

Presentation on the GMG Migration and development data handbook at the DESA Coordination meeting 17 February

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- 1. Background, credits and outline of content**
- 2. How we think the handbook can be used**
- 3. Next steps**

1. Background, credits and outline

- The report was first presented at the GFMD in Istanbul in October 2015.
- The report is an initiative of the GMG Data Working Group co-chaired by DESA and IOM, and KNOMAD.
- We would like to thank all the GMG agencies (15) that contributed to this report. The handbook brings together in one place the collective experience of the GMG regarding data on migration and development. It highlights the innovative practices of GMG agencies in the data capacity-building field.
- The handbook demonstrated the useful role that the GMG can play in the sharing of information, data and best practices.
- This was entirely a voluntary effort, with all GMG agencies contributing their own staff time to this project.
- We would like to thank Ann Singleton, University of Bristol/Adviser to GMDAC who contributed to the final editing of the handbook, and IOM colleagues Susanne Melde, who prepared the chapter on “migration and environment data” and Marzia Rango who wrote the chapter on “Big Data”.

Outline of the report

- The Handbook includes 16 chapters using a common template as follows:
- Key policy issues – introduction to theme.
- Data needed to analyse the topic
- Existing standards and sources for data collection
- Examples of good practice
- Recommendations to address data gaps.

2. How we think this Handbook will be useful

- It is relevant and timely given current discussions on how to gather data to measure the SDG migration indicators.
- It is a good learning tool as it summarizes existing standards and definitions on the collection of data on migration.
- It provides an overview of the main sources of migration data.
- It provides examples of good practice for the collection of migration data and their use in policy-making, and
- It summarizes key recommendations that countries should follow when collecting migration data.

3. Next Steps

- We want to ensure that the handbook is widely used and read.
- It could be used in data training courses; at a recent data conference organized in Berlin by IOM's GMDAC, there were many calls for such capacity-building initiatives.
- It could also be developed into training modules.
- The GMG Data Working Group co-chaired by DESA and IOM, would like to use the handbook as the basis for a series of regional data training workshops focusing on the SDGs and migration.

Conclusion

The 2030 Agenda has highlighted the importance of data and statistics for the global development agenda, and we hope this handbook will make a contribution to this effort.