

Potential indicators on labour migration for the post 2015 Development Agenda

Comments/Suggestions on possible indicators

We used as a baseline the indicators suggested in the last version of the SRSG p2015 Informal WG (December 2013).

1. Reduce the average cost of sending remittances to less than 5% of the value of global remittance transactions by 2020, extending to all corridors by 2030.

Comments: this indicator is relevant, fits well with the goal and target, it is already collected, it will have an impact on migrant workers, their families, and countries of origin and destination. This indicator seems quite consensual and aligns with ILO Multilateral framework on labour migration (15.6).

2. Reduce by 90% the proportion of migrants who pay more than one month's wages as recruitment costs by 2030.

Comments: An indicator focussing on reducing recruitment costs is important. However, this information is not collected, nor easy to collect. Why not focus only on reducing recruitment costs without referring to monthly wages? We can consider how KNOMAD's work on the subject could contribute, though this work is just getting underway. Further discussion on this indicator is needed.

3. Reduce the over-qualification gap between migrants and nationals in host countries by 50% by 2030.

Comments: Not sure that this information is collected, nor easy to collect. No baseline? Reformulation could be envisaged.

An indicator measuring an increase in skills recognition programs adopted by governments could be proposed. ILO will be interested to consider developing this indicator more fully with other agencies.

4. Increase by two-thirds the proportion of migrants covered by agreements on the portability of social security benefits by 2030.

Comments: With regards to extending social security coverage to migrant workers and member of their families there is a number of issues that need to be discussed. An important question is do we want to focus only on the number of migrants entitled to social security benefits when they return to their country of origin (mainly old age pensions) or do we also want to know if migrants in destination countries are covered by national social security schemes? National social security institutions should have data on the number/amount of pensions they pay abroad, although to our knowledge this information is not published. From national legislations, it is possible to know if migrants are entitled to social security benefits but it is more difficult to collect information about the number of migrants actually covered by national social security schemes.

We could suggest having an indicator focussing on: "The percentage of migrant workers covered by social security schemes"

This indicator is very relevant, but, we would need more time to define it more precisely.

5. By 2030, 90% of migrant workers enjoy equal wages for equal work in relation to the native-born.

Comments: The way this indicator is formulated, it seems quite unrealistic. Data on wages are not systematically collected in Labour Force Surveys and only few countries collect information on foreign born wages. However, we do believe that there is some information available and countries may be willing to collect and provide the information. We could also consider proxy indicators for this – the information would be particularly important as it can suggest the need to reduce unequal treatment/discrimination.