Guidelines for Inter-Country Migration Data Exchange

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"Towards a More Comprehensive, Reliable and Regionally Comparable Data on Migration in the Russian Federation and the Broader Region",

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Benefits of Data Exchange

- Provides information missing from regular national data collection systems (e.g. estimate number of citizens living abroad)

- Provides information about the characteristics and conditions of citizens living abroad

UNECE related activities

- Task Force on Measuring Emigration (2005-8)

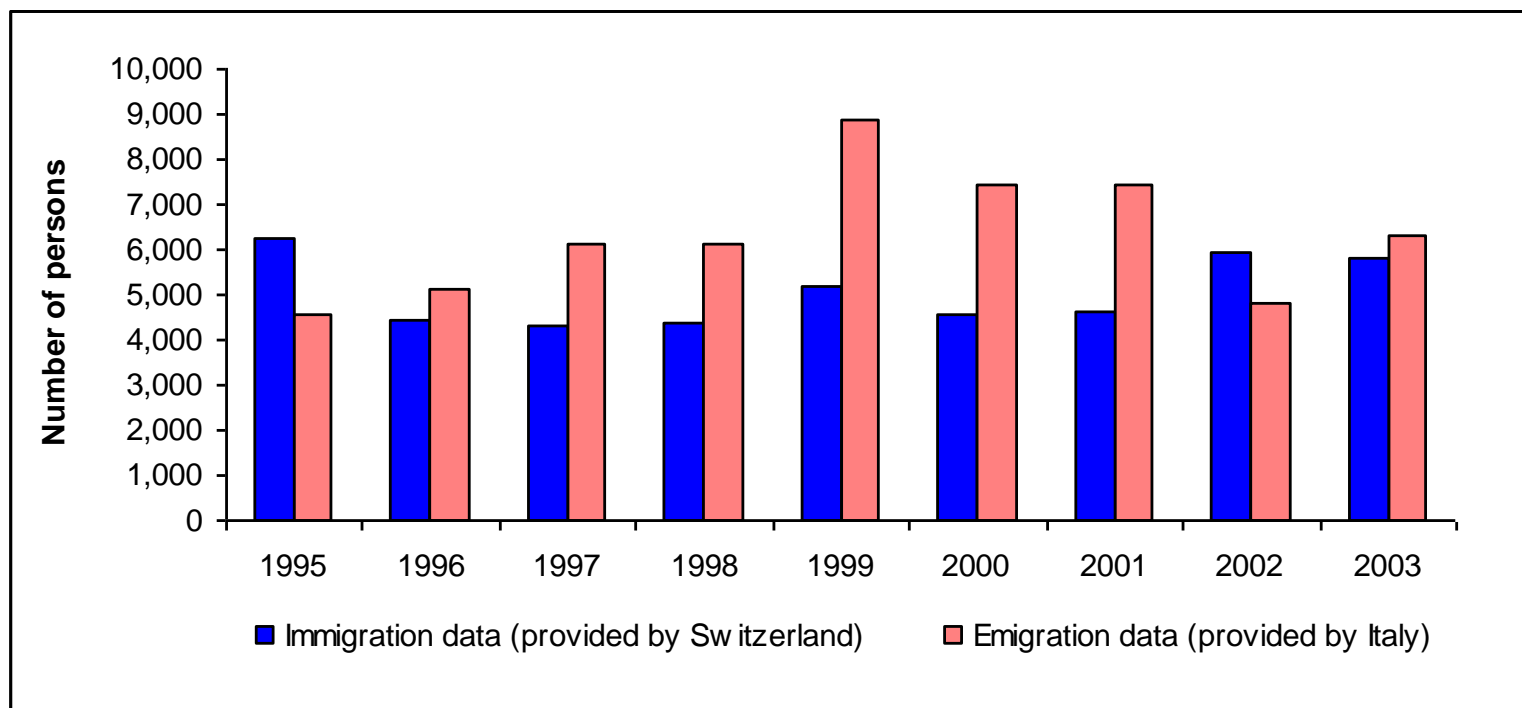- Migration Clearing House database (12 CIS countries, 2009-2012)

UNECE Data Exchange Exercise

- ❖ Task Force on Measuring Emigration
  - Templates Used To Exchange Data among participating countries
- ❖ Major Findings
  - Data on flows more complete for destination countries than origin countries.
  - Potential for sharing data to improve migration statistics was evident.

Example of inter-country comparison of data on migrants

Data on flows from Italy to Switzerland

Conclusions from data exchange exercise

- Immigration data from receiving countries can be used to improve estimates of emigration in sending countries

- Data on immigration is not always easily accessible by interested users (makes data exchange necessary)

- **Need to develop guidelines for the exchange of data**

- **Consideration of creating a central clearing house for collecting and storing migration data to facilitate the accessibility of statistics**;

Guidelines for Exchanging Data to Improve Emigration Statistics

❖ **General objectives**

- Provide guidance to countries considering using immigration data of receiving countries for emigration estimates

- Draw attention of countries producing immigration data to the fact that countries of emigration are an important user of their data.

- Role for International Organizations in data collection

Content of Guidelines

- ❖ Emigration data

- ❖ Critical issues when using immigration data as a possible source of emigration data

- ❖ Improving availability, quality, and accessibility of data

Guidelines-based best practices

❖ Countries seeking emigration data

❖ Countries producing immigration data

❖ Guideline Applications

- CIS countries (regional perspective)
  - Lead to creation of Migration Clearing House Database

❖ http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/stats/publications/Guidelines_improve_emigration_statistics.pdf

Migration Clearing House Database

❖ Background

- Bishkek Workshop (2010)

❖ General Principles

- Platform for sharing and dissemination of basic data on international migration

❖ General Conditions

- Not duplicate other work

- Provide value

Migration Clearing House Database

- ❖ Technical IT aspects
  - Low requirments
- ❖ Organization aspects
  - Focal points
  - Collected bi-annually

Migration Clearing House Database

❖ Accomplishments 2011-2012

- Created IT infrastrucutre and focal point network

- First round of data collection

- Limited Public release
    http://w3.unece.org/pxweb/

Next Steps (2013): Migration Clearing House Development Strategy

- ❖ Provide metadata for Tables in English and Russian

- ❖ Data review (complete evaluation of current data quality)

- ❖ Establish Regular Process for updating Data

- ❖ Data dissemination strategy

Possible Additions

❖ National Data Sharing OSCE/IOM
  - Tables of administrative data