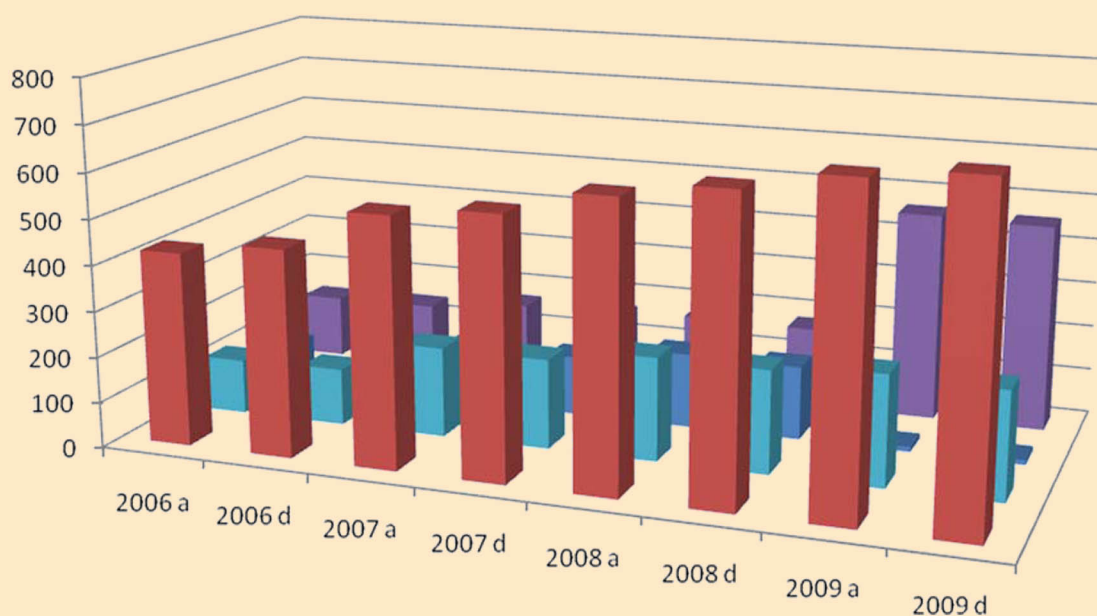




IOM • OIM

ENHANCING MIGRATION DATA COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND SHARING IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAP ANALYSIS REPORT





IOM International Organization for Migration

Enhancing Migration Data Collection, Processing and Sharing in the Republic of Armenia

Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Report

December 2010

The assessment was carried out within the project “Stemming Illegal Migration in Armenia and Georgia and Enhancing Positive Effects from Legal Migration” funded by the Italian Government.

Opinions expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of IOM, its member states, or the Italian Government. IOM does not take any responsibility for inaccuracies caused through translation.

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental body, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and wellbeing of migrants.

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Publisher: International Organization for Migration Mission in Armenia

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ISBN 978-99941-0-407-9 © 2011, International Organization for Migration

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Abbreviations

BMIS	Border Management Information System
CAPS	Competitive Armenian Private Sector project funded by USAID
CBA	Central Bank of Armenia
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
DIS	Documents Information System
EECA	Eastern Europe and Central Asia
EU	European Union
IDP	Internally displaced person
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LES	Law Enforcement System
ME	Ministry of Economy
NSecS (RA)	National Security Service of the Republic of Armenia
NSS (RA)	National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PIN	Personal Identification Number
RA	Republic of Armenia
RF	Russian Federation
SMS (MTA RA)	State Migration Service (of the Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia)
SES (MLSI RA)	State Employment Service of the Ministry of Labour and Social Issues of the Republic of Armenia
TAMIS	Total Airport Management Information System
VIIS	Visa Issuance Information System
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

Foreword

Migration issues are topping up agendas of governments across the world, gaining prominence at regional and international conferences and fora. The developmental potential of migration is something all want to maximize, while at the same time minimizing the negative impact of migratory processes happening outside the regulative framework. To achieve this goal, particular efforts are exerted to ensure that migrants' human rights are safeguarded, while the security of receiving states is not undermined.

The process of streamlining policies on migration, to utilize its benefits and curtail associated risks, is often hampered by the lack of adequate evidence. Reliable, compatible over time and across countries, comprehensive data on migratory stocks and flows are on high demand with governments - for elaborating national developmental strategies, comprehensive legislative frameworks and effective administrative structures. Due to the cross-border character of migration, adequate statistics on population movement is similarly required within the regional context.

Efforts to enhance the quality of migration data have been intensifying in the past years. International agencies are looking for practical solutions which would make it easier for national governments to comply with the 1998 UN recommendations on international migration statistics. Concrete suggestions have been elaborated on the topic of how to maximize the usage of well-established statistical sources of migration data, such as censuses, household and other surveys (Santo Thomas et. al, 2009, UNECE and Statistical Office of the European Communities, 2006). At the same time, increasing attention is drawn to other possible sources of migration data, such as administrative databases and registries, whose potential for yielding reliable aggregated data for analysis and policy making remains often underutilized.

In Armenia, the demand for robust migration data has been similarly on the rise. There is a growing realization that the current priorities of the Government - creating efficient mechanisms and developing a new migration management concept – can be attained only if accompanied by a thorough analysis of migratory processes taking place within and outside the country. Additionally, due to the considerable impact of migration on other spheres of the economy and society, migration statistics is also sought for while developing strategies and programmes in other vital areas, such as demographic development, poverty reduction and overall economy development, regional integration.

It is in the context of increasing attention to migration data, both in the world and nationally, that IOM mission in Yerevan has undertaken the current analysis of the existing sources of migration statistics in the country, with the purpose to map out key priority areas, identify existing gaps and to propose concrete practical measures which can be taken in the short and long run to enhance the quality and availability of migration data. The needs assessment and gap analysis is carried out in close partnership with the Government of the Republic of Armenia, with the hope that the joint work on the development of the recommendations will become an additional support to the current efforts of the Government to develop a comprehensive system of managing migration processes in the country. The work has been carried out within the project “Stemming Illegal Migration in Armenia and Georgia and Enhancing Positive Effects from Legal Migration” funded by the Italian Government, to whom IOM and the governmental partners would like to express their sincere gratitude.

Stepan Mnatsakanyan

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Mission in Armenia

Executive Summary

In May-June 2010, the International Organization for Migration carried out a detailed needs assessment and gap analysis in the area of the collection, processing and sharing of available migration-related data. A particular attention was paid to assess the potential of generating on the basis of the collected data reliable and comprehensive statistics to inform the Government of Armenia in migration management decision making and effective policies formulation. The assessment was carried out upon a direct request and in close cooperation with the state authorities – the State Migration Service of the Ministry of the Territorial Administration, the National Statistical Service, the National Security Service, the Police, other state institutions with no direct mandate in migration management but gathering data of relevance to migration.

The key finding of the assessment is that *large sets of migration-related data are already collected in the Republic of Armenia, including on the basis of invitations to foreigners, visas, border crossing records, residence status and international protection status determination*. The majority of these data sources are fully computerized, and practically all data are stored in some electronic databases.

During last ten years, the process of integrating the available databases has started, with the purpose to ensure their interoperability and efficiency, in compliance with the Governmental Strategy on E-Governance. Within this process, efforts are being taken to ensure that the emerging databases comply with operational needs of the competent authorities involved in the process of regulating this or that stage of the migration cycle. *However, not enough efforts are being made to ensure that the emerging databases and IT platforms are also utilized to generate reliable, comprehensive statistical information, in line with the current needs of the Government and the existing international approaches to migration statistics compilation.*

It is anticipated that the on-going work on automating the workflow process in migration management will continue, which will result in the improvement of primary data quality over time. Within this context, the current report specifies a number of *concrete measures* which can be undertaken already in the short-term perspective to support the current efforts in enhancing migration data and statistics.

Proposed technical and methodological recommendations concern the need to *streamline working definitions of migration*, in line with the UN approaches, throughout all the existing statistical and key administrative sources of migration data. *Complementarities across various data sources* in terms of data tabulation and categorization are emphasized.

From the organizational point of view, next concrete steps – a “roadmap” on migration data enhancement in Armenia – include 1) mapping out of what already exists in the country (in terms of data infrastructures, legislative frameworks and most significant gaps), 2) setting up a coordinating mechanism under the umbrella of a decision-making body, with a technical working group supporting decision elaboration at the technical level, 3) agreeing upon prime statistical indicators on the basis of which data will be collected, and developing a procedural framework (sources, regularity and disaggregation), 4) assigning a focal point for collecting migration statistics as per agreed indicators, whereby all involved agencies would be sending statistical data to the focal point according to the agreed upon procedural framework, 5) agreeing on the dissemination method, either by publishing in regular (e.g. annual) reports or by uploading on a web-site, as well as on the focal point responsible for generating such reports (or on-line data), 6) identifying gaps in the legal and IT infrastructure and working jointly to bridge those gaps, 7) carrying out trainings and seminars.

In the mid- to long-term perspective, the process of sending statistical data to the focal point could be fully automated, e.g. by linking the existing agency databases and developing a joint interface for statistical reports generation.

Introduction: Background and Methodology

In the past decade, migration processes in the Republic of Armenia (RA) have undergone further transformations, both of qualitative and quantitative character. Some types of migration, such as forced or politically-motivated, moved away from their dominant positions of the 1990s, while other categories – seasonal, temporary labour mobility or family reunification – acquired new prominence. In quantitative terms, large outflows of population for permanent residence to more developed regions (the Americas, EU) seem to have stabilized, with transit and incoming migratory flows showing indications of growth.

As a response to the increasing complexity and diversity of migration processes in Armenia, the Government has stepped up its efforts to enhance relevant legislative, regulative and administrative frameworks, in line with international standards, regional priorities and good practices. Thus, a number of key laws and regulations have been adopted: the Laws on State Border and on Political Asylum (2001), the Aliens Law (2006). To achieve a closer cooperation among the agencies involved in migration regulation, the December 2009 Governmental Decision nominated the State Migration Service a coordinating entity in the migration sphere and tasked it with developing a new comprehensive concept of migration policy. Another key recent development concerns an increasing deployment of modern information and communication technologies in migration and border management, in line with the announced broader Roadmap for the Armenian e-Government, e-Society and e-Security strategy implemented in 2009-2014. At the core of this strategy is the introduction of e-documents of a new generation (ID cards and biometrical passports) with the piloting stage schedules for the first quarter of 2011.

During the last two decades, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has been delivering various types of technical support to the RA Government, aiming to provide targeted assistance with streamlining policies and practical mechanisms for the effective management of migratory processes in the country. One of the key challenges to the success in this area has been **the absence of a single interoperable system for registering and processing information at all stages of the migratory cycle**, i.e. before the migrant's entry into the country, during border crossing, once on the territory and upon departure. The lack of such an integrated informational system on migration considerably diminishes the ability of the involved state agencies to run their operational functions, both what concerns facilitating flows of bona fide migrants as well as counteracting irregular migration and tracking down and combating criminal activities related to cross-border movements.

Since the end of 1990s, a number of key databases and systems have been introduced in the country, both with the Government own resources and with the technical and financial support from the international community. The most important developments have been the introduction of the Visa Issuance Information System (VIIS), the Border Management and Information System (BMIS), the Law Enforcement System (LES). In addition, work has been intensifying on computerizing the input and processing of individual data collected within the State Population Register.

With the decentralized model of migration management currently in place, however, the on-going efforts to automate key migration procedures and operations run the risk that the emerging databases and platforms are created **detached from each other**, leaving them incapable to generate a “single administrative case” for a concrete migrant – the feature which contemporary systems in migration are all aiming to provide for.

Further on, in addition to hindering the administrative process, the lack of an integrated approach towards automating migration-related procedures often results in a situation that the analytical capacities of the new powerful resources remain underutilized. Indeed, due to the complex nature of

migration and the multiplicity of its forms, administrative databases and registers often serve as the only source of information which could shed light on the character and scope of population movements, especially what concerns aspects not captured by other traditional sources of migration statistics – censuses and surveys.

Effective integration of available administrative databases, therefore, acquires an additional significance: when aggregated according to common definitions and indicators, administrative records become a powerful instrument in monitoring migratory processes in all their forms. Once properly processed, administrative data enables comparative analyses of trends, over time and across countries, building forecasts and developing future scenarios – all that can provide an invaluable contribution to the development of sound pro-active policies in migration and translating them into relevant programmatic actions.

The need to step up efforts in developing an effective and timely system of migration data collection in Armenia has become one of the key recommendations of a comprehensive migration management assessment carried out by IOM and its international experts in 2008. As was pointed out in the final report, in Armenia there is a need to develop “... a unified migration data management system streamlining data collection, analysis and exchange among agencies involved in migration management based on a common set of migration indicators, which have to be agreed and used by all involved institutions [...]” (IOM, 2008a). To proceed with this goal, a number of concrete steps and actions have been identified, which, inter alia, included such measures as to:

- “1. develop procedures on entry into and update of the unified migration database by governmental agencies. Encoders of data need to be trained for this process to avoid disharmonized encoding;
2. develop procedures on exchange and joint use of migration data at the operational level;
3. develop a system (software) and methodology allowing for correlation, generalization and producing unified statistical reports from the information kept in the unified migration data bank;
4. regulate the public availability of information from the unified migration data bank;
5. develop a regime of limited access to special data of the unified migration data bank. The coordinating role in this data management system would likewise be assumed” (IOM, 2008a).

The Government of the Republic of Armenia is well aware that the process of migration procedures computerization has to be carried out in an **integrated** manner, or - to put it differently – embarked on from the “**whole of government approach**”. As is declared in the 2008-2012 Government Programme, “[t]he Government will continue the process of establishing a uniform system of registration of movement directions and numbers of the population, which will enable assessing the migration situation and developing measures to prevent the negative impact of individual migration flows” (Government of the Republic of Armenia, 2008). Box 1 also lists down a number of concrete steps undertaken recently by the governmental stakeholders towards developing a comprehensive framework for migration data management in Armenia.

The current targeted needs assessment and gap analysis have been implemented, bearing in mind the above-mentioned priority of the Government of the Republic of Armenia to establish an integrated system of migration data management. The goal has been to extend on the key findings of the Migration Management Assessment concerning migration data, as well as to develop more detailed and specific recommendations to the RA Government of how to move forward in this area.

Starting from 2000, with the purpose to assess the total volume of migration flows in Armenia, the State Migration Service (SMS) has been collecting monthly data on the number of persons who enter and exit Armenia from 1) the General Aviation Department under the Government of RA /air border crossing/, 2) the General Department of Border Guards under RA NSecS /ground border crossing/, and 3) the Border Guards Department of RF /Meghri border check point/. The Agency summarizes this data and presents to the interested state bodies, including to the National Statistical Service.

The collection of the data specified above serves as a basis only for registering the migration balance, without providing an idea on migrants' demographic characteristics, travel purposes, citizenship and other data essential for the migration policy development. To obtain this data, already in 2004, the SMS developed the "Project on the Development of an Information System on Population External Migration in the RA" approved by N52 Session Protocol Decision on December 23, 2004, but not implemented for lack of financial means.

On June 22, 2006, the Government adopted another decision N884 "On Creation of the Border Management Information System of the Republic of Armenia and Approval of Rules and Regulations for Its Exploitation and Establishment of the Users List", by which the implementation and maintenance of this system was entrusted with the National Security Service of RA. According to the available information, the system has already been introduced at "Zvartnoc" airport, Bagratashen and Meghri border checkpoints.

To form a clear understanding of the issue, on 8 August 2009, the SMS initiated a meeting with the representatives of the MFA, NSecS, NSS and SMS at the premises of the MFA. During the meeting, the participants discussed the issue of introducing migration cards as an additional source of migration statistics in the country.

Source: Information provided by the State Migration Service to the IOM Yerevan in May 2010.

The specific objectives of the exercise have become **reviewing existing practices of capturing information and data of relevance to migration management, and assessing their effectiveness in generating migration statistics suitable for the purpose of policy making, monitoring and forecasting.**

In addition, given the importance of ensuring an integrated approach to migration data management, particular attention has been paid to **analyzing the current efforts of the Government to computerize and automate existing procedures of registering population movement and developing concrete technical recommendations** to maximize the benefits from the process of uniting the existing databases into a single continuum. Finally, to ensure the targeted character of the current review, a list of practical measures has been drawn together and discussed with the governmental partners, spelling down concrete steps - in the short and long term – which could assist with improving the migration statistics availability and reliability, as well as compatibility with key international practices and standards.

The work was conducted in three stages. *First*, a detailed "mapping out" questionnaire was developed and distributed among the key state authorities involved in migration regulation (see Annex Two with the questionnaire template). *Second*, extensive bi-lateral meetings with the authorities' representatives were held in the week of 17-21 May 2009. During the meetings, the information provided in the answers to the questionnaire was verified, and additional details on the existing practices and procedures of collecting and processing migration-related data and statistics were mapped out. *Third*, a list of draft recommendations and practical measures on how to proceed in migration data enhancement was drawn together and presented to the key stakeholders at a one-day technical seminar on 10 June 2010. The suggested "road map" included issues of technical and applied character, to be

implemented in the short-term and long-term perspective. The proposed action plan was widely discussed by the partners from the Government, the donor community and received an overall support.

The present report consists of four sections. Following this Introduction, Part One summarizes the key needs and priorities in the field of migration data that exist in the Republic of Armenia in the national and regional contexts. Part Two presents a description of the two types of migration data sources in the country – statistical and administrative. The analysis is carried out from the legislative, administrative and operational perspectives. Several gaps related to migration data capturing, processing, statistics generation, data sharing and dissemination are identified, and concrete practical suggestions are made as to how to bridge the identified gaps in the short and long term perspective. Part Three presents an overview of the key findings and recommendations. It lists down measures of methodological character, concerning how the existing practices of data capturing and processing could be adjusted to generate better quality statistics. It also enumerates several practical steps of organizational character which should ensure the sustainability of the process in the short and long term. The final part of the report contains annexes with the materials related to the assessment field missions, the information collected during the exercise, as well as overview tables with the results and recommendations in a summarized form.

The results of the needs assessment and gap analysis and the developed recommendations, summarized and presented in this report, were shared among the key stakeholders in a draft form. The current version includes all the comments from the relevant partners and, thus, presents a consolidated vision of how to proceed further in the field of streamlining migration data collection and processing in the Republic of Armenia in the short-term and long-term perspectives.

Part One. Collection and Sharing of Migration-Related Data in Armenia: Needs Assessment

1. The National Context

In Armenia, the lack of reliable, objective and regularly collected data on migration is increasingly seen as a significant obstacle to the Government's efforts in **constructing an efficient system of migration management** (UNDP, 2009; IOM, 2008a). This acquires a particular importance, as the elaboration and implementation of “a comprehensive, coherent and balanced national Action Plan on migration and asylum issues”, in line with “a short and medium term development strategy for harmonization with European standards in the relevant statistical areas”; and “the establishment of an electronic database of the monitoring of migration flows” are announced as priority areas of the EU/Armenia Action Plan within the European Neighbourhood Policy framework (European Union, 2006), reconfirmed as such in a recent progress report (European Union, 2010).

Developing policies and practical measures in the field of migration management is not the only area requiring statistical information on migratory and other types of population movements. Given the significance of migration for the overall development of Armenia, viable information on migratory processes is likewise important for **broader socio-economic areas, such as the economic growth, poverty reduction, demographic development**. Thus, the July 2009 Strategy of the Demographic Policy of the Republic of Armenia considers emigration as a key challenge to the country's demographic development, in that it negatively affects the age-sex proportion of the population of reproductive age. At the same time, the Strategy recognizes that efficient migration management could become an additional vehicle in improving the demographic situation in the country, in particular through measures aimed at decreasing emigration volumes and developing an adequate policy to encourage immigration (Government of the Republic of Armenia, 2009a, 64-66).

Further, comprehensive data on migration is similarly useful for developing state actions within **separate economic sectors and industries**, such as tourism, for instance. Even though tourism statistics requires disaggregation into additional parameters (for instance, types of accommodation preferred by Armenian visitors, or the exact locations mostly frequented), collecting border crossing and disaggregating them by reason for migration and the intended duration of stay would enable disentangling tourists from other types of travelers and, thus, will assist the Ministry of Economy with building better targeted actions and, hence, more efficiently utilize administrative resources (USAID, 2008).

To assess more specific national needs for migration data, to map out the available statistical and administrative resources and to weigh up their applicability for generating reliable migration statistics, a detailed questionnaire was developed and distributed among all key state stakeholders in April 2010 (Annex Two). In addition to looking at existing registries and databases, the questionnaire inquired with the governmental partners whether the available information on the migration situation and trends in the country was sufficient to effectively implement the migration management functions within their mandate. It also asked for comments on possible measures which could be implemented in the country to improve the availability and quality of migration data.

A detailed Summary of the answers to the Questionnaire, concerning data collection, sharing and data needs, is presented in Annex Three. As is seen from the Summary, a great amount of migration-related information is **already collected** in Armenia by the governmental partners. The agencies also stated that they **share** the collected data within and outside the Government, though primarily on an ad-hoc basis. Following a request to provide recent data on a number of selected indicators, the National Statistical Service, the Police and the State Migration Service shared rather comprehensive and varied data of relevance to migration, which has not yet been presented in such a consolidated form anywhere

yet (see Annex Four). This demonstrates that even though the data are collected and processed, **getting access to the full set of available data is not easy**. This was again confirmed by the questionnaire results - from the 16 answers returned to IOM Yerevan, none of the surveyed governmental partners stated that the available information on migration processes and trends was **sufficient** for their every day work; and that more data should be collected and processed to make the Government's operational and policy-making work more effective.

FIGURE 1: NEEDS ASSESSEMENT - NATIONAL CONTEXT

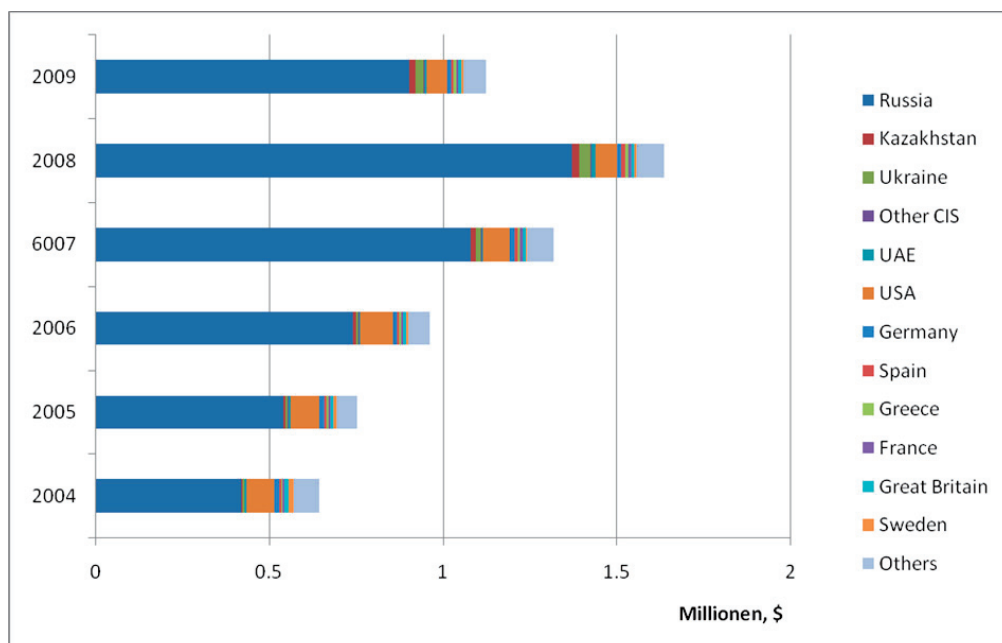
Source: Answers to the Assessment Mapping Out Questionnaire Submitted to IOM Yerevan in May 2010

- Immigrants to Armenia
 - By citizenship (specifically, to differentiate between foreigners, nationals, as well as nationals with double citizenship)
 - By duration of stay (to comply with UN recommendations – those staying 12 months or longer, to determine long-term immigrants, and from 3 to 12 months – to determine short-term

immigrants. This would assist the Ministry of Economy to disentangle the number of tourists from the overall number of incomers)

- By countries of previous residence
- Other potential categorizations could be by age, by sex.
- Emigrants from Armenia
 - By country of destination
 - By length of stay
 - By age
 - By occupation
- Short-term migrants
- Labour migrants from Armenia
 - By country of destination
 - By length of stay
 - By industry and occupation
- Remittances
 - By destination country
- Tourists
 - By citizenship

FIGURE 2: VOLUMES OF REMITTANCES BY DESTINATION COUNTRY, 2004-2009



Source: Central Bank Data as Submitted by the SMS, see Table 4

2. The Regional Context

In addition to the national needs for migration data in Armenia, statistics on migratory stocks and flows is increasingly sought for also in the international context. Armenia is a party to several regional integration processes, and is a member of a number of international organizations. Therefore, the current efforts to create a comprehensive system for migration data management should likewise take into consideration the growing data demand from the international community. It is important to ensure from the start that the collected statistics complies with the existing international frameworks and is compatible not only within the country and across the time, but also with the data collected in other countries and regions.

For the regional context of migration statistics generation, the following four initiatives are of particular importance and have to be kept in mind:

- a. *International context:* At the international level, the compliance with the UN recommendations should be ensured (UN, 1998), which is also related to Armenia's submission of national data to a joint trial questionnaire on migration statistics carried out by a consortium of 4 international agencies – Eurostat, UNECE, ILO, UNSD.
- b. *EU context:* Bearing in mind the geographical proximity of Armenia to the European Union, as well as its overall course on EU approximation and alliance with the European standards and practices, the EU approaches and procedures for migration statistics collection should be taken into consideration. In July 2007, the EU member states agreed upon a framework for collecting and sharing migration statistics within the Union, as a result of which data on residence permits, enforcement and asylum are openly available on the Eurostat database from 2008 onwards¹. The list of key statistical indicators on migration collected in EU is presented in Annex Seven.
- c. *CIS context:* Armenia is a member state of the Commonwealth of the Independent States; hence, the decisions taken within the recently established Council of the Directors of the Migration Authorities are binding for the country and should be taken into consideration when developing national approaches and frameworks. Thus, as per the agreement reached in October 2009 in Minsk, migration data collected in the country should enable the responsible agency – the State Migration Service – fulfil its obligation to the Council to submit data as per a specific list of statistical indicators agreed upon for sharing among the participating countries (see Annex Seven).
- d. *IOM context:* During last few years, upon a direct request of and in close coordination with the European Commission, IOM has started providing targeted technical support with the development of comprehensive overviews of migratory processes in the countries, known as “migration profiles”. The work on producing such reports is carried out in close partnership with the national governments; whereby the developed methodology for a “migration profile” provides a very solid initial framework for streamlining migration data in the country. The first Migration Profile for Armenia was developed in 2008 within the “Black Sea Consultative Process on Migration Management”, a joint project of IOM and the Organization for the Black Sea Economic Cooperation. The experience for developing this report can be taken into consideration when establishing a procedure for data dissemination and making it available to a broad public.

The specific needs for migration data of the Armenian governmental partners and the regional context, identified during the current needs assessment exercise, were taken into consideration while carrying out a detailed gap analysis of the existing data and relevant frameworks. Following Part Two presents the results of the gap analysis and proposes concrete steps which could improve the situation with the availability and quality of migration statistics in the country.

¹ Eurostat database <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home/>

Part Two. Existing Frameworks and Infrastructures for Collecting Migration Data in Armenia: Gap Analysis

The current exercise studied **two types of migration data sources** in Armenia – **statistical and administrative**. It assessed the available and potential sources of data in terms of the legislative, technological and operational frameworks for: 1) recording and storing primary data on migration events, 2) processing and aggregating the recorded data according to certain parameters, 3) sharing migration data (both personal and aggregated) among governmental agencies and international partners, 4) disseminating data within Armenia, abroad and to non-governmental actors.

What concerns *data capturing*, the available sources of migration data were assessed as to their mutual synergy and complementarities, as well as the capacity to record information on several key migration characteristics. A particular attention was paid to the possibility to capture information on the two key parameters - *migration duration* and *reason for migration*. These characteristics appear to be of prime relevance for the purpose of migration management, as the statistics generated on their basis provide insights into such important issues as long vs. short migration, labour migration, tourism, student migrants and others. Further parameters analyzed have been *frequency of migration*, *origin and destination*, *citizenship*. In addition, the capacity to reveal socio-demographic and economic characteristics was addressed, in particular what concerns *age*, *sex*, *occupation*, *employment status* etc.

Regarding data *processing and aggregation*, attention was paid to the efficiency of the data recording process in terms of the usage of modern technologies and, as a result, the timeliness and reliability of generated statistics.

The present report differentiates between two possible ways of supplying data to potential users: *data sharing and data dissemination*. The distinction is made on the basis of the formality and regularity of the process, whereby “sharing” indicates a more spontaneous and unregulated practice of data exchange, while “dissemination” is a process primarily related to aggregated data and official statistics, with no sensitivity or data protection issues.

The findings of the gap analysis have fed into the development of concrete and practical recommendations, where special attention was paid to ensure the **compliance with key international recommendations and approaches**, including the usage of internationally-compatible migration-related definitions and notions (see Annex Eight for a list of key notions and terms used in this report). In the cases when the synergy with the international framework was deemed not realistic in the short run, suggestions were made bearing in mind a longer-term perspective.

Another important principle guiding the development of the current recommendations has been the striving to ensure **compatibility across all available data sources in the country**, reflecting migration events *ex ante* (i.e. declared by the migrant as intention), *ex post* (declared by the migrant as an occurred event) and at the moment of occurrence (equalling the issuance of a particular document).

The current exercise also takes into account a number of recent tendencies and novel approaches towards migration data collection, such as biometrics and new information and communication technologies, as well as requirements to statistical data quality in terms of reliability, comparability, objectivity, timeliness and freedom of information.

The synergy of the assessment and the gap analysis results is presented in

- Annex Three, which summarizes the answers to the Mapping Out Questionnaire,
- Annex Five, which consolidates information on the infrastructure of the available administrative sources in Figure 6, Table 12,
- Annex Six, which, based on the collected information, presents an assessment of the key sources of migration data in terms of data collection, availability, aggregation, dissemination and potential for generating additional statistics (Table 13). Further, possible statistical indicators for developing a regular system of migration monitoring and analysis (Table 14) are proposed.

Table 14 also contains an overview of identified gaps and administrative structures, as well as concrete practical measures, in the short and the long term perspective.

1. Legislative Framework for Migration Data Collection in the Republic of Armenia

The process of collecting and processing data in the field of migration the Republic of Armenia is governed by the following key legal acts and agreements:

- 1) Law on Aliens, passed on December 25 2006
- 2) Law on Personal Data, adopted on October 8, 2002
- 3) Law on the State Register of the Population, adopted on 24 September 2002 and in action since 1 January 2005
- 4) Law on Police, adopted on 16 April 2001 and amended on 1 June 2006
- 5) Law on State Statistics, adopted on 4 April 2000
- 6) Law on Social Security Cards, adopted on 24 September 2003
- 7) Law on Population Census, adopted on 12 October 1999
- 8) Law on Civil Status Acts, adopted on 8 December 2004.

Further on, several governmental decisions complement the above laws by providing further specifications of the process of migration data collection in the country. Two such decisions are particularly important in the context of the current assessment:

- 9) Decision of the Government of Armenia N 884-N from 22 June 2006 “On creation of the Border Management Information System (BMIS) of the Republic of Armenia and approval of rules and regulations for its exploitation and establishment of the users list”, and
- 10) Government of the Republic of Armenia Decision No. 1515-n Dated 17 December 2009 “On Establishing the “Staff of the State Migration Service” State Managerial Institution Under the Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic Of Armenia, and Establishing the Charter and the Structure of Staff of the Migration Service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia”.

The above legal acts provide an overall legislative framework regulating the process of information and data collection related to migration management. At the time of the needs analysis, a number of additional legislative initiatives were under development, in particular aiming at preparing the necessary framework for the pilot introduction of the new types of identification documents (ID cards and biometric passports), scheduled for piloting in the first half of 2011.

In this respect, a number of amendments to the already existing laws and regulations were anticipated when the assessment took place, including some of the legal documents listed above. In addition, several new laws were being elaborated, such as a new version of the normative framework for protecting personal data and information collected as a result of state activities (see OSCE ODIHR and OSCE RFOM, 2008).

The current gap analysis was based on the information available as at June 2010, as a result of which only the enacted legislative framework was reviewed. Given the on-going work on the further development of migration-related legislation, with a number of key legal acts, also listed above, planned for revision during the autumn 2010 session of the National Assembly, it is the hope that the identified legal gaps and possible steps forward, presented in the final recommendations section, could be added to the list of changes considered by the Government in the forthcoming months.

2. Infrastructural and Administrative Frameworks for Migration Data Collection in the Republic of Armenia

The current migration management model in the Republic of Armenia is decentralized, in the sense that various functions and operations – such as control over entry, stay, residence and exit of foreigners, emigration of nationals, labour migration, asylum, etc. – are performed by different governmental entities. Thus, issuing and extending visas are a shared responsibility between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (consulates and diplomatic representations abroad and the Consular Department in Yerevan) and the representation of the Passport and Visa Department of the Police of the Republic of Armenia (both at the border and on the territory of Armenia). The control over border crossing and decisions on admission to the country is the responsibility of the Frontier Troops of the National Security Service. Decisions on acquisition/extension of foreigners' residence status (including status of stateless persons) are made by the Police, which issues temporary (up to 3 years), permanent (from 3 years onwards) and special (from 10 years) permits². The framework for labour migration regulation – i.e. issuing work permits to foreigners, safeguarding rights of nationals employed abroad, regulating economic agents employing foreigners – has not yet been fully established in the country, although exists *de jure*. Asylum decisions and refugee status determination, as well as the support to IDPs and other displaced persons, lie within the responsibility of the State Migration Service. Counteracting irregular migration and combating migration-related offences and crimes are performed by the Police, in close cooperation with the National Security Service.

Despite the decentralization of migration management across various actors in Armenia, the state policy and institutional arrangements have started undergoing active transformation and optimization in the last few years. In December 2009, the Decision of the Government stipulated key functions and operational modalities of the State Migration Service (SMS) of the Ministry of the Territorial Administration, and mandated it with the coordination of measures and policies of relevance to migration across various agencies, to ensure a coherent state approach. According to the Decision, among key objectives of the SMS are, *inter alia*, the “development of the policy on state regulation of the migration processes and its implementation within the powers of the Service”, “coordination of the institutions within migration functions, i.e. development of migration policy and legal acts ensuring the implementation thereof”, “development and implementation of relevant programmes in collaboration with the respective ministries and diplomatic representations of the RA, as well as international organizations, in order to prevent illegal migration” (Government of the Republic of Armenia, 2009b, 2).

To achieve the stated objectives, the Service was made responsible for the implementation of the following functions, all of high relevance to the issue of migration statistics generation:

- “1) development of a **migration policy concept**³ paper based on the analysis and assessment of the migration situation and identification of trends of change;
- 2) submission of expert opinions on the socio-economic draft programmes of the RA, from the perspective of **impact on migration**;
- 3) **assessment of the migration situation** in the country, resulting from the internal population movements in the area of the RA; and **analysis of the key development trends**; [...]
- 12) **receipt and coordination of information from the national executive bodies** on the migration processes and **establishment of a database**; [...]” (Government of the Republic of Armenia, 2009b, 3).

² Special permits can also be issued abroad by the consular departments in the embassies

³ Here and further in this citation – highlighted by the authors

In other words, as per the above Decision, the State Migration Service bears a direct responsibility before the Government for ensuring that a coherent and knowledge-based migration policy is developed in the country and that all necessary analytical and data collection measures are carried out in due course to support this policy at the developmental and implementation stages.

The below sections look into the roles and responsibilities of each of the key governmental entities, describe the types and formats of the data they collect as well as assess the data applicability for the purpose of generating viable statistics on migration stocks and flows. Given the increasing attention of the various stakeholders to the issue of “**a designated database on migration**”, the IT and communication side of the data collection process is given a particular focus in this report, with the goal to generate expert recommendations on a potential architecture of such a database and required frameworks.

2.1. Statistical Sources of Migration Data

The key producer of official migration statistics in the country is the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia (NSS). By law, the Service is mandated to collect source data and generate state statistics on all key spheres and is similarly responsible for developing statistics on migration stocks and flows. There are three prime sources of data which the NSS uses to develop its migration statistics: (1) population census conducted in the country every 10 years, (2) annual household surveys, (3) statistical coupons filled in by persons registering or deregistering their residence status on the territory of Armenia at the local branches of the Passport and Visa Department of the Police of the Republic of Armenia. Further, in cooperation with international partners, the NSS carries out ad hoc surveys, where migration occupies a central or complementary place.

Similar to any other type of official statistics in Armenia, migration statistics generated by the NSS has to comply with quality and methodological recommendations and standards, both of national and international character⁴. Overall, the state of the official statistics in Armenia has received positive appraisal during recent assessment exercises (IMF 2009, European Commission Eurostat 2008, UNECE 2009). However, what concerns the situation with migration statistics, its insufficiency and unreliability are listed among prime concerns requiring urgent attention: “Many key demographic indicators are being produced and disseminated but some improvement is necessary, especially concerning migration statistics and the modernization of the production system” (UNECE 2009, 8 and 40). The UNECE assessment goes on further:

“... There is no proper registration of migrants at border checkpoints and the registration of migrants within the country is also not adequate. The statistics on migration is based on the information of the regional passport divisions of the Police who sent special statistical forms “Statistical records on arrivals” and “Statistical records on departures” which are filled during the procedure of registration and checking out of persons who appeal to the police. The 2001 Population Census allowed to correct for the relatively large migrant flows in the 1990s due to the economic crisis. After 2001 a sample survey has been conducted. However, a proper registration of migrants is still a major issue in relation to the estimations of annual population changes and as a basis for sound population projections” (UNECE 2009, 39).

At the national level, the compilation and dissemination of official statistics related to social and economic processes in Armenia, population and its activities, are governed by the terms and conditions of the Law on State Statistics of the Republic of Armenia, approved by the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia on April 4, 2000. The law also stipulates the procedures for storing and adequate protection of individual data used to produce aggregated data and state statistics.

⁴ A comprehensive overview of the methodology and procedures for generating the official migration statistics, a section of the population statistics, is provided at the website of the IMF Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) reporting system <http://dsbb.imf.org/Pages/SDDS/CtyCtgBaseList.aspx?ctycode=ARM&catcode=POP00>

Further on, the regulatory framework for state statistics generation in Armenia is governed by other official documents, such as laws approving three-year state statistical work programmes, laws regulating normative and legal acts adopted by the State Council on Statistics (SCS) of the Republic of Armenia. The most recent Three-Year Statistical Work Programme covering the period 2010-2013 touches upon several issues related to migration statistics generation. In particular, section 2.4.2. “Demography” sets a goal of developing alternative methods for population migration registration and assessment, thus recognizing the need to intensify efforts on improving migration data in the country.

2.1.1. Utilizing the Population Census for Enhancing Migration Data Availability and Quality.

One of the most important sources of population statistics in Armenia is **population census** carried out every ten years as per 1999 Law on Population Census, with the last census held in 2001 and the next planned for 2011. The National Statistical Service is responsible for the conduction of the census and reporting on its results. It largely follows main international standards and recommendations on the census, including the recommendations of the Conference of the European Statisticians (CES) on the 2010 Population and Household Censuses (UNECE and Statistical Office of the European Communities, 2006). Thus, the draft questionnaire for 2011 census round, shared with the assessment team in June 2010, contains the majority of the core topics recommended by the CES:

- category of residence (constantly present, temporary present, absent);
- for persons absent – duration of absence, reason, country of presence;
- for temporary present – duration of stay⁵, reason, country of permanent residence;
- place of birth; citizenship (including dual citizenship);
- whether the person uninterruptedly resided in the place of residence and, if no, the date from which the current residence started, country of former residence, reason for changing the place of residence.

In addition, the final section of the draft questionnaire “Other questions related to the household” contains the question “do you receive money from friends and relatives living abroad?”, with possible answers “yes, regularly”, “yes, from time to time”, “yes, seldom”, “no”. This question is intended to shed light on the scope and significance of remittances for each of the surveyed households. However, this question appears to be in duplication with question 18 on the *main source of livelihood*, where the respondent is also requested to provide information on the financial assistance received from relatives or acquaintances living abroad. *To avoid duplication and potential confusion while processing the census results, it is recommended to consider a possibility of synergizing between these two questions.*

Based on the analysis of the draft census questionnaire as it stood in June 2010, it is possible to conclude that the 2011 census should become a valuable source of information on migration processes in Armenia, in particular what concerns providing an updated assessment of the *stocks of foreign and foreign-born population, constantly or temporarily residing in Armenia*, as

Recommendations on Census methodology:

1. *Consider a possibility of synergizing between the two questions related to remittances (N 18 and the one from the final section “Other questions related to the households”), to avoid duplication and potential confusion while processing the census results.*
2. *Bearing in mind a considerable size of the Armenian diaspora, the census questionnaire could be extended with a few questions – or even an additional module – to inquire in more detail about Armenian citizens residing abroad from their household members.*

⁵ Although, it was not clear from the draft form whether the actual stay or intended stay is meant.

well as the numbers and characteristics of *persons absent from the place residence* at the time of the census.

The latter migrant category is particularly important to Armenia, as various sources estimate its diaspora stocks to reach as high as 7 million persons – double the size of the current population in the country. In this regard, while finalizing the census questionnaire template for the 2010 round, it is worth looking at the experience of other countries (e.g. Georgia or Tunis, see UNECE 2006) which, already in the 2000 census round, devoted extensive sections to the issue of emigration.

There are two ways which could be proposed to enable the collection of additional information on the Armenia's emigrant stock through the 2011 census: first, either by requesting household members of the person absent from the place of residence to provide full information on this person (that is, answer all questions, including the socio-demographic characteristics, citizenship etc.⁶). Alternatively, if the census foresees collecting information only on a few questions on the absent population, a second way of getting comprehensive information on emigration could be considered, such as introducing a special set of questions (or a special module), similar to how it was done in Tunis (see Box 2).

BOX 2: SAMPLE EMIGRATION MODULE IN A CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE: TUNISIAN EXPERIENCE

Q. VII.a Emigration: Is there a parent actually residing abroad who is member of a *family nucleus* and was residing within the household in April 1999 ? YES - NO

N°	Name	Relationship with the head of hh	Sex M-1 F -2	Year of birth	Year of emigration	Reason of emigration	Country of emigration
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
2		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

Source: UNECE 2006

⁶ From the draft unofficial translation of the 2011 census questionnaire version shared with IOM by UNDP during the needs assessment, it was not possible to assess the number of questions which will be asked concerning the situation and background of the absent population.

2.1.2. Utilizing Household Surveys for Extracting Additional Migration Data.

In addition to the census, an important tool for collecting information on migration in Armenia is the **integrated living conditions survey** (ILCS) conducted in the country on a regular basis since 1996⁷. Based on the ILCS data, separate analytical reports are produced covering such topics as poverty reduction (National Statistical Service 2009c), child poverty (Chzhen 2009), food and overall consumption (National Statistical Service 2007a). Though pursuing various goals, such as collecting information on the socio-demographic, economic situation and living conditions of urban and rural population, the ILCS questionnaire has a separate page devoted to migration only (see Box 3). The analysis of migratory processes using the ILCS is featured as a sub-topic in such reports as, for instance, “Social Snapshot and Poverty in Armenia” and the “Demographic Handbook of Armenia” (see, for instance, the latest edition in National Statistical Service 2009b).

Bearing in mind the ILCS survey regularity and national representativeness, particular attention should be given to the design of its migration-related section, to ensure that its analytical potential is used to the best possible degree. Given the existing limitation of space⁸, the below methodological suggestions are made on the assumption that no possibility exists to extend the length of the migration section beyond one page. Had such a possibility arisen, the ILCS potential for collecting comprehensive information on migration in Armenia could be strengthened even further:

- **Clearer definition of migration:**

Currently, ILSC respondents are requested to answer a question on whether anyone in their household “has migrated” or “returned from migration”. As a clear definition of neither the verb “to migrate”, nor of the noun “migration”, is provided, interviewees respond to this question based on their own interpretation of what is meant under “migration”. This significantly undermines the validity of obtained data and its comparability, both across the households and the time. Taking into account the UN Recommendations (UN 1998), it is proposed here to introduce a criterion on “migration duration” into this section, by qualifying possible answers with “up to three months”, “from three to twelve months”, and “over twelve months”⁹. As the first two questions of the migration section ask for the similar information, i.e. the place of migration destination, it is recommended to adjust question one to inquire into the migration duration only, while keeping question two devoted to the migration destination (see Box 3 with this and other suggested changes to the Migration Section of the ILSC).

⁷ The last two rounds of the ILCS collected information on 7.872 households. See more on the survey description and its methodology at in National Statistical Service, 2009c.

⁸ The survey questionnaire is quite extensive as it is carried out together with another important survey – the labour force survey. Currently, the ILCS migration module is quite short, consists of 6 questions and collects information on both types of migration – internal and external - simultaneously.

⁹ Technically speaking, the category of absentees for a period for up to 3 months is not considered migration, according to UN. Nevertheless, it is still recommended here to keep the possibility to single out this category of travelers. Some important categories, for instance seasonal migrants, could be absent from their place of residence for a shorter than 3 months period of time. Further, tourists and visitors are also an important category for the Armenian Government where additional information is required (see USAID 2008).

BOX 3: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MIGRATION SECTION IN THE ILSC

MIGRATION SECTION IN THE ILSC AS SHARED WITH THE ASSESSEMENT TEAM IN JUNE 2010

VISIT 1

Section B.

MIGRATION

(ONLY >=15 YEARS AGED MEMBERS)

Interviewer: this table is filled out for all members of h/h

Table 1

ID of h/h member	Since January 1, 2007, has [NAME] migrated to or return from migration in another Marz or another country? 1. Yes, migrated to another Marz and hasn't returned 2. Yes, migrated to another country and hasn't returned 3. Yes, migrated to another Marz and returned 4. Yes, migrated to another country and returned 7. No, NEVER migrated to another marz or country >>Part B	Which Marz or country did [NAME] most recently migrate to or returned from? [for marzes Indicate Urban or Rural] 1. Yerevan 2. Aragatsotn 3. Ararat 4. Armavir 5. Gegharkunik 6. Lori 7. Kotayk 8. Shirak 9. sjunik 10. Vayots dzor 11. Tavush 12. Russia 13. Other CIS 14. Europe 15. USA or Canada 16. Other (specify)	In what year and month did [NAME] most recently migrate or return from migration?	What is the main reason for [NAME]'s most recent migration or returning from migration? 1. To work 2. To look for work 3. Laidoff from work 4. current economic crisis 5. A seasonal worker 6. No intention to stay 7. Family reasons 8. Accumulated enough money 9. Visit 10. Vacation 11. Other (Specify)	What is your main economic activity, i.e. the activity in which you spend the most time during your most recent migration?	Did [NAME] send remittances to our immediate family, in cash or in kind, at any point during the last 12 months? 1. Yes, only to my immediate family 2. Yes, only to my relatives or friends 3. Yes, to both my immediate family and relatives or friends 4. no
		u-1/r-2	month	year		

MIGRATION SECTION IN THE ILSC AS RECOMMENDED FOR AMENDMENT BY THE ASSESSEMENT TEAM

ID of h/h member	Since January 1, 2007, has [NAME] left the household to reside in another Marz or another country? 1. Yes, has been away for up to three months and hasn't returned 2. Yes, has been away for up to three months and has returned 3. Yes, has been away for three to twelve months and has not returned 4. Yes, has been away for three to twelve months and returned 5. Yes, has been away for more than twelve months and hasn't returned 6. Yes, has been away for more than twelve months and returned 7. No, NEVER left to another Marz or country >>Part B	Which Marz or country did [NAME] most recently migrate to or return from? [for marzes Indicate Urban or Rural] 1. Yerevan 2. Aragatsotn 3. Ararat 4. Armavir 5. Gegharkunik 6. Lori 7. Kotayk 8. Shirak 9. sjunik 10. Vayots dzor 11. Tavush 12. Russia 13. Other CIS 14. Europe 15. USA or Canada 16. Other (specify)	In what year and month did [NAME] most recently leave the household or return?	What is the main reason for [NAME]'s most recent departure or return? 1. To work 2. To search for work 3. Lost job 4. Family reasons 5. Private visit 6. Tourism 7. Study 8. Traineeship 9. Business 10. Medical treatment 11. Other (Specify)	What is [NAME]'s main economic activity, i.e. the activity in which he/she spent most time during the most recent stay at another place of residence? 1. Did not work 2. Domestic worker 3. Construction 4. Agriculture 5. Seasonal worker 6. Other (Specify)	Did [NAME] send remittances to the immediate family, in cash or in kind, at any point during the last 12 months? 1. Yes, with the total amount for up to 500 USD 2. Yes, with the total amount for 500 USD to 1.000 USD 3. Yes, with the total amount from 1.000 to 3.000 USD 4. Yes, with the total amount of more than 3.000 USD 4. no
		u-1/r-2	month	year		

- **Aligning the list of reasons for migration with other existing sources of migration data:**

Reiterating the key message of this report, the *quality of obtained data depends very much on how clearly and logically the questionnaire template is structured, both in stating the questions and suggesting possible answers*. “Reason for migration” being a key characteristics of migration, it is recommended here to consolidate the list of possible reasons across various sources of migration data existing in Armenia, to maximally align them and, hence, provide for comparability across various data sources, including the ILSC form. The suggested list of reasons is commented on in Table 1 and presented in question three in Box 3. A further step forward would be aligning the list of reasons with the more detailed list of sub-categories for residence permit reasons agreed upon in the European Union (see European Union, 2010a).

Enhancing Compatibility across Various Data Sources

TABLE 1: A SUGGESTED LIST OF REASONS FOR ILSC MIGRATION MODULE ALIGNED WITH VISA APPLICATION

Reason	Included in	Recommendation
1. Work	ILSC	Does not exist in Visa Application. Keep in ILSC
2. To look for work	ILSC	Does not exist in Visa Application. Keep, rephrase in English into “search for work”
3. Laid off from work	ILSC	Does not exist in the Visa Application. Keep, rephrase in English into “lost job”
4. Current economic crisis	ILSC	Does not exist in the Visa Application. Make optional
5. Seasonal worker	ILSC	Does not exist in the Visa Application. Take away, include as a possible answer to the question on occupation during migration
6. No intention to stay	ILSC	Not clear what is meant, make optional, rephrase in English to make the answer clearer
7. Family reasons	ILSC	Aligned with V-2. Keep
8. Accumulated enough money	ILSC	Does not exist in the Visa Application. Make optional
9. Visit	ILSC	Aligned with V-2. Keep
10. Vacation	ILSC	Aligned with V-2. Keep, rephrase with “Tourism”
11. Other (Specify)	ILSC	Keep
12. Study	Visa	Add to align with V-4 visa
13. Business	Visa	Add to align with V-7 visa
14. Medical treatment	Visa	Add to align with V-3 visa

- **Structuring answers on main economic activity during migration:**

To achieve comparable data across households, it is proposed to structure possible answers to this question along most significant economic activities that the population of Armenia is known to get engaged in while away. Not all respondents will be providing information to this question, as some of

them might be away for reasons other than work (see answers to the previous question). The proposed amended question and possible answers are presented in Box 3.

- **Using ILSC for extracting information on remittances:**

The last question in the ILSC migration section is very important, due to the increasing role remittances play in the overall economic development in Armenia. In the way how the question is currently phrased, it allows extracting information on 1) the very fact of remittance transfer, and 2) the type of recipient - whether they were sent to the family or friends. Bearing in mind the assumption that the Migration section should be kept to one page, it is recommended here to rephrase this question so that the information extracted would concern 1) the fact of remittance transmission and 2) their size – see in Box 3, as an example. If a possibility emerges to extend the remittances section beyond one question, additional information of interest would relate to remittance utilization and frequency of transmission – in line with the questionnaire used in the ILO pilot survey of 2007 (National Statistical Service, 2007b, 65-70).

BOX 4: LIST OF REASONS FOR ISSUING RESIDENCE PERMITS, EU CONTEXT

1. Reasons related to family formation and reunification 1.1. Joining an EU citizen as: 1.1.1. Spouse/partner 1.1.2. Child (minor/adult) 1.1.3. Other family member 1.2. Joining a non-EU citizen as: 1.2.1. Spouse/partner 1.2.2. Child (minor/adult) 1.2.3. Other family member 2. Reasons related to education and study 2.1. Student (as defined by Article 2(b) of Council Directive 2004/114/EC of 13 December 2004 on the conditions of admission of third country nationals for the purpose of studies, pupil exchange, unremunerated training or voluntary service (1)) 2.2. Other educational-related reasons	3. Reasons related to remunerated activities 3.1. Highly skilled worker 3.2. Researcher (as defined by Article 2(d) of the Council Directive 2005/71/EC of 12 October 2005 on a specific procedure for admitting third country nationals for the purposes of scientific research (2)) 3.3. Seasonal worker 3.4. Other remunerated activities 4. Other reasons 4.1. International protection status 4.2. Residence only 4.3. Other reasons
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Source: European Union, 2010a

Recommendation on ILSC methodology

In view of the ILSC regularity, comprehensiveness and national representativeness, it is recommended to adjust the questions in the Migration Section to allow for maximum extraction of information on migration history in the surveyed households, in particular what concerns

- 1) clarifying migration definition by introducing the criterion of “migration duration”,*
- 2) refining the list of reasons for migration making it aligned with other migration data sources existing in the country, in particular visa and the census,*
- 3) structuring answers to the question on economic activity during migration and*
- 4) refocusing the question on remittances from the issue of remittance recipients (families and/or friends) to the issue of remittance size.*

2.1.3. Ad Hoc Migration Surveys in Armenia.

In addition to the regularly conducted population census and household surveys, other ad hoc sample surveys specifically on migration have been carried out in Armenia in the past few years (e.g. UNFPA 2008, National Statistical Service 2007b). These statistical tools have proven extremely useful in collecting further qualifying information on migration processes. Usually carried out with extensive international support, the surveys have been fully in line with the international approaches to migration statistics and assisted with mapping out key migrant categories of relevance to Armenia.

BOX 5: SELECTED STATISTICS ON "CURRENT MIGRANT POPULATION" IN ARMENIA, 2007

Demographic Characteristics:

- 24.8% of households had a member(s) living abroad.
- 1.4 migrants, on average, resided abroad per one household with migrants.
- 78.9% of household members living abroad were male and 21.1% female.
- Household migrant members made up 9.8% of the surveyed population age 16 years and older.
- The mean age of household members living abroad was 38.2 years, among males 38.6 years, and among females 36.1 years.
- Among migrants, as among surveyed population, those with general secondary education (53.9%) predominated, followed by those with tertiary education (18.2%), those with secondary professional education (16.6%), and those with primary or lower education (1.6%).
- By marital status, 70.7% of household members living abroad were married and 24.8% never married.
- Rural migrants comprised 10.6% of the surveyed rural population 16 years and over, while urban migrants were 9.4% of the surveyed urban population.
- Thus in total, current migrants made up 7.9% of surveyed population, 12.8% of the male population and 3.2% of the female population.

Migration Geography:

- Russian Federation was by far the most popular country of destination. 84.2% of household migrant members lived in the Russian Federation, followed by the USA (2.1%), and Ukraine (2.0%).
- 80.7% of migrants residing in the Russian Federation, and nine in ten residing in the Ukraine were male, while 63.6% residing in the USA were female.
- Both the majority of female (74.1%) and male (59.9%) household migrant members left for urban settlements (60.1%).

Migration Duration:

- 38.9% of current migrants were considered to be short-term migrants (away less than 12 months), while 61.1% were long-term migrants (away for 12 months or longer) at the time of survey.
- The average duration of residence of short-term migrants in a foreign country was 4.2 months, while for long-term migrants it was 6.9 years.

Employment and Remittances:

- About two in three migrants (65.2%) residing abroad had ever sent money to relatives.
- 84.7% of monetary transfers were received from the Russian Federation, 2.4% from the USA, 2.1% from the Ukraine, 1.8% from Germany, and the rest (9.0%) from other countries.
- 64.1% of migrant household members were employed in their country of residence, 17.6% were not employed, while household members were unaware of the economic activity concerning 18.4% migrants.

Source: National Statistical Service, 2007b

It was stressed by many counterparts interviewed during the assessment missions, that **statistics on labour migration** is particularly underdeveloped in the country. In this regard, the specialized surveys become a prime source of information capable to shed light on employment-related population movements. The comprehensive survey carried out by the National Statistical Service in close collaboration with the ILO (National Statistical Service, 2007b) has been extremely rich in identifying main labour migration trends and patterns in the country, revealing the socio-economic and demographic profiles of both return migrants and “current migrants”, estimating average migration duration and pinpointing the role of remittances (see Box 5, for instance, for the main facts on the Armenian citizens residing abroad at the time of the survey).

Ensuring Synergy across Migration Surveys Carried Out on an Ad Hoc Basis

As was stressed during the interview with the representatives of the National Statistical Service, specialized migration surveys should be carried out on a more frequent basis in the country. At the same time, when planning and designing a new ad hoc survey in Armenia, particular efforts should be exerted to take a full stock of what has already been implemented, to provide sound comparison across time and avoid duplication. As was made known to the assessment team, there are some plans to place the materials of all migration-related surveys, carried out in the country to date, into one location on the web, so that they are easily accessible to interested stakeholders and researchers. Practically all reports on the implemented surveys are available from the web-site of the National Statistical Service, though distinguishing migration reports from other publications of the NSS takes time and knowledge where to look for. Synergizing across surveys is in line with current international efforts on harmonizing national approaches to migration data collection and statistics development, in particular those of the Suitland Working Group (2009), which recommended creating a website repository of household survey questionnaires for collecting data on migration and migrant populations.

2.2. Administrative Sources of Migration Data

The statistical sources – the census and the household surveys - have so far played the biggest role in generating statistics on migratory stocks and flows in the Republic of Armenia. However, given the increasing demand for more comprehensive data, collected on a more frequent and regular basis, the Government has started to look for other, alternative sources of migration statistics, which would assist in policy making and prop up the development of efficient migration management mechanisms. Thus, an increasing attention is being paid to the existing administrative resources – registers, large IT systems and smaller databases, which have been developed by various authorities and record different procedures related to population movement. Efforts are made to ensure that the evolving IT resources comply with the operational needs of the Government but, at the same time, are also capable of producing reliable, comparable and objective statistical information (see Box 1 for an example of concrete steps undertaken by the governmental structures to improve the quality of migration statistics in Armenia).

Figure 6 and Table 12 in Annex Five present an overview of the key regulative procedures and relevant systems and databases currently operational in the Republic of Armenia. They also contain reference to some procedures which are either not fully computerized (e.g. issuance of birth and death certificates), or exist *de jure* but have not yet been enforced in practice (i.e. work permits). Such procedures are marked with an asterisk.

As is seen from both Figure 6 and Table 12, administrative sources of migration data in Armenia could be grouped into three categories: 1) information collected at the stage of pre-departure, entry and exit and short stay registration, - practically all linked to or stored within the Border Management and Information System (BMIS), 2) information collected at the stage of residence and longer term stay status determination, accumulated in the State Population Register, and 3) information on

administrative offences and criminal activities committed by foreigners, foreseen for uploading into the Law Enforcement System (LES).

The following sections look into each of the sources in more detail, emphasizing key gaps identified during the current assessment, both from the point of system functionalities to perform operational tasks, as well as from the point of statistics generation. They also provide specific recommendations on possible measures for bridging these gaps. The review and recommendations are made taking into consideration the longer-term context of Armenia's E-Governance strategy and the country's general direction towards computerizing key regulative procedures in the field of migration management. Though the prime focus of the analysis concerns issues related to regular migratory flows, a separate section provides recommendations on improving information flow and data recording in the area of irregular migration counteraction.

2.2.1. Procedures and Information Gathering before Entry into Armenia – Invitations to Foreigners and Visas

A: Legislation.

As per 2006 Aliens Law, foreigners' entry into the Republic of Armenia is regulated through a special visa issuance procedure and is conditioned on the presence of a valid travel document and a valid visa or a residence permit, unless regulated otherwise by other national normative documents or international agreements.

Four types of visas are stipulated by law – 1) visit entry visa, 2) official entry visa, 3) diplomatic entry visa and 4) transit entry visa. Visas can be obtained in the Armenian diplomatic missions and consulates abroad, from a police officer operating at the border crossing point, and - on exceptional basis - with the Consular Department of the MFA or police representations in Armenia. For visit entry only, visas can be obtained through an electronic visa on-line application system (E-visa at <http://www.armeniaforeignministry.com/eVisa/>).

As at February 2010, nationals of 10 countries from Eastern Europe and Central Asia (former Soviet Union states) are exempt from the obligation to apply for a visa, based on the principle of reciprocity established within the CIS. In addition, holders of diplomatic and/or service passports of further 20 states are waived entry visa requirements¹⁰. In contrast, nationals of several countries are entitled to receive a visa only in a diplomatic representation abroad and only if in possession of an original invitation from an Armenian resident (national or non-national); or a legal entity registered in the country; or a state body or a local authority; or foreign embassies and consulates, international organizations and their representations accredited in the Republic of Armenia¹¹.

B: Data Recording and Systems.

As follows from the above, the first information of a potential entry of a foreigner to Armenia can be obtained from **invitations issued by the Police, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the State Employment Service as per Article 11** of the Law on Aliens. Although capable of providing some interesting insights into reasons for migration and the intended duration of stay, the utilization of invitations data for generating migration statistics can be considered only limited as:

1. It captures data only on non-nationals.

¹⁰ See <http://www.armeniaforeignministry.com/consular/visawaiver.html> for a complete and updated list of countries with visa free regime with Armenia.

¹¹ At the time of the assessment, the list contained following 18 countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, except for Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macao, Egypt, India, Iraq, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Somalia. Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Viet Nam, see <http://www.armeniaforeignministry.com/consular/visa.html>.

2. The issuance of an invitation does not guarantee that the invited foreigner actually arrives to the country and, if he/she does arrive, whether the actual duration of stay equals the intended duration of stay.
3. With a relatively liberal approach to entry in Armenia, issuing an invitation to a foreigner to enter the country is a relatively rare event, and a very limited share of foreigners go through this procedure (given that citizens of many countries can enter the territory either without a visa or with a visa obtained at a border crossing point).

In other words, statistics on issued invitations can provide very little insight into migratory processes in the country, though may be useful for other narrower purposes, such as, for instance, monitoring and optimizing the visa regime of Armenia, or, if generated over time, for tracing movements of specific categories (i.e. foreigners entering with invitations issued for the purpose of work/employment, though, this would again reflect only a very small proportion of foreign labour migrants).

Following that the limited potential of issued invitations to shed light on migratory process in the Republic of Armenia, the below section primarily focuses on the **procedure of visa issuance** and assesses it from the point applicability for generating migration statistics.

In order to enter the Armenian territory, foreigners, obliged to obtain visas, can do it in two ways: either by 1) filling in a paper application at a diplomatic representation abroad, or at a border crossing point; or, for visitor type of visa only, by 2) submitting an application on the e-Visa web-site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Currently, only the e-visa system allows collecting information on reasons for travel to Armenia in a structured way. Table 2 lists sub-categories of a visit entry visa the applicant is requested to choose from while filling in the application. The sub-categories are largely in line with the visa types specified in Article 10.1 of the 2006 Law on Aliens. The paper application form also contains a graph where information on the reason for travelling can be supplied. However, the paper form leaves the applicant a free choice of what to insert into the relevant line (see Annex Nine containing the paper visa application form).

“The Devil is in the Detail” – making sure that data collection templates are clearly structured, leaving no possibility for an ambiguous response

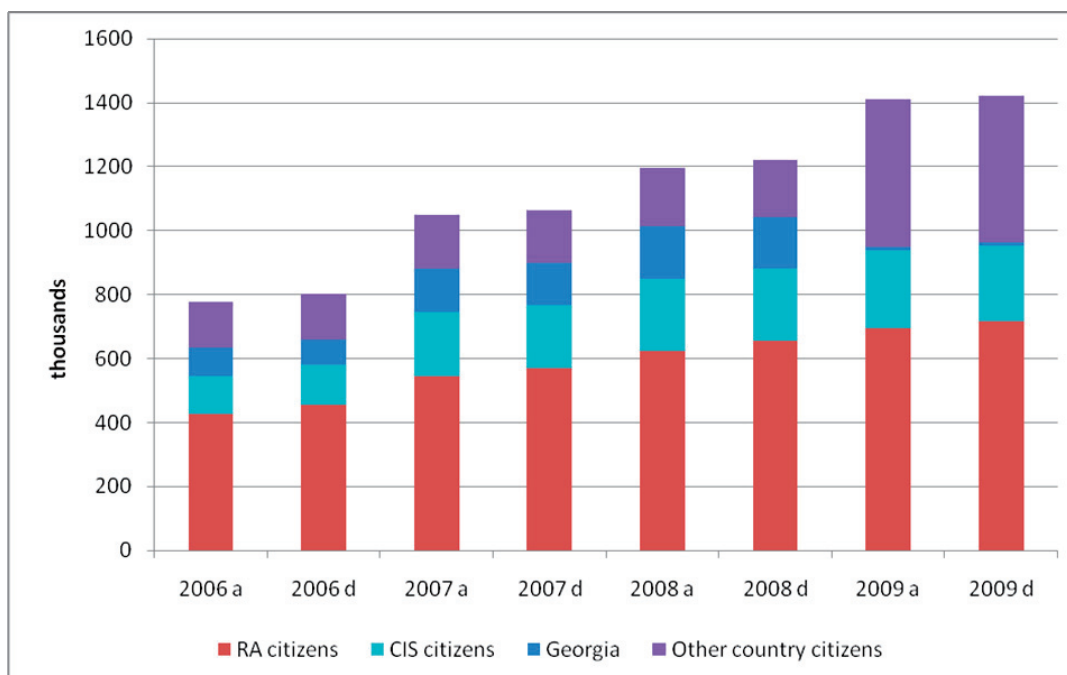
TABLE 2: SUB-CATEGORIES OF VISIT ENTRY VISA

V-1	Visiting relatives (friends) or tourism (for a rest)
V-2	Family reunion
V-3	Treatment
V-4	Studying in educational institutions of RA
V-5	Participating in cultural, sport, scientific and other events, conferences in RA
V-6	Implementation of short term technical support, humanitarian, charitable, financial assistance programmes
V-7	Participation in business negotiations conducted in RA, working activities and economic activities
V-8	Staff members to realize international air or land transportation

Source: E-visa on-line application form

Data obtained from the visa application processing has a **medium potential for yielding additional insights into migration processes** in Armenia. On the one hand, only a relatively small proportion of travellers are obliged to obtain a visa to enter the country (between 15 to 30 %, as is seen in Figure 3), due to a rather large list of countries whose citizens are exempt from the visa requirement.

FIGURE 3: RECORDED ARRIVALS (A) AND DEPARTURES (D) BY CITIZENSHIP, 2006-2009



Source: BMIS data shared with the assessment team by the SMS. See Table 3 in Annex Four

BOX 6: VISA ISSUANCE INFORMATION SYSTEM - OVERVIEW

- Has been under development by AIS Systems on request of the Government of Armenia since 1997.
- Connects all consulates and diplomatic missions of Armenia abroad, the Consular Department of the MFA, the Police representations at the border crossing points and in the country
- Stores information on such parameters as name, citizenship, document type, document validity period, date of birth, occupation, place of birth, address, visa type, validity period.
- Contains a sub-module “E-Visa” allowing citizens of certain states to obtain visit entry visa on-line.
- Fully integrated with the Border Management and Information System and is now its sub-system.
- Contains interface for generating statistical reports, accessible by a limited set of users.

Source: http://www.aitsystems.am/visa_e.html and information obtained during field missions.

On the other hand, the visa issuance procedure has been fully computerized and is recorded in a specially designed information system “Visa Issuance” (VIIS) (see Box 6). Therefore, it would appear relatively easy and cost effective to systematize the collection and analysis of visa related statistics, so that some insights into migratory process in Armenia are provided, in particular what concerns capturing such difficult aspects of migration as “reason” and “intended duration of stay”, even if they could cover only a portion of the total flows.

In fact, a statistical report generating function has already been created within the VIIS. It allows obtaining a full picture on all visas issued by the Armenian authorities, broken down by the issuing entity, the indicated period of stay and visa type. However, as was revealed during the fact finding missions, the *visa statistics are either shared on an ad hoc basis – or not shared at all - with the potential users – the State Migration Service, the National Statistical Service, the MFA, other policy making bodies and general public.*

Taking into consideration that the visa information is being collected on a regular basis and is automatically processed, *it is recommended to use visa data as one of the sources of migration statistics in Armenia*. Though not capable of producing estimations of total migratory stocks and flows, due to its partial coverage, visa data still provide useful insights into characteristics of travellers arriving to Armenia. In addition, visa data analysis could be applied for regulating visa regimes with foreign countries, developing actions of relevance to the economy and some of its sectors (such as tourism, for instance) as well as provide additional insights into overall migration processes in the country.

Recommendation on Visa Processing Data:

In view of the already existing infrastructure, it is recommended to consider visa data an additional source of analytical information on migration, bearing in mind the associated limitations of visa statistics overall (recording intended, rather than actual, migration duration and purposes) and in Armenia in particular (partial coverage).

Statistics can be applied for visa policy development, migration policy development, policies on overall economic development and tourism in particular.

2.2.2. Information Gathered at Border Crossing Points in Armenia

A: Legislation.

2001 Law on State Border and 2006 Law on Aliens set a legal framework for regulating border crossing procedures in the Republic of Armenia. The Frontier Troops of the National Security Service are the competent authority responsible for verifying that persons, vehicles and goods have all necessary documentation and legal grounds to traverse the state border. To ensure the effectiveness of information management at the borders, in 1998-1999, the Government of Armenia ordered the development of a complex database in line with the latest modern technologies and relevant international standards.

The Border Management and Information System (BMIS) was designed by the same IT company which developed the Visa Issuance Information System (VIIS). It became an extension of the VIIS, fully incorporating it as one of its sub-elements and adding up a number of additional modules, such as 1) Identification Documents Information System (DIS) with sample national documents and their security features, 2) a multilingual database of laws and legislative acts in the content search system, 3) a database on border crossing history (by persons, cargos, vehicles), 4) a sub-system with information on document and person alerts, and others (see more in Box 7).

Governmental Decision N 884-22 from June 2006 created the regulative framework for the BMIS exploitation. It specified the system key functions, rules and regulations for information collection and processing, procedures for submitting and accessing the BMIS data by the established list of users and information suppliers.

The Decision nominated the National Security Service a Coordinating Authority for the BMIS, responsible for its maintenance, further development, coordinating activities of other state agencies granted user rights and providing relevant training.

BOX 7: BORDER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM - OVERVIEW

- Has been under the development by AIS Systems on request of the Government of Armenia since 1998
- First installed at Yerevan Zvartnots International Airport in 1999
- Since then - has been gradually introduced at practically all air, sea, road or rail border crossing points
- Stores information on:
 - requested, issued and rejected visas (VIIS sub-system),
 - international shipping companies data (passenger manifests),
 - records of border crossing events by persons (passport data), vehicles, cargos,
 - alert lists on persons and documents (synchronized with Interpol data)
 - alert messages on recently occurred accidents and crimes,
 - administrative offences and criminal acts,
 - national and international legal acts and agreements,
 - ownership registration information and geo-information electronic maps,
 - special permissions and licenses registration,
 - protection features of sample identification and travel documents issued by different countries (IDIS sub-system)
- Incorporates a complex content management system for extensive querying and reporting, such as matching entry and exit data, multi-criteria check on an individual, a document, a cargo, a vehicle
- Interoperable with other security-related databases of the National Security Service and Police (“Law Enforcement Support” System)
- Is an integral part of the Total Airport Management Information System (TAMIS)
- Contains administrative sub-systems for infrastructure and resource management
- User-friendly operational interface – a thin client with a browser front-end and a regular IP connection
- Multi-level access control sub-system

Source: http://www.aitsystems.am/bmts_e.html and information obtained during field missions.

B: Data Recording and Systems.

Similar to border management systems developed in other countries, the BMIS has been primarily designed to perform law-enforcement and control functions, requiring quick and efficient cross-checking of concrete individual data against large sets of information stored in various formats (texts, photos, biometrics). The key purposes of the system are ensuring the efficient control and counteraction of illegal forms of migration while, at the same time, facilitating border crossings for *bona fide* travellers (through such mechanisms as E-visa, frequent travellers cards).

However, given the capacities of the database and the volume of information stored, its **analytical potential well exceeds law enforcement functions** and could be used for such strategic purposes as developing migration intelligence and generating statistical reports on a set of selected indicators. The function of generating statistical reports is already created in the system and allows running simple queries on such parameters as numbers of border crossings by citizenship and by year (see Table 3 in Annex Four).

However, despite the already existing reporting features within the BMIS, *regular generation and sharing of such reports with users from other state authorities has not yet been established.*

As is seen from Box 8, Governmental Decision 884 prescribes that a very broad scope of information be collected and stored in the BMIS, including data on such key migration parameters as citizenship, date of entry and departure, date of birth, type and validity of the visa, residence status and address. Therefore, **the system potential for generating statistical reports is assessed here as very high.** Even though not all types of data are being collected and stored in the system yet, as was revealed by the gap analysis, already in the short term a

BOX 8: BORDER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM - TYPES OF INFORMATION STORED

"1. International shipping companies acting on the territory of the Republic of Armenia, as well as the data received from the airport services, passenger and cargo services as per their operations and at the moment of services planning, revision of that plan and performance; [...]

c) data on passengers

- ID data (name, second-name, patronymic), gender, citizenship, date of birth (dd.mm.yyyy), based on the features of the border crossing point, also the scanned copy of the ID, the passenger's biometrical data comparison result with biometric data contained in the ID; - Flight number; - group; - baggage; - check-in and boarding data (including check-in desk, time in minutes and name of the serving officer) [...]

4. Data received from the international shipping organizations till the moment of departure

- preliminary information on departing (arriving) passengers; - Serial number of ID; - ID issuing state or organization; - Type of ID
- ID expire date; - ID data (name, second-name, patronymic), gender, citizenship, date of birth (dd.mm.yyyy)
- Status of the traveller (passenger, staff, transit); - Point of origin (the point where from the passenger started his trip)
- Control point (the point where the passenger was last time controlled by the border guards)
- Next point of destination (the point where the transit passenger should be carried to)
- The unique identifier of the passenger in the ATKTK reservation system of the career

5. The on-line data received from the BMIS client workstations at the Police of Armenia

a) The data of ID provided to the citizens (passport, residency card, refugee's card, etc) based on appropriate queries [...]

g) ID data of those citizens who claimed for the visa on the state border of the Republic of Armenia (name, second-name, patronymic), gender, citizenship, birthday (dd.mm.yyyy.), type of the document, serial number, issuing authority, validity date) at the moment of issuing the visa

h) Visa validity extensions issued by the Police passport and visa registration department at the moment of extension

i) Data provided by the prosecuting authorities on applying sanctions under the "written undertaking not to leave a place" at the moment of declaration on applying the sanction

6. On-line data received from the BMIS client workstations at the MFA of Armenia on

a) ID data of those citizens who claimed for the visa (name, second-name, patronymic), gender, citizenship, birthday (dd.mm.yyyy.), type of the document, serial number, issuing authority, validity date), data of issued visa at the moment of receiving the application and issuing the visa

b) Data on diplomatic passports issued to the citizens of Armenia at the moment of issuance [...]

f) Data on invitations and permission at the moment of issuing [...]

8. On-line data received from the BMIS client workstations at the Migration Agency of the Ministry of Territorial Administration on:

- temporary asylum certificates issued for the foreign citizens and stateless people seeking for the asylum, at the moment of issuance

9. Data received from the side of NSS on: [...]

d) Additional data on deported passengers at the moment of deporting or receiving them, including:

- Visa number, issuing date, place of issue; - travel document number, type (when official travel document is not needed)
- place of birth

- data on main residence, including main country of residence (country where the passenger lives more than a year), the address (ID of settlement, ex. street name, building number or name), city, state (region, marz), postal index.

- destination address, including the address (ID of settlement, ex. street name, building number or name), city, state (region, marz), postal index

- known data on career and travel organizer of the person to the deporting country

- known data on the passengers travelling with the deported person in the same group [...]

10. The duration for keeping the data in the BMIS system is 7 years from the moment of entering the data."

Source: Government of Armenia's Decision N 884-22 from June 2006 – unofficial translation

number of statistical indicators could be generated on the basis of the BMIS data, including those in line with the EU approach and the ones agreed upon for sharing within the CIS context (see Table 13 and Table 14).

Despite the advanced features of the BMIS and its high value for generating migration statistics, the data collected in the system at the current stage contains certain limitations. Thus, *first of all*, as is seen from Box 8, information on two key migration criteria – **reason and duration** – is not yet collected in the border-crossing module of the BMIS.

There is also a *second* general reservation about border crossing data, regardless of the sophistication level of existing IT platforms. Unless a personal identifier is incorporated into the system and linked to all data records, border statistics would be recording the *number of events* rather than *the actual number of persons who crossed the border*. In other words, it would be erroneous to attempt to identify the stock of a particular group of persons, i.e. belonging to a certain citizenship, by simply subtracting the number of departures from the number of entries, as the same person of that citizenship could have been crossing the border several times during this period, or some persons may have crossed the border only in one direction.

It is expected that over time the quality of border statistics in Armenia will be improving. In particular, the upcoming introduction of national passports with biometric features will enable technically linking a border crossing record to a concrete individual, thus allowing for a possibility to assess, for instance, the exact number of Armenian citizens who left or entered the country.

As an additional improvement of the existing system of capturing data at the borders, the current assessment makes a recommendation to **consider the collection of data on two additional parameters – migration duration and purpose of travel**, as a result of which migration-related border records (i.e. for residence for 3 to 12 months and for over 12 months) could be disentangled from other, non-migratory, types of border crossings (i.e. for purposes of tourism, private visits, business trips and others).

Many countries, including the USA, Australia, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, but also such origin countries as Tajikistan, organize the collection of these two key types of migration-related information by introducing **migration cards filled in at the borders**. In 2009, representatives of several agencies of the Government of the Republic of Armenia had a working meeting discussing the possibility of introducing such a migration card in Armenia too (see Box 1). As a possible solution might be designing a procedure when a migrant informs the Armenian authorities of his/her intended entry into the country ahead of time – a sort of an *early travel authorization system*, or an *e-migration card*, where information on the reason of entry and intended duration of stay will also be provided. Requesting such information from a foreigner before entry can be justified by reasons of security and

Recommendation on the Data Collected at the Borders - BMIS:

Given the already established querying feature within the BMIS, it is recommended

- 1) *to establish a regular procedure for generating statistical reports on the basis of the BMIS data and sharing the reports with relevant users. Such reports should be accompanied by qualifying information, explaining all the limitations of border crossing data, to exclude possibilities of misinterpreting data and drawing false conclusions. A set of statistical indicators should be developed and agreed upon by the users, as well as a decision on the method and regularity of statistics dissemination should be agreed upon. Possible users: SMS, MFA, NSS, Ministry of Economy, Parliament, mass media.*
- 2) *to consider introducing a procedure of collecting data on two additional parameters at the borders – purpose and intended stay duration.*

is practiced in several countries already. However, requesting Armenian citizens to go through this procedure is not so straightforward, and all pros and cons should be carefully weighed against each other (i.e. ability to collect additional data vs. freedom of movement guaranteed by the Constitution).

Bearing in mind the cost implications of introducing a migration card as an additional procedure of border crossing, as well as the level of sophistication of the already existing information system (BMIS), a more cost-efficient alternative can be **inquiring about the purpose of travel and the intended duration of stay from the migrant directly during the border control check**. This would entail 1) introducing a relevant field in the interface used by the border guard during the check procedure, where one out of a pre-set of possible options is selected, 2) enabling the process of storing and processing this information within the BMIS, 3) developing an additional querying function which would allow aggregating individual data and breaking it down into the two categories - by purpose of migration and by intended duration of stay. With adequate training of the frontline officers carrying out border control, the collection of information on these two additional parameters should not significantly extend the border crossing procedure, as the main function of collecting this information would be purely statistical rather than control. *The purpose of travelling* tabulation could be aligned with the purposes used in the visa application form (see Table 1 and Table 2), while *the intended duration of stay* could be aligned with the UN Recommendations on International Migration, i.e. up to 3 months, from 3 to 12 months and over 12 months.

Consider possibilities to collect new types of information through existing administrative resources for statistical purposes only, weighting carefully all pros and cons.

2.2.3. Civil and Residence Status Registration in the Republic of Armenia

A: Legislation.

The system of civil registration in the Republic of Armenia underwent a rapid development in the last ten years. The Law on the State Population Register, adopted in 2002, created the legal framework for the development of a complex information system for collecting and storing personal data on the resident population (citizens and non-citizens), as well as on Armenian citizens residing abroad.

BOX 9: SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS IN ARMENIA – OVERVIEW OF INFORMATION STORED

- Last name, name, patronymic name,
- date, month and year of birth,
- Sex,
- Serial number and number of the birth certificate – for citizens of Armenia until 16 years of age,
- Serial number and number of the passport for the citizens of Armenia older than 16 years of age,
- Serial number and number of the document confirming the residence status in the Republic of Armenia – for foreign citizens and stateless persons,
- Serial number and number of the passport or of the birth certificate – for foreign citizens entitled to reside and residing, but with no residence status in the Republic of Armenia,
- Serial number and number of the refugee certificate – for persons with refugee status,
- Name and location of the competent authority which received an application for a social card,
- Date, month and year of issuing the social card,
- In the case of death – date, month and year of death.

Source: Law on Social Security Cards.

Since its introduction in 2006, the Register has been accumulating all prime personal data on the population, including information on births and deaths, issued passports and social security cards, registration and deregistration at the place of residence. Box 10 presents a summary of the key types of information inputted into the Register, as per 2002 Law.

The below section provides a detailed analysis and identified gaps of the data stored in the Population Register. It also assesses the data applicability for becoming a source of migration statistics.

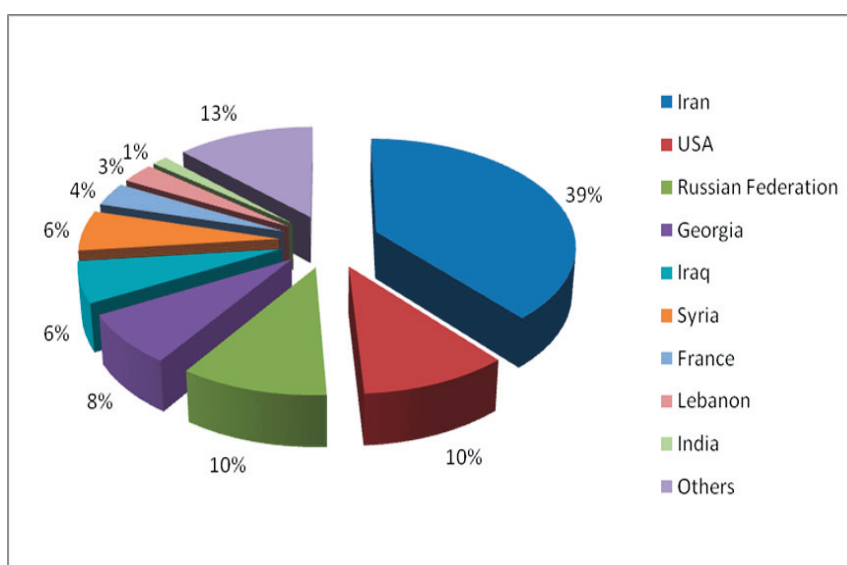
B: Data Recording and Systems.

The Register is still under development and is undergoing the process of rapid evolution in what concerns the *scope of data collection*, the automation of *information input*, and the *data aggregation*. Not all stages of the data workflow have been fully computerized, and there are also issues related to the completeness of data stored, as well as the level of the Register interoperability with the other systems and databases existing in the country. Annexes Five, Six and Seven summarize the gap analysis of the data collection processes linked to the Population Register and present concrete actions which could be undertaken to generate additional statistical data on migration processes in the country.

What concerns *data capturing*, the workflow for collecting and processing some types of information is not yet fully automated. For instance, the data on issued social security cards are first collected in a centralized location at the “Nork” Information-Analytical Centre, sub-contracted to conduct the procedure by the Ministry of Labour and Social Issues. Further on, the data stored on external electronic devices are manually delivered to the Police on a bi-weekly basis, for uploading into the server of the Population Register (see more on the information collected in the social security cards database in Box 9). Similarly, personal data on the “natural movement” of the population, i.e. on birth, death, are collected on paper by the local offices of the Ministry of Justice and then transferred manually to the other authorities (the National Statistical Service, for inputting into its internal database for statistics generation, and the Police, for inputting into the Population Register).

FIGURE 4: RESIDENCE PERMITS (TEMPORARY, PERMANENT AND SPECIAL) ISSUED TO FOREIGNERS BY THE POLICE BY CITIZENSHIP, 2009

Source: Police of the Republic of Armenia



Another important limitation of the Register, of relevance to the issue of *data completeness*, is that it has not yet managed to fully cover the total resident population in Armenia. In particular, as the Register is primarily based on the database of the issued passports and social security cards, the information on children, born in Armenia and not yet documented with passports, will be entered into the database only on the basis of the issued birth certificate. Since the birth certificates data from the Ministry of Justice has started arriving to the Register from 2005 onwards, the children, born before that year and not received passports, remain outside the Register database.

The situation with the data capturing in the Register is gradually improving, as the process of linking in additional state authorities and including other data sources is going ahead. As mentioned earlier, the upcoming introduction of new generation IDs will be a considerable step forward. The new e-documents will contain biometric information and will be assigned a unique identifier, matching the number of the social security card, if ever issued. The introduction of such a personal identification number (PIN) will significantly simplify the task of linking databases of the different agencies and will further support the process of integrating the Population Register with the BMIS and other administrative resources, thus moving towards the development of an integrated system of population movement monitoring.

BOX 10: STATE POPULATION REGISTER - OVERVIEW

- The prime information system in Armenia where main information on the resident population (citizens and non-citizens) is accumulated
- Introduced by 2002 Law on State Population Register
- Contains information on:
 - number of the social card,
 - last name, name, patronymic name – if a relevant identity document was provided,
 - status (residence status or refugee status)
 - citizenship
 - date, month, year and place of birth,
 - sex,
 - address of a permanent residence (a household) in the Republic of Armenia,
 - requisites of the document (type, number, date of issuance, validity period, issuing authority) confirming the citizenship of the Republic of Armenia or the citizenship of a foreign state and the residence right in the Republic of Armenia
 - date, month, year and location of death.
- Accumulates information collected by various state authorities and is comprised of several sub-systems, such as 1) passports and registration (including special residence permits and information from the MFA on Armenian citizens registered at the consulates abroad) – data from 1994, 2) archived data on the citizens of Armenia, 3) issued refugee certificates and related travel documents – data from 2001, 4) other state register data (birth certificates, marriages, death certificates) – data from 2006, 5) social cards, 6) data on Soviet passports, 7) data on persons in penitentiary institutions (submitted by the Ministry of Justice) and persons serving in the army, 8) aliens database (registration and permits).
- The process of computerization of the State Register information has not been completed, with some types of information (birth, marriage and death; some documents for foreigners) still being collected on paper and only then transferred to the Police for inserting into the system *post factum*.
- Plans in the short-run – further integration with local databases and other IT systems (such as BMIS, in particular relating to the information on residence permits), introduction of additional querying functions (e.g. by social card number), linking other agencies supplying data for the register, to enable an automated input of information into the system.
- Already partially interoperable with other databases, but some technical challenges remain (i.e. spelling of a patronymic name) requiring standardization of data input templates.

Source: Law on State Population Register (2002) and information obtained during field mission interviews.

Since 2006 (or earlier, for some types of data), a considerable amount of information on the resident population has been accumulated in the Population Register. However, what concerns **data aggregation and statistical reports generation** on the basis of the collected data, the procedure has not yet been fully established. The users with administrator rights can access an additionally developed function for generating a limited number of statistics (e.g. number of special residence permits issued in Armenia - see Table 9 and Figure 4). When requested about a possibility to generate statistics on **citizenship acquisition**, the partners from the Police confirmed that a special automated statistics generating function for this indicator had not been developed yet, but this information could be easily extracted from the statistics on issued national passports, if filtered by the reason of issuance (naturalization).

Another important issue has been identified during the assessment exercise. Following the practice remaining from the Soviet Union times, **migration statistics between two censuses** are still generated on the basis of statistical coupons N. 19 and 20, which are filled in by a person at the police station at the time of registering or deregistering the residence address. The forms are then supplied to the statistical office of the relevant municipality who input the data into the database of the National Statistical Service for further processing (see Table 6 for samples of statistical tables developed by the National Statistical Service on the basis of the statistical coupons).

Bearing in mind that residence registration data are already inserted into the Population Register, the procedure for filling in forms 19 and 20 in Armenia loses its value. In this regard, to optimize the administrative resources, it would appear more time and cost efficient to provide the National Statistical Service with *a direct access to the sets of primary registration data uploaded into the Register*. To realize that, all the necessary legal framework on personal data protection is already in place, as the NSS already has access to the same personal data on registration. Therefore, the issue becomes more of practical character - developing a relevant IT interface for data access and ensuring the availability of computer facilities and trained personnel to enable the direct work with the Register.

An alternative solution to automating the process of generating statistics on the basis of residence registration data would entail developing a more advanced IT interface, a special module in the Population Register, which would process registration data automatically and allow running independent statistical queries by designated users. This second option is more expensive in the short run, but would certainly provide a more efficient solution in the long run.

Some further remarks are needed here regarding the *quality of residence registration data* and its limitations for generating comprehensive migration statistics. A remnant of the Soviet “propiska” system and, therefore, similar to the practice still existing in several other former Soviet Union states, the legal residence registration is widely considered to serve as a *good approximation of long-term immigration data*, but be rather inappropriate for the purpose of capturing *emigration flows*.

Thus, foreigners and returning Armenian citizens are motivated to register at the place of their new residence as this is linked to a number of certain social benefits¹². It can be assumed, therefore, that immigration to Armenia is rather precisely picked up by the current statistical system built on this procedure. At the same time, likewise in so many other countries, capturing emigration through deregistration records should be only considered a very rough estimate and *not a measure of total emigration in the country*. This is related to the fact that remaining registered in Armenia is advantageous for both the citizen and the country, as a result of which a considerable part of the departing citizens, leaving the country for a long period, neither deregister nor register at the Armenian consular representations abroad.

¹² As was established during the interview with the State Revenue Committee on 20 May 2010, one of the benefits related to registration is a right of a newly arriving resident to bring in a certain amount of shipment at a favourable tax condition.

Similar to elsewhere, the key reason behind such behaviour of the citizens is the desire to remain in the social system in order to preserve their rights for related benefits. At the same time, the state authorities' representatives themselves, during the interviews, expressed the opinion that the Armenian citizens should remain in the system at home, but be also encouraged to inform the national diplomatic missions of their new place of residence in a foreign country.

Several concrete suggestions have been made as to which measures would motivate Armenian nationals to register with the consular authorities while residing abroad. As per Article 7.2 of the Law on the State Register, the Armenian citizen, leaving the country for a period of longer than six months, is obliged to inform an Armenian consulate in writing about this fact, following which a relevant record is inserted into the Population Register. Possible actions could entail delineating the issue of residence in Armenia and the right to social benefits. Another possibility would be to consider reducing the fee for registration at the consulate, or simplifying the procedure by enabling the usage of modern technologies (such as e-mail, on-line registration), in line with the overall E-Governance strategy.

Despite the identified gaps related to data quality and data collection process linked to the State Population Register, the overall conclusion of the current assessment is that this administrative resource has a **very high potential for becoming a reliable and comprehensive source** of migration statistics in Armenia, especially if used in combination with other administrative databases existing in the country.

If compared to other potential sources of migration statistics, the Register has certain advantages, and its capacities for generating quality migration statistics will only be increasing over time. Already now, the Register is the only database which allows capturing information on the two key parameters of migration – the **reason for migration** (through types of residence permits) and the **duration of stay**. Producing regular statistics on the basis of the Register data, disaggregated by these two parameters, is extremely important and would be in full synergy with the European practice and the CIS agreement (see European Union 2007, and Annex Seven).

Recommendations on the Data Collected in the Country – State Population Register:

Given the scope and quality of information collected in the State Population Register, the following key recommendations are proposed as a result of the current assessment exercise:

- 1) Consider cancelling statistical coupons 19 and 20 and providing NSS with access to primary sets of registration data stored in the Population Register.*
- 2) Automate, make regular and structure the statistical reporting of permits data (monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual; disaggregating by age, sex, citizenship etc.).*
- 3) Agree on the procedure for permit statistics dissemination and the responsible authority.*
- 4) Ensure that a residence permit entry form allows coding for 1) a new vs. extended permit, and 2) reason for permit issuance (extension).*
- 5) Generate the statistical reporting function which differentiates between new and extended residence permits.*
- 6) Ensure that the residence permit database automatically invalidates expired permits and create a statistical reporting function on the stock of valid permits.*
- 7) Consider introducing measures motivating persons to register in the embassies of the Republic of Armenia in the destination countries.*
- 8) Establish the procedure for issuing work permits to foreigners*
- 9) Ensure that the evolving database allows generating statistics on this indicator and is fully interoperation with the other migration-related systems (Population Register and the BMIS)*

In this regard, it is important to reiterate here the earlier recommendation concerning a possible collection of information on the reason and duration of migration at the border. On the one hand, using the border crossing event to gather information on migration reason and duration has a better chance of capturing **larger sets of data** and covering **numerous migrant categories**, including those whose movements would not be captured by the Population Register (for instance, Armenian registered residents, both citizens and non-citizens, who have not deregistered, or foreign migrants with long-term status in the country). On the other hand, the information gathered during the border crossing procedure will only be indicative of the migrant's **intentions**, rather than reflect the actual situation, while the Population Register records a fact of assigning a concrete residence status to a migrant at a concrete point of time (foreigner – through the permit procedure, and citizen – through the residence registration procedure).

Therefore, taking the pros and cons of the border and residence statistics, the most optimal solution would be to enhance the data collection process by complementing the two sources of information – the BMIS and the Population Register, whereby *data on migration reason and duration would be collected at both stages – at the border crossing and on the territory of the country*. In this way the two administrative resources will capitalize on the advantages of each other – by benefiting from the completeness of the data collected at the borders with the reliability of the data from the Register.

2.2.4. Asylum and International Protection Status Determination

According to its mandate, the State Migration Service is the decision making body in the field of **asylum and refugee status determination** in the Republic of Armenia. The agency receives and processes asylum applications, and takes a final decision on whether to grant asylum or another international protection status to a concrete individual or not. To support this function, the Service has an established documentation procedure and a designated database where asylum cases are registered and managed. Once a positive decision is made, the actual documentation of a person is carried out in the Police, which issues a relevant identification document and records this fact and the information on the issued document into the Population Register.

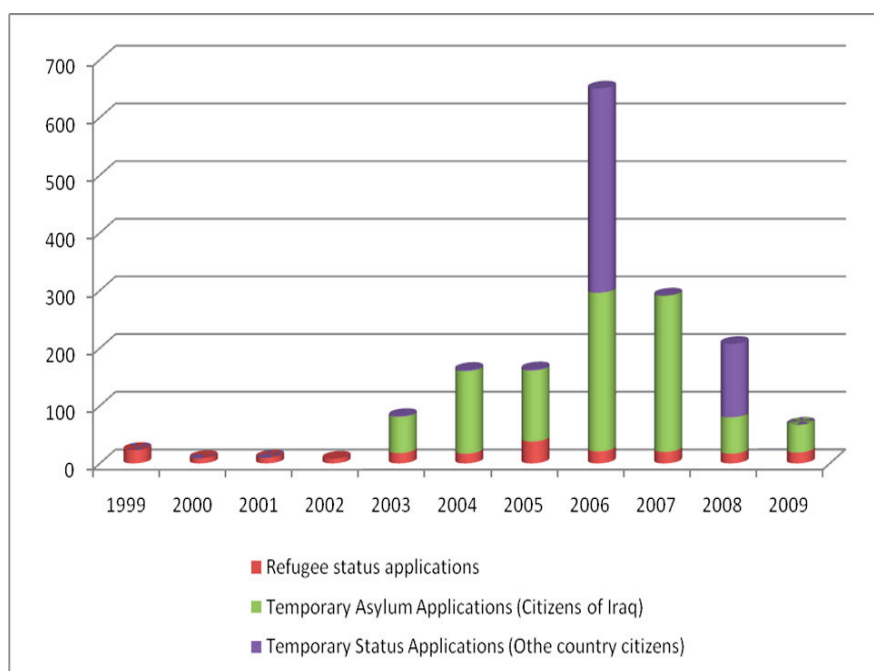
Asylum and refugee determination statistics in Armenia has so far been generated by the State Migration Service on the basis of asylum applications received and decisions taken (see Figure 3 Figure 5 for international status application statistics based on the data from Table 5 in Annex Four).

As revealed during the assessment, despite the regularity and comprehensiveness of statistical data on asylum and international protection, there is no established mechanism on reporting these statistics on a regular basis within the country. The statistics generated by the SMS is shared with the UNHCR on a monthly basis and can be then extracted from the Excel files published on the UNHCR web-site. The data does get forwarded to the National Statistical Service, but is published in neither of its statistical bulletins nor in any other regularly issued reports. The statistics are provided to mass media and general public, but only upon request.

Recommendation on Asylum and International Protection Status Determination Statistics

Make reporting on asylum and refugee status related matters a regular process, so that it is readily available to the general public, for instance in the internet or in an annual publication on migration

FIGURE 5: APPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION STATUS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA, 1999-2009



Source: State Migration Service

2.2.5. Information on Irregular Migration in Armenia

The sections above so far have been devoted to the issue of how to generate migration statistics on the basis of information collected through regulative procedures prescribed by law (applications and issuance of various types of permits – visas, asylum, residence, work, border crossing). At the same time, while building a comprehensive system of collecting migration-related data, the work should also entail efforts to streamline the collection and analysis of information on *cases of non-compliance* with migration legislation, when the regulative framework has been violated by foreign citizens, and the state authorities had to take relevant law enforcement measures (removal orders, deportations, placement into custody, or investigation records – see European Union 2007 for the types of irregular migration data agreed for sharing within the EU). Further, clear-cut and effective procedures of generating and analyzing *migration intelligence* should be developed, including alert mechanisms and early-warning systems, with such elements as risk profiling and monitoring, to prevent not only administrative offences but also criminal activities of individuals and organized groups.

The Police, the National Security Service and the Prosecutor General Office, as well as the national Interpol Bureau, are the competent authorities working on various aspects of irregular migration counteraction. The assessment has revealed that the agencies have several specialized databases which track relevant types of information of relevance to irregular migration and related crimes, for instance **the Law Enforcement Support system (LES)**¹³, linked to the BMIS, which aims at storing information on 1) criminal and administrative cases from police reports, other law-enforcement bodies and organizations; 2) court decisions and assigned liabilities. Work is under way to enhance the usage

¹³ See more at http://www.aitsystems.am/crim_e.html

of the Interpol Stolen and Lost Travel Document database, though necessary technical resources to complete the process were still lacking.

Despite the existence of several databases of relevance to irregular migration, representatives of the competent authorities (the Illegal Migration Department of the Police, representatives of the Prosecutor General Office) stressed during the assessment that the databases they were regularly using did not comply with necessary requirements, lacking both in their technical characteristics and the quality of supporting equipment and software (such as, for instance, inability to collect, store and process biometric information, ageing computers and IT platforms, lack of interoperability between databases from different agencies).

The above situation presents a considerable gap. Therefore, it is recommended *to carry out a specialized thorough appraisal of the existing IT resources involved in the process of irregular migration counteraction, with a particular focus on the available hardware and software, interoperability between various databases, capacity to perform required functions (complex queries and quick results), to which extend the existing systems are utilized by relevant authorities (number of active users, functions for which the systems are used, users' level of satisfaction and potential gaps – training level, legal framework).*

A result of such a specialized extensive assessment could become a separate project or programme which would bridge the existing gaps (trainings, seminars on advanced foreign practices, development of additional features within the IT platform and hardware). As a potential solution, it could be suggested to develop a separate software interface for the law enforcement authorities which would allow users accessing a set of existing databases of relevance to regular and irregular migration and performing several functions. Such a designated platform could be named “Aliens register”, i.e. it will unite information on 1) invitations to foreigners, 2) visa applications and issuance, 3) border crossings by foreigners and stateless persons (including cases of refused entry and returns at the borders), 4) registration of stay, 5) residence permits, 6) work permits, once introduced, 7) cases of administrative offences by foreigners and administrative decisions taken, 8) court decision on administrative offences committed by foreigners, 9) enforcement measures undertaken by competent authorities (removals, placement under custody), 10) criminal investigations initiated, 11) court decisions on criminal cases, 12) enforcement measures taken against foreigners convicted of crimes, 13) alert lists (persons and documents).

Part Three. Summary of Main Findings and Recommendations

The Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis of migration data management in the Republic of Armenia was carried out by the International Organization for Migration in May-June 2010 within the project “Stemming Illegal Migration in Armenia and Georgia and Enhancing Positive Effects from Legal Migration” funded by the Italian Government.

The assessment was conducted upon a direct request and in close coordination with the state authorities – the State Migration Service of the Ministry of the Territorial Administration, the National Statistical Service, the National Security Service, the Police, other state institutions with no direct mandate in migration management but gathering data of relevance to migration.

The assessment took a full stock of the findings of the broader Migration Management Assessment (IOM, 2008) and identified a number of further concrete steps which could be taken by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, to ensure that it is in possession of reliable, timely, objective and comprehensive statistics suitable for developing policies and effectively carrying out operational procedures.

The analysis was carried out in terms of the *legislative, organizational and infrastructural* frameworks related to migration statistics generation. The recommendations suggest practical ways how the quality of the already collected migration statistics can be further improved, in terms of *data capturing and processing, aggregated data sharing, dissemination and analysis*. Further, a number of measures are proposed regarding the collection of additional types of information, including the aggregation into new types of statistics not yet available.

The below section summarizes the assessment key findings and lists down the main recommendations, including *measures of technical and methodological character for improving data quality and migration statistics availability*, as well as *measures of practical and organizational character – combined into a “road-map”*, from the “whole of government” approach point of view.

A: Key Findings:

1. The rapidly changing character of international migration, its increasing importance for the development and security agendas, necessitate adequate responses of the State and the international partners, to ensure that the existing migration regime is capable of maximizing the benefits of regular migration while protecting the State security and the safety of its citizens from the risks associated with irregular migration and related crimes. In Armenia, the vast impact of migration, in particular labour migration, on the country’s economic, social and demographic development is commonly recognized, which calls for the development of effective and transparent systems of migration processes monitoring and forecasting. Knowing total numbers of migrants does no longer suffice: it appears important to know reasons why migrants arrive and leave, how long they stay in new places of residence, what their socio-demographic and economic characteristics are, as well as whether they comply with normative and regulative frameworks.
2. In the last few years, the Government of Armenia undertook a number of important steps to streamline its policies and mechanisms of managing migratory flows towards, through and out of the country. These included the elaboration of relevant laws and by-laws, the optimization of the institutional framework and the introduction of powerful operational IT systems in support of migration management along the migratory cycle (upon entry into the country, at the stage of residence and civil status determination, and upon departure).
3. In parallel to the above developments, the procedures and frameworks for collecting large volumes of data on population movement were further refined, including the information on issued visas, border crossing, residence permit issuance, asylum, irregular migration counteraction. One procedure, important for the efficiency of the migration management process, is foreseen in Armenia *de jure*, but does not yet exist *de facto*, – work permits to foreigners.
4. Related to **data collection and storage**, a large share of data on migratory movements is uploaded into electronic databases of competent authorities, with some of the databases already interoperable and

synchronized. Several types of data are still collected on paper but are nevertheless digitalized for the purpose of storage.

5. The two key administrative resources of relevance to migration are **the Border Management Information System (BMIS) and the Population Register**. The BMIS is fully computerized and stores information on visas, border crossings, law enforcement measures (refused entries, deportations), alert lists (persons and documents). The Population Register aims of consolidating information on the Armenian residents (social security cards, births, marriages and deaths, registration of residence address), citizens (passports) as well as on residence and international protection status of foreigners.
6. Not all types of the Population Register data are handled electronically, with various agencies collecting different types of information, though the process of automating input, storage and processing of all types of data is under way (see Annex 5 for more details). An important step forward will take place at the beginning of 2011, when new national documents (e-IDs and e-Passports) will be introduced in the country, thus paving the way for a much more efficient system of collecting and managing citizen-related information. Further work on computerizing the Population Register will be a significant contribution to efforts on improving the quality of the source data on migration in the Republic of Armenia.
7. Currently, work is underway to **connect the two prime administrative resources** – the BMIS and the Population Register – together, moving towards their full interoperability and ensuring that residence permit information is linked with the information stored within the BMIS. A final goal of this exercise is to enable competent authorities accessing the “complete file” of each foreigner who has ever crossed the Armenian borders, which would entail uniting all records made at the stages of visa application, border crossing, stay registration, residence and work permits, assignment of any administrative liability etc.
8. The current efforts to enhance the interoperability and the integration level of the existing administrative resources aim at improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the operational side of migration management (both what concerns the facilitation of bona fide travellers and the prosecution of illegal migration-related events). The integration of the two resources (BMIS and the Population Register), as well as a full computerization of the Population Register, once achieved, would result in the development of **a single interoperable IT platform**, an important prerequisite for the development of an “integrated system” of migration management.
9. As this process evolves, another important function of the existing administrative resources comes to the forefront – their capacity to serve as a source of regularly collected and analyzed **statistical information on various types of migratory stocks and flows**.
10. In this regard, the process to develop an **“integrated system of migration management”** in the Republic of Armenia should be moving along two main directions: first, fully automating the process of collecting information on migration events in the competent authorities’ databases ensuring their interoperability and integration, and, second, **developing a user friendly interface for statistical querying and reporting on a selected list of indicators**.
11. Regarding **data aggregation**, the current assessment revealed that although a lot of migration-related information is collected in Armenia, *not enough efforts are made to ensure that the available information is aggregated and processed for tactical and strategic usage*, i.e. for the development of migration intelligence and in support of policy formulation. This was confirmed by all the stakeholders, either during interviews or in written answers to the mapping out questionnaire.
12. What concerns **statistical sources** of migration data, they are currently most advanced in terms of the amount of statistical data they generate. Nevertheless, some changes to the templates used in the census and national surveys are suggested in this report, with the purpose to increase their compliance with the UN recommendations and broaden the amount of analytical information on migration which could be extracted. A key recommendation concerns *a clearer definition of migration and the need to synergize with other sources of migration statistics*.
13. What concerns the **method of aggregating data on the basis of the administrative sources**, two possible ways forward could be suggested.
14. First, since the existing IT platforms already contain a function for performing simple and complex querying of the stored data, very little additional resources would be needed to develop a *user-friendly and simple interface which would allow producing regular and detailed statistical reports on a number of indicators*. This measure should be accompanied by a clear delineation of access rights of various state authorities, and a most optimal

solution could be when one agency – a “migration data focal point” – receives access to the data on all statistical indicators, consolidates them and then shares and disseminates this data with all other stakeholders. It would be up to the Government of the Republic of Armenia to decide on the exact institutional arrangement for making statistical data collection a sustainable process. According to the current legislation, two agencies are already mandated to lead in this area: the State Migration Service as per Governmental Decision No. 1515, and the National Statistical Service as per Law on State Statistics.

15. A second way would be granting *the National Statistical Service a direct access to the primary data records, both stored in the BMIS and the Population Register, with or without a prior process of data depersonalization, so that the NSS specialists could generate statistical reports not only on the commonly agreed indicators, but also on other non-standard indicators, if requested by users on an ad hoc basis.* In technical terms, this could be done either in 1) opening a designated working station in the NSS which would enable downloading data sets on a regular basis (depersonalized for border statistics, to adhere to existing security regulations, and personal for registration data, since the NSS already has access to this data, but in paper format); 2) designing a procedure whereby competent authorities store electronic data sets on external storage devices and transfer them to the NSS for further processing and developing statistical indicators.
16. The option of providing the NSS to extended data sets has its advantages: It would allow specialists with a thorough knowledge of statistics to put the data through consistency and other quality checks, as well as generate various statistical indicators on the basis of internationally compatible definitions and notions. It is strongly recommended that the **NSS receives access to primary data records on at least residence registration**, stored in the Population Register, as the NSS already receives personal data related to registration in paper formats from the Police. Submitting registration data in an electronic form would considerably optimize the process and minimize related costs and other required resources. Recently, the NSS has obtained access to some border crossing data. Further work is needed to ensure that the completeness of information and its quality is satisfactory for the development of meaningful indicators of migratory processes.
17. Concerning **indicators for aggregating statistical data on migration**, a suggested list has been developed in the course of this assessment. It indicates databases and IT systems which could become sources for these regularly produced statistics (see Table 14 in Annex Six). The suggested indicators take into consideration the UN recommendations, the recent list of migration indicators agreed for sharing through the Eurostat database, the list of indicators proposed by the CIS Council of the Directors of Migration Authorities, as well as the list of indicators identified by the Armenian state authorities as priorities in their answers to the mapping out questionnaire.
18. A **key gap** revealed through the current exercise significantly affects the ability to generate comprehensive migration statistics in Armenia: though information on a number of “identifiers” is collected through all the available data sources (citizenship, age, sex), two importance parameters of migration remain almost unidentifiable through existing data structures – **“reason for migration” and “duration of stay”**. At the time of the assessment, all *statistical sources* of migration were capturing these types of information. As for the *administrative sources*, invitations, visas, and residence permits were recording data on these two characteristics though no aggregated data were produced on their basis. The BMIS did not have a possibility to collect information on either reason or duration of migration.
19. Concerning “reason for migration” for *foreign long-term migrants*, one possible approximation would be developing indicators on the basis of issued residence permits (and work permits, once introduced) broken down by reason of permit, which would allow disaggregating flows and stocks into such sub-categories as work, family unification, study, international protection. This data source, however, will not be able to capture migratory outflows of *Armenian citizens*, nor inflows of *foreign short-term migrants*.
20. The problem of collecting data on *short-term migrants* or *emigration of nationals* is well-recognized, and many countries solve this issue by introducing migration cards filled out at the borders, where travellers provide information on intended duration of stay and reason for entry/departure.
21. The idea of introducing a migration card in Armenia has been recently considered as a possible option. However, from the financial point of view, an alternative and most cost-efficient solution could be suggested. With the purpose **to enhance the knowledge on the reason and duration of migration** in Armenia, migrants may be requested to provide this information *during the border crossing procedure*, which will then be recorded in a special field within the BMIS system. Such a procedure exists in border management systems in several countries (Russia, for instance – see Chudinovskikh, 2008 for more detail). This would also be in line with the recommendations of the Migration Management Assessment, which revealed a gap in the border

crossing procedure which is focused around the verification of the document validity, and not so much around the conduction of an immigration control check. An alternative way forward would be designing a procedure when a migrant informs the Armenian authorities of his/her intended entry into the country ahead of time – a sort of an early travel authorization system, or an e-migration card, where information on the reason of entry and intended duration of stay will also be provided. Requesting such information from a foreigner before entry can be justified by reasons of security and is practiced in several countries already. However, requesting Armenian citizens to go through this procedure is not so straightforward, and all pros and cons should be carefully weighed against each other (i.e. ability to collect additional data important for policy making vs. freedom of movement guaranteed by the Constitution).

22. Concerning **migration statistics dissemination**, bearing in mind the importance of migratory processes for various spheres of life in Armenia, it is recommended to establish a procedure through which regular migration reports are produced in the country, for instance on an annual basis. The format of such reports could be in line with the IOM Migration Profile report, where the potential users could include state authorities, the Parliament, and public at large.
23. An important gap identified in the course of the assessment is related to **capturing data of relevance to irregular migration counteraction**. The Police, the National Security Service and the Prosecutor General Office, as well as the national Interpol Bureau, are the competent authorities working in this area. The assessment has revealed that the agencies have several specialized databases which track relevant types of information of relevance to irregular migration and related crimes, for instance **the Law Enforcement Support system (LES)**¹⁴, linked to the BMIS, which aims at storing information on 1) criminal and administrative cases from police reports, other law-enforcement bodies and organizations; 2) court decisions and assigned liabilities. Work is under way to enhance the usage of the Interpol Stolen and Lost Travel Document database, though necessary technical resources to complete the process were still lacking.
24. Despite the existence of several databases of relevance to irregular migration, representatives of the competent authorities (the Illegal Migration Department of the Police, representatives of the Prosecutor General Office) stressed during the assessment that the databases they were regularly using did not comply with necessary requirements, lacking both in their technical characteristics and the quality of supporting equipment and software (such as, for instance, inability to collect, store and process biometric information, ageing computers and IT platforms, lack of interoperability between databases from different agencies).
25. The above situation presents a considerable gap. Therefore, it is recommended *to carry out a specialized thorough appraisal of the existing IT resources involved in the process of irregular migration counteraction, with a particular focus on the available hardware and software, interoperability between various databases, capacity to perform required functions (complex queries and quick results), to which extend the existing systems are utilized by relevant authorities (number of active users, functions for which the systems are used, users' level of satisfaction and potential gaps – training level, legal framework)*.
26. A result of such a specialized extensive assessment could become a separate project or programme which would bridge the existing gaps (trainings, seminars on advanced foreign practices, development of additional features within the IT platform and hardware). As a potential solution, it could be suggested to develop a separate software interface for the law enforcement authorities which would allow users accessing a set of existing databases of relevance to regular and irregular migration and performing several functions. Such a designated platform, a sort of an “Aliens register”, will unite information on 1) invitations to foreigners, 2) visa applications and issuance, 3) border crossings by foreigners and stateless persons (including cases of refused entry and returns at the borders), 4) registration of stay, 5) residence permits, 6) work permits, once introduced, 7) cases of administrative offences by foreigners and administrative decisions taken, 8) court decision on administrative offences committed by foreigners, 9) enforcement measures undertaken by competent authorities (removals, placement under custody), 10) criminal investigations initiated, 11) court decisions on criminal cases, 12) enforcement measures taken against foreigners convicted of crimes, 13) alert lists (persons and documents).

¹⁴ See more at http://www.aitsystems.am/crim_e.html

B: Summary of Recommendations:

27. The development of a comprehensive system for collecting reliable, objective, compatible over time and across countries statistics of international migration should be perceived as a long-term project, requiring persistent efforts of several governmental actors working in a coherent and cooperative manner. It should entail a joint “whole of government” effort to develop *a work plan with concrete deliverables in the short and long term perspective*, where the effort of each agency complements the work of another.
28. Effective practices in other countries included: 1) mapping out of what already exists in the country (in terms of data infrastructures, legislative frameworks and most significant gaps), 2) setting up a coordinating mechanism, under the umbrella of a decision-making body (such as the National Security Council, for instance), with a technical working group sitting on a regular basis and reporting to the upper body for getting endorsement on actions to be taken, 3) agreeing upon the prime statistical indicators on the basis of which data will be collected and developing a procedural framework (sources, regularity and disaggregation), 4) assigning a focal point for collecting migration statistics as per the agreed indicators, whereby all involved agencies would send the statistical data to the focal point according to the agreed upon procedural framework. The process of sending statistical data to a focal point could be fully automated, e.g. by linking the existing agency databases and developing a joint interface for statistical reports generation, 5) agreeing on the dissemination method, either by publishing in regular (e.g. annual) reports or by uploading on a web-site, as well as on the focal point responsible for generating such reports (or on-line data), 6) identifying gaps in the legal and IT infrastructure and working jointly to bridge those gaps, 7) carrying out trainings and seminars.
29. Along the process of developing an integrated system of migration management, it is extremely important to establish *a well elaborated and transparent procedural framework*, which would clearly stipulate rights and access procedures for all competent authorities – a particularly relevant issue for Armenia with the decentralized model of migration management. Governmental Decision No. 884-N 22 dated 22 June 2006 is a good starting point for such a procedural framework. However, as it is primarily focused on the issues related to the functionality and maintenance of the BMIS, the issues of the BMIS system interoperability with other databases, in particular the Population Register, are left aside. In addition, no procedural framework has been developed yet which would specify in detail the types of migration statistics which should be developed in the country on the basis of the administrative resources, the level and method of access to the data by relevant authorities, the frequency and regularity of the generated statistics sharing and dissemination within the country, to the non-governmental users and internationally. Therefore, it is foreseen that *an additional legal act would be required which would tackle issues of all migration-related databases in the country and clearly spell down users and access rights concerning each of the sub-systems*.
30. The success of implementing the provided recommendations will largely depend on the *development of an institutional framework*, which will ensure adequate and continued attention of the Government to the issue of migration data streamlining, processing and statistics generation. The special role of the State Migration Service in developing migration policies and coordinating efforts of various state stakeholders should be recognized, including the issue of collecting and processing information on migration processes (Government of the Republic of Armenia, 200b, 3). One possible measure to enhance the current efforts of the Government to develop an integrated system of migration management is to mandate an *inter-agency decision making body* with the task to oversee the process, including the coordination of various agencies’ efforts in automating migration procedures and ensuring the generation of comprehensive statistics. In the course of the assessment, it was made known that such an inter-agency decision-making body in the field of migration has already been created in Armenia – the National Security Council, which gathers representatives of various ministries and agencies on a regular basis and takes a number of decisions in the areas related to migration. Therefore, as was already expressed by several governmental officials during the assessment missions, it would appear logical to include the role of supervising the work on utilizing the available administrative resources with the purpose to generate reliable statistics on migration to the National Security Council, whose decisions could be elaborated in close cooperation with other decision making entities, such as the State Council on Statistics, heads of the relevant ministries and agencies and the others.

Annexes

Annex One: Agendas of Field Assessment Missions

IOM Mission in Armenia
Project Development and Implementation Unit
“Stemming Illegal Migration in Armenia and Georgia and Enhancing Positive Effects from Legal Migration” Project
Funded by the Government of the Italian Republic

Agenda **for Migration Data Mapping Gaps and Needs Assessment Mission** *Sunday, May 16, 2010 – Saturday, May 22, 2010*

Day 1. Monday, May 17, 2010

09:00 – 10:00	Meeting with the IOM Armenia Mission Staff Head of Office and Head of Project Development and Implementation Unit
10:00 – 11:30	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Tigran Seyranyan, Head of the Consular Department
14:00 – 17:00	National Statistics Service Mr. Gagik Gevorgayn, Member of State Statistics Council; Mrs. Kariné Kouiumjian, Head of the Population Census and Demography Division; Mrs. Lusiné Kalantaryan, Head of the Labour Statistics Division; Mrs. Anahit Safyan, Head of International Statistical Co-operation Division; Mr. Georgi Torosyan, Head of Transport and Communication Statistics Division; Mrs. Diana Martirosova, Head of Household Surveys Division; Mrs. Narine Musheghyan, Head of Statistical Information Dissemination and Marketing Division
17:00 – 18:00	State Migration Service at the Ministry of Territorial Administration Mr. Gagik Yeganyan, Head Mrs. Irina Davtyan, Deputy Head Mr. Hambartsum Abrahamian, Head Migration Programmes Division, Mr. Vahan Bashkhetsian, Deputy Head, Head Migration Programmes Division, Ms. Haykanush Chobanyan, Head International Relations Division

Day 2. Tuesday, May 18, 2010

09:30 – 10:30	Civil Aviation General Department at the RA Government Mr. Artiom Movsesyan, Director; Mr. Henirk Gabrielyan, Head of Aviation Security Department
10:30 – 12:15	Actual Border Crossing Review at Yerevan Zvartnots International Airport Colonel Samvel Aghajanyan, Head of Zvartnots Airport Border Control Division; Mr. Zakar Harutiunyan, Deputy Head of Aviation Security Department, Civil Aviation General Department; Ms. Kristine Khachatryan, Leading Specialist, Aviation Security Department, Civil Aviation General Department; Ms. Arpi Zaduryan, Check-in Training Assistant, Armenia International Airports Mr. Armen Aznavurian, Security Manager, Armenia International Airports (Concessionaire of Yerevan Zvartnots International and Gjumri Airports)
12:30 – 13:30	Ministry of Justice Civil Status Acts Registration Agency Mr. Argam Stepanyan, Deputy Head
14:30 – 16:00	Interpol Armenia National Central Bureau Mr. Vardan Yeghiazaryan, Head of the NCB; Lieutenant Colonel Samvel Vardanyan, Head of Information Analysis Division
16:00 – 19:00	AviaInfoTel CJSC Mr. Samvel Muradyan, Chair

Day 3. Wednesday, May 19, 2010

9:30 – 11:30	Police Lieutenant Colonel Norayr Muradkhanyan, Head of Department for Passports and Visas; Colonel Stepan Vardanyants, Head of Division to Combat Illegal Migration
11:30 – 13:30	National Security Service Colonel Grigor Antonyan, Head of the Department for Governmental Communications and Information; Mr. Khudaverdyan, Head of Aviation Division; Colonel Armen Muradyan, Head of Border Control Detachment; Mr. Yesai Mkrtchyan, Head of the Second Division (dealing with Illegal Migration) of the General Second Directorate; and Major Nona Saghatelian; International Relations Department

15:30 – 16:30	<p>2.3. <u>Ministry of Economy</u></p> <p>Mr. Artiom Baghdasaryan, Project manager, E-Governance Infrastructure Implementation Unit OJSC (<i>responsible for introduction of biometrics in Armenia</i>)</p>
16:30 – 18:00	<p>2.4. <u>Ministry of Economy and USAID Armenia Competitive Armenian Private Sector Project</u></p> <p>Mr. Mekhak Apresyan, Head of the Ministry of Economy's Department of Tourism and Regional Economic Development Department;</p> <p>Mr. Alan Saffery, Senior Competitiveness Expert, USAID CAPS</p> <p>Mr. Gera Voskanyan, Tourism Cluster Coordinator, USAID CAPS</p>

Day 4. Thursday, May 20, 2010

10:00 – 11:00	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Issues “Nork” Information-Analytical Center</p> <p>Mr. Eduard Saribekyan, Chief of Staff</p> <p>Ms. Seda Israelyan, Head of Analytical Department</p> <p>Ms. Gayane Musoyan, Head of Social Cards Department</p>
11:00 – 12:30	<p>State Employment Service of the Ministry of Labour and Social Issues</p> <p>Ms. Sona Harutiunyan, Head,</p> <p>Mr. Garik Sahakyan, Deputy Head,</p> <p>Ms. Anahit Parsadanyan, Head of Labour Market Analysis and Forecast Division</p>
14:15 – 15:45	<p>Ministry of Transport and Communication</p> <p>Dr. Norayr Stepanyan, Head of Department of Informatisation;</p> <p>Mr. Arman Galstian, Head of Division of State Unified Information System, Deputy Head of Department of Informatisation;</p> <p>Mr. Levon Karapetyan, Head of Transport Department;</p> <p>Mr. Gagik Grigorian, Head of Foreign Relations Department</p>
16:00 – 17:00	<p>State Revenues Committee</p> <p>Mr. Garnik Mirzoyan, Head of the Customs Statistics, Analysis and Risk Management Department</p>

Day 5.

9:30 – 11:00	<p>Procuracy General</p> <p>Mr. Vardan Muradyan, Head of Division for Crimes on Illegal Turnover of Narcotic Drugs;</p> <p>Mr. Grigor Navasardyan, Head of Property and Economic Crimes Department</p>
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11:00 – 12:00	<p>Police</p> <p>Lieutenant Colonel Norayr Muradkhanyan, Head of Department for Passports and Visas;</p> <p>Lieutenant Colonel Argam Sanasaryan, Head of Division for Technical Service of the passports automated system</p>
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Needs Assessment Team:

Team Leader: Ms. Marina Manke

Ms. Ilona Ter-Minasyan, Chief of Mission, IOM Mission Armenia

Ms. Kristina Galstyan, Head of Project Development and Implementation Unit, IOM Mission Armenia

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Agenda
for the Follow-up visit of the Migration Data Mapping Gaps and Needs
Assessment Mission
Wednesday, June 9 – Saturday, June 12, 2010

Day 1. Wednesday, June 9, 2010

13:30 – 14:00	Meeting with the IOM Armenia Mission Staff Head of Office and Head of Project Development and Implementation Unit
14:15 – 15:30	National Assembly Standing Committee on State and Legal Issues Mr. David Harutiunyan, Chair
15:30 – 17:30	Embassy of Italy (Project Donor) H. E. Ambassador Bruno Scapini

Day 2. Thursday, June 10, 2010

Workshop on contemporary data management system
for the Government officials from Relevant State Bodies
UN Conference Hall

Working languages: **Armenian and English** (*simultaneous interpretation*)

International Experts: *Mrs. Marina Manke, IOM and Mr. Thomas Mortensen, Danish Immigration Service*

Moderator: *Ms. Marina Manke, Expert, IOM*

09:30 – 09:45 *Registration*

09:45 – 10:00 **Welcoming Remarks by:**

Ms. Ilona Ter-Minasyan, Head of Office, IOM Mission in Armenia

Mr. Stepan Mnatskanyan, Chairman, Armenian National Statistics Service

Mr. Gagik Yeganyan, Head of the State Migration Service, Ministry of Territorial Administration of Armenia

H.E. Ambassador Bruno Scapini, Ambassador of the Italian Republic in Armenia

10:00-10:15	<i>Participants presentation</i>	
10:15 – 10:45	Contemporary data management systems in migration: national priorities and international frameworks Ms. Marina Manke, Expert Questions and Answers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data needs at regional and national levels - Regional and international frameworks overview - National data sources – statistical and administrative. Pros and cons - Ways forward (legislative framework, IT infrastructure, skills of personnel, coordination)
10:45-11:15	Building migration policies on sound data: EU experience at national and regional level Mr. Thomas Mortensen, Expert Questions and Answers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key directions of EU migration policies and data needs - Latest developments within EU in migration statistics - Statistical quality and requirements at the EU level
11:15-11:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11:45-12:15	Building migration policies on sound data: EU experience at national and regional level (contd.) Mr. Thomas Mortensen, Expert Questions and Answers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU countries' experience in collecting migration data for national and regional needs - Lessons learnt of value to other countries - Demands for migration statistics at the EU level - EU Annual report on migration statistics
12:15 – 12:45	Border Management Information System in Armenia as a source for migration data Dr. Samvel Muradyan, Aviainfotel CJSC	
12:45 – 13:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
13:15 – 13:30	Migration Data Collection and Processing in Armenia: Results of Mapping out analysis Ms. Marina Manke, Expert Questions and Answers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Migration data production: key results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Legal assessment o IT and infrastructure assessment - Data dissemination: key results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Inter-agency sharing and dissemination o Statistics generation and analysis (incl. Migration Profile)
13:30 – 14:00	Feedback to draft report and data verification Participants Questions and Answers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brief comments from agencies - Verification of facts
14:00 – 15:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	

15:00-15:30	Migration Data Collection and Processing in Armenia: Way Forward and Roadmap Ms. Marina Manke, Expert Mr. Thomas Mortensen, Expert Participants Questions and Answers, open discussion	- Short-term, mid-term and long-term measures and priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Possible measures presentation (practical steps and statistical indicators) o Discussion o Expert comments
15:30-16:00	Migration Data Collection and Processing in Armenia: Way Forward and Roadmap Ms. Marina Manke, Expert Mr. Thomas Mortensen, Expert Participants	Draft roadmap development
16:00-16:15	Concluding Remarks: <i>Mr. Stepan Mnatskanyan, Chairman, Armenian National Statistics Service</i> <i>Mr. Gagik Yeganyan, Head of the State Migration Service, Ministry of Territorial Administration of Armenia</i> <i>H.E. Ambassador Bruno Scapini, Ambassador of the Italian Republic in Armenia</i> <i>Ms. Ilona Ter-Minasyan, Head of Office, IOM Mission in Armenia</i>	

Day 3. Friday, June 11, 2010

10:30 – 12:00	Migration Management Coordination Roundtable [Donor Coordination group comprising of international organizations, foreign embassies and NGO-s working in the field of Migration management] Agenda: (1) Presentation of the main findings of Mapping out analysis of Migration Data Collection and Processing in Armenia (Dr. Marina Manke), (~ 15 min); (2) Tour de Table – brief updates on current and planned activities in the field of migration management by the member organizations, (~3 min. per organization).
14:00 – 17:00	Meeting with Main Project Stakeholders regarding the next steps: ArmStat, NSS, Police, MoJ, MoFA, MoE, MA, MLSI SESA, Aviainfo, USAID CAPS
17:00 – 18:00	Debrief with IOM Armenia

Needs Assessment Team:

Team Leader: Ms. Marina Manke

Mr. Thomas Mortensen, Danish Immigration Service

Ms. Ilona Ter-Minasyan, Chief of Mission, IOM Mission Armenia

Ms. Kristina Galstyan, Head of Project Development and Implementation Unit, IOM Mission Armenia

Annex Two: Mapping-Out Questionnaire Template

**Migration Data in Armenia:
Sources, Sharing and EU Compatibility**

May 2010

Mapping-out Questionnaire

STATE AUTHORITY	<hr/>	
	(agency/ministry name)	
DEPARTMENT/UNIT	<hr/>	
	(department/unit name)	
POSITION	<hr/>	
	(position title)	
NAME	<hr/>	
	(first and last name)	
CONTACT DETAILS	<hr/>	
	(telephone)	(e-mail)
DATE	<hr/>	

A. MIGRATION-RELATED FUNCTIONS PERFORMED BY YOUR AGENCY/ MINISTRY:	
1	Please indicate which functions are performed by your agency and provide more information, if needed, in the field "other":
	Please tick if appropriate
1.1	MIGRATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2	MIGRATION LEGISLATION DEVELOPMENT <input type="checkbox"/>
	Initiating laws <input type="checkbox"/>
	Drafting laws <input type="checkbox"/>
	Commenting laws developed by other state structures <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other. Please specify: <input type="checkbox"/>
1.3	MIGRATION MANAGEMENT <input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing invitations to foreigners for visa purposes <input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing visas abroad <input type="checkbox"/>
	Passport control at the border <input type="checkbox"/>
	Immigration control at the border <input type="checkbox"/>
	Support to readmitted nationals at the border <input type="checkbox"/>
	Illegal crossing interception <input type="checkbox"/>
	Refusal to entry <input type="checkbox"/>
	Readmission in the border region (accelerated procedure) <input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing visas at the border <input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing visas inside the country <input type="checkbox"/>
	Registering foreigners for temporary stay <input type="checkbox"/>
	Registering foreigners for temporary/permanent residence <input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing permits to employers to hire foreigners <input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing work permits to foreigners <input type="checkbox"/>
	Control over foreigners' employment <input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing sanctions to employers <input type="checkbox"/>
	Decisions on citizenship acquisition <input type="checkbox"/>
	Decisions on citizenship denunciation <input type="checkbox"/>
	Undocumented foreigners apprehension <input type="checkbox"/>
	Detention of undocumented foreigners and other irregular migrants <input type="checkbox"/>
	Identification of undocumented foreigners <input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing orders to leave the country <input type="checkbox"/>
	Enforcing orders to leave the country <input type="checkbox"/>
	Processing readmission applications and taking decisions <input type="checkbox"/>

1.4	Reintegration of readmitted nationals	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Issuing permits to foreigners for the purpose of education	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Deregistration of emigrating nationals	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Registering foreign employment of nationals	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Registering foreign education of nationals	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Support to Diaspora	<input type="checkbox"/>
	OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/>

(please specify)		

B. DATABASES AND REGISTRATION SYSTEMS IN YOUR AGENCY/ MINISTRY:	
2	Please list down all databases and registration systems available in your agency of relevance to the functions in Section A:
	Name of Database/registry/statistic source:
B1	
B2	
B3	
B4	
B5	
B6	
B7	

3	Please provide more details on each of the available databases or registration systems, repeating below Section B.1 (questions 3.1 to 3.11) as many times as needed. Additional information can be provided in the field "other":												
B.1. NAME OF REGISTRY/DATABASE:													
3.1	LEGAL ACT regulating this registry/database:												
				(please specify)									
3.2	Data concerns:												Please tick if appropriate
		foreigners											<input type="checkbox"/>
		nationals											<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3	TYPES OF INFORMATION COLLECTED: (Please attach the blank form filled in by the person, if available)												<input type="checkbox"/>
		Date of birth											<input type="checkbox"/>
		Passport data											<input type="checkbox"/>
		Citizenship											<input type="checkbox"/>
		Country of birth											<input type="checkbox"/>
		Country of previous residence											<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sex											<input type="checkbox"/>
		Information about parents											<input type="checkbox"/>
		Length of permit validity											<input type="checkbox"/>
		First permit or renewal											<input type="checkbox"/>
		Reason											<input type="checkbox"/>
			Employment										<input type="checkbox"/>
			Family unification										<input type="checkbox"/>
			Education										<input type="checkbox"/>
			Other										<input type="checkbox"/>
			(please specify)										<input type="checkbox"/>
			Other information										<input type="checkbox"/>
			(please specify)										<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4	AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION AND FREQUENCY OF INPUT INTO DATABASE/REGISTRY :												
	Information collected	Since Indicate date		Until Date, if collection stopped	Continuously	Daily	Monthly	Annually	Other – specify				
	Paper records												

3.9	Do you make these statistics available to the public?			
	Mass media			
	Publish in internet			
	Individual requests			
	Other (please specify):			
3.1 0	Do you share these statistics with other countries? Please name the agency/ministry, the country and the frequency of sharing.			
3.1 1	Do you share these statistics with international organizations? Please name the organization and the frequency of sharing.			

Please copy Section B1 (pages 4-5) to provide information for other databases/ registries in your agency/ministry.

C. PRODUCING MIGRATION STATISTICS IN LINE WITH EU PRACTICES:

4	<p>As per EC Regulation No 862/2007, EU states agreed to harmonized procedures for compiling migration statistics.</p> <p>Please indicate for which of the below indicators your agency could provide data, with the breakdown into which categories, and specify the database/ registry on the basis of which statistics could be compiled:</p>		
Article	Indicator	Categories 1-age, 2-sex, 3-citizenship, 4-country of birth, 5-country of previous usual residence ¹⁵ , 6-country of next usual residence, 7-stateless person 8-reason for permit, 9- length of permit validity	Database/ registry which could be used to produce data on this indicator
3.1.a	Immigrants who moved into Armenia during a year		
3.1.b	Emigrants who moved from Armenia during a year		
3.1.c	Persons having their usual residence in Armenia at the end of the year		
3.1.d	Persons having their usual residence in Armenia who acquired the Armenian citizenship during a year		
5.1.a	Foreigners refused entry to Armenia at the border		
5.1.b	Foreigners found to be illegally present in Armenia		
6.1.a.i	First-time residence permits issued during the reference period		
6.1.a.ii	Residence permits issued on occasion of changing immigration status or reason for stay during the reference period		
6.1.a.iii	Valid residence permits issued at the end of the reference period		
6.1.b	Long-term residents ¹⁶ at the end of the reference period		

¹⁵ 'Usual residence' is defined as 'the place at which a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage or, in default, the place of legal or registered residence'

¹⁶ 'Long-term' is defined as for the period longer than 12 months

7.1.a	Foreigners found to be illegally present in Armenia subject to an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country		
7.1.b	Foreigners who have left Armenia following an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country		

D. USAGE OF DATA FROM OTHER AGENCIES/ MINISTRIES:			
Please specify if your agency/ministry receives migration data from other state partners and indicate types of data you receive:			
5	Does your agency have access to migration data collected by other agencies?	Yes No	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> → 7
6	Name of Other Agency/Ministry whose Data your Agency has access to:	Frequency of data sharing 1- upon request, 2- sometimes, 3-weekly, 4-monthly, 5-annually	
D1			
D2			
D3			
D4			
D5			
Please indicate types of data you receive from each of the above state structures:			
D1	Name of agency/ministry:	of (please specify)	
6.1	Does your agency have access to personal data collected by this agency/ministry?	Yes No	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> → 6.3
6.2	Which personal data does your agency has access to? Please specify:		
6.3	Does your agency have access to statistical data of this agency/ministry?	Yes No	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> → 7
6.4	Data on which statistical indicators does your agency has access to? Please specify indicator (e.g. Number of issued permits/documents):	Categories: 1-citizenship, 2-age, 3-sex, 4-country of birth, 5-reason, 6-length of validity, 7-other	
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Please repeat Section D1 to indicate all types of data your agency has access to.

E. QUALITY OF MIGRATION STATISTICS AND MEASURES OF ITS ENHANCEMENT:			
<p>Thank you for providing the above information on the migration data your agency/ministry collects and shares with other partners.</p> <p>The below Section aims at identifying key challenges to reliable migration statistics collection and ways forward. The questions are asked to you as a migration specialist, either a user or a producer of migration statistics. Your opinion on the below is very important as it will help in defining which further support from the international community is needed in this area.</p>			
7	Do you believe that your agency/ministry has sufficient data and statistics to efficiently perform its functions in migration management?	Yes No	<input type="checkbox"/> <div>9</div>
8	In your opinion, data on which statistical indicators, broken down into which categories, does your agency need additionally to perform its migration management functions? Please specify indicator (e.g. Number of citizens residing abroad etc.):	Categories: 1-citizenship, 2-age, 3-sex, 4-country of birth, 5-reason, 6-length of validity, 7-other	
9	Which below measures are priorities in Armenia to improve migration data?		
	Measure	Ranking priority: 1-top priority, 2-midium priority, 3-not a priority 4-other (please specify)	
	1. Assigning one coordinating agency to collect migration data from other agencies and regularly produce migration statistics. If agree, which of the below agencies would better fit for this task:		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Migration service <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical office <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:		
	2. Amending legislative framework. Please specify which:		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Law <input type="checkbox"/> By-law <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:		
	3. Improving practical coordination among agencies		
	4. Sharing data with other countries		
	5. Organizing trainings for migration specialists on migration data		
	6. Developing IT infrastructures		

	7. Inviting international experts to share their expertise	
	8. Other: please specify	
10	Please provide any further comments on migration statistics in Armenia	

Thank you very much for filling out this questionnaire! Your answers will help develop a comprehensive overview of which migration data are collected in Armenia and how the quality of migration statistics could be improved.

Annex Three: Synergy of Authorities' Answers to Questionnaire

Part One: Data Availability

Agency that filled in questionnaire	Migration functions	Databases and registers	Data collected	Potential for producing migration indicators in line with EU Acquis
National Statistical Service , Department of Population Census and Demography	-	Statistical registrations of immigrants and emigrants submitted by RA Police territorial passport departments	Immigration and emigration (foreigners and citizens) by data of birth, citizenship, country of previous residence, sex, reason (employment, education, address, commerce, tourism, ethnicity, level of education). Monthly on paper, electronically, Microsoft Access Indicators produced: 1. Immigration (registration) distribution by citizenship, age, sex, other 2. Emigration (deregistration) distribution by citizenship, age, sex, other Data shared within the Service and publicly, as well as internationally (CIS Stat. Committee, Eurostat, UNECE) Personal Data Access: Public transportation data – arrivals and departures according to types of transportation	3.1.a Immigrants who moved into Armenia during a year by age, sex, country of previous usual residence (including stateless persons) 3.1.b. Emigrants who moved from Armenia during a year by age, sex, citizenship, country of next usual residence (including stateless persons)
State Migration Service , Ministry of Territorial Administration	Migration policy development, initiating and drafting laws, processing readmission applications, reintegration of readmitted nationals, realization of the	Asylum seekers and refugees registration electronic database	Asylum seekers and refugees by date of birth, passport, citizenship, country of birth, country of previous residence, sex, information about parents, length of document validity, first permit or renewal, reason (employment, family unification, education, military service, state of health, date of entry into the RA, place of residence in the RA) Continuously, on	

Agency that filled in questionnaire	Migration functions	Databases and registers	Data collected	Potential for producing migration indicators in line with EU Acquis
	projects with the purpose of providing permanent dwellings for deported refugees from the Republic of Azerbaijan in 1988-1992		<p>paper until November 2009, electronically from November 2009 (Java)</p> <p>Indicators produced:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Asylum applications by citizenship, age and sex 2. Refusals, positive decisions, cessations, abatements by citizenship, age, and sex 	
National Security Service (Counterintelligence Main Department, Governmental Information and Communications Department)	Drafting laws, immigration control at the border, illegal crossing interception, detention of undocumented foreigners and other irregular migrants, identification of undocumented foreigners	Border Migration Information System (BMIS)	<p>Data collected on foreigners and nationals by date of birth, passport, citizenship, country of birth, sex, length of permit validity, first permit or renewal, reason (employment, family unification, education). Data on paper from 2000 to 2009, electronic records from 2004, continuously (daily)</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of entries and exits by citizenship 2. Foreigners refused entry to Armenia at the border 3. Residence permits issued on occasion of changing immigration status or reason for stay during the reference period 4. Foreigners found to be illegally present in Armenia subject to an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country (test period) 5. Foreigners who have left Armenia following an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country (test period) <p>Data shared within the Service</p> <p>BMIS: Data collected on foreigner and nationals, by date of birth, passport, citizenship, sex</p>	<p>5.1.a Foreigners refused entry to Armenia at the border by citizenship</p> <p>6.1.a.ii Residence permits issued on occasion of changing immigration status or reason for stay during the reference period by citizenship – trial</p> <p>6.1.a.iii Valid residence permits issued at the end of the reference period – test period</p> <p>7.1.a Foreigners found to be illegally present in Armenia subject to an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country by citizenship</p> <p>7.1.b. Foreigners who have left Armenia following an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country (test period)</p>
National Security Service (Frontier Detachment of	Passport control at the border, immigration control at the border,	Registration journals of vehicles and people crossing the state border,		5.1.a Foreigners refused entry to Armenia at the border by age, sex, citizenship, stateless

Agency that filled in questionnaire	Migration functions	Databases and registers	Data collected	Potential for producing migration indicators in line with EU Acquis
Boundary Control, Frontier Troops)	illegal crossing entry, refusal to undocumented foreigners and other irregular migrants, identification of undocumented foreigners	BMIS	On paper from 2000 to 2009, from 2005 – electronic records collected continuously on a daily basis Monthly statistics and annual statistics available	
Police of the Republic of Armenia , Main Administration of the General Department to Combat Organized Crime (II Department)	Illegal border crossing intersection (together with the NSS) Undocumented foreigners apprehension (together with the bodies involved in investigation) Detention of undocumented foreigners and other irregular migrants Identification of undocumented foreigners	State Population Register		
Police of the Republic of Armenia , Passport and Visa Department	Initiating and drafting laws, issuing invitations to foreigners for visa purposes, illegal crossing interception, issuing visas at the border, issuing visas inside the country,	State Population Register BMIS – as users	Data on foreigners and nationals by date of birth, passport, citizenship, country of birth, country of previous residence, sex, information about parents, length of permit validity, first permit or renewal, reason (employment, family unification, education) Data exists from 2007 electronically – residence card. Microsoft Access, continuous	3.1.a Immigrants who moved into Armenia during a year by citizenship, sex, stateless person, reason for permit, length of permit validity 6.1.a.iii Valid residence permits issued at the end of the reference period by citizenship, sex, length of permit validity

Agency that filled in questionnaire	Migration functions	Databases and registers	Data collected	Potential for producing migration indicators in line with EU Acquis
	<p>registering foreigners for temporary stay, registering foreigners for temporary/permanent residence, citizenship acquisition and denunciation, identification of undocumented foreigners (participate), issuing orders to leave the country (participate), enforcing orders to leave the country (partially), issuing permits to foreigners for the purpose of education, deregistration of emigrating nationals, support to diaspora</p>		<p>input</p> <p>Indicators</p> <p>Number of residence cards by citizenship, age, sex, country of birth, reason, length of validity</p>	<p>6.1.b Long-term residents at the end of the reference period by citizenship, sex, length of permit validity</p> <p>7.1.b Foreigners who have left Armenia following an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country by citizenship (partially)</p>
<p>State Employment Service, Ministry of Labour and Social Issues</p>	<p>Drafting laws, commenting laws developed by other state structures, issuing permits to employers to hire foreigners (is foreseen), issuing work permits to foreigners (is foreseen), registering foreign employment of nationals (is foreseen),</p>	<p>GORC Informational System</p> <p>Registration of job-seekers, including foreigners, in agency's web-page www.employment.am (foreseen)</p>	<p>Data collected on foreigners and nationals, by date of birth, passport, citizenship, country of birth, information about parents, sex, reason (employment, family unification, education)</p> <p>Data on paper from 1992 until 2003, after that – electronic</p> <p>Indicators stated in registration card – regularly, upon request, monthly, annually</p>	

Agency that filled in questionnaire	Migration functions	Databases and registers	Data collected	Potential for producing migration indicators in line with EU Acquis
	support to Diaspora (is foreseen) N/A			
Agency of the Public Register of Legal Entities , Ministry of Justice		Public Register of Legal Entities territorial divisions of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth • Marriage • Divorce • Name change • Acknowledgement of paternity • Death • Affiliation 	Data collected on nationals and foreigners by date of birth, passport, citizenship, country of birth, sex, information about parents, education Collected on paper continuously, also with some software usage Regular development of statistics	
Administrative Court of the Republic of Armenia	Initiating laws, issuing orders to leave the country	Compute programme “Judicial System of the RA”	Data collected on foreigners and nationals, electronically from 1 January 2008 Annual statistics shared internally and upon requests to individuals Data published on www.aviation.am monthly	
Civil Aviation Department		Passenger manifests filled in by airlines		
Central Bank of Armenia	N/A			
General Prosecutor’s Office of Armenia , Department for Crimes Against Property and Economic Activity and Division on Crimes on Illegal Turnover of Narcotic Drugs				

Part Two: Data Sharing

Agency Providing Data	Agency Receiving Data	Types of Data	Regularity/format
State Migration Agency , Ministry of the Territorial Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Statistic Service State Employment Service Central Bank of Armenia Mass media UNHCR 	Asylum data	Quarterly/annually, monthly to UNHCR Upon request (SES)
Frontier Detachment of Limit Supervision and Frontier Detachment of Boundary Control, of the Frontier Troops of the National Security Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration Agency of the Ministry of the Territorial Administration Police of the Republic of Armenia State Revenue Committee of the Republic of Armenia 	Number of border crossings by citizenship	Monthly
Frontier Administration of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation in Armenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration Agency of the Ministry of the Territorial Administration 		Monthly
National Security Service of the Republic of Armenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration Agency of the Ministry of the Territorial Administration Police of the Republic of Armenia (also personal data) State Revenue Committee of the Republic of Armenia National Statistical Office (under development) 	Number of people entered and left Republic of Armenia by citizenship Police – also accesses personal data on visas and facts of border crossing (citizenship, length of validity, reason) NSO – weekly access	Upon request
Police of the Republic of Armenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration Agency of the Ministry of the Territorial Administration Government National Assembly Courts International organizations Mass media 	Number of foreigners received residence in RA by citizenship and type of status	Upon request
Agency of the Public Register of Legal Entities , Ministry of Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Statistical Office 		
Central Bank of the Republic of Armenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Migration Agency of the Ministry of the Territorial Administration 	Volume of remittances by names of natural people transferred through the banking system of the RA with no commercial purposes, by resident country	Monthly

Agency Providing Data	Agency Receiving Data	Types of Data	Regularity/format
National Statistical Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Security Service, Counterintelligence Main Department Frontier Detachment of Boundary Control, Frontier Troops of the National Security Service of the Republic of Armenia 	Asylum data	
Civil Aviation Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Statistical Office State Revenue Committee at the Government of the Republic of Armenia 	Number of passengers travelling by air	Monthly
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police of the Republic of Armenia 		Upon request
State Employment Service, Ministry of Labour and Social Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parliament Government Ministries Other state bodies Mass Media Internet Individual requests Nagorno Karabakh, Ministry of Social Security Ukraine WB, ILO, UN, IOM, individual requests 		Upon request Monthly and other (ministries)
Ministry of Education and Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Statistical Office 	<p>(1) Number of citizens of the Republic of Armenia studying overseas, of which by intergovernmental contracts, by education levels (general education, preliminary (professional) secondary and high specialized educational establishments, magistracy, post-graduate course, doctor's degree program, other projects)</p> <p>(2) Number of foreigners studying in the Republic of Armenia by education levels (same as above)</p>	

Part Three: Data Needs

Question	Number of positive answers and additional information
1. The agency has insufficient data and statistics to efficiently perform functions related to migration management	Nat. Stat. Service, National Security Service (2), State Employment Service, Central Bank, Frontier Detachment of Boundary Control
2. Need for additional data on migration	State Migration Service: On volumes of emigration and immigration by citizenship, age, sex, country of birth, reason, length of validity; on volumes of labour migration by age, sex, reason, length and destination country State Employment Service: foreigners living and working in Armenia by citizenship, age, sex, country of birth, reason, length of validity, other; citizens of Armenia working abroad, refugees Central Bank: Number of Armenians abroad by country of birth, number of seasonal workers abroad by reason
3. Required measures to improve situation with migration statistics in Armenia:	
a. Assigning one coordinating agency to collect migration statistics	Nat. Stat. Service (suggested by 3 agencies), State Migration Service (suggested by 6 agencies)
b. Amending legislative framework	
i. Laws	Nat. Stat. Service, Prosecutor, SES, NSecS
ii. By-laws	State Migration Service, Prosecutor (2), SES, Court
iii. Other	International agreements, conventions (SES)
c. Improving practical coordination among agencies	SMS, SES, CBA – top priority, Prosecutor (2), Frontier troops
d. Sharing data with other countries	SMS, CBA – medium, Prosecutor (2), NcSS (3) – top, SES – top
e. Organizing trainings for migration specialists on migration data	Nat. Stat. Service, MS, CB, NSecS (3), SES – medium, Prosecutor (2)
f. Developing IT infrastructures	SMS – top, Prosecutor, NSecS (2), CB – not a priority, SES, NSecS – medium
g. Inviting international experts to share their expertise	SMS – medium, Prosecutor, NSS (3) – medium, SES – medium, CBA – not a priority
h. Other	Nat. Stat. Service: “Regulate the mechanisms of migration data application in order to provide the entity of data and to conform to international adopted classifications” SMS: “To enlarge BMIS database in order to use it for getting statistic information either for migration or tourism” CBA: Please provide any further comments on migration statistics in Armenia. Migration statistics is too important for Armenia as it is used for compiling several BOP items (travel, remittances). For this purpose, there is a need for more detailed information about inward and outward migration by countries by gender etc.

Annex Four: Samples of Migration-related Data Available in Armenia

TABLE 3: NUMBER OF BORDER CROSSINGS IN ARMENIA BY CITIZENSHIP, 2006-2009

Citizenship	2006			2007			2008			2009		
	Arrived	Departed	Balance	Arrived	Departed	Balance	Arrived	Departed	Balance	Arrived	Departed	Balance
Total	776496	801498	-25002	1048959	1064181	-15222	1195966	1221370	-25404	1412170	1420993	-8823
RA citizens	424953	453850	-28897	545901	568020	-22119	621883	654003	-32120	694887	715857	-20970
Foreigners	351543	347648	3895	503058	496161	6897	574083	567367	6716	717283	705136	12147
Including												
CIS citizens	120590	125146	-4556	198504	197894	610	227626	226630	996	244040	237061	6979
From:												
<i>Belarus</i>	1188	1222	-34	1709	1761	-52	1835	1779	56	1895	1854	41
<i>Kazakhstan</i>	1626	1658	-32	2357	2264	93	2371	2351	20	2402	2369	33
<i>Russia</i>	106621	110729	-4108	179766	179357	409	206100	205289	811	221650	216361	5289
<i>Ukraine</i>	8834	9208	-374	11762	11663	99	14053	14073	-20	14541	13868	673
<i>Other</i>	2321	2329	-8	2910	2849	61	3267	3138	129	3552	2609	943
Other country citizens	230953	222502	8451	304554	298267	6287	346457	340737	5720	473243	468075	5168
From:												
USA	19945	22465	-2520	22567	22444	123	20522	20441	81	19231	19128	103
<i>Germany</i>	4752	4840	-88	6719	6497	222	7160	6949	211	7740	7419	321
<i>Georgia</i>	89650	79051	10599	136842	131849	4993	165659	162325	3334	10763	10664	99
<i>Iran</i>	62333	59848	2485	68659	68490	169	75547	74401	1146	87243	86170	1073
<i>Turkey</i>	6665	6445	220	9626	9405	221	11902	11881	21	284419	281810	2609
<i>France</i>	8175	8420	-245	11919	11858	61	12156	12106	50	12036	12101	-65
<i>Other</i>	39433	41433	-2000	48222	47724	498	53511	52634	877	51811	50783	1028

Source: BMIS data provided by the State Migration Service.

TABLE 4: VOLUMES OF REMITTANCES TRANSFERRED BY PHYSICAL PERSONS THROUGH THE BANKING SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA WITH A NON-COMMERCIAL PURPOSE, ML \$, 2004-2009

Country	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	644025	752821	960917	1319480	1635309	1124119
including:						
CIS countries	429874	555590	758435	1112353	1426572	947071
among them:						
<i>Russia</i>	419013	541309	739419	1078217	1371066	904011
<i>Kazakhstan</i>	3493	6292	8820	16379	19533	17517
<i>Ukraine</i>	5249	5972	7770	14646	32313	22418
<i>Other CIS</i>	2119	2017	2426	3111	3660	3125
Other countries	214151	197231	202482	207127	208737	177048
among them:						
<i>UAE</i>	4199	4606	2550	2812	11980	4769
<i>USA</i>	78787	82629	94490	76571	60958	59288
<i>Germany</i>	15319	15225	10737	13210	13258	11178
<i>Spain</i>	5012	5498	6586	8670	11363	6839
<i>Greece</i>	5347	5313	5452	6822	8064	9139
<i>France</i>	5976	6677	6479	9659	9014	7194
<i>Great Britain</i>	11657	9801	8708	7516	8139	7019
<i>Sweden</i>	12846	9379	6566	4865	7484	5851
<i>Others</i>	75008	58103	60914	77002	78477	65771

Source: Central Bank data provided by the State Migration Service.

TABLE 5: REFUGEE STATUS DETERMINATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA, 1999-2009

Year	Total Number of Applications	Refugee Status				Temporary Asylum				
		Number of Applications	Granted	Refused	Pending	Citizens of Iraq	Applied Citizens of other countries	Citizens of Iraq	Granted Citizens of Other Countries	Pending
1999	23	23	5	18	-	-	-	-	-	-
2000	9	9	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	10	10	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
2002	8	8	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	82	18	-	18	-	63	1	63	-	1
2004	162	17	1	16	-	143	2	143	2	-
2005	163	38	4	34	-	123	2	123	-	2
2006	650	21	5	16	-	275	354	275	17	337
2007	291	20	3	17	-	271	-	271	-	-
2008	207	17	8	9	-	63	127	63	8	119
2009	67	19	5	7	7	48	-	44	-	-
Total	1672	200	37	156	7	986	486	982	27	459
<i>Source: State Migration Service</i>										

TABLE 6: MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA'S POPULATION BY GENDER, AGE GROUPS AND CITIZENSHIP, 2009

	Immigrants (registered)						Emigrants (deregistered)					
	Including according to country of citizenship						Including according to country of citizenship					
	Total		Male		Female		Total		Man		Woman	
Age	RA	RF	RA	RF	RA	RF	RA	RF	RA	RF	RA	RF
Total	7940	21	2854	12	5086	9	11739	158	4231	48	7508	110
0-4	354	0	187	0	167	0	428	1	235	1	193	0
5-9	344	0	187	0	157	0	471	4	267	0	204	4
10-14	398	0	218	0	180	0	601	4	342	2	259	2
15-19	308	4	104	3	204	1	506	5	171	1	335	4
20-24	1389	3	414	1	975	2	1796	13	434	2	1362	11
25-29	1125	2	277	1	848	1	1675	24	459	1	1216	23
30-34	901	2	266	2	635	0	1420	17	432	3	988	14
35-39	660	1	201	1	459	0	1022	14	317	3	705	11
40-44	478	5	171	3	307	2	727	13	267	4	460	9
45-49	497	1	188	0	309	1	759	23	270	10	489	13
50-54	503	1	201	0	302	1	861	17	383	10	478	7
55-59	341	0	145	0	196	0	565	12	232	6	333	6
60-64	216	1	107	1	109	0	329	4	171	2	158	2
65-69	126	0	61	0	65	0	170	3	75	2	95	1
70-74	139	0	63	0	76	0	183	3	84	1	99	2
75-79	84	1	36	0	48	1	123	1	52	0	71	1
80 +	77	0	28	0	49	0	103	0	40	0	63	0

Source: RA Police territorial passport departments (statistical registration check of immigrant – form N° 19, and statistical registration check of immigrant – form N° 20) as reported by the National Statistical Service

TABLE 7: REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA'S POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY CITIZENSHIP, GENDER AND AGE GROUPS, 2001

Country of citizenship, Gender	TOTAL	Age						
		0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60 +
Total	3,213,011	454603	639054	490148	448851	487662	233909	458784
Armenia	3,185,455	451919	634849	486105	444443	483136	231712	453291
Georgia	2,304	138	484	493	306	334	163	386
Iran	595	43	96	97	137	89	65	68
Russia	7,623	1307	1151	1125	1347	1330	559	804
Ukraine	604	110	57	119	131	79	31	77
USA	343	87	25	39	61	55	29	47
Other	2.136	401	268	418	364	308	135	242
Stateless	13,951	598	2124	1752	2062	2331	1215	3869

Country of citizenship, Gender	MEN	Age						
		0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60 +
	1,541,999	238,219	322,812	239,642	212,103	230,645	107,070	191,508
Armenia	1,529,093	236,797	320,560	237,636	209,977	228,498	106,119	189,506
Georgia	934	75	224	191	130	134	62	118
Iran	331	25	37	54	95	50	33	37
Russia	3,842	686	625	563	724	731	249	264
Ukraine	216	54	34	29	42	29	10	18
USA	204	48	19	22	35	33	20	27
Other	1,123	218	156	241	187	156	72	93
Stateless	6,256	316	1,157	906	913	1,014	505	1,445

Country of citizenship, Gender	WOMEN	Age						
		0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60 +
Women	1,671,012	216,384	316,242	250,506	236,748	257,017	126,839	267,276
Armenia	1,656,362	215,122	314,289	248,469	234,466	254,638	125,593	263,785
Georgia	1,370	63	260	302	176	200	101	268
Iran	264	18	59	43	42	39	32	31
Russia	3,781	621	526	562	623	599	310	540
Ukraine	388	56	23	90	89	50	21	59
USA	139	39	6	17	26	22	9	20
Other	1,013	183	112	177	177	152	63	149
Stateless	7,695	282	967	846	1,149	1,317	710	2,424

Source: Results of RA population census, 2001, as reported by the National Statistical Service

TABLE 8: NUMBER OF FOREIGN STUDENTS ENTERED SECONDARY PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA, 2009

	Higher educational institutions		Average professional educational institutions	
	Total	Female	Total	Male
Russia	326	187	17	13
Georgia	158	78	28	20
Ukraine	25	12	-	-
Belarus	1	-	1	1
Turkmenistan	20	7	-	-
Uzbekistan	2	1	-	-
Kazakhstan	3	-	-	-
Iran	79	28	3	2
Iraq	4	-	-	-
Syria	21	10	-	-
Lebanon	1	1	-	-
Cyprus	1	1	-	-
Israel	1	-	-	-
Turkey	1	-	-	-
India	63	34	-	-
Greece	1	1	1	1
Poland	1	1	-	-
Germany	1	-	-	-
Holland	1	-	-	-
China	2	1	-	-
Canada	1	-	-	-
USA	3	1	-	-
France	2	1	-	-
Lithuania	1	1	-	-
Other countries	7	6	-	-
Total	726	371	50	37

Source: Ministry of Education Science as reported by the National Statistical Service

**TABLE 9: NUMBER OF RESIDENCE PERMITS (TEMPORARY, SPECIAL AND PERMANENT) ISSUED TO FOREIGNERS
BY THE POLICE, BY CITIZENSHIP, 2009**

Country	Temporary status	Special status	Permanent status	Total
Argentina	2	2		4
Australia	1	7		8
Belarus	2			2
Belgium		2		2
Brazil	4	1		5
Bulgaria	1	2	2	5
Canada	4	15	2	21
China	7			7
Cyprus			1	1
Czech Republic			2	2
Denmark	2	4		6
Egypt	2	23		25
Estonia	1	1	1	3
Finland	1			1
Former Yugoslavia	1			1
France	19	54	5	78
Georgia	160	5	4	169
Germany	6	7	5	18
Great Britain	2	9	2	13
Greece	7	7	3	17
India	7		25	32
Iran	558	249	49	856
Iraq	4	132		136
Ireland	1			1
Israel	2	3	1	6
Italy	10	5	1	16
Jordan	2	3		5
Kazakhstan	6			6
Lebanon	13	51	3	67
Lithuania	3	1		4
Mexico	1			1
Moldova	2			2
Mongolia	1			1
Netherlands	4	13	2	19
New Zealand	1			1

Pakistan	2			2
Philippines	2			2
Poland	7	1		8
Portugal		1		1
Republic of Korea	2			2
Romania	1			1
Russian Federation	159	11	59	229
Spain	2	1	2	5
Sudan		1		1
Switzerland		7		7
Syria	27	100	7	134
Turkey	2	5		7
Turkmenistan	6	18	2	26
Ukraine	3	2		5
Uruguay		1		1
USA	31	191	9	231
Uzbekistan	2	1		3
Stateless		7		7
Others				281
Total	1083	943	187	2494

Source: Police of the Republic of Armenia

TABLE 10: NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS HELD LIABLE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCES, 2009

Country	Number of persons
Russia	73
Ukraine	6
Georgia	37
Kazakhstan	1
Kirgizia	1
Turkmenistan	1
Latvia	1
Australia	1
Belgium	1
Bulgaria	1
Hungry	1
Germany	1
Greece	1
Denmark	1
India	2
Iran	44
Spain	2
China	1
Netherlands	1
Romania	9
Syria	2
USA	6
Turkey	1
France	5
Total	200

Source: Police of the Republic of Armenia

TABLE 11: CITIZENSHIP ACQUISITION AND DENUNCIATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA, 2007-2009

	2007	2008	2009
Acquired Citizenship	223	1554	4323
among them:			
were stateless	...	158	193
Denounced Citizenship	319	328	427

Source: Data of the Police of the Republic of Armenia as Shared by the SMS

During 2009 147.810 registration and 89.982 deregistration operations were held by Passport and visa department of RA Police and territorial passport services.

Annex Five: Overview of Administrative Sources of Migration Data in the Republic of Armenia

FIGURE 6: KEY IT SYSTEMS IN ARMENIA OF RELEVANCE TO MIGRATION

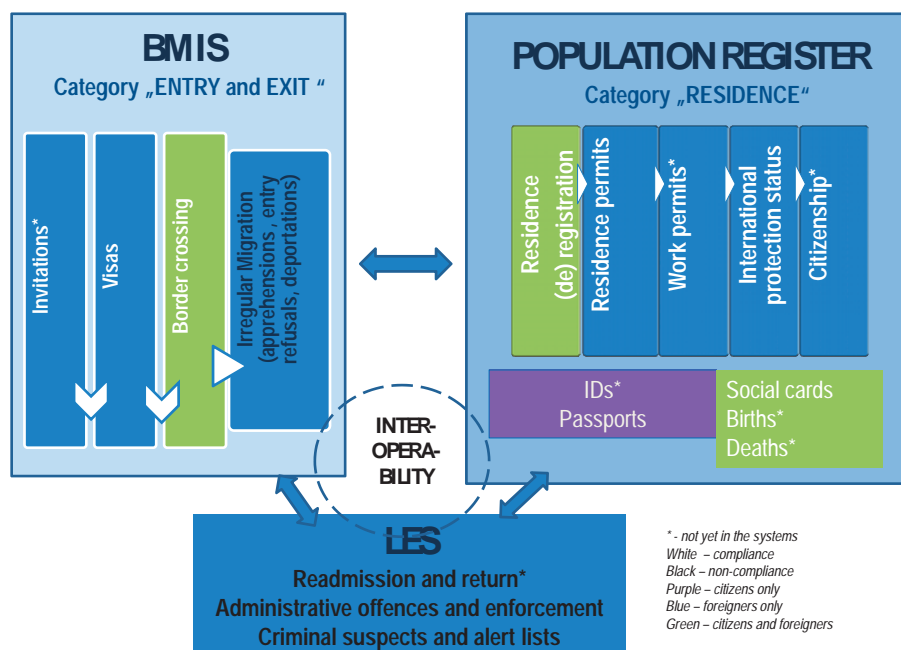


TABLE 12: ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR MIGRATION REGULATION IN ARMENIA: PROCEDURES, AGENCIES AND IT PLATFORMS

Procedure	Responsible Agency	Legal Framework	Relevant Database
CITIZENS and FOREIGNERS			
Birth certificate, marriage, adoption, death	Ministry of Justice, , if born in Armenia, MFA if born abroad	Law on Civil Status Acts	Paper records in municipalities manually transferred to the Police and the National Statistical Service
(De) registration of residence	Police	Law on the State Register of the Population	Police database, in the process of integration into the Population Register
Social security card	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection	Law on Social Security Cards	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection Database, data uploaded onto the Population Register
CITIZENS			
Passport and ID card	Police	New legal framework under development	Population Register
FOREIGNERS (Legal)			
Invitation	Police, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Law on Aliens	Paper records, not yet fully integrated into the Population Register of BMIS

Procedure	Responsible Agency	Legal Framework	Relevant Database
Visa	Consular departments in diplomatic representations abroad, MFA Consular Department in Yerevan, Police	Law on Aliens	Fully integrated in BMIS
Residence permit	Police, Consular representations abroad (for special permits)	Law on Aliens	Population Register, in the process of integration with the BMIS in a pilot regime
Work permit	Not enforced	Law on Aliens	Not enforced
Citizenship acquisition/denunciation	Police	Law on Aliens	Population Register (module on issued and withdrawn passports)
Asylum application	State Migration Service	Law on Political Asylum	Agency database
International protection status	State Migration Service, Police	Law on Political Asylum	Agency database for decisions, Population Register for documentation
FOREIGNERS (Illegal)			
Illegal border crossing	Frontier Troops of the NSS	By-laws	BMIS
Entry refusal	Frontier Troops of the NSS	By-laws and Law on Aliens	BMIS
Return at the border/readmission	Frontier Troops of the NSS	By-laws and international agreements	BMIS
Apprehended in Armenia	Police	By-laws	Paper records
Law enforcement measure - fine	Police and the Frontier Troops of the NSS	By-laws	Paper records
Law enforcement measure – removal (deportation)	Police and the Frontier Troops of the NSS	By-laws	BMIS

(De) Registration of residence									
intended	Yes	Yes	No	?	?	?	?	N/A	No
actual	N/A	N/A	No	?	?	?	?	N/A	No
standardized	?	No	N/A	?	?	?	?	N/A	No
3. DATA AGGREGATION									
frequency	Ad hoc	Automated in BMIS	Automated in BMIS	Regular by NSS	Ad hoc	Regular by SMS	Ad hoc	Regular	Regular
categorization	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Low	Medium	Low	High	High
4. DATA DISSEMINATION	Ad hoc within government	Ad hoc within government	Regular within government	Ad hoc within government	Ad hoc within government	Regular with UNHCR	No	Regular and public	Regular and public
5. VALUE FOR ADDITIONAL STATISTICS GENERATION									
nationals	N/A	N/A	High	Medium (for registration), low (for deregistration)	N/A	N/A	N/A	High	High
foreigners	Low a)	Medium b)	High	High, when introduced	High	High	High	High	N/A
Remarks:									

a) Only small percentage of total flows is covered (citizens of 18 countries are required to have invitations)

b) Small percentage covered as citizens of 10 countries are exempt, as are holders of diplomatic and service passport of additional 20

? - Information was not verified during the mission

TABLE 14: POTENTIAL STATISTICAL INDICATORS OF RELEVANCE TO MIGRATION IN ARMENIA: USERS, APPLICATION, GAPS AND POSSIBLE MEASURES

Migrant Category	Possible indicator	Disaggregation	Users/Applications	Source and Producer (Short-term)	Source and Producer (Mid to Long-term)	Gaps Identified	Possible Measures
REGULAR MIGRATION:							
Immigrants – flows	Number of persons (Armenians and foreigners) registered at the new place of residence in Armenia	Citizenship, sex, age, reason	Migration policy Economic policy Demographic policy Integration policy International: UN, CIS, EU	Statistical coupons filled in at Police stations. National Statistical Service (NSS)	Fully automated Population Register. National Statistical Service	<i>Issue 1:</i> Registration statistics developed on the basis of special statistical coupons (forms 19 and 20) rather than through a direct access by NSS to the Population Register	1. Consider cancelling statistical coupons 19 and 20 and providing NSS with access to primary sets of registration data stored in the Population Register.
	Number of residence permits issued	Type of permit, citizenship, sex, age, reason, *new or extension	Migration policy Economic policy Demographic policy Integration policy International: CIS, EU	Residence permits database of the Population Register. Police	Fully automated Population Register. Police produces permit statistics directly or transfers it to a specialized agency mandated to disseminate migration statistics in the country	<i>Issue 2:</i> Although permit data uploading is fully automated, report generating on this indicator is only possible by IT specialists in the Police. <i>Issue 3:</i> Permit statistics is not regularly produced and is not disaggregated by age, sex, extended vs. new permits; is available for other users on an ad hoc basis.	2. Automate, make regular and structure the statistical reporting of permits data (monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual; disaggregating by age, sex, citizenship etc.). 3. Agree on the procedure for permit statistics dissemination and the responsible authority
	Number of residence permits extensions in Armenia	Citizenship, sex, age, reason	Migration policy Economic policy Demographic policy Integration policy	Residence permits database of the Population Register. Police	Fully automated Population Register. Police (or a specialized agency mandated to produce	<i>Issue 4:</i> Possible confusion between new and extended permits. <i>Issue 5:</i> Possibly, a reason for permit issuance (extension) is not recorded	4. Ensure that a residence permit entry form allows coding for 1) a new vs. extended permit, and 2) reason for permit issuance (extension). 5. Generate the statistical

Migrant Category	Possible indicator	Disaggregation	Users/Applications	Source and Producer (Short-term)	Source and Producer (Mid to Long-term)	Gaps Identified	Possible Measures
			International: CIS, EU		migration statistics in the country)		reporting function which differentiates between new and extended residence permits
Incoming travelers (potential immigrants) – flows	Number of issued visas	Citizenship, place of issuance, *reason for travel, *intended duration of stay, *type of visa, *age, *sex	Visa policy Migration policy Tourism industry Economic policy Regional integration	BMIS, MFA and Police	Same	<p><i>Issue 6:</i> Statistics generation function is already created in the BMIS, but statistics are not shared regularly among the authorities. No mechanism exists for statistics dissemination to non-governmental users</p> <p><i>Issue 7:</i> Disaggregation of data according to other sub-categories would assist in yielding additional insights into categories of travellers to Armenia</p>	<p>Consider creating a regular procedure for sharing visa statistics with relevant authorities, such as, for instance, developing an interface on the basis of BMIS</p> <p>7. Further developing statistical querying function in BMIS to allow disaggregation into other sub-categories</p>
	Number of persons who arrived to Armenia	Citizenship, *age, *sex, *intended duration of stay, *reason	Migration policy Visa policy Tourism industry Economic policy International: UN, CIS	BMIS, National Security Service (Border Guards)	BMIS, Regular reporting of arrival/departure statistics to the agency mandated to disseminate migration statistics	<p>8. <i>Issue 8:</i> Data is based on information from travel documents, thus does not contain information on intended duration of stay and reason for entry.</p> <p><i>Issue 9:</i> Statistics generated but are not regularly disseminated among potential users</p> <p>9. Develop a procedure for regular sharing of entry statistics among potential users (by developing an interface within the BMIS</p>	<p>Consider adding a procedure for a border guard to fill in information as reported by the person on 1) intended duration of stay (up to 3 months, 3 to 12 months, longer than 12 months) and 2) reason for entry (in line with the reasons used for visa issuance)</p> <p>Develop a procedure for regular sharing of entry statistics among potential users (by developing an interface within the BMIS</p>

Migrant Category	Possible indicator	Disaggregation	Users/Applications	Source and Producer (Short-term)	Source and Producer (Mid to Long-term)	Gaps Identified	Possible Measures
							system, for statistical reports access by all authorized users or by the agency responsible for migration statistics in the country)
Immigrants – stocks	Number of residence permits which were issued to foreigners and were still valid during a given period	Types of permit (temporary, permanent, special), citizenship, age, sex	Migration policy Economic policy Demographic policy Integration policy International: CIS, EU	Residence permits database of the Population Register. Police	Fully automated Population Register. Police (or a specialized agency mandated to produce migration statistics in the country)	<i>Issue 10:</i> Challenge of differentiating between valid and expired permits <i>Issue 11:</i> No statistics developed on the stock of valid permits <i>Issue 12:</i> No clear procedure on disseminating permit-based statistics	10. Ensure that the residence permit database automatically invalidates expired permits. 11. Create a statistical reporting function on the stock of valid permits. 12. Agree on the procedure for permit statistics dissemination and the responsible authority
Emigrants – flows	Number of persons de-registered at the place of residence in Armenia	Citizenship (including Armenians), sex, age, reason	Migration policy Economic policy Demographic policy International: UN, CIS, EU	Statistical coupons filled in at Police stations. National Statistical Service (NSS)	Fully automated Population Register, National Statistical Service	<i>Same as Issue 1.</i> <i>Issue 13:</i> Low rate of population's compliance with the deregistration requirement, resulting in the underrepresentation of the actual situation through this indicator	Same as 1. 13. Consider introducing measures motivating persons to register in the embassies of the Republic of Armenia in the destination countries
Outgoing travelers (potential emigrants) – flows	Number of persons who left Armenia	Citizenship, *actual duration of stay, *reason for departure	Migration policy Visa policy Tourism industry Economic policy	BMIS, National Security Service (Border Guards)	BMIS. Agency mandated to disseminate migration statistics on a regular basis	<i>Same as Issues 8 and 9.</i>	Same as 8 and 9.
Total population stock	Total number of persons registered in Armenia	Citizenship, age, sex	Migration policy Economic policy Demographic policy Integration policy	Population statistics calculated based on the census and the statistical	Population statistics based on the census and the registration data uploaded by the	<i>Same as Issue 1</i> <i>Issue 14:</i> Low rate of compliance with the deregistration procedure, hence total population stock	Same as 1. 14. Consider introducing measures motivating persons to register in the embassies of the Republic of Armenia in

Migrant Category	Possible indicator	Disaggregation	Users/Applications	Source and Producer (Short-term)	Source and Producer (Mid to Long-term)	Gaps Identified	Possible Measures
				coupons issued by the Police, National Statistical Agency	NSS from the Population Register	will be overestimated based on registration statistics	the destination countries
Labour migrants	Number of work permits issued in Armenia	By economic activity, citizenship, age, sex, permit duration	Migration policy Economic policy	Non-existent	A database of the agency mandated to issue work permits to foreigners in Armenia, fully integrated with the State Population Register and the BMIS	<p><i>Issue 15:</i> Though foreseen by Law, the procedure on issuance of work permits has not been established</p> <p><i>Issue 16:</i> No statistics on the labour migrants in Armenia exists</p>	<p>15. Establish the procedure for issuing work permits to foreigners</p> <p>16. Ensure that the evolving database allows generating statistics on this indicator and is fully interoperation with the other migration-related systems (Population Register and the BMIS)</p>
	Number of Armenian citizens leaving the country to reside abroad with the purpose of employment	By age, sex, type of economic activity, duration of stay abroad	Migration policy Economic policy Demographic policy Development of bi-lateral agreements with main destination countries	Statistics of key destination countries Surveys on labour migration	Same	<p><i>Issue 17:</i> Statistics not easily available</p> <p><i>Issue 18:</i> Surveys conducted on an ad hoc basis</p>	<p>17. Developing regional cooperation to make sharing data on this indicator a regular process</p> <p>18. Ensure regularity of migration-specific surveys and comparability among various surveys carried out</p>
Migrant students	Number of foreigners studying in the Republic of Armenia	Citizenship, age, sex, education levels	Migration policy Economic policy Attracting highly-qualified Demographic policy Integration policy International:	National Statistical Service (as supplied by Ministry of Education and Science)	Same	<i>Issue 19:</i> Statistics available but not regularly disseminated	19. Consider including this indicator as a regularly reported statistic available to a broad audience

Migrant Category	Possible indicator	Disaggregation	Users/Applications	Source and Producer (Short-term)	Source and Producer (Mid to Long-term)	Gaps Identified	Possible Measures
			CIS				
	Number of citizens of the Republic of Armenia studying overseas	Citizenship, age, sex, education levels, if through intergovernmental contracts	Migration policy Demographic policy Policy on “Brain-drain” counteraction and highly qualified nationals return	Statistics of destination countries	Statistics of destination countries	<i>Issue 20:</i> Statistics not easily available	20. Consider adding this statistic for sharing at international and regional level
Naturalization	Number of foreigners who acquired Armenian citizenship	Age*, sex*, former citizenship*	Migration policy Demographic policy	Database on issued national passports, Police and MFA Consulate representations abroad	Fully automated data management procedure. Data accessible by other authorities	<i>Issue 21:</i> Generation of statistics on citizenship acquisition is not regular. <i>Issue 22:</i> Statistics not disaggregated by various categories (such as those suggested in column two)	21. Make production and dissemination of statistics on citizenship acquisition a regular process 22. Develop a report generating feature for this statistics on the basis of the available data
IRREGULAR MIGRATION:							
Irregular migrants	Number of foreigners apprehended in Armenia with no right to stay on its territory	Citizenship*, age*, sex*	Irregular migration counteraction International: EU	Police	Law Enforcement System, fully interoperable with data from the Population Register and the BMIS	<i>Issue 23:</i> Statistics not generated on a regular basis	23. Ensure that the existing procedures allow data capturing on this indicator.
	Number of foreigners held liable for administrative offences	Citizenship, age*, sex*, types of offence*	Illegal migration counteraction International: CIS	Police	Law Enforcement System, fully interoperable with data from the Population Register and the	<i>Issue 24:</i> Statistics generated but on an ad-hoc basis and is disaggregated only into citizenship	24. Establish a regular procedure for generating statistics on this indicator disaggregated into more categories and sharing among designated users

Migrant Category	Possible indicator	Disaggregation	Users/ Applications	Source and Producer (Short-term)	Source and Producer (Mid to Long-term)	Gaps Identified	Possible Measures
					BMIS		
	Number of foreigners convicted of committing a criminal act	Citizenship *, age*, se*, types of crime	Illegal migration counteraction International: CIS	Police, Prosecutor General	Police or Courts database interoperable with the BMIS	<i>Issue 25:</i> Statistics is not generated	25. Establish a regular procedure for generating statistics on this indicator disaggregated into several categories and sharing among designated users
	Number of foreigners who were not allowed to enter Armenia	Citizenship, reason for entry refusal	Illegal migration counteraction International: EU	Frontier troops of the NSS, BMIS	Frontier troops of the NSS, BMIS	<i>Issue 26:</i> Statistics on refusal to entry is not generated	26. Establish a regular procedure for generating statistics on this indicator disaggregated into several categories and sharing among designated users
	Number of foreigners who were issued an order to leave the country	Citizenship	Illegal migration counteraction International: EU	Ministry of Justice (Courts), Police	Ministry of Justice (Courts), Police	<i>Issue 27:</i> Statistics on orders to leave the country not generated	27. Establish a regular procedure for generating statistics on this indicator and sharing among designated users

* - Feature does not exist, or not confirmed to exist by the assessment

Annex Seven: Lists of Migration-related Statistical Indicators Agreed for Sharing in the Regional Context

1. Indicators of Migration in Line with the EU Context

Immigrants who moved into Armenia during a year

Emigrants who moved from Armenia during a year

Persons having their usual residence in Armenia at the end of the year

Persons having their usual residence in Armenia who acquired the Armenian citizenship during a year

Foreigners refused entry to Armenia at the border

Foreigners found to be illegally present in Armenia

First-time residence permits issued during the reference period

Residence permits issued on occasion of changing immigration status or reason for stay during the reference period

Valid residence permits issued at the end of the reference period

Long-term residents at the end of the reference period

Foreigners found to be illegally present in Armenia subject to an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country

Foreigners who have left Armenia following an administrative or judicial decision to leave the country

2. Indicators of Migration Agreed for Sharing within the CIS

Border crossings (entries) by citizenship

Border crossings (departures) by citizenship

Foreigners registered by citizenship

Residence status extensions by citizenship

Issued residence permits by citizenship

Citizenship acquisitions by former citizenship

Administrative offences committed by foreigners by citizenship

Crimes committed by foreigners by citizenship

Foreigners arrived with the purpose of study by citizenship

Annex Eight: Terminology Used in the Report

Term	Definition	Source
Aggregate	Put different amounts, pieces of information etc together to form a group or a total	Longman, 2010
Aggregated data	An end result of data aggregation during which transaction data on concrete migrants are grouped together based on their similarity (i.e. belonging to the same category). In contrast to personal data, aggregated data are expressed in numerical terms and should not lead to the identification of any concrete migrant.	Author's own
Aggregation	A process during which different pieces of information or data of similar qualities or characteristics are put together to form a group or a total	Author's own
Country of habitual/usual residence	The country in which a person lives, that is to say, the country in which s/he has a place to live where s/he normally spends the daily period of rest. Temporary travel abroad for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage does not change a person's country of usual residence.	UN, 1998 and IOM, 2004a
Data	Groups of information that represent the qualitative or quantitative attributes of a variable or set of variables. Data (plural of "datum", which is seldom used) are typically the results of measurements and can be the basis of graphs, images, or observations of a set of variables. Data are often viewed as the lowest level of abstraction from which information and knowledge are derived. Raw data refers to a collection of numbers, characters, images or other outputs from devices that collect information to convert physical quantities into symbols, that are unprocessed.	Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data
Data dissemination	A process of submitting a certain set of data to various users usually taking place on a regular basis within an established formal or informal framework.	Author's own
Data producer	A legal or natural person who, in the course of mandated operational procedures, captures data on a certain category of individuals.	Author's own
Data reporting	The end product of an operational data collection and data management system whereby volumetric or other data are presented in a formal structured manner as required by the users of the system to manage the system effectively and efficiently	IOM, 2004b

Data sharing	A process of submitting a certain set of data to various users within or outside the institution which collected the data and, thus, is the data producer. In comparison to data dissemination, data sharing is a more informal process often taking place on an ad hoc basis with little set procedures and regulations.	Author's own
Data source	A statistical or administrative resource which has been established to collect information of a certain type according to set procedures.	Author's own
Data user	A legal or natural person who, for various operational or analytical purposes, uses certain sets of data either obtained directly from the data producer or accessed indirectly from other secondary sources.	Author's own
Depersonalized primary data sets	Sets of individual data which have been processed to remove any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person but still contain information on other non-individual parameters (e.g. demographic, economic, social)	Author's own
Emigration	The act of departing or exiting from one State with a view to settle in another. International human rights norms provide that all persons should be free to leave any country, including their own, and that only in very limited circumstances may States impose restrictions on the individual's right to leave its territory.	IOM, 2004a
Immigration	A process by which non-nationals move into a country for the purpose of settlement.	IOM, 2004a
Integrated system of data collection	A system of data collection that collects consistent data elements from a range of work activities along the continuum of an operational process, stores the data in a coherent way, and is open to access by all work activities that require it	IOM, 2004b
Interoperability	The extent to which different data management systems are able to exchange and compare data elements with a known and acceptable level of assurance that the data elements are similar enough in definition and method of collection to permit meaningful conclusions to be drawn from analysis of the aggregate data product	IOM, 2004b
Long-term migrant	A person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least a year, so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence. From the perspective of the country of departure, the person will be a long-term emigrant and from that of the country of arrival, the person will be a long-term immigrant.	UN, 1998 and IOM, 2004a

Migrant flow	The number of migrants counted as moving or being authorized to move, to or from a country to access employment or to establish themselves over a defined period of time.	IOM, 2004a
Migration	A process of moving, either across an international border, or within a State. It is a population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes; it includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, uprooted people, and economic migrants.	IOM, 2004a
Operational data	Information collected during the operational implementation of a migration management work process	IOM, 2004b
Personal (individual) data	Any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (“data subject”); an identifiable person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identification number or to one or more factors specific to his physical, physiological, mental, economic, cultural or social identity”.	EU, 2001
Short-term migrant	A person who moves to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least three months but less than a year) except in cases where the movement to that country is for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, business or medical treatment. For purposes of international migration statistics, the country of usual residence of short-term migrants is considered to be the country of destination during the period they spend in it.	UN, 1998 and IOM, 2004a
Statistics	A set of numbers which represent facts or measurements	Longman, 2010
Stocks	In migration statistics, used to describe the stable portion of an overall population figure	IOM, 2004b
Transaction data	Operational data derived from one or more discrete transactions with an individual migrant	IOM, 2004b
Volumetric data	The lowest level of operational data consisting of a raw count of transaction volumes. Examples would be number of visas issued, number of persons inspected at the border, number of persons removed from the State, etc.	IOM, 2004b

Annex Nine: Selected Application Forms of Relevance to Migration Used in Armenia

ԴԻՄՈՒՄ-ՀԱՐՑԱԹԵՐԹԻԿ
ՀՀ ՄՈՒՏՔԻ ՎԻԶԱ ՍՏԱՆԱԼՈՒ (ԵՐԿԱՐԱԶԳԵԼՈՒ) ՀԱՄԱՐ

**APPLICATION FORM
FOR ENTRY VISA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
(FOR EXTENSION OF VISA)**

Լուսանկար
Recent
photograph
30x40mm

1. Ազգանուն, անուն/Surname, name			
2. Ծննդյան օրը, ամիսը, տարեթիվը և վայրը/Date ¹ & place of birth			
3. Քաղաքացիությունը/Nationality		4. Սեռը/Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Male (ա) <input type="checkbox"/> Female (ի)
5. Հասցեն/Address			
	6. Հեռախոս/Telephone		
7. Զբաղմունքը/Occupation			
8. Այցելության (վիզայի ժամկետի երկարաձգման) նպատակը/Purpose of visit (of extension of visa)			
9. Այցերի քանակը Number of entries	<input type="checkbox"/> Single (եզակի) <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple (բազմակի)	10. Կեցության ժամկետը Duration of stay	
11. Ընդունող կազմակերպության անվանումը (հրավիրողի ազգանունը, անունը) և հասցեն Name (Surname) & address of inviting organization/person			
12. Անձնագրի տեսակը և համարը/Passport type & number			
13. Երբ է տրված/Issued on ¹		14. Ուժի մեջ է մինչև/Valid until ¹	
15. Դիմելու նպատակը (նշել)/Purpose of application (please select)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Տրամադրել մուտքի վիզա To obtain entry visa <input type="checkbox"/> Երկարաձգել վիզայի ժամկետը To extend visa			
16. Ամսաթիվ/Date ¹		17. Ստորագրություն/Signature	

Ծառայողական նշումներ / For official use only

1. Վիզայի համարը		2. Վիզայի տեսակը	
3. Վիզայի կոդը		4. Վիզան տալու (ժամկետը երկարաձգելու) և դրա	
վավերականության ժամկետը			
5. Վիզայի տրամադրման կամ ժամկետի երկարաձգման համար վճարված պետական տուրքի չափը			
6. Ստորագրություն			

¹ All dates must be filled out in the following format dd/mm/yyyy (For example 26/03/1998)

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Պատվեր՝ 691: Տպաքանակ՝ 500:
Տպագրվել է «Տիգրան Մեծ» հրատարակչության տպարանում

