

REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY | PROFILE 2021

MIGRATION

GOVERNANCE

INDICATORS



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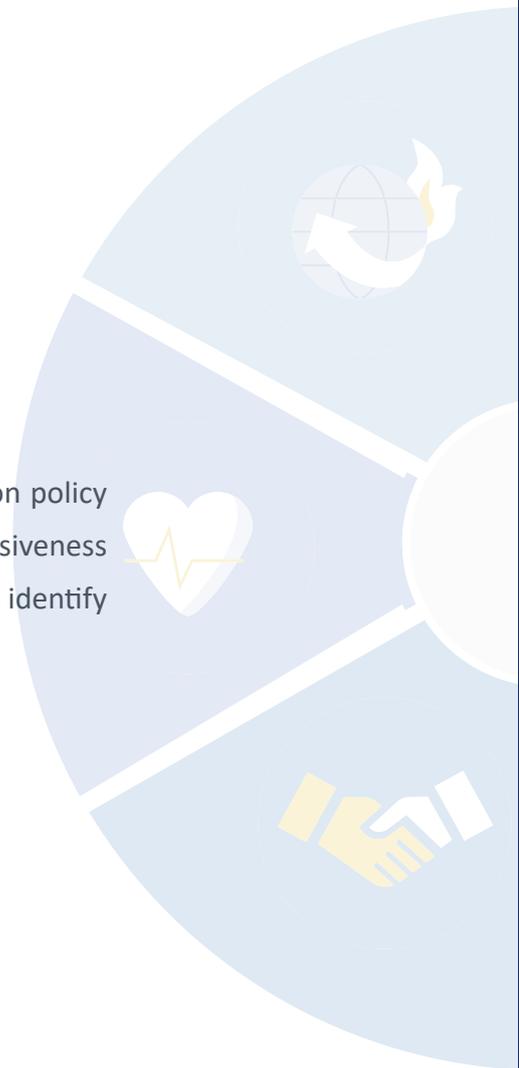
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## OBJECTIVE

The MGI aims to support well-managed migration policy by helping countries assess the comprehensiveness of their migration governance structures and identify priorities on the way forward.



The MGI can be used to spark a discussion with governments and other relevant stakeholders in the country on existing migration policy structures. It can help assess whether these structures, which have often been in place for several years, still address the main challenges and opportunities of today's reality.

# INTRODUCTION

This is an era of unprecedented mobility, and the need to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility is becoming increasingly relevant.<sup>1</sup> The need to face the challenges and to maximize the opportunities that this mobility brings has been recognized with the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which highlights the positive contribution of migrants to inclusive growth and development. Migration is integrated in a number of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets, such as ending modern slavery and addressing the vulnerability of migrant workers. However, the central reference to migration in the SDGs is Target 10.7 on facilitating “orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”.<sup>2</sup>

The incorporation of Target 10.7 into the 2030 Agenda created the need to define “planned and well-managed migration policies.” This is why, in 2015, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) developed the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF). This Framework offers a concise view of an ideal approach that allows a State to determine what it might need to govern migration well and in a way that suits its circumstances.<sup>3</sup> The Framework was welcomed by IOM Member States in the same year.

In an effort to operationalize the MiGOF, IOM worked with Economist Impact to develop the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI), a standard set of approximately 90 indicators to assist countries in assessing their migration policies and advance the conversation on what well-governed migration might look like in practice.

The MGI helps countries identify good practices as well as areas with potential for further development and can offer insights on the policy levers that countries can use to develop their migration governance structures. However, the MGI recognizes that all countries have different realities, challenges and opportunities that relate to migration. Therefore, the MGI does not rank countries on the design or implementation of their migration policies. Finally, the MGI does not measure migration policy outcomes or institutional effectiveness. Instead, it takes stock of the migration-related policies in place and operates as a benchmarking framework that provides insights on policy measures that countries might want to consider as they progress towards good migration governance.

This country profile presents a summary of the well-developed areas of the migration governance structures of the Republic of Paraguay (hereinafter referred to as Paraguay), as well as the areas with potential for further development, as assessed by the MGI.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> IOM Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance, Seventeenth Session (S/17/4 of 29 September 2015), Article 2.

<sup>2</sup> IOM Council, 106th Session, Migration Governance Framework (C/106/40 of 4 November 2015), page 1, footnote 1. Available at <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/106/C-106-40-Migration-Governance-Framework.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> The MGI initiative is a policy-benchmarking programme led by IOM and implemented with the support of Economist Impact. Funding is provided by IOM Member States.

# CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

## MiGOF

The IOM MiGOF sets out the essential elements to support planned and well-managed migration. It seeks to present, in a consolidated, coherent and comprehensive way, a set of three principles and three objectives which, if respected and fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane, orderly, and benefits migrants and society.

At the basis of

### PRINCIPLES

1. **Adherence** to international standards and fulfilment of migrants' rights.
2. **Formulates** policy using evidence and "whole-of-government" approach.
3. **Engages** with partners to address migration and related issues.

### OBJECTIVES

1. **Advance** the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society.
2. **Effectively** address the mobility dimensions of crises.
3. **Ensure** that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

## MGI

### WHAT IT IS



A set of indicators that offers insights on policy levers that countries can use to strengthen their migration governance structures



A tool that identifies good practices and areas that could be further developed



A consultative process that advances dialogues on migration governance by clarifying what "well-governed migration" might look like in the context of SDG Target 10.7

Which supports the measurement of

### WHAT IT IS NOT



Not a ranking of countries



Not assessing impacts of policies



Not prescriptive



### TARGET 10.7

"Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and **well-managed migration policies.**"



KEY

FINDINGS

The MGI is composed of around 90 indicators grouped under the 6 different dimensions of migration governance that draw upon the MiGOF categories:



MIGRANTS'  
RIGHTS  
PAGE 12

Indicators in this domain look at the extent to which migrants have access to certain social services such as health, education and social security. It also looks at family reunification, access to work, and access to residency and citizenship. The international conventions signed and ratified are also included.



WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT  
APPROACH  
PAGE 14

Indicators in this area assess countries' institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks related to migration policies. This area also looks at the existence of national migration strategies that are in line with development objectives and overseas development efforts, as well as institutional transparency and coherence in relation to migration management.



PARTNERSHIPS  
PAGE 16

This category focuses on countries' efforts to cooperate on migration-related issues with other States and with relevant non-governmental actors, including civil society organizations and the private sector.



WELL-BEING  
OF MIGRANTS  
PAGE 18

Indicators in this area assess countries' policies on the recognition of migrants' educational and professional qualifications, provisions regulating student migration and the existence of bilateral labour agreements between countries. Aspects of diaspora engagement in the country of origin and migrant remittances are also under this domain.



MOBILITY DIMENSION  
OF CRISES  
PAGE 20

This category looks at the type and level of preparedness of countries when they are faced with mobility dimensions of crises. The questions look at the processes in place for nationals and non-nationals both during and after disasters, including if humanitarian assistance is equally available to migrants as it is to citizens.



SAFE, ORDERLY  
AND REGULAR  
MIGRATION  
PAGE 22

This area looks at countries' approach to migration management in terms of border control and enforcement policies, admission criteria for migrants, preparedness and resilience in the case of significant and unexpected migration flows, as well as the fight against trafficking in persons.



## 1

## ADHERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND FULFILMENT OF MIGRANTS' RIGHTS

### 1.1. International conventions ratified

**Table 1.** Signature and ratification of international conventions

Convention name	Ratified (Year)
International Labour Organization (ILO) Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97)	No
United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (also known as the Refugee Convention), 1951	Yes (1970)
United Nations conventions on statelessness, 1954 and 1961	Yes (2011, 2014)
ILO Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143)	No
United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), 1989	Yes (1990)
United Nations International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW), 1990	Yes (2008)

### 1.2. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

All migrants have access to public health services, irrespective of their migration status. Article 68 of the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Paraguay guarantees the right to health for all persons, without discrimination based on nationality or migration status. Access to health care is universal for all permanent residents, and all foreign nationals may access health services without distinction as to nationality and on the same basis as Paraguayans. Article 62 of the National Migration Policy (2015) in turn guarantees the fundamental rights of all permanent and temporary migrants, including access to health care.

Both long-term and temporary residents have access to Paraguay's social security system. Law No. 1860 (1950) establishing the Social Insurance Institute provides that all workers, whether salaried or providers of services through work contracts, must be insured with the Institute, with no distinction being made between nationals and residents. Article 21 of Migration Law No. 978 (1996), moreover, stipulates that aliens who are granted permanent residency will enjoy the same rights as Paraguayans (this includes the spouse, minor children and foreign parents of the person admitted). Meanwhile, Article 62 of the National Migration Policy guarantees the fundamental rights of permanent and temporary migrants, including access to employment and social security.

Under Resolution No. 113/9 (2013) of the General Directorate of Migration (*Dirección General de Migraciones*, DGM), temporary residents may obtain a two-year Temporary Residency Card, which guarantees access to the social security system. Likewise, in the framework of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), of which Paraguay is a member,<sup>5</sup> all nationals of member countries who are granted

<sup>5</sup> Other member countries are Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. As of 2021, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has been suspended, while the Plurinational State of Bolivia is in the process of accession.

residency status in another member of the group are authorized to work on the same basis as the nationals of the receiving country.

Under Article 48 of the Law on Migration, temporary migrants residing in Paraguay may apply to be reclassified as permanent residents. The documentation required for the formalities at the DGM includes an identity card, a certificate of criminal record, proof of civil status and evidence of economic solvency. In addition, Article 148 of the Constitution of Paraguay provides that non-nationals may obtain Paraguayan nationality by naturalization upon completion of a minimum of three years' residence in the national territory.

Paraguay has policies to combat hate crimes, violence, xenophobia and discrimination against migrants. More specifically, Paraguay's Constitution penalizes different forms of discrimination and provides for equal access to education, health care and employment. Similarly, Decree No. 4483 (2015) adopting the National Migration Policy of Paraguay establishes the principle of non-discrimination as regards age, gender, ethnic background, race, language, religion or any other factors relating to migrants. It also facilitates the entry and settlement of persons or groups displaced from their countries of origin for reasons of ethnic discrimination.

### 1.3. Areas with potential for further development

Article 73 of the Constitution of Paraguay guarantees the right to education for all persons, without discrimination on the basis of nationality or migration status. The National Migration Policy furthermore guarantees the fundamental rights of migrants, both permanent and temporary, including access to education. In practice, however, residency status is required, which means that access depends on migration status. Meanwhile, temporary residency is required in order to access university-level education.

The National Migration Policy recognizes family reunification as an entitlement of immigrants. However, family reunification is possible only for migrants with permanent residency status, and so far, no regulations have been drawn up stipulating the procedure for family reunification and access to employment for family members. Under Migration Law No. 978, spouses, minor children or parents of permanent residents are deemed to be permanent residents too, although it does not expressly address family reunification. Family members may also apply for the type of permanent residency that is accorded to foreign nationals who are children and spouses of Paraguayans, and based on this degree of kinship, they are able to document their eligibility under Law No. 2193 (2003).<sup>6</sup> To that end, they must prove that they are children or spouses of Paraguayans and that they are economically solvent. To maintain family unity, Article 2 of the General Law on Refugees No. 1938 (2002) in turn stipulates that asylum will be granted to the spouse and the immediate descendants and ascendants of the person granted asylum.

Permanent residents enjoy access to employment on the same basis as Paraguayan citizens, while temporary residents may take up only the employment authorized under their residence permit. Under Article 21 of Migration Law No. 978, foreign nationals who obtain permanent residency will enjoy the same rights as Paraguayans (subject to the modalities and restrictions laid out in the Constitution and applicable legislation). This includes the spouse, minor children and foreign parents of the person admitted. Foreign nationals admitted or authorized to enter as temporary residents are allowed to engage in the remunerated or lucrative activities, whether independently or as full-time employees, that were taken into account for the granting of the corresponding entry permit.

Employment in civil service is open to Paraguayan nationals only, pursuant to Civil Service Law No. 1626 (2000). This law applies to all positions in the central Government, decentralized bodies, departmental units and municipalities.

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<sup>6</sup> This authorizes the national police to issue identity cards to foreign spouses of Paraguayans and foreign children of a Paraguayan father or mother.



## 2

## FORMULATES POLICY USING EVIDENCE AND WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH

### 2.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

The General Directorate of Migration (DGM), a division of the Ministry of the Interior, is the government body responsible for drafting and updating the National Migration Policy approved under Decree No. 4483 (2015) and for coordinating migration policy implementation. The DGM is also tasked with registering and monitoring migration movements in the country's border regions and with ascertaining the presence of irregular residents in the territory. For its part, the Commission on Migration Affairs and Development of the Chamber of Deputies of the National Congress is empowered to advise on all matters or drafts relating to legislation, migration policy development and the protection of migrants.

There are several government bodies with responsibility for policy on emigration and the diaspora. Articles 119 and 120 of Migration Law No. 978 (1996) state that the DGM, in conjunction with various agencies,<sup>7</sup> is charged with implementing migration policy and with undertaking and facilitating the study of the causes and consequences of outmigration by Paraguayans, with a view to proposing the adoption of policies and programmes to retain or repatriate them. In addition, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (*Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores*, MRE) plans, coordinates and implements foreign policy geared to promoting and safeguarding the interests of the State and its nationals, and upholding international law. The Directorate for Attention to Paraguayan Communities Abroad (*Dirección de Atención a las Comunidades Paraguayas en el Extranjero*, DACPE), a subdivision of the MRE, coordinates efforts to interact with the Paraguayan diaspora. Its functions include assisting with the regularization of nationals abroad, providing legal aid in connection with their human rights, coordinating actions relating to remittances by Paraguayans abroad, and assisting returnees. For its part, the Development Secretariat for Returnees and Refugee Compatriots (*Secretaría de Desarrollo para Repatriados y Refugiados Connacionales*, SEDERREC), which reports directly to the Office of the President of the Republic, also discharges functions in this field.

Articles 1 and 2 of Migration Law No. 978 state that promoting the population flow and labour force that the country requires will entail immigration of qualified human resources, foreign nationals with capital, farmers, and Paraguayans who wish to return to the country. In addition, Paraguay's embassies and consulates are tasked with providing cultural services designed to preserve the national identity and encourage voluntary social assistance activities. The law also refers to the migration of cross-border and seasonal agricultural workers, who must have prior authorization from the DGM for such purposes.

Paraguay has a clear, transparent and easily accessible body of migration rules and regulations. The DGM has a compendium of laws at its disposal, available on its website, which includes migration-related statutory provisions. The DGM website also has a list of procedures setting out the requirements for entering and leaving the country, residency, and other immigration formalities. The web page is available in 10 languages besides Spanish.

Paraguay compiles and publishes migration data on a regular basis. The DGM publishes monthly immigration and emigration statistics, along with data on the settlement of foreign nationals in the country at annual intervals.

<sup>7</sup> The General Directorate of Migration acts in coordination with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security and in conjunction with Paraguay's embassies and consulates.

## 2.2. Areas with potential for further development

While there are working groups that sometimes serve for nationwide interministerial coordination on migration matters, there is no dedicated mechanism for this purpose. The National Migration Policy provides for the creation of a coordination and liaison body among government agencies involved in the formulation of public policy on migration, but there is no evidence that this body is active. There is, for example, an Inter-institutional Working Group for the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons in Paraguay as well as the National Refugee Commission, which meet frequently.

As an arm of the Ministry of the Interior, the DGM is responsible for implementing Paraguay's National Migration Policy, enacted in 2015 through Decree No. 4483, and which constitutes the framework for a new operational system for enhancing the quality of migration management. Paraguay still needs a national migration strategy, however, as migration is currently managed on an ad hoc basis, with agreements being reached between institutions as needed. Besides this, the effective application of the Policy is currently being hampered by the fact that the Migration Law is outdated and in the process of revision.

Efforts are under way to enhance the vertical coherence of the Migration Policy. Although Paraguay has prepared a new draft migration law with a view to amending Law No. 978 of 1996, the matter has not moved forward in Congress. The Migration Policy has so far been approved, but not its regulations and the actions it contains. Frequent meetings and consultations nonetheless take place with the Civil Aeronautics Directorate and the National Customs Directorate. Moreover, agreements are being reached between Argentina and Paraguay through the Yacyretá Binational Entity in order to facilitate mobility and ensure greater control over the flow of migrants.

While it is possible to access data compiled by the DGM and broken down by gender, this is not routine practice in the case of regular reports on migration movements and occurs only upon specific request. In addition, the National Statistics Institute (INE) publishes migration data and statistics broken down by gender, gleaned from surveys and censuses. Owing to the nature of the operations, however, the data are not updated at regular intervals, as is the case of the National Population and Housing Census, of which the established and recommended frequency is every 10 years. The conduct of specific research on migration is an area with potential for further development. Conducted in 2012, the latest census<sup>8</sup> included questions regarding provenance or country of origin, as well as migration data concerning the families covered by the census. Another aspect that can be further developed is the disaggregation of administrative records for statistical purposes – in particular in those institutions that manage migration-related issues, such as the DGM and the SEDERREC, so as to facilitate the development of information systems that make for the timely availability of relevant data.

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<sup>8</sup> The next census is set for 2022.

## 3

ENGAGES WITH PARTNERS TO ADDRESS  
MIGRATION AND RELATED ISSUES

## 3.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Paraguay is part of an official regional consultative process called the South American Conference on Migration (SACM), or the Lima Process,<sup>9</sup> which aims to provide South American countries with a forum for consultation on migrants' rights, migration statistics, and the fight against human smuggling and trafficking. Paraguay also forms part of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), a platform for regional integration (included in the National Migration Policy (2015)) among its member countries.

After joining MERCOSUR, Paraguay signed the Multilateral Agreement on Social Security (AMSS) in 1997, an agreement promoting intraregional mobility among member countries. Likewise, in 2015 it signed the Social and Labour Declaration of MERCOSUR, setting the parameters to facilitate the movement of workers between the signatory countries.

Paraguay has signed cooperation agreements on consular affairs and migration with Ecuador (2009) and Chile (2017). The country has also signed memorandums of understanding (MOUs) and migration-related inter-institutional agreements with Argentina in 2014, 2018, and 2020 and the Republic of Korea in 2013.

As regards participation in bilateral and multilateral negotiations and consultations, Paraguay is part of the MERCOSUR Specialized Migration Forum, which meets annually to discuss and consult on migration matters. Meanwhile, in 2006, a bilateral agreement on the regularization of migration was signed with the Plurinational State of Bolivia, under which both countries commit to allow nationals of either party who have entered and remained as irregular migrants on the territory of the other to apply for registration and authorization of residence.

Paraguay has also signed regional labour movement agreements in the MERCOSUR framework. In 2009, Paraguay ratified the Agreement on Residence for Nationals of MERCOSUR Member States (*Acuerdo sobre Residencia para los Nacionales de los Estados Parte del MERCOSUR*), under which citizens of member countries are granted the right to obtain legal residence in the territory of another State Party.

Paraguay has been a State Party to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees since 1 April 1970<sup>10</sup> and became a member of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in 2021. The Government of Paraguay and UNHCR signed a mutual cooperation agreement in 2013. Since 1953, Paraguay has also been a Member State of IOM, which has maintained an office in the country since 1988.

## 3.2. Areas with potential for further development

The Government collaborates on an ad hoc basis with civil society organizations on migration issues. Article 82 of the National Migration Policy encourages civil society involvement in drawing up the precepts applicable to migration. For example, civil society bodies were welcomed to take part in the process of formulating, revising and improving the new proposed Law on Migration,<sup>11</sup> which is still being studied in Congress. In that process, the General Directorate of Migration (DGM) together with civil society sponsored the draft law submitted to the Chamber of Deputies of the National Congress,

<sup>9</sup> The Lima Process was launched in 2000, and its participants are Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

<sup>10</sup> More information is available at [www.acnur.org/fileadmin/Documentos/BDL/2001/0506.pdf](http://www.acnur.org/fileadmin/Documentos/BDL/2001/0506.pdf).

<sup>11</sup> It has been under study by the Human Rights Commission of the Paraguay Chamber of Deputies since 16 December 2020, a process still ongoing as of May 2021. This is the first stage of consideration in the Chamber of Deputies.

while IOM provided financial and technical cooperation on migration and border management expertise for the purposes of the preliminary draft.

The DGM collaborates with IOM and other bodies, as required – for example, regarding the Paraguayan Standard Model of Internal Control for Public Entities (*Modelo Estándar de Control Interno para las Entidades Públicas del Paraguay*). There is also evidence of cooperation with civil society organizations in events such as the Migrants' Forum in Paraguay. Inaugurated in 2009, the Forum is held annually and includes the Paraguayan Migrant Support Association (ASOPAMI), the Federation of Immigrants in Paraguay (FEDIPAR) and the DGM. In addition, a Panel Debate on the Legal Situation and Social Integration of Migrants, Returnees and Refugees takes place annually in the city of Asunción, usually in an annex of the Chamber of Deputies.



## 4

## ADVANCES THE SOCIOECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF MIGRANTS AND SOCIETY

### 4.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

There are formal criteria in place in Paraguay for the recognition of foreign qualifications. Resolution No. 5867 (2017) of the Ministry of Education and Sciences lays out requirements and fees for the validation of qualifications conferred by foreign institutions of higher learning. This applies to all types of duly certified academic qualifications, without specification as to professions.

Besides the above-mentioned, no distinction is made between international and Paraguayan students when it comes to accessing higher education. International students, however, must obtain a one-year Temporary Student Permit of Residence, to be renewed every academic year, or permanent residence. Similarly, under treaty arrangements referred to as the *Régimen de Convenio Cultural*, students from signatory countries (Argentina, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil and Uruguay) are allowed to begin their university studies at national (public) universities in any of the said countries (including Paraguay) without having to sit entrance exams.

Paraguay participates in international schemes with common frameworks for qualifications. Through decisions of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) Council of the Common Market (CMC), Laws No. 824 (1996) and No. 1080 (1997) were approved, making reference, respectively, to a protocol and an education integration agreement on the recognition of university qualifications for the purposes of pursuing postgraduate studies at universities in the MERCOSUR region.

There is also a cultural, scientific and technological cooperation agreement between Paraguay and Italy, adopted by Law No. 1826/2001. The agreement is of unlimited duration and encourages scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries, through the exchange of teaching staff and researchers, along with the holding of congresses, seminars and scientific exhibitions, among other initiatives.

The National Migration Policy (2015) proposes the facilitation of remittances, both those sent by emigrants to their families from their countries of residence and those sent by immigrants settled in Paraguay to their relatives in their countries of origin. The aim is to make fund transfers easier and less costly, and to offer savings, loans and productive investment programmes to migrants.

Finally, the Development Secretariat for Returnees and Refugee Compatriots incentivizes small and medium-sized enterprises and ventures launched by repatriated entrepreneurs by providing them with funding, seed capital and technical assistance free of charge, all of which support the economic and social advancement of returnees who wish to launch businesses.<sup>12</sup>

### 4.2. Areas with potential for further development

Although Migration Law No. 978 (1996) deems the immigration of qualified human resources to be favourable to the country's advancement, no national assessments have been conducted to monitor immigration needs or the impacts of outmigration on the labour market. Neither is there evidence of a programme to manage labour immigration. Through the Continuous Household Survey, labour market data are compiled and published, broken down by gender, but not by migration status. While there may be relevant information on the subject for particular periods, follow-up over time is rendered impossible considering the specific aim of the survey, the excessive number of topics being researched and the resulting increase in the number of non-responses.

<sup>12</sup> Under this programme, the process lasts three months, and four calls are planned for 2021.

The Fourth National Equality Plan (2018–2024) aims to promote gender equality in the workplace and in political and social life, and specifically includes women in vulnerable situations as well as migrant women. The Constitution of Paraguay and the National Development Plan of Paraguay 2030 (2014) also address gender equality. Despite this, there are no specific measures for promoting gender equality for migrants in the workforce.

Paraguay lacks a scheme that allows international students to work in the country after graduation. There is no evidence of any such programme either from the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security; the General Directorate of Migration; or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Under Migration Law No. 978, all residents, whether temporary or permanent, are entitled to fair work. Paraguay has ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families through Law No. 3452/2008, which creates a protective legal framework enabling migrants to obtain work on an equal footing with nationals. However, there is no evidence of specific measures to promote the ethical recruitment of migrants in the country. A further factor is the failure to ratify Convention No. 97 (1949) on Migrant Workers and Convention No. 143 (1975) on Supplementary Provisions for Migrant Workers.

The development of mechanisms to protect the rights of Paraguayan nationals working abroad is an area with potential for further development, although some actions can be identified in this regard. The National Migration Policy offers protection and guidance to emigrants, for which reason the main aim of the Directorate for Attention to Paraguayan Communities Abroad (DACPE) is the provision of legal aid so as to safeguard the human rights of Paraguayans abroad. This notwithstanding, there is no evidence of specific actions in this area.

Although Paraguay has included Target 10.c (encouraging the productive use of remittances) of the Sustainable Development Goals among the priorities of its development plan, there is no active programme to promote the establishment of formal remittance schemes. DACPE is tasked with coordinating actions relating to remittances from Paraguayans abroad, but there is no evidence of any action in this field. The Central Bank is responsible for registering remittances, though there is no focus on analysing the sending of remittances by migrants or how the receiving families use them.

So far, efforts to further develop financial inclusiveness for the population have not focused specifically on migrants or their family members, but rather on the population in general. The National Financial Inclusion Strategy (2014) delves into financial education, providing consumer protection and promoting electronic payment services. This strategy applies to all persons residing in Paraguay and aims to provide affordable and good-quality financial services, including for foreign nationals not yet in possession of a Paraguayan identity card.



## 5

## EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSES THE MOBILITY DIMENSIONS OF CRISES

### 5.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Paraguay's diplomatic service (embassies and consulates) provides assistance to the emigrant communities residing in different countries of destination. In addition, the Directorate for Attention to Paraguayan Communities Abroad, which reports to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MRE), is responsible for receiving relatives of Paraguayans residing abroad for such purposes as the filing of complaints, obtaining documents, repatriation applications, the return of minors, the repatriation of bodies, the forwarding of documents, and sharing travel recommendations, among other things. In the context of the health emergency caused by COVID-19, the MRE and the Development Secretariat for Returnees and Refugee Compatriots (SEDERREC) worked together to ensure the availability of humanitarian flights and buses for the safe and orderly return of nationals from abroad.

The aim of the National Refugee Commission (*Comisión Nacional de Refugiados*, CONARE) is to offer asylum to foreigners facing persecution for reasons of race, gender, religion, nationality and/or belonging to a particular social group, allowing them to enter Paraguay as refugees and apply for residency. The General Law on Refugees No. 1938 (2002) establishes an exceptional immigration procedure for people who have been forced to leave their country owing to risks to their safety or freedom. This procedure includes the possibility of being issued a temporary three-year residence permit by the General Directorate of Migration (DGM), which may be renewed or made permanent, with exemption from all requirements to be met by the foreign national and which entails contact with the authorities of their country of origin. Migration Law No. 978 (1996) provides for some exceptions to immigration procedures for persons without a nationality or who, owing to exceptionally justified circumstances, lack the requisite documentation for admission to the DGM.

Specific measures have been developed to assist migrants during crisis situations. DGM Resolution No. 062 (2019) addresses the situation of vulnerability of Venezuelan citizens such that they can obtain temporary residence in Paraguay. Furthermore, Paraguay is a participant of the Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V), together with agencies of the United Nations System – mainly IOM and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – and non-governmental organizations.

### 5.2. Areas with potential for further development

The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2015), a public policy instrument developed by the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, states that migration, combined with the expansion of cities over plains, has helped to amplify people's exposure to extreme natural phenomena and environmental degradation. In July 2021, the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)<sup>13</sup> was updated, and also contained the First Adaptation Communication, setting out objectives, lines of action, gaps, and needs for reducing the vulnerability associated with the hazards stemming from climate change. It expressly mentions the need to promote Paraguay's participation in discussions and negotiations relating to the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, so as to determine actions for tackling and minimizing loss and damage associated with the adverse impacts of climate change, including extreme and slow-onset weather effects that give rise to forced displacement and migration.

<sup>13</sup> More information is available at [www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Paraguay%20First/ACTUALIZACION%20DE%20LA%20NDC%20DEL%20PARAGUAY\\_Versi%C3%B3n%20Final.pdf](http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Paraguay%20First/ACTUALIZACION%20DE%20LA%20NDC%20DEL%20PARAGUAY_Versi%C3%B3n%20Final.pdf).

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Policy (2018) does not outline a contingency plan for the management of large-scale population movements in times of crisis, nor does it contain specific provisions to prevent and deal with the impacts of displacement caused by environmental disasters.

The National Risk Management and Reduction Plan (2013) includes a strategic education and communication pillar aimed at enhancing the risk management capabilities of the National Emergency Secretariat (*Secretaría de Emergencia Nacional*). Since 2015, Paraguay has also had an early warning system that covers both natural events and those caused by human activity or by the interaction of both factors. Yet there is no evidence of the implementation of a two-way communication mechanism (between the Government and citizens) during emergencies or of a system that takes into account the vulnerabilities of migrants.

There are some policies and programmes in place in Paraguay that address the repatriation and reintegration of migrants, but there is no overall strategy or policy on the matter. The goals of the National Development Plan 2030, for example, include the repatriation of all Paraguayans, promoting their job market, fostering economic and social reintegration, and providing support and domiciliation for innovative business start-ups. The National Migration Policy (2015) encourages reintegration programmes and the voluntary return of nationals who have emigrated. The Migration Law foresees the repatriation of Paraguayans who have emigrated and facilitates the transfer of personal effects as well as production assets and capital. Besides these, as previously mentioned, SEDERREC has a financial support programme for returning nationals who wish to start up businesses. In the course of 2021, SEDERREC received technical and financial backing from IOM for the preparation of a draft Return and Reintegration Policy for Paraguay. This would provide the first ever specific framework for the above-mentioned issues. The offered support also includes the formulation of recommendations for readjusting the regulations governing the powers and functions of SEDERREC as a State entity that assists Paraguayan nationals in their return and reintegration, and embodies a gender and human-rights approach.



## 6

## ENSURES THAT MIGRATION TAKES PLACE IN A SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MANNER

## 6.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

The General Directorate of Migration (DGM), which forms part of the Ministry of the Interior, is the institution tasked with registering and monitoring migration movements in the country's border regions and ascertaining the presence of irregular residents in the territory through random checks at the main border posts. Among its functions are security, administration, supervision, and control and implementation of migration policies and applicable regulations.

Furthermore, Integrated Control Areas (ACIs) are geographical areas where integrated controls are undertaken by officers from various migration-related services of at least two countries. The ACIs make it possible to regulate the integrated migration controls effected by immigration officers from the parties involved, making simultaneous use of similar and compatible administrative and operational procedures, and using approaches that complement and facilitate operations in order to ensure the expeditious movement of people at the border. Paraguay has seven ACIs located at border crossings with Brazil (Foz de Iguazú/Ciudad del Este, Pedro Juan Caballero, Salto del Guairá, Santa Helena) and Argentina (Clorinda/Puerto Falcón, Posadas, Encarnación), where integrated checks are made on neighbourhood, tourist, vehicular and rail traffic. The ACI personnel coordinating on the Paraguayan side comprises the National Customs Directorate (*Dirección Nacional de Aduanas*, DNA), the DGM, the National Transport Directorate (*Dirección Nacional de Transporte*, DINATRA), the National Shipping and Ports Administration (*Administración Nacional de Navegación y Puertos*, ANNP), the National Police (*Policía Nacional*, PN), the Paraguayan Railways (*Ferrocarriles del Paraguay S.A.*), and the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (*Ministerio de Salud Pública y Bienestar Social*, MSPBS), among other institutions.<sup>14</sup> These players simultaneously verify compliance with all legal, regulatory, and administrative provisions on the entry and exit of people, goods, and means of passenger and cargo transport at border posts.<sup>15</sup>

In addition, the Tripartite Security Command provides support in combating transnational organized crime. It comprises officers drawn from institutions in Argentina (National Gendarmerie, Federal Police, Naval Prefecture, Ministry of Internal Security), Brazil (Federal Police, Federal Highway Police, Brazilian Intelligence Agency) and Paraguay (National Police through the Directorate for the Investigation of Punishable Acts, Division for the Implementation of International Agreements, Secretariat for the Prevention and Investigation of Terrorism, Department for the Suppression of Organized Crime, Department of Economic and Financial Crimes). This body's mission is to implement cooperation measures in matters of security, police coordination, and the sharing of security information in border areas common to the three countries, which encompass and surround the cities of Puerto Iguazú (Argentina), Foz de Iguazú (Brazil) and Ciudad del Este (Paraguay).<sup>16</sup> It represents a subregional public security coordination mechanism focused on combating transnational organized crime (narcotics trafficking, arms and ammunition trafficking, smuggling, drug trafficking, kidnapping of persons, money laundering, human smuggling and trafficking, and terrorism, among others).<sup>17</sup>

The DGM provides basic and continuing education and training for immigration inspectors – including those stationed at migration checkpoints at the border – in international legal standards, crimes of

<sup>14</sup> More information is available at [www.sice.oas.org/trade/mrcsrs/resolutions/Res2907.pdf](http://www.sice.oas.org/trade/mrcsrs/resolutions/Res2907.pdf).

<sup>15</sup> A partial-scope trade facilitation agreement was concluded between Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, called the Recife Agreement, approved by the Council of the Common Market (CMC) in 1993 through Decision No. 5. More information is available at [https://normas.mercosurint/simfiles/normativas/16407\\_DEC\\_004-2000\\_ES\\_Acuerdo%20de%20Recife\\_Acta%201\\_00.pdf](https://normas.mercosurint/simfiles/normativas/16407_DEC_004-2000_ES_Acuerdo%20de%20Recife_Acta%201_00.pdf).

<sup>16</sup> More information is available at [www.mdi.gov.py/index.php/component/k2/item/13101-ministro-del-interior-destaca-cooperación-policial-entre-argentina-brasil-y-paraguay-en-el-marco-del-25º-aniversario-del-comando-tripartito](http://www.mdi.gov.py/index.php/component/k2/item/13101-ministro-del-interior-destaca-cooperación-policial-entre-argentina-brasil-y-paraguay-en-el-marco-del-25º-aniversario-del-comando-tripartito).

<sup>17</sup> The Tripartite Security Command for the Tri-Border Area was created through an agreement, the *Acta de Puerto Yguazú*, in 1996.

migrant smuggling and human trafficking, migrant trafficking and smuggling procedures, identification and treatment of victims, the interviewing of victims and witnesses, reactive and preventive investigation, investigative techniques, the arrest phase and subsequent procedures. In addition, the DGM participates in training sessions on a comprehensive approach to human trafficking, intended for peer institutions.

The requirements for entering and leaving the country, residency applications, and other procedures are clearly described on the DGM website under the section headed *Trámites* (Procedures). On its website, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MRE) sets out relevant regulations, frequently asked questions, and information for specific queries. This website also has a section called *Tipos de Radicación en Paraguay* (Types of Residency in Paraguay), clearly explaining the categories of residency and the corresponding application procedures.

There are measures for attracting nationals who have emigrated from Paraguay. Migration Law No. 978 (1996) establishes certain tax benefits for Paraguayan nationals or their relatives who wish to return to the country. The fees for the consular or administrative actions necessary for repatriation are waived. Taxes are also waived on all personal effects, furniture, working implements, tools, machines and working vehicles to be used for their productive activities in the country.

The Development Secretariat for Returnees and Refugee Compatriots offers several exemptions to returning nationals by issuing them (free of charge) with the Certificate of Repatriation. This certificate opens the way for tariff exemptions and preferential treatment for some procedures such as the validation of qualifications. It can likewise give access to the Support for Returning Entrepreneurs programme, which offers training and financial assistance.

Paraguay has Law No. 2396 (2004) approving the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. In addition, there is Law No. 4788, or the Comprehensive Law against Trafficking in Persons (2012), the aim of which is to prevent and penalize trafficking in persons in any of its forms, perpetrated on the national territory or abroad. Both laws confer broad mandates with respect to the recruitment, transport, transfer and receiving of persons by any means, so as to force them to work or provide services, or subject them to slavery or similar practices, bondage or servitude, or the removal of organs – and provide for preventing, combating and penalizing these practices.

The Inter-institutional Working Group for the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons in Paraguay is tasked with devising and implementing information measures that take into account gender, cultural and ethnic diversity, and vulnerability factors. The National Plan for the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons in Paraguay, approved in 2020 through Decree No. 4473, aims to combat human trafficking and includes preventive action as well as action for the care and protection of persons affected, and for prosecuting and penalizing traffickers. The Foreign Office is responsible for the nationwide coordination of its implementation.

Paraguay has in place measures to combat the exploitation of migrant labour. The National Strategy for the Prevention of Forced Labour in Paraguay was adopted in 2016 by Decree No. 6285/16, and it lays out clear measures to prevent and penalize the exploitation of migrant labour. The gender dimension is taken into account in both instances.

The International Affairs Directorate of the Ministry of Children and Adolescents is in charge of managing and supervising all processes relating to migrant children and adolescents. As pertains to the international return of children, for example, Paraguay has acceded to international conventions such as The Hague Convention of 1980 and the Inter-American Convention.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> More information is available at [www.pj.gov.py/contenido/814-restitucion-internacional-de-menores/814](http://www.pj.gov.py/contenido/814-restitucion-internacional-de-menores/814).

Paraguay has adequate policies and procedures for the timely identification of migrants in vulnerable situations and for offering them proper assistance and protection. The National Migration Policy (2015) recognizes the rights intended to guarantee gender equality and preferential attention to vulnerable persons and social and cultural groups. In addition, the Migration Facilitation Protocol for Venezuelan Nationals (*Protocolo de Facilitación Migratoria para Ciudadanos Venezolanos*) has been introduced, as a mechanism that eases the requirements for obtaining authorization of temporary residence in Paraguay for vulnerable Venezuelan citizens for the duration of the crisis in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The Protocol was established in conjunction with Migration Law No. 978 and DGM Resolution No. 062 (2019). The Protocol also envisages priority attention to Venezuelan migrants wishing to take up residence in the country.<sup>19</sup>

The Ministry of Public Defence has had a specialized group for assistance to migrants and refugees since 2019. In 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, assistance was given to 66 persons for a variety of reasons, including to unaccompanied minors entering the country, who were assisted by advocates for children and young people. The Ministry of Public Defence also assisted persons of other nationalities facing labour problems or being denied their freedom in Paraguay.

## 6.2. Areas with potential for further development

The Consular Information System (SIC) of the MRE is the body responsible for the granting of visas, though there is no evidence that the system conducts centralized monitoring of persons overstaying their visas in the country.

Although the National Migration Policy encourages the creation of associations of immigrants who have settled in the country and the dissemination of useful information on procedures for the regularization of stays and residence in the national territory, there is no specific policy to facilitate the reintegration of migrants.

The Government has not organized language training courses for border-control personnel or courses in gender-related or cultural matters. In practice, responsibility for running such training courses does not lie exclusively with any one particular institution, but is incumbent on each government agency.

The National Commission on Fundamental Labour Rights and the Prevention of Forced Labour (*Comisión Nacional de Derechos Fundamentales en el Trabajo y Prevención del Trabajo Forzoso*, CONTRAFOR) was set up in 2009 through Ministerial Resolution No. 230/09 of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security to combat the exploitation of migrant workers. CONTRAFOR brings together several government agencies in the prevention of forced labour. This notwithstanding, the Commission meets sporadically and has just a single two-year plan (2017–2019), which has not been updated.

There are no regular publications on activities to suppress human trafficking. The MRE has a Commission on Gender and Trafficking in Persons that has reported on its activities, though the last available report dates back to 2016. In 2020, the MRE tabled a follow-up report to the final observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the seventh periodic report of Paraguay. The Ministry for Women's Affairs reports annually on the main activities undertaken to combat trafficking in women. Likewise, statistical data on prevention and attention may be consulted at any time in the Observatorio section of its website. The DGM also undertakes operations and compiles information on human trafficking, which is available on its web portal.

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<sup>19</sup> The benefits mentioned include the waiving of the requirement of legalization or an apostille certificate for documents from the country of origin; attaching a valid identity card if a passport is expired, so as to obtain temporary residency; acceptance of expired criminal record certificates up to two years old; relaxation of the requirement to demonstrate lawful sources of livelihood in order to reside in Paraguay, by accepting a sworn statement; and the acceptance of a birth certificate accompanied by the passport or identity card application that is being processed, in the case of minors not in possession of those documents.

The formal system of visa applications prior to arrival in Paraguay is accessible only through a face-to-face procedure. The MRE website sets out visa application instructions and outlines three ways of obtaining a visa: through Paraguay's consulates and embassies abroad; the visa available upon arrival at the Silvio Pettirossi International Airport for citizens of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Oman, Qatar and the United States of America (and other nationalities in special cases); and lastly, in duly justified cases, through the Department of Passports and Consular Services without an appearance in person.



## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

This page summarizes key national COVID-19 policy responses in Paraguay from a migration governance perspective. It is based on 12 questions that were added to the standard Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) assessment in the country in order to effectively assess national migration governance in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.



All migrants, regardless of their migration status, can access COVID-19-related health services. The Constitution of Paraguay recognizes health as a fundamental right and guarantees it to all residents in the country.<sup>1</sup> The National Migration Policy provides that migrants and their families have the same right to health as Paraguayan nationals, and it assigns to the migration authority, together with the health authority, the duty of providing adequate health services to everyone when the country is at risk of a pandemic.<sup>2</sup> Migrants have been included in the national vaccination plan launched in February 2021 by means of a registration window for non-nationals on the COVID-19 Vaccination Platform of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (MSPBS).<sup>3</sup>



Migrants do not benefit from the same COVID-19-related financial support or fiscal and social security measures made available by the Government to Paraguayan nationals. Migrants have not received financial assistance from the State; they are not permitted, for example, to sign up for the Pytyvõ Programme (an emergency subsidy sponsored by the Ministry of Finance), even as regular migrants.<sup>4</sup>

The Government has taken into account the specific needs of migrants in the measures introduced in response to COVID-19. Changes have been made, for example, to the requirements under Migration Law No. 978 (1996) whereby foreign nationals wishing to settle temporarily or permanently in Paraguay must demonstrate economic solvency.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Government of Paraguay, Constitution of the Republic of Paraguay (1992). Available at [www.oas.org/juridico/spanish/par\\_res3.htm](http://www.oas.org/juridico/spanish/par_res3.htm).

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<sup>3</sup> Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (MSPBS), Vacunación COVID-19 inscripción de personas extranjeras. Available at <https://vacunate.mspbs.gov.py/registro-extranjeros.php>.

<sup>4</sup> Paraguayan Information Agency (IP Paraguay), Pytyvõ implementa nuevo sistema de acreditación para beneficiarios pendientes de desembolso. 6 May 2020. Available at [www.ip.gov.py/ip/pytyvo-implementa-nuevo-sistema-de-acreditacion-a-beneficiarios-que-aun-no-pudieron-acceder-al-desembolso/](http://www.ip.gov.py/ip/pytyvo-implementa-nuevo-sistema-de-acreditacion-a-beneficiarios-que-aun-no-pudieron-acceder-al-desembolso/).

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## PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



To ensure that migrant visas, residence permits and work permits do not expire during the COVID-19 crisis, on 15 April 2020 the General Directorate of Migration extended the deadlines of documents expiring as of 13 March 2020.<sup>6</sup> Similarly, documents that may have expired during the quarantine period were still admitted as valid for the purposes of migration formalities. These measures were rescinded as of 2 November 2020, however.<sup>7</sup>



The migration status variable is not compiled or disseminated in COVID-19 data in Paraguay; neither is it captured in socioeconomic impact statistics. MSPBS reports do not include migration status as a data-collection variable.<sup>8</sup>



Extraordinary steps have been taken to include the diaspora in the pandemic response. In July 2020, the Minister of Foreign Affairs submitted a report to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the Foreign Office's response to the crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic. This report covers the services provided to Paraguayan nationals and the associated consular activities, the management of international cooperation to meet the country's health needs, and foreign trade promotion and facilitation.<sup>9</sup>



The Government of Paraguay coordinated the planned repatriation of Paraguayans stranded abroad. This was done through the Inter-institutional Coordination Centre set up within the National Defence Council, with priority given to vulnerable groups. The Government has coordinated actions with countries like the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Spain, the United States, Peru and Uruguay, among others, to assist Paraguayans abroad, including making arrangements for their humanitarian return by air, by land or both.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>6</sup> *Última Hora*, Migraciones prorroga validez de documentos vencidos de extranjeros. 18 May 2020. Available at [www.ultimahora.com/migraciones-prorroga-validez-documentos-vencidos-extranjeros-n2885784.html](http://www.ultimahora.com/migraciones-prorroga-validez-documentos-vencidos-extranjeros-n2885784.html).

<sup>7</sup> Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, ACNUR Paraguay – Ayuda para refugiados y solicitantes de asilo, Avisos importantes. Available at <https://help.unhcr.org/paraguay/coronavirus/avisos-importantes/>.

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# ANNEXES

## MiGOF: Migration Governance Framework<sup>20</sup>

In an attempt to define the concept of “well-managed migration policies”, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) devised a Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF), which was welcomed by the IOM Council in November 2015. For the purposes of the Migration Governance Framework, IOM defines governance as “the traditions and institutions by which authority on migration, mobility and nationality in a country is exercised, including the capacity of the government to effectively formulate and implement sound policies in these areas”.

The Framework sets out the essential elements of “good migration governance” – 3 principles and 3 objectives which, if respected and fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane, safe and orderly, and that it provides benefits for migrants and societies.<sup>21</sup> IOM’s view is that a migration system promotes migration and human mobility that is humane and orderly and benefits migrants and society:

When it:

- (i) Adheres to international standards and fulfils migrants’ rights;
- (ii) Formulates policy using evidence and a “whole-of-government” approach;
- (iii) Engages with partners to address migration and related issues.

As it seeks to:

- (i) Advance the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society;
- (ii) Effectively address the mobility dimensions of crises;
- (iii) Ensure that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

The MiGOF does NOT create new standards or norms. In drafting the Framework, IOM relied on its expertise and analytical work, as well as on existing commitments, non-binding declarations and statements. It does NOT address global migration governance that is the international architecture for dealing with issues related to migration and human mobility. Instead, the focus is on the governance and management of migration from the point of view of the State as the primary actor. It does NOT propose one model for all States. The Framework presents a “high road” or ideal version of migration governance, to which States can aspire.

The MiGOF is based on the understanding that, as the primary actor in migration, mobility and nationality affairs, a State retains the sovereign right to determine who enters and stays in its territory and under what conditions, within the framework of international law. Other actors – citizens, migrants, international organizations, the private sector, unions, non-governmental organizations, community organizations, religious organizations and academia – contribute to migration governance through their interaction with States and each other.

<sup>20</sup> IOM Council, Migration Governance Framework, 106th Session, C/106/40 (4 November 2015). Available at <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/106/C-106-40-Migration-Governance-Framework.pdf>.

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## The MGI process



# 1

### Launch of the MGI process

The first step of the process is to explain what the MGI entails to key government officials, in order to ensure full understanding of the project and complete buy-in.



# 2

### Data collection

The second step of the process is to start the collection and analysis of data, based on about 90 indicators grounded in the 6 dimensions of the MiGOF. A migration governance profile based on the analysis of the findings is then drafted and shared with the government counterparts.



# 3

### Interministerial consultation

The third step of the process is to convene an interministerial consultation where all relevant ministries and other stakeholders discuss the good practices and main areas that could be developed further as identified in the draft migration governance profile, as well as priorities on the way forward. It is also an opportunity for them to comment and provide suggestions on the draft profile.



# 4

### Publication of the report on the Global Migration Data Portal

After the migration governance profiles are finalized and vetted by government counterparts, they are published on the Global Migration Data Portal<sup>22</sup> and uploaded on the IOM Publications Platform.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>22</sup> You can find the profiles at <https://migrationdataportal.org/overviews/mgi#0>.

<sup>23</sup> Please see <https://publications.iom.int/>.



[www.migrationdataportal.org/mgi](http://www.migrationdataportal.org/mgi)

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