I can now better understand how and why we need to understand migration and development.”***

Mr Ernest Wesley-Otoo, Development Partners Coordinator, Ministry of Education

***“Hitherto, some of us have not read much about the issue of migration and development. I have learnt a lot from the workshop and as such my operations would be carried out with this topic in mind .... Understanding data in the areas of migration and child trafficking, for instance, can inform our approach towards finding solution to crime in the country. I also find it necessary to share knowledge and information on migration and the SDGs with my colleagues.”***

DSP Al-meyao Abass, Commanding Officer, National Rapid Deployment Force, Police Headquarters, Operations

***“What this workshop made clear is the need for the inclusion of data disaggregated by migration within its [National Development Planning Commission (NDPC)] results matrix. For me, the TWG is necessary because it keeps us focused on migration. What we need to do, however, is to set key priorities and work towards achieving them.”***

Lila-Karen Amponsah, Planning Analysts, National Development Planning Commission

## Conclusion

Through the establishment of the inter-agency TWG, the project enabled a diverse range of government stakeholders to engage with each other on national migration and development issues for the first time. The fact that the TWG includes representatives from so many different ministries increases the chances of strong horizontal policy coherence between sectors once specific interventions are designed and implemented under the auspices of the TWG. Through the capacity-building workshop, relevant stakeholders were sensitized on different migration and development topics and were able to examine these topics in the context of Ghana, preparing them also to design comprehensive, tailored interventions relating to migration and the SDGs. As of July 2018, the project is still ongoing and will develop and implement further activities.



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Participants at the workshop on “Migration and Development in the context of the SDGs”.



In Ecuador in 2014, the Decentralized Autonomous Government of the Province of Imbabura (GADPI) and its provincial government (Patronato Provincial) embarked on a process to mainstream migration into local development planning. The government wished to address the complex migration dynamics of the region, which included a large presence of Colombian refugees, many immigrants, as well as returning migrants. To address this, the government chose to mainstream migration into local development planning in order to design and implement effective policies and programmes that would protect the rights of migrants and displaced persons and ensure their access to services, as well as provide them with more opportunities and empowerment. The project started before the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and, thus, was not conducted under an SDG-related framework. However, the outputs of its migration interventions contribute to several Goals and targets, and have since been mapped to various SDGs. The process was carried out with the support of the UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI) within the framework of the project “Strengthening the Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GADs) of the Northern Zone of Ecuador on Human Mobility Issues”.

## Methodology

- ↳ **Participatory kick-off activities:** Kicking off by carrying out various participatory processes to take stock of migration and development priorities in the area.
- ↳ **Institutional set-up:** Establishing appropriate bodies and several inter-institutional coordination mechanisms to manage the mainstreaming process.
- ↳ **Migration mainstreaming:** Designing and implementing various policies and programmes relating to migration and development in the region, through mainstreaming migration into different government units’ planning.

## Consultations

To conduct a needs assessment to determine the exact requirements of the mainstreaming process, a participatory process of direct public consultation was launched. This entailed holding several public assemblies. At these assemblies, people from the Imbabura Province were gathered to share their specific needs and issues. Care was taken to include certain priority attention groups, such as children, young people, the elderly and migrants and displaced persons.



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Tania Endara, Administrator of the Provincial Government, working on capacity-building activities with the “Leaving Tracks” (Dejando Huellas) Association made up of refugee and Ecuadorian women in vulnerable situations.

## Institutional Set-up

In 2015, the Human Mobility Unit (HMU) was created. This saw the inclusion of a dedicated technical team in the provincial government’s payroll, charged with supporting and complimenting work of the various units in government regarding the migration mainstreaming process, and promoting inter-institutional coordination. Following this, the provincial government developed the “Ordinance for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Migrants, Displaced Persons, and their Family Members in the Province of Imbabura”, which declared the promotion and protection of the rights of migrants and displaced persons as public policy, and established the HMU as the agency responsible for coordination and implementation.



The provincial government mapped out various public and private actors working with migrants in the province. Following this, it was possible to coordinate with other national actors – such as the Ministries of Public Health, Economic and Social Inclusion, Education, and Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility – to move various interventions forward to protect and uphold the rights of migrants.

## Interventions: Mainstreaming Migration

Numerous government units across sectors mainstreamed migration into their planning in different ways. The other units within the provincial government, including Food Sovereignty, Health Services, and Domestic Violence and Disability, started including migrants and displaced persons as their beneficiaries. To do so, these units integrated new targets into their programming that related to migrants and their needs. Other examples of activities launched included those aiming to create economic opportunities for migrants. These included entrepreneurship fairs, training in crafts, and support for the management of migrant micro-enterprises.

Finally, the provincial government also promoted direct participation as a way to ensure the political inclusion of migrants and displaced persons. In this regard, migrants and displaced persons were encouraged to actively participate in political decision-making spaces.

## Conclusion

The project as a whole succeeded in mainstreaming migration into public policies across sectors in Imbabura. While migration mainstreaming processes tend to take place at the national level, it is at the local level where these can have the most impact. This example shows how doing so can help serve specific needs of migrant populations, as well as involve them directly in the process. The mainstreaming process in Imbabura helped make progress towards several SDG targets. For example, target 10.3 (ensuring equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome), 10.7 (facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people), 16.B (promoting non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development), 17.4 (enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development), and 17.16 (enhancing the global partnership for sustainable development).<sup>2</sup>

**Under the same “Integrating Migration into National Development Plans: Towards Policy Coherence and the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at National and Global Levels” project as Ghana, a process kicked off in Ethiopia to mainstream migration into national development policies in 2018. The objective was for government partners to strengthen their capacities in implementing coherent migration and development policies in Ethiopia, in the context of the 2030 Agenda.**

### Methodology

- ↳ **Awareness-raising and capacity-building on migration and the SDGs:** Holding sessions to raise awareness of migration in the SDGs and build the capacity of government stakeholders to take action.
- ↳ **Establishment of a dedicated migration-SDG body:** Establishing an inter-agency body to manage the migration-SDG process.
- ↳ **Activities to be decided:** Based on migration and development priorities identified by the body above, a number of interventions will be developed and implemented.

### Awareness-raising and Capacity-building

As a first step in the project, a joint awareness-raising and capacity-building training was organized in February 2018. This was aimed at government stakeholders from different ministries and was carried out in close collaboration with the National Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Taskforce Secretariat under the Attorney General’s Office. Ministries represented included the Central Statistical Agency (CSA), Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA), Ministry of Federal Urban Job Creation Opportunity and Food Security, and others.

The objectives of the training were to introduce stakeholders to migration in the SDGs, sensitize them on the concept of migration mainstreaming, and build their capacity to design concrete ways to mainstream migration. The training was also carried out to help determine the nature and composition of the working group to lead the rest of the migration-SDG process.

Participants were introduced to the different entry points of migration in the SDGs, including where targets explicitly included migration, as well as where migration was a cross-cutting theme in Goals. Participants explored



linkages between migration and different sectors, and discussed them in the context of migration and development issues in Ethiopia. The training walked participants through several methods to mainstream migration into national development planning. Following this, participants brainstormed how to design migration interventions relating to selected SDG targets in their particular sectors. To do this, they first identified relevant existing laws, policies and frameworks, and based on these frameworks discussed possible interventions.



Participants to the workshop on “Mainstreaming migration into national development planning” carried out exercises to consider migration and development links in specific sectors.

## Institutional Set-up

An existing interministerial National Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling task force secretariat helped lead the initial steps of the project, given its involvement in migration-related issues in Ethiopia. However, the next step after holding the training is to formally establish an institutional set up to lead the rest of the migration-SDG process forward.

To establish the leadership and coordination structure of the future process, consultations were conducted with different ministries. The aim was, as far as possible, to build on existing migration governance structures and coordination mechanisms instead of establishing new ones. Discussions have focused on how to adapt the Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling task force and expand its scope so it can lead the SDG-migration process. For example, the task force secretariat could lead and coordinate the process in conjunction with one ministry. As of July 2018, the process to establish the way forward is ongoing.

Once the institutional set up is decided, several activities will be undertaken, including developing a country report regarding migration-SDG objectives, suggesting and carrying out mainstreaming steps, and helping track progress on migration-related SDG targets.

## Conclusion

The project succeeded in raising awareness of concepts and practices around migration in the SDGs, and building capacity for national stakeholders to take them forward. Further, because activities to date have included different ministries, chances of achieving policy coherence in migration have been significantly boosted. Under the framework of the project, once the institutional set up is finalized, a number of mainstreaming initiatives will be implemented.



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Workshop organisers introducing the workshop on “Mainstreaming migration into national development planning”: Elisa Mosler Vidal (IOM), Malambo Moonga (IOM), Yusuf Jemaw, (Federal Attorney General Office).



## Endnotes

- 1** Note: As of July 2018 these targets are pending final government approval.
- 2** For more information, see [http://migration4development.org/sites/default/files/en-jmdi-success\\_stories.pdf](http://migration4development.org/sites/default/files/en-jmdi-success_stories.pdf).



# Annexes

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