

CANADA | PROFILE 2020

MIGRATION
GOVERNANCE
INDICATORS



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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, 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 well-being of migrants.

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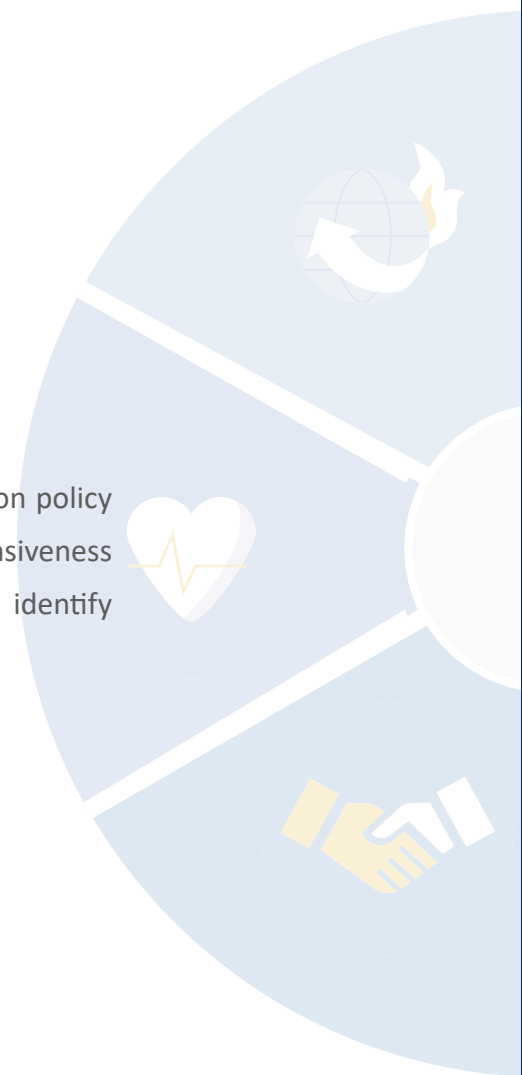
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OBJECTIVE

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



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

INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

This country profile presents a summary of the well-developed areas of the migration governance structures of Canada, as well as the areas with potential for further development, as assessed by the MGI.⁴

¹ IOM Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance, seventeenth session (S/17/4 of 29 September 2015), article 2.

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

³ Ibid.

⁴ The MGI initiative is a policy-benchmarking programme led by IOM and implemented with the support of the Economist Intelligence Unit. Funding is provided by IOM Member States.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

MiGOF

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

At the basis of

PRINCIPLES

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

OBJECTIVES

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

MGI

WHAT IT IS



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



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



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

Which supports the measurement of

WHAT IT IS NOT



Not a ranking of countries



Not assessing impacts of policies



Not prescriptive



TARGET 10.7

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



KEY

FINDINGS

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



MIGRANTS'
RIGHTS
PAGE 12

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



WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT
APPROACH
PAGE 14

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



PARTNERSHIPS
PAGE 16

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



WELL-BEING
OF MIGRANTS
PAGE 18

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



MOBILITY DIMENSION
OF CRISES
PAGE 20

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



SAFE, ORDERLY
AND REGULAR
MIGRATION
PAGE 21

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



1

ADHERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND FULFILMENT OF MIGRANTS' RIGHTS

I.1. International conventions ratified

Table 1. Signature and ratification of international conventions⁵

Convention name	Ratified
International Labour Organization (ILO) Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97)	No
United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (so-called Geneva Convention), 1951	Yes (1969)
United Nations Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, 1961	Yes (1978)
United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, 1954	No
United Nations Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, 1967	Yes (1969)
ILO Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143)	No
United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1978	Yes (1987)
United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989	Yes (1991)
United Nations International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW), 1990	No
United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000	Yes (2002)
United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000	Yes (2002)
ILO Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930	Yes (2019)

I.2. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Canada takes a practical and cooperative approach to migration governance, in particular promoting and practicing a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, as well as cooperating internationally through multilateral meetings. For example, Canada played a strong and positive role in the processes to develop the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. It contributed to the development of practical, gender-responsive, action-oriented texts to promote improved responses to the challenges of large refugee situations and irregular migration, to

⁵ Canada has signed a number of other relevant conventions, please find non-exhaustive list here <http://indicators.ohchr.org/>.

strengthen international cooperation to better protect and assist refugees and support host communities, and to harness the benefits of well-managed migration.

Canada has a well-developed migration system, with numerous and diverse regular pathways for migration, including access to a broad range of permanent and temporary pathways for work at all skills levels, pathways for study and for family reunification, as well as well-established humanitarian pathways (resettlement and asylum programmes).

Temporary residents in Canada have access to a variety of programmes leading to permanent residence. Asylum seekers can apply for a work permit once it has been determined, according to the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, that they are eligible to make a refugee claim.

The federal Government also provides essential support to and programmes for immigrants and refugees, from pre-arrival to facilitating citizenship acquisition, that enable full participation in the social, cultural and economic aspects of life in Canada. The economic realm is particularly important as increasing the labour market participation of newcomers supports Canada's growing labour market needs. Additionally, most provisions of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms apply to everyone in Canada, including permanent residents and other immigrants. A few exceptions apply in some cases, such as the right to vote. To facilitate integration, the Government of Canada grants to migrants the same rights as are granted than to citizens for a number of things. Immigrants with permanent residence visas, including those who have come to Canada as resettled refugees, or through other migration channels, including family reunification, have the same access to the labour market and social security benefits as Canadian citizens.

Permanent residents in Canada have the same access to public health care as Canadian citizens. Health-care coverage for temporary residents depends on their legal status and length of stay and varies across provinces and territories. The Interim Federal Health Program provides limited, temporary coverage of health-care benefits to protected persons, resettled refugees, asylum seekers and other eligible groups in Canada until they become eligible for provincial or territorial health insurance. Generally, asylum seekers are also entitled to social assistance, education, emergency housing and legal aid while a decision is pending on their claim.

Finally, Canadian immigration policy supports family reunification and allows both recent permanent residents and long-established citizens to sponsor family members to join them in Canada.⁶ Permanent residents can apply for citizenship based on several factors, including being physically present in Canada for at least 1,095 days as permanent residents during the five years prior to the application.

1.3. Areas with potential for further development

Canada has not ratified all international conventions related to migrant rights, such as the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, the ILO Migration for Employment Convention (No 97), and the ILO Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention (No 143).

There is, however, a high degree of conformity in Canada with the provisions of the Migrant Worker Convention and ILO Conventions 143 and 97 related to migrant workers. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees respect for the human rights of all persons on Canadian territory, regardless of their migration status or citizenship.

⁶ Persons who can be sponsored in the family class include the spouse, common-law partner, conjugal partner, dependent children, parents, grand-parents, children adopted from abroad, and other relatives in special circumstances.



2

FORMULATES POLICY USING EVIDENCE AND WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH

2.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Canada has a dedicated federal government department that formulates migration policy. Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) (formerly Citizenship and Immigration Canada, (CIC) was created in 1994 through the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Act and is responsible for developing and implementing policies that facilitate the arrival of immigrants and their integration in Canada, that protect refugees and those in need of protection, that promote the rights and responsibilities of Canadian citizenship, and that foster intercultural understanding and advance global migration policies in line with Canada's immigration and humanitarian objectives. The department is also responsible for visa and citizenship applications, as well as the fulfilment of Canada's international and domestic obligations such as providing protection to foreign nationals in Canada who are determined to have a well-founded fear of persecution. The department publishes detailed information on immigration rules and procedures and compiles quarterly data on migration flows.

Under Canada's Constitution, responsibility for migration-related issues is shared between the federal, provincial and territorial governments. The federal Government has legally binding bilateral agreements with each province and territory – with the exception of Nunavut – to formalize roles and responsibilities and to reflect the unique needs of jurisdictions. For example, under the Canada-Quebec Accord, Quebec has full responsibility for the selection of immigrants and resettled refugees to the province, and for the delivery of settlement and integration services.

There are established approaches for coordination and consultation between these levels of government, such as through the multilateral Forum of Ministers Responsible for Immigration, to plan and to consult each other on migration issues. The Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA, 2001), replacing the Immigration Act of 1976, is Canada's primary federal legislation regulating immigration to Canada. The IRPA is complemented by the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (IRPR, 2002), which provide additional rules and information that expand on the legislation of the IRPA, such as who may study in Canada without a study permit or where to apply for a work permit. IRCC shares responsibility for the implementation of the IRPA and IRPR with the Canada Border Services Agency, an agency under Public Safety Canada, which is the department responsible for ensuring coordination across all federal departments and agencies responsible for national security and the safety of Canadians.

Global Affairs Canada is the federal department responsible for conducting international relations, including foreign affairs, international trade and commerce, international development and humanitarian assistance, providing consular services for Canadians, and overseeing the Government of Canada's global network of missions abroad. IRCC works closely with Global Affairs Canada on international migration policy, the migration-development nexus, and needs-based humanitarian assistance in refugee settings. Furthermore, IRCC works with the department responsible for social programmes and the labour market at the federal level, Employment and Social Development Canada, on policies and programmes relating to labour migration.

IRCC releases various planning documents to the public, including a Departmental Plan, Departmental Results Report and an Annual Report to parliament, which outline national immigration priorities. The Annual Report to Parliament includes Canada's Immigration Levels Plan. The Levels Plan is developed in consultation with provincial and territorial governments and communicates immigration priorities by setting the overall number of permanent resident admissions for each year including by class and programme.⁷ In 2017, Canada announced a three-year Immigration Levels Plan, renewed in 2018 for the 2019–2021 triennium. This plan sets out the highest levels of permanent residents that Canada will welcome in recent history, with immigration levels in the final year increasing to 350,000 (almost 1% of the population).

⁷ Canada plans the number of permanent residents to admit on an annual basis with the Immigration Levels Plan, which sets out targets and ranges for each immigration category under economic, family and refugee class (including those admitted under humanitarian and compassionate grounds).

In addition, IRCC collects administrative data from applicants for all lines of business of the department, such as visitors, international students, temporary foreign workers, permanent residents, and citizenship. This administrative data is used for analytical and research purposes in support of evidence-based policy development, reporting, programme monitoring, performance measurement, evaluation and research.

3

ENGAGES WITH PARTNERS TO ADDRESS
MIGRATION AND RELATED ISSUES**3.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas**

Canada works closely with international partners, both bilaterally and multilaterally, to address migration related issues. For example, Canada has negotiated reciprocal trade-related mobility provisions in eight of its free trade agreements (including with parties to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)/Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA), and with several members of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans Pacific Partnership and the European Union). These provisions support a number of investment, economic and commercial goals by effectively reducing some of the barriers to entry into a market (like economic needs tests, among others) for highly skilled professionals and other business persons.

Canada also engages bilaterally with other countries through a number of formalized migration engagement mechanisms. For instance, the country has bilateral information sharing arrangements with Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States that enable the bilateral exchange of information for the purposes of administering and enforcing the different countries' respective immigration and citizenship laws. In Latin America, Canada engages regularly with Mexico through the High-level Dialogue on Mobility (HLDM), a forum to exchange information and collaborate on issues of mutual interest and importance related to migration. Canada also engages with the European Commission on migration issues through the Canada-European Union Joint Consultations on Migration and Asylum, and through a jointly organized Canada-European Union Platform. Events organized under the Platform are held twice a year and are attended by government representatives, civil society members and academics from Canada and across the European Union.

Canada has reciprocal bilateral youth mobility arrangements with 35 countries and territories, designed for people between the ages of 18 and 35. These arrangements provide an opportunity for youth to experience a cultural exchange by allowing them to travel, reside and work in each other's country.

Canada is an active participant in numerous multilateral migration-related processes, including the council of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD), and the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as well as the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM). Canada is also an observer to the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Budapest Process, the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) and the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC). In 2019, Canada assumed the role of chairperson of the year of each of the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees, the Migration 5 (M5), and the Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement for the year.

Provincial and territorial governments are also key partners in ensuring migrants and refugees have the basic supports for their integration, including through health, education and social services. Government agencies work with civil society on a broad range of migration issues. There are multiple avenues for the Government to consult civil society organizations; for example, the Civil Society Partnerships Policy for international assistance allows formal engagement with civil society to gain insights from their experience on the ground to inform policies and programmes. Furthermore, Canada collaborates closely with non-governmental organizations such as the Canadian Council for Refugees, a national non-profit umbrella organization committed to the rights and protection of refugees and other vulnerable migrants in Canada and around the world and to the settlement of refugees and migrants in Canada.

The Government of Canada also consults and collaborates closely with civil society and the private sector. The National Settlement and Integration Council is co-chaired by the federal Government and civil society and includes members from civil society and federal, provincial and territorial governments. Canada's Settlement Program offers a wide range of services to migrants, both pre-departure and post-arrival. These federal government-funded services are delivered by civil society organizations and include: information and orientation to help newcomers make informed decisions about their settlement and better understand Canada's laws and institutions; Needs and Assets Assessment and Referral Services to recognize and reflect both the needs and assets a newcomer brings

with them; language training to help newcomers develop their English or French skills; community connections activities that build bridges between newcomers, long-time Canadians, and public institutions to support full participation; and employment related services such as job search orientation, employer connections and information about foreign credential recognition options.

In addition, private sector partners including organizations such as Chambers of Commerce, Sector Councils, and Immigrant Employment Councils also work towards enhancing the integration of migrants in the labour market by connecting Canadian employers with migrant workers.



4

ADVANCES THE SOCIOECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF MIGRANTS AND SOCIETY

4.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

A key objective of the Immigration Levels Plan for 2019–2021 is to ensure that migrants contribute to economic growth and innovation. The Plan supports this objective by allocating the highest percentage of new admissions –58 per cent – to the “economic class” in 2021. To address regional economic needs as defined by provinces and territories, the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) allows Canadian provinces and territories (with the exception of Quebec and Nunavut, which have their own immigration programmes) to nominate individuals who wish to immigrate to Canada and who are interested in settling in a particular province. Individuals who have been nominated by a province or territory are then able to apply for permanent residence through the PNP.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has several programmes designed to attract migrants with specific skills to strengthen Canada’s economy. Temporary worker programmes and initiatives that are driven by employer demand are designed to help fill short-term labour needs at various skill levels, while economic immigration programmes are intended to help sustain the labour force, support economic growth and spur innovation. Canada has three federal immigration programmes that target highly skilled migrants: the Federal Skilled Worker Program, Federal Skilled Trades Program and the Canadian Experience Class. The three streams, along with a portion of Canada’s PNP, are managed through the electronic selection system of IRCC, known as Express Entry, where eligible candidates are assigned points and ranked according to their human capital characteristics and their ability to advance select priorities. The highest-ranking candidates are invited to apply for permanent residence.

In addition to immigrants who are admitted through the federal high-skilled programmes, labour market needs across the country are met through other streams, including federal business programmes like the Start-Up Visa and the Self-Employed Program and Federal Pilot Programs, as well as the PNP. Furthermore, the Atlantic Immigration Pilot is a partnership between the Government of Canada and four Atlantic Provinces (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island) intended to help businesses attract international graduates and migrants with specific skills.

In terms of access to higher education for migrants, the entry of foreign nationals who seek to study in Canada is facilitated through the International Student Program. There were over 720,000 study permit holders in Canada in 2018. Opportunities to work while a student or upon graduation under Canada’s International Student Program can help international students gain valuable Canadian work experience. During their studies, eligible international students have opportunities to work on- and off-campus without an additional work permit. There are no restrictions in terms of hours related to on- campus work, and international students may work off-campus up to 20 hours a week during the academic session and full-time on scheduled breaks. In 2018, over 25 per cent of international students reported earnings through on- and/or off- campus employment, up from 12 per cent in 2004. International students may also access co-op⁸ or internship opportunities while studying provided that the work component is a requirement to graduate. In 2017 over 52,000 co-op work permits were issued, up from 28,000 in 2015. Following graduation, eligible international students have the opportunity to work in Canada for up to three years through the Post-Graduation Work Permit Program (PGWPP). Canadian work experience gained through the PGWPP is counted towards work experience required under certain programmes to stay permanently in Canada.

All permanent and temporary residents in Canada are protected under Canadian human rights law, including the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and are further subject to applicable federal and provincial/territorial labour laws and employment standard protections. With respect to temporary residents in particular, study and work permits include some restrictions on employment, while some labour and health benefits vary according to provincial laws given provincial governments’ jurisdiction in these areas.

⁸ “Co-op” programmes are based on a cooperative education model that combines traditional, in-class education with practical work experience.

4.2. Areas with potential for further development

There is no standardization at the national level for the recognition of foreign qualification. However, Canada has a formalized process for the recognition of foreign qualifications of regulated occupations, which is delegated to the provinces and territories through legislation. This means that the recognition of foreign credentials for these occupations varies by jurisdiction.

Nonetheless, the federal Government, in line with its mandate to support successful integration of permanent residents in Canada, supports internationally trained individuals in getting their foreign credentials recognized by working closely with provinces and territories, regulators and other stakeholders to improve the credential recognition process in regulated occupations. The federal Government further provides funding to regulatory bodies and occupational associations to support newly arrived migrants in getting their foreign qualifications recognized to begin the path to licensure in regulated occupations. In addition, the federal Government supports the labour market integration of skilled newcomers by: helping to streamline and harmonize national credential recognition processes; by providing loans and support services to help navigate skills and training recognition; and by helping highly skilled newcomers get their first Canadian work experience in their profession and field of study.

Finally, international students pay higher tuition fees at Canadian universities than students with Canadian citizenship or permanent resident status.



5

EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSES THE
MOBILITY DIMENSIONS OF CRISES

5.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Canada has multiple measures in place to respond to crises that also take into consideration mobility. The Canadian Government has a national disaster risk reduction strategy, the Federal-Provincial/Territorial Emergency Management Strategy for Canada. Public Safety Canada, the federal department responsible for disaster risk management, has a variety of plans and frameworks to respond to crises. Within Canada, the Federal Emergency Response Plan applies to domestic emergencies and to international emergencies with a domestic impact, while the Plan for the Movement of People and Goods During and Following an Emergency (2009) applies at the international border. This plan establishes frameworks for how to prioritize and move displaced people in times of crisis, which could include pandemics, natural disasters or terrorist attacks. Based on a principle of inclusion, the plan prioritizes the preservation of life, reduction of suffering and population health, regardless of migration status. The framework was developed with stakeholder outreach and outlines the coordination of human and social services, logistics, border services and communications, among others.

During an emergency, there are communication systems in place enabling the population to receive information on the evolution of crises, on how to access assistance, and on how to communicate needs. The National Public Alerting System is a multi-channel system that provides emergency management organizations throughout Canada at the federal, provincial and territorial levels with a standard alerting capability to warn the public of imminent or unfolding hazards to life through such means as radio, television, and wireless (cell) phones.

The country has measures to make exceptions to the immigration procedures for migrants whose country of origin is experiencing a crisis. IRPA provides sufficient discretion to respond in a flexible and humane manner to emergency situations. In the event of natural disasters, the Government may receive requests for an expedited application processing area. Where warranted, due to the severity of a disaster or surrounding issues, IRCC may issue specific instructions indicating what special programmes or measures are to be implemented. For instance, IRCC introduced special immigration measures after the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, which expedited visa processing for individuals with applications already in the system, allowing them to travel to Canada to reunite with family members already residing in the country. Haitians temporarily in Canada also had their residency permits extended.

In addition, Canada partners with other countries and with international and civil society organizations to help refugees in need of protection through resettlement. For example, Canada resettled more than 40,000 Syrian refugees in response to the Syrian crisis.⁹ Canada has also launched the Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative to share its experience and leadership in private sponsorship with other countries. If there is a crisis in Canada, as for example in the recent case of the Fort McMurray wildfires in 2016, Canada implements special measures for temporary migrants affected by the crisis, such as priority processing, extension of status and replacement of lost or destroyed documents.

5.2. Areas with potential for further development

The Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change (2016), which addresses climate change issues, does not specifically refer to migration and displacement.

For the most part, federal, provincial and territorial alerting authorities use the National Public Alerting System to provide information in one or both of Canada's two official languages, English and French, but only in those two languages. Analysis of linguistic minority needs may provide provincial / territorial jurisdictions with the data required to implement policy and operational changes required to issue emergency alerts in languages beyond English and French.

⁹ From November 2015 to January 2017.



6

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

6.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Canada has a number of programmes that support ensuring that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner. The IRCC website clearly outlines visa options for potential immigrants. For certain temporary residence and permanent residence programmes, applicants can carry out the majority of the process on the IRCC website, including researching options, checking instructions, submitting applications and documents, paying fees and monitoring the application status.

The Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) is tasked with integrated border control and security and it manages Canada's borders by enforcing Canadian laws governing trade and travel, as well as international agreements and conventions. CBSA facilitates legitimate cross-border traffic and supports economic development while stopping people and goods that pose a potential threat to Canada. Border staff in Canada are trained regularly.

The Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB), an independent tribunal established by the Parliament of Canada, aims to resolve immigration and refugee cases efficiently, fairly and in accordance with the law. Its responsibilities include making well-reasoned decisions on immigration and refugee matters and deciding who needs refugee protection among the asylum seekers who come to Canada.

In addition, Canada also regulates the work of people offering immigration or citizenship advice or representation services. Those offering such services must be lawyers, notaries or professionally trained consultants, and be in good standing with their regulatory body: in the case of lawyers and notaries, their law society; and in the case of consultants, the Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC) or provincial societies.

In regard to combating human trafficking, Public Safety Canada is Canada's policy lead on the issue. Migrant workers in Canada may be particularly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse due to many factors, such as language barriers, working in isolated or remote areas, lack of access to services and support, and/or lack of access to accurate information about their rights. In 2018, the Government of Canada put in place the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline, the first of its kind in Canada, to help survivors of human trafficking. The multilingual, 24/7, toll-free service allows survivors of sex and labour trafficking, to easily access the services they need.

In September 2019 the Government of Canada launched a new, comprehensive National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking. The new National Strategy was informed by an evaluation of the previous National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, as well as by extensive stakeholder consultations. The National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking builds on Canada's existing framework of prevention, protection, prosecution and partnerships by adding a new pillar of "empowerment" to emphasize the ongoing role that victims and vulnerable populations play in informing Canada's approach.

Canada also works diligently with law enforcement and border management agencies and international partners to combat migrant smuggling networks that seek to profit from the desperation and vulnerability of migrants.



KEY

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ANNEX

MiGOF: Migration Governance Framework¹⁰

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

The Framework sets out the essential elements of “good migration governance” – 3 principles and 3 objectives which, if respected and fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane, safe and orderly, and that it provides benefits for migrants and societies.¹¹ IOM’s view is that a migration system promotes migration and human mobility that is humane and orderly and benefits migrants and society:

When it:

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

As it seeks to:

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

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

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

¹⁰ IOM Council, Migration Governance Framework, 106th session, C/106/40 (4 November 2015). Available at <https://governingbodies.iom.int/system/files/en/council/106/C-106-40-Migration-Governance-Framework.pdf>.

¹¹ Migration Governance Framework infosheet (2016). Available at <https://publications.iom.int/books/migration-governance-framework>.

The MGI process



1 Launch of the MGI process

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



2 Data collection

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



3 Interministerial consultation

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



4 Publication of the report on the Global Migration Data Portal

After the migration governance profiles are finalized and vetted by government counterparts, they are published on the Global Migration Data Portal¹² and uploaded on the IOM Online Bookstore.¹³

¹² You can find the profiles at <https://migrationdataportal.org/overviews/mgi#0>.

¹³ Please see <https://publications.iom.int/>.





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