The Programme for the Creation of a General Model for the Collection, Application and Sharing of Migration-related Data

AT OSCE ECONOMIC FORUM
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A Different World

According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), more than 600,000 Tajik citizens a year seasonally migrate abroad for work.

According to the Russian Federal Migration Service, there are about 800,000 labour migrants from Tajikistan in Russia.

400,000 citizens of Uzbekistan are working abroad according to estimates of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, while figures received by mahalla leaders indicate 140,000 citizens abroad for employment.

Data management – an introduction

Can policies, management and strategies be made without data?

In theory, yes (and sometimes in practice). In reality, data is essential and sometimes instrumental.

Data management and statistics are based upon recognised and recognised data.

Reporting systems, analytical tools provide data.

Determine some overall data categories.

Anecdotal information and impressions.

Estimates, guesswork.

Can policies, management and strategies be made without data?
Background

From the 1996 CIS Conference to 2001 Workshop in Almaty to...

the Workshop on Organisational Structures, Collection and Sharing of Migration-related Information, Prague, 3-5 June 2002

In Prague, ODIHR, OSCE and IOM TCC were requested by EECA States to promote the initiative of a collection and sharing of migration data

Partners involved: IGC and the Danish Immigration Service, UNHCR (Asylum Statistics)

Developed a “General Model” for the EECA States

Overall goal

A) Initiating regular data exchange of well-agreed and well-recognized migration-related indicators within the EECA region

B) Supporting and enhancing national capacities in the countries of EECA in collecting, processing and sharing timely, objective and reliable migration-related statistics compatible with international standards

C) Promoting dialogue and co-operation on the management of migratory flows

The Framework

Premise: The “General Model” is applicable to all types of migration data.

Ownership: Approach anchored at and driven by the national level with modest resources

Connect producers and users of data and ensure practical coordination at national level

Capacity building: The model offers a number of elements, which can be used in different stages and in different order
Main Elements in the General Model

- Establishment of a national network
- Mapping out existing statistical infrastructure
- Defining a minimum set of 5-10 overall indicators, minimum formats applied, documenting data
- Establishment of a Data Sharing Mechanism
- Establishment of a homepage administered initially at IOM TCC
- Other elements include e.g. regional seminars, training modules, train trainers, curriculum for activities, study tours

Results to Date

- Network established
- National core/coordinating institutions appointed
- The first minimum set of data agreed upon (6 indicators)
- Explanatory notes, templates and data documentation prepared
- Overall terminology for the indicators approved
- Data Sharing Mechanism set-up and DSM-Website launched
- Capacity building, regional meetings, training modules, training of trainers
- Concept paper on data management using the General Model produced
- Coordination with other regional processes (IGC, Siemca, etc.)

Timeframe – General Model Activities

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<tr>
<th>Regional/General</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>International Dialogue Meeting, September 2003</td>
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<td>Central Asian Regional Seminar, November 2003</td>
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<td>Development Templates, Data Sharing Mechanism, and Homepage</td>
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<td>Technical Meeting setting up the Data Sharing Mechanism, June 2004</td>
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<td>&quot;Western&quot; Regional Seminar, September 2004</td>
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<td>Launch of Data Sharing Mechanism, March 2005</td>
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<td>National</td>
<td>Approaches in Ukraine and Kazakhstan (initial pilot states)</td>
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<td>Approaches in Moldova (initial pilot states)</td>
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<td>Visits to Ukraine and Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>Estonia</td>
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All states in the EECA are invited to take part in the Data Sharing Mechanism.
Example: National Approach Moldova
(all elements, not only data elements)

Example: National Approach Ukraine
(identification of data beyond the minimum set)

Example: National Approach Kyrgyzstan
(inter-ministerial working group)

Step One:
- Creation of a working group for migration-related data collection and exchange (Governmental Degree)

Step Two:
- Elaboration of a Work Plan for the Working Group with specified deadlines and responsible agencies

Step Three:
- Quarterly sittings of the Working Group and implementation of the Work Plan

Further Steps:
- Usage of DSM for national needs – exchange of country-specific indicators among agencies
- Preparation of the legislative framework for regional exchange within DSM
- Submission of DSM-specific data and exchange among countries
Example: Regional approach (Data Sharing Mechanism)

- Number of foreigners in the country
- Number of applications for and decisions on work permits
- Number of foreigners entering the country
- Number of foreigners leaving the country
- Number of applications for asylum
- Number of refugee status determinations

Example: Regional approach (more than just statistics - establishing a Homepage)

- Flexible model, new way of sharing data and information

CORE INDICATORS

PUBLICATIONS

ANALYSES

LEGAL AND POLITICAL ISSUES

NEWS AND EVENTS

LINKS

REPORTS

COUNTRY SPECIFIC PART („Intranet“)
Strategic medium-term objectives

- Improved national data on migration stock and flows – in particular with regard to the indicators to be shared as part of the Data Sharing Mechanism

- Regularization of migration-related data exchange and co-ordination among migration-related agencies at the countries level facilitating national policy-making

- Initiation of regular regional dialogue and exchange of migration-related statistics among the countries of EECA through an efficient usage of the Data Sharing Mechanism

- Establishment of best practices among national and international migration-related experts through meetings, training and networking

New activities and initiatives to be undertaken

- Adoption of necessary legislation enabling countries to exchange statistics
- Establishment of focal points in the countries of EECA
- Establishment of national inter-ministerial groups on migration-related data and creation of a workplan
- Enchancing the national and regional activities through mapping out infrastructures, defining additional national indicators to be shared, regular meetings, training sessions, study tours, etc.
- Tools for an efficient usage of the Data Sharing Mechanism – also for information exchange in general
- Initiate workflow assessments for migration management
- Enhancing capacities to use modern IT technologies, incorporate IT-assessments in projects
- Development of professional skills for data management
- Enchancing the national and regional activities through mapping out infrastructures, defining additional national indicators to be shared, regular meetings, training sessions, study tours, etc.
Example: Training modules

1. Overall data management – concepts and clarifications
2. Data collection and processing
3. Data exchange and sharing
4. Basic concepts and categories of migrants
5. Linking policy and legal issues with data
6. Mapping out existing migration data structures in the country – examples and lessons learnt
7. Establishing inter-ministerial working groups – examples and lessons learnt
8. Networks and focal points
9. Main elements of capacity-building at the national level
10. Lessons learnt from other regional models and processes, including sub-sections on key regional processes such as IGC, Eurostat, CIS, and statistical exchange among Latin American states (SIEMCA)
11. Basic IT-prerequisites for data collection, processing and sharing
12. Introduction to the Data Sharing Mechanism
13. Fundraising and Project Development – illustration of different budget lines that participating countries are eligible for
14. Additional technical issues

IT Requirements for a Country's participating in the DSM: General Assessment Form