Workshop on strengthening the collection and use of international migration data for development

United Nations Conference Centre
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
18 to 21 November 2014

REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP

Organized by:
Population Division and Statistics Division
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA)

In collaboration with:
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN/ECA)

I. Background, objectives and participation

The Population Division and the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN/ECA), organized a regional workshop for countries in Sub-Saharan Africa on the collection and use of international migration data for development. The workshop took place at the United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 18 to 21 November 2014.

The main objective of the workshop was to strengthen the technical capacity of government officials involved in (i) producing and analysing migration data from all relevant sources and (ii) using data on migration and its impact to inform national migration policies and development planning. The workshop aimed to increase the capacity of participating countries to produce national migration data that meets international standards, and to enhance understanding of the uses and limitations of migration data for policy purposes, including in the context of the follow-up and implementation of the 2013 General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and in the post-2015 development agenda.

The workshop brought together experts from national statistical offices (NSOs) in charge of producing official statistics on international migration as well as experts from relevant ministries or agencies in charge of compiling and analysing administrative migration data for policy purposes. Representatives from NSOs were present from 12 countries (Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe) and representatives of ministries or agencies attended from 8 countries (Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Zambia, Zimbabwe).

In addition to two resource persons from the Population Division and one from the Statistics Division, the workshop was also attended by representatives from the UN/ECA, the International Organization for Migration, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the African Union, and the Economic Community of West African States. The list of participants is attached in annex 1.

All workshop materials, including presentations, group work exercises and background documents, are available on the workshop website at http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/events/other/workshop/index.shtml.

II. Organization of the workshop

The workshop covered the following topics:

The international migration and development agenda: Implications for data collection
This session addressed the latest policy developments in the area of international migration at the global, regional and national level and assessed their implications for data collection relevant to international migration, migrants and mobility, especially in relation to development. It included national presentations on policies to leverage international migration for national development and to address challenges in the field of international migration and the related data requirements.

Sources of international migration data: An overview
This session presented the main sources, concepts and definitions for international migration data and allowed participants to determine how these data sources can inform international migration policy. It identified priority strategies for better utilizing existing sources of data.

Improving the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of migration data from population censuses
This session presented the United Nations recommendations for questions on international migration in population censuses, as well as additional topics not covered in the recommendations, and also illustrated the use of international migration data collected through the census. Countries shared experiences, challenges and best practices in collecting, analysing and disseminating international migration data from the 2010 round of population censuses.

Enhancing the use of administrative sources to measure migration
This session provided guidance for compiling, analysing and disseminating data from administrative sources that is relevant for international migration. It also addressed the strengths and weaknesses of using administrative sources for migration data. Countries shared experiences, challenges, and best practices in compiling, analysing and disseminating data generated from administrative sources.

Using household surveys as a tool to measure migration and its impact
This session addressed the use of household surveys to assess the status and identify the needs of migrant families, to elucidate migratory patterns and flows, and to maximize the contribution of migration to national development. It identified opportunities and challenges of using existing household surveys, including Labour Force Surveys, for the purpose of migration as well as designing and implementing specialized migration surveys. The session included national presentations on experiences in the design and implementation of household surveys to measure migration or remittances.

Planning to enhance the production and use of international migration data for development
In this group work session, each country prepared a plan to improve international migration data for policy planning, making use of the ideas and tools that had been presented during the first three days of the workshop.

Promoting regional cooperation, capacity building and data exchange on migration
This session featured presentations by international organizations to discuss initiatives in regional cooperation, capacity building and data exchange on migration data.

Formulating goals, targets and indicators on international migration
In this group work session, using the outcome document of the General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals as a basis, country teams designed potential indicators at the national level to measure the proposed migration related goals and targets.

The detailed organization of work is attached in annex 2.

III. Conclusions of the workshop

Based on the training presentations, country presentations, sharing of experiences and group discussions, a set of recommendations was agreed by the participants at the conclusion of the meeting. The conclusions included general recommendations on assessing data needs for evidence-based policy making, maximizing the use of existing data sources, promoting collaboration and identifying capacity building needs; as well as specific technical recommendations for collecting migration data through population censuses, administrative sources and sample surveys. The complete list of recommendations is attached in annex 3.

IV. Evaluation of the workshop

Participants completed an evaluation questionnaire at the end of the workshop. Nearly all participants felt they had gained considerable knowledge during the workshop. The percentage who felt they had gained substantive knowledge in analysis of data (79 per cent) was slightly lower than the percentages reporting knowledge gains in production of statistical data (95 per cent), dissemination of data (90 per cent), or integration of migration into development planning (95 per cent).

Participants scored elements of the content and organization of the workshop on a scale of 0 to 5. Nineteen out of 22 respondents rated the overall value of the workshop as excellent or good (average score 4.3). Also rated highly were quality of presentations (4.3) and materials (4.2). Most sessions received fairly high ratings (average of 4.0 or above) although sessions VIII and IX received lower ratings (both receiving average scores of 3.8). The overall organization of the workshop received a good rating (4.0). Areas for improvement included the time allotted for discussion and participation and the quality and timeliness of travel and DSA arrangements, both of which were rated adequate (3.2).

Participants also suggested to extend the duration of the workshop and to strengthen content on analysis of migration data.

V. Recommendations for future DESA work in capacity building on migration data

Based on each country's plan to improve the collection and use of migration data, the Population Division and Statistics Division should follow up with country participants regarding their efforts to strengthen international migration data collection, dissemination and use for development planning, and to assess future capacity development needs. Participants were encouraged to use workshop materials in national coordination and training efforts.

DESA should pursue opportunities to repeat the workshop for francophone African countries as well as for other regions. In planning future capacity development on migration data in Africa, DESA should maintain contact with ILO, ECA, IOM and the African Union in the context of their labour migration governance initiative for Africa, to ensure complementarity in capacity building efforts.

The Population Division and Statistics Division should continue to collaborate to improve resources and training materials on international migration data collection and use. In response to concerns about insufficient time for discussion, sharing of experiences and group work, future workshops could be expanded to four or even five days.

ANNEX 1

Workshop on strengthening the collection and use of international migration data for development

Organized by:
Population Division and Statistics Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
United Nations

Economic Commission for Africa (UN/ECA)
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
18 to 21 November 2014

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Botswana

Mr. Tebogo LALETSANG
Senior Statistician, Census and Demography
Statistics Botswana

Ethiopia

Mr. Akalework BEZU
Higher Statistician I
Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia

Ghana

Mr. Godwin GYEBI
Principal Statistician
Statistical Production Unit
Ghana Statistical Service

Mr. Noah YEBOAH
Head
Policy Planning Monitoring and Evaluation
Ghana Immigration Service

Kenya

Mr. James MUNGUTI
Manager
Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

Mr. Fredrick WANDOGO
Immigration Officer I
Department of Immigration

Lesotho

Ms. Mpinane MASUPHA
Principal Migrant Officer
Lesotho Government

Mr. Pelesana MOERANE
Senior Statistician
Bureau of Statistics

Malawi

Ms. Pudensiana MAKALAMBA
Immigration Officer
Immigration Department

Mr. Richard PHIRI
Statistician
National Statistical Office

Namibia

Ms. Lydia KANDETU
Deputy Permanent Secretary, Department of Civil Registration
Home Affairs and Immigration

Mr. Nehemia NGHISHEKWA
Director, Immigration and Border Control
Home Affairs and Immigration

Nigeria

Mr. Chollom GYANG
Deputy Director
National Population Commission

Mr. Michael IMOHI
Assistant Chief Statistics Extension Officer
National Bureau of Statistics

South Africa

Ms. Christine KHOZA
Executive Manager
Population Statistics Division
Statistics South Africa

Ms. Susanna UBOMBA-JASWA
Manager
Statistics South Africa

Swaziland

Ms. Nolwazi DLAMINI
Assistant Statistician
Central Statistical Office

Uganda

Ms. Pamela NABUKHONZO
Senior Statistician — Population Section
Bureau of Statistics

Zambia

Mr. Mannix CHALWE
Demographer
Central Statistical Office

Ms. Mubanda CHANSA
Research and Planning Officer
Department of Immigration

Zimbabwe

Mr. Aluwisio MUKAVHI
Manager
Demographic Analysis and Sampling
National Statistics Agency

Ms. Thamari SHADAYA
Regional Immigration Officer
Department of Immigration

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Population Division

Mr. Bela HOVY
Chief
Migration Section

Ms. Cheryl Chriss SAWYER
Population Affairs Officer
Migration Section

Statistics Division

Ms. Haoyi CHEN
Statistician
Demographic and Social Statistics Branch

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Mr. Chukwudozie EZIGBALIKE
Officer-in-Charge
African Centre for Statistics

Mr. Negussie GORFE
Statistician
African Centre for Statistics

Mr. Raj Gautam MITRA
Chief
Demographic and Social Statistics Section
African Centre for Statistics

Ms. Fatouma SISSOKO
Gender Statistics Speicialist
Demographic and Social Statistics Section
African Centre for Statistics

Ms. Mamusa SIYUNYI
Social Development Policy Division
Population and Youth Section

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Mr. Gorgui DIOUF
Operations Data Management Officer

International Labour Organization

Mr. Coffi AGOSSOU
Senior Labour Statistics Specialist

Ms. Cynthia SAMUEL-OLONJUWON
Chief, ILO Regional Office for Africa

African Union

Mr. Oumar DIOP
Senior Policy Officer
Social Affairs Department
African Union Commission

Mr. Philip Bob JUSU
Migration Officer
Social Affairs Department
African Union Commission

Mr. Patrick WAMUKULU
Associate Migration, Labour, Unemployment
African Union Commission

Economic Community of West African States

Mr. Christopher AJAERO
Programme Officer, Head of Data Management
Research and Statistic Directorate

Mr. Brown ODIGIE
Programme Officer Migration
Directorate of Free Movement of Persons

Ms. Abimbola OYELOHUNNU
Programme Officer
Social Affairs Division

International Organization for Migration

Mr. Josiah OGINA
Head of Mission and Representative to AU/ECA/IGA

Ms. Marzia RANGO
Research Officer
Migration Research Division

Ms. Naomi SHIFERAW
Liaison Officer to the AU/IGAD/UNECA
Special Liaison Office

Mr. Jian ZHAO
Deputy Chief of Mission
IOM Special Liaison Office in Addis Ababa

ANNEX 2

Workshop on strengthening the collection and use of international migration data for development

Organized by:
Population Division and Statistics Division
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA)

In collaboration with:
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN/ECA)

United Nations Conference Center
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
18 to 21 November 2014

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

DAY ONE	
09.00 – 10.30	**SESSION I** **Registration, welcome and opening**
	Registration Welcome remarks - *Chukwudozie Ezigbalike, African Centre for Statistics, UN/ECA* - *Bela Hovy, Population Division, UN/DESA* - *Haoyi Chen, Statistics Division, UN/DESA* Objectives, programme and introductions - *Bela Hovy, UN/DESA*
10.30 – 12.30	**SESSION II** **The international migration and development agenda: Implications for data collection**
	Objective: to present the latest policy developments in the area of international migration at the global, regional and national level and to assess their implications for data collection relevant to international migration, migrants and mobility, especially in relation to development The 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development: Data needs and gaps - *Bela Hovy, UN/DESA* International migration in Africa: Regional priorities and data requirements - *Philip Jusu, AUC* **BREAK** *Key questions. 1. What are some of the policies to leverage international migration for national development and to address challenges in the field*

	of international migration? 2. What data are needed to evaluate these policies? *- Country presentation: Ghana* *- Country presentation: Lesotho*
12.30 – 14.00	**LUNCH BREAK**
14.00 – 17.30	**SESSION III** **Sources of international migration data: An overview**
	Objective: to assess the main sources, concepts and definitions for international migration data and to determine how these data sources can inform international migration policy International migration statistics: Sources, concepts and definitions *Haoyi Chen, UN/DESA* Migration and development in Africa: Implications for data collection and research *Marzia Rango, IOM* Migrants Count: Five Steps Toward Better Migration Data *Cheryl Sawyer, UN/DESA* **BREAK** *Key questions. 1. What are main sources of international migration data? 2. What data does the country need to inform migration policy? 3. How can data gaps be addressed?* *- Country presentation: South Africa* *- Country presentation: Nigeria* - Group work - Reporting back, discussion and wrap-up
DAY TWO	
09.30 – 12.30	**SESSION IV** **Improving the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of migration data from population censuses**
	Objective: to present the United Nations recommendations and to assess national experiences with regard to questions on international migration in the 2010 round of population censuses; to share experiences and identify best practices in analysing and disseminating international migration data from population censuses, including through the internet; to illustrate the use of international migration data collected through the census. Using census data to estimate the international migrant stock *Cheryl Sawyer, UN/DESA* The 2010 round of population censuses: United Nations recommendations and their implementation *Haoyi Chen, UN/DESA*

	BREAK Implementing migration questions in the 2010 round of population censuses: lessons learnt and looking ahead - *Country presentation: Botswana* - *Country presentation: Swaziland* - *Country presentation: Zambia* Disseminating and analysing migration data from population censuses: a user's perspective - *Country presentation: Kenya*
12.30 – 14.00	**LUNCH BREAK**
14.00 – 17.30	**SESSION IV (CONTINUED)** **Improving the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of migration data from population censuses**
	Availability and quality of data on the international migrant stock: Experiences from the Demographic Yearbook and other sources *Haoyi Chen and Cheryl Sawyer, UN/DESA* Implementing migration questions in the 2010 round of population censuses: products, data quality assessment, and data analytics - *Country presentation: South Africa* **BREAK** Recommended and additional migration topics in the population census *Haoyi Chen, UN/DESA* Group work Reporting back, discussion and wrap-up
DAY THREE	
09.30 – 12.30	**SESSION V** **Enhancing the use of administrative sources to measure migration**
	Objective. To identify good practices in compiling, analysing and disseminating data that is relevant for international migration from administrative sources. To address the strengths and weaknesses of using administrative sources for migration data. To provide guidance for compiling, analysing and disseminating data generated from administrative sources. Administrative data sources to measure migration: An introduction *Bela Hovy, UN/DESA* The role of administrative data in understanding labour migration *ILO* Compiling statistics on refugee status determination

	Gorgui Diouf, UNHCR **BREAK** National experiences in using administrative sources for migration data *Country presentation: Malawi* *Country presentation: Namibia* *Country presentation: Zimbabwe* *Country presentation: Zambia*
12.30 – 14.00	**LUNCH BREAK**
14.00 – 16.30	**SESSION VI** **Using household surveys as a tool to measure migration and its impact**
	Objective: To discuss experiences and identify good practices in using household surveys to assess the status and identify the needs of migrant families, to elucidate migratory patterns and flows, and to maximize the contribution of migration to national development. This section addresses opportunities and challenges of using existing household surveys for the purpose of migration as well as designing and implementing specialized migration surveys. The role of the surveys in measuring labour migration: The Labour Force Survey *Coffi Agossou, ILO* **BREAK** National experiences in conducting migration surveys *-Country presentation: Uganda* *-Country presentation: South Africa* *-Country presentation: Nigeria*
16.30 - 17.00	**SESSION VII** **Planning to enhance international migration data for development**
	Objective: Each country to prepare a plan to improve international migration data for policy planning, making use of the ideas and tools that have been presented during the first three days of the workshop. Group work: Making a national plan to improve migration data
DAY FOUR	
09.30 - 10.30	Presentation of plans
10.30 – 11.00	**SESSION VIII** **Promoting regional cooperation, capacity building and data exchange on migration data**
	Objective: to discuss opportunities for regional cooperation, capacity building and data exchange on migration data.

	Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration in Africa *Oumar Diop, AUC* Promoting labour mobility through regional cooperation and its consequences for data collection: The case of ECOWAS *Brown Odigie, Christopher Ajaero, ECOWAS* Regional cooperation and capacity building *Naomi Shiferaw, IOM*
11.00 – 12.30	**SESSION IX** **Formulating goals, targets and indicators on international migration**
	Objective: Using the outcome document of the General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals as a basis, country teams will design potential indicators at the national level to measure the proposed migration related goals and targets. International migration, migrants and mobility: potential indicators for the post-2015 development agenda *Bela Hovy, UN/DESA* Group work Reporting back, discussion and wrap-up
12.30 – 13.00	**SESSION X** **Evaluation, conclusions and closing**

ANNEX 3

Workshop on strengthening the collection and use of international migration data for development

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 18 to 21 November 2014

Recommendations

General

1. Assess policies that are relevant to international migration, including its linkages with national development, and identify the data and data sources needed to serve the policy needs.
2. Maximize the use of existing data sources – population censuses, administrative sources and household sample surveys including labour force surveys; prepare national annual report on trends on international migration and development and disseminate those data at national and international level, including through the United Nations Demographic Yearbook questionnaires on both migrant stocks and migration flows.
3. Promote collaboration on international migration statistics between various institutions and stakeholders, including ministries in charge of collecting international migration data, national statistical office and other relevant organizations. This could be achieved by setting up an inter-departmental working group on international migration statistics, covering such issues as harmonizing concepts and definitions, sharing data, and integrating data from multiple sources for a more complete picture of international migration (both immigration and emigration).
4. Establish data exchange mechanisms with major receiving countries to obtain information on emigration and emigrants from the country.
5. Identify needs for capacity building in the area of data and indicators on international migration, including in relation to development, and discuss these needs with relevant United Nations entities and other international and regional agencies.
6. The United Nations should provide technical assistance to countries, both to national statistical offices and to ministries in charge of collecting information on international migration, on compiling and analyzing data on international migration.
7. Regional and national trainings should be conducted to improve capacity on the collection and use of international migration statistics.
8. International and regional organizations, within the Global Migration Group, should convene regular meetings to discuss data requirements for migration and development policy, as well as collection and compilation of data on international migration.

Population censuses

1. Collect data on international migration through national population censuses, following the United Nations Recommendations on Population and Housing Censuses.
2. Include census questions on the United Nations recommended core topics on international migration - country of birth, country of citizenship and year/period of arrival - and pay special attention to aspects of planning and design of population censuses of relevance to the collection of international migration statistics, to improve the coverage and quality of data on international migration.

3. Compile, evaluate and analyse data on international migration collected from population censuses and make results, both data and metadata, available to the public.
4. In particular, compile data collected from the emigration module incorporated in population censuses and assess their value for the analysis of the volume and characteristics of emigrants from the country.
5. Make available to the public a sample of the census microdata, to encourage further analysis of census data.

Administrative sources

1. All countries represented in the workshop indicated that multiple sources are available in countries such as labour permits, residence permits, registers as well as embarkation and disembarkation records collected at the border. Most of administrative sources, however, remain underutilised. Data and metadata from administrative sources should be compiled and made available to other institutions in the country including the national statistical offices, as well as to the public.
2. Compilation and dissemination of statistics on international migration flows should follow, as much as possible, the United Nations Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration. As a start, dissemination of data could follow the examples/templates that were shown in the workshop. International migration flow statistics compiled should be provided to the United Nations Demographic Yearbook Questionnaire on International Travel and Migration Statistics.
3. With regard to statistics derived from border control, an assessment needs to be conducted on how well such data capture international migrants, i.e., those who change their country of usual residence, from the vast volume of inflows and outflows across borders.

Sample surveys

1. Sample surveys have great potential in assessing the impact of international migration on national development. It is recommended that a migration module be incorporated into the existing multi-purpose household surveys.
2. For countries interested in emigration (or the “diaspora” community), an emigration module could be included in their existing household surveys or through a special study on diaspora. Data obtained should be thoroughly evaluated and analysed, and limitations documented.
3. Due to the small proportion of migrants in the population, in the use of sample surveys for statistics on international migration special attention should be paid to the issue of sample size.
4. The United Nations, in collaboration with countries, should further develop methodologies in collecting survey data on emigration.