Data collection and analysis

CHAPTER 2

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Introduction

Data collection and analysis is essential to understand and develop appropriate responses to mixed movements. Accurate, up-to-date data can assist to assess the scale of, and trends within, mixed movements, to establish a basic profile of persons arriving within mixed movements, to identify travel routes and means of transportation, and to design, implement and evaluate policy responses and programmatic interventions.

The collection of data on mixed movements can be challenging. Travel is often clandestine, and few governments collect data even for regular movements. Those entities that gather migration data often do so independently in order to meet their own objectives. They may use varying definitions, criteria and parameters, making it difficult to disaggregate or share data without distorted results. Collecting comparable data and establishing agreements on data collection and analysis in collaboration with different actors could address these challenges.

The quality and value of any data collection exercise is enhanced by clearly establishing the following elements in advance:

- the purpose, scope and methodology for the data collection exercise;

- relevant statistical variables and indicators [1] (e.g. age, gender, country of origin);

- data collection tools (e.g. questionnaires, surveys, participatory assessments); and

- parameters for data collection and sharing, such as the inclusion of safeguards to preserve privacy, confidentiality and security of personal information in accordance with data collection standards. [2]

Various categories of data can be relevant in order to better understand mixed movements. These categories can include:

- information about the size of mixed movements;

- the profile of individuals involved (e.g. age, gender, civil status, whether individuals are travelling alone or with family members);

- different groups involved in a mixed movement (e.g. asylum-seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied/separated children, or persons from certain countries of origin);

- travel routes, modes of transport, entry and transit points, use of smugglers/facilitators;

- motivations for travel or onward movement; and

- protection challenges and possible durable solutions.

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1 An indicator provides or "indicates" the prevailing circumstances at a given place at a given time or during a time interval. It is usually but not always a number or percentage that can be used to extrapolate multiple findings. For example, an indicator that tracks the number of girls in school might be used to assess the future earning potential of a population, women's literacy rates, women's rights and women's health issues.
2 Regardless of the purposes for which data is collected, data analysis is generally limited to statistical, non-personal data. If analysis of personal data is necessary, the consent of the individual concerned is necessary.

The collection of both "qualitative" and "quantitative" data can be helpful to understand the complexities of mixed movements. Qualitative data is data that is non-measurable. It captures feelings, personal experience, attitudes and intentions. It can be obtained from sources such as focus groups, interviews, narrative texts and reports. It can be useful in understanding cultural context or establishing baseline information. By contrast, quantitative data, which is numerical and measurable, allows for an objective assessment of a situation in order to compare one situation with another and to track conditions within the same situation over time. It is produced by observing and measuring things that can be counted or calculated.

The collection of "primary data" (i.e. data collected directly from individuals for a specified purpose by using methods such as interviews or questionnaires), where possible, allows for a more in-depth and comprehensive analysis. Primary data can be collected at points of departure, entry points and reception centres. For example, "profiling" exercises and the results of individual interviews undertaken during the processing of asylum claims are particularly useful (as outlined in Chapter 5). In addition, secondary data (i.e. data compiled from existing information sources and which may have been collected for other purposes) may also be available and ready for analysis.

The collection of data using a range of different methodologies (i.e. primary, secondary, qualitative and quantitative) can assist to ensure that accurate and comprehensive information is obtained about a particular mixed movement situation. However, in order for data to properly inform policy development and responses to mixed movements, it requires processing and analysis.

Operationalizing data collection and analysis: Suggestions for stakeholders and support UNHCR can provide to partners

Suggestions for stakeholders

- Plan the purpose and scope of the data collection exercise, develop necessary tools and guidelines, and clearly define objectives, methodology, confidentiality and data protection safeguards before the data collection exercise commences.

- Identify the categories of data to be collected and include all components relevant to mixed movements, including refugee-related questions.

- Develop databases to systematically store data, to understand mixed movements in specific regions and to inform policy-making.

- Compile other relevant primary or secondary data, including by collating data from various institutions at the national level (e.g., population censuses, surveys, and interviews).

- Ensure that the data is accurate, relevant and up-to-date.

- Analyse data and cross-tabulate key variables to anticipate travel routes, entry and transit points, onward movements, and potential protection needs.

- Develop national and regional strategies and protection-sensitive policies, based on the quantitative and qualitative data collected, in order to address mixed movements.

- Improve communication channels between relevant stakeholders for data sharing, exchange statistical non-personal data, and establish data-sharing agreements.

- Develop mechanisms to ensure that the data collected by different stakeholders is comparable.

Support UNHCR can provide to partners

- Assist to develop data collection exercises for mixed movements, including identifying appropriate methodology.

- Train government officials and partners on methods for accurate and reliable data collection, processing and analysis, and parameters for data sharing.

- Lobby for the inclusion of refugees and other persons of concern to UNHCR in data collection and analysis.

- Provide guidance on the use of data to inform policy-making and appropriate responses to mixed movements.

- Contribute anonymous information obtained from UNHCR processes and procedures (including the ProGres Registration Database which collects, stores, updates and manages refugee data as part of an "integrated population information-management strategy") from the initial phase of displacement to the provision of durable solutions.

2.1. Defining the objective(s), scope and methodology of the data collection

Before a data collection exercise commences, its objectives, scope, methodology and data protection safeguards need to be clearly established. Factors such as the national and regional context, as well as existing research and data on migration and refugee-related issues, will be relevant. International migration data, for example, can be used to extrapolate the number of persons in need of international protection in a given country. It can also be used to assess migratory trends and patterns. Guidance on how best to collect international migration data and how to respect the right to privacy can be found, inter alia, in the sources indicated below.

Guidance on Collecting Migration Data

The UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration

The UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1 (UN, New York, 1998) provide a comprehensive framework for collecting statistical data on international migration and include a set of tables on flows, stocks, and asylum statistics.

The recommendations are based on consultations with national experts and collaboration with international organizations, including the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), UNHCR, ILO, OECD and Eurostat (the Statistical Office of the European Communities). The recommendations aim to promote a better understanding of migration flows, based on the application of existing national data sources and definitions. Among the key information sources mentioned are administrative sources, such as residence permits issued according to visa category, from which annual immigration-flow data can be derived.

See: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesM/SeriesM_58rev1E.pdf.

The UN Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses

The UN Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2 (UN, New York, 2008) is the main guidance note on collecting migration stock (i.e. the total population of international migrants residing at a certain location on a particular date). The revised principles and recommendations were developed for the 2010 Census in order to collect a rich set of data at the country level and to produce a minimum set of standardized migration data across countries and territories. It includes the census methodology and technology to be used, confidentiality, quality assurance, metadata, evaluation of coverage and quality, field operations and data processing.

Data collected for censuses captures generic data on the de facto population. It provides the most comprehensive source of internationally comparable data on migration, and is widely used for analysing migration trends and patterns. However, censuses are only carried out once every 10 years, thereby limiting the data that can be acquired. For example, data acquired through a census does not always reflect the dynamics of mixed movements.

The principles and recommendations are available at:
http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/census/docs/P&R_Rev2.pdf.

**Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament
and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration
and international protection**

The EC Regulation on Community statistics on migration and international protection establishes common rules for comprehensive EC statistics on immigration and on the administrative and judicial procedures relating to migration and asylum. EU Member States are required to provide Eurostat (the Statistical Office of the European Communities) with statistics on the numbers of immigrants moving to the territory of the Member State, the number of persons applying for international protection, persons covered by applications under consideration by the national authorities, unsuccessful asylum-seekers, refugee status granted, subsidiary protection and temporary protection status, unaccompanied minors, applications and transfers covered by the Dublin II Regulation, and persons selected for resettlement in the Member State.

Member States are also required to provide Eurostat with a number of statistics on issues such as the number of third-country nationals who are refused entry to the Member State's territory at the external border, those found to be staying illegally on the Member State's territory, as well as statistics on the number of administrative or judicial decisions imposing an obligation to leave the territory and the number of third-country nationals who have returned to their countries of origin, countries of transit or other third countries.

See: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2007:199:0023:0029:EN:PDF.

Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy Report: Migrants Count – Five Steps Towards Better Migration Data

This 2009 publication followed a meeting that brought together a group of international experts from UN agencies, other international organizations, and academia for the development of practical and feasible political actions to help expand the quantity and quality of migration data available to policy makers and researchers.

The report outlines five essential recommendations to be used as a blueprint for the collection of data about international migration: ask basic census questions and make the data publicly available; compile and release existing administrative data; centralize Labour Force Surveys; provide access to micro-data, not only tabulations; and include migration modules in existing household surveys.

The five recommendations propose short-term, cost-effective steps to enhance national institutional capacity, utilize existing information sources, disseminate migration data and formulate evidence-based policies. However, the report does not address longer-term strategies needed to collect, store, analyse and disseminate migration data. Instead, it notes that the commitment should stem from governments through the development of national task forces.

Annex 1 – Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy, *Migrants Count – Five Steps Towards Better Migration Data*, Centre for Global Development, 2009

2.2. Data protection safeguards

Safeguards are necessary in data collection and data sharing in order to preserve the privacy, confidentiality and security of personal information in accordance with data collection standards. Core data protection principles are described in the sources indicated below.

2.3. Collecting data in collaboration with partners, analysing and using it for policy decisions

Data on mixed movements may be collected through individual interviews, censuses, registers, administrative records and surveys. Given the difficulties in estimating the size and characteristics of an irregular population, using a combination of information sources can assist to obtain reasonably accurate estimates.

2.3.1. At the national level

SOMALIA: POPULATION MOVEMENT TRACKING INITIATIVE 2006 – PRESENT

A. Background and Rationale

The Population Movement Tracking (PMT) initiative was developed by UNHCR in Somalia in mid-2006, in response to the movement of IDPs resulting from a drought in South/Central Somalia. The PMT captures information on the movements of individual and IDP populations in a systematic manner and, for the first time, provides reliable and standardized information on IDPs across Somalia, even in areas with little or no humanitarian access. In mid-2008, the PMT was strengthened to look at issues related to mixed movements, including the final destination and expected coping mechanisms of new arrivals.

B. Actors

- Network of over 60 local human rights NGOs in Somalia;
- UN Protection Monitoring Networks; and
- UNHCR.

C. Actions

- Identify new partners from other initiatives, such as UNHCR's Protection Monitoring Network and the UNICEF Child Protection monitoring network;
- provide training on collecting and sharing information related to population movements;
- create a PMT database early in the project to improve and facilitate data entry, data analysis, and information dissemination;
- ensure standard outputs of the PMT database, namely the inclusion of weekly updates on key displacement figures in monthly PMT reports, as well as a narrative summary, matrix of movements, map of IDP locations, and a Google Earth-viewable file showing all IDP movements in Somalia since January 2007 catalogued by month and reason for movement;
- provide regular feedback on ad hoc queries related to IDPs and mixed movements, as well as figures and patterns requested daily by those interested in the Somalia situation; and
- conduct population monitoring in order to provide verification of population movements and to confirm actual numbers (as UNHCR previously relied on figures provided by local authorities, which were not always accurate).

- In addition to the above actions, which are ongoing, in 2008, the PMT data collection form and database were enhanced to collect information on mixed movements by identifying those groups of IDPs who intended to cross an international border and to collect extra information related to their future intentions.

D. Review

The population monitoring and population movement tracking system form part of an early-warning system that allows for greater predictability and improved humanitarian responses to IDPs and mixed movements. The advantage of having PMT data stored in a database rather than in narrative reports is that it can be filtered and sorted in a variety of ways according to the needs of the user. In addition, the database lends itself to creating tables, charts, graphs, and maps, which can be effective for the dissemination of information.

The PMT initiative has provided relatively accurate figures on persons on the move, including statistical and evidence-based means for prioritizing interventions related to IDPs. The information is useful for advocacy purposes and has been used by UNHCR for various purposes, up to the level of the UN Secretary-General and the Security Council. It has provided insights into populations of migrants, their patterns of movement and their intentions, and it has also reinforced the role of relevant actors through capacity-building measures. The PMT also acts a trigger for the investigation of human rights violations and protection issues that become apparent through the tracking process.

E. Further information

Annex 2 – UNHCR's Population Movement Tracking initiative: FAQs, 2007

YEMEN:
MIXED MIGRATION TASK FORCE WEBSITE
2010 – PRESENT

A. Background and Rationale

In May 2010, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) launched a website to capture the work of the Yemen Mixed Migration Task Force (MMTF) which aims to develop a comprehensive and coordinated response to address mixed movements from the Horn of Africa to Yemen, as well as onward movements.

B. Actors

Yemen MMTF members:
- DRC;
- Government of Yemen;
- IOM;
- INTERSOS (Italian NGO);
- Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS);
- Save the Children-Sweden;
- WFP;
- UNICEF;

- UNHCR; and
- Yemen Red Crescent.

C. Actions

Key sections and features on the website are indicated below.

- News updates provide a snapshot of the latest news on mixed movements in the region;
- feature stories outline important trends and in-depth analysis of current issues;
- a comprehensive resource library collates reports and information on mixed movements;
- new Arrivals Reports issued on a monthly basis provide up-to-date statistics on the number of persons arriving at the shores of Yemen and the latest mixed movement trends;
- background information on the MMTF and the phenomenon of mixed movements provide insight into the aims and objectives of the MMTF and gives an overview of activities implemented;
- statistics on profiling new arrivals and registration at reception centres are regularly updated; and
- two online databases provide the user with access to statistics on the profiling of new arrivals and on registration at the reception centres. The DRC New Arrivals Registration Database provides access to data gathered during initial registration after arrival at the Yemeni shores from the period 01 September 2009, and the INTERSOS Information Management Systems gathers information to strengthen the protection capacity of UNHCR, other UN agencies and NGOs in Aden, Kharaz Camp and Sana'a.

D. Review

The Yemen MMTF website is a valuable resource tool which draws on information provided by the Yemen MMTF members. It provides information on migratory trends in the region, statistics on mixed movements to and through Yemen and the protection needs of persons travelling within mixed movements. The website is still in the development phase, and some of the features will be completed after feedback is received from MMTF members.

E. Further information

Available at: www.mmyemen.org.

ZAMBIA: NATIONAL POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS GOOD PRACTICE CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE 2000

A. Background and Rationale

From 16 October to 15 November 2000, Zambia successfully carried out a national population and housing census by using standardized forms and indicators, including migration-related questions. Census and household surveys are the most reliable data source for the collection of demographic and social indicators in Zambia.

B. Actors

- Central Statistical Office and other Government departments in Zambia;
- enumerators, namely Grade 11 pupils and primary school teachers who served as supervisors ;
- the Examinations Council of Zambia;
- financial and technical partners [namely the British Government, Danish Government, Dutch Government, German Government, Finnish Government, Norwegian Government, Japanese Government, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), UNHCR , United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the University of Michigan];
- the Institute of Economic and Social Research at the University of Zambia; and
- the Data and Research Services of the UK.

C. Actions

- Develop two different questionnaires including migration-related questions (one to collect general information from the head of the household or the proxy, and the other to collect detailed personal information relating to each member of the household);
- conduct the census enumeration with the assistance of a team made up of 30,000 staff;
- collect demographic and social indicators by using the standardized population questionnaire;
- code the questionnaires and store data collected in storage areas and electronically;
- design a post-enumeration survey to evaluate the census coverage and selected content errors at the national and provincial levels and to guide users on the accuracy of data collected;
- outsource the data processing component of the census to the Examinations Council of Zambia and Data and Research Services of the UK so as to build the capacities of local institutions;
- analyse quantitative data collected, identify information gaps, and recommend improvement of data collection and processing;
- coordinate the sector performance analysis conducted by research institutions and statistical offices for the purpose of informing policies;
- prepare a summary report analysing the data disaggregated by sex, district, province and percentage distribution;
- draft detailed analytical and specialized reports demonstrating indicators such as life expectancy, child mortality, fertility, migration, housing indicators, education, demographic structures and economic activity; and
- used the available data to develop a more effective sample framework for the 2010 post-enumeration survey.

D. Review

The questionnaires are a good practice model, notably because they specifically include migration-related questions. The data can be used to identify persons in need of protection and assistance and to inform responses to mixed movements.

The census questionnaire was improved for the 2010 Census to include additional questions (e.g. reasons for moving, work, study, asylum and family reunification). Although the 2000 Census was conducted successfully, there were a number of constraints encountered during field operations and data processing, such as weather conditions and technical problems. The 2010 Census drew on the lessons learned and aimed to improve data collection and analysis by broadening the scope of the questionnaires.

E. Further information

Annex 3 – Republic of Zambia, Form A: Questionnaire on General Characteristics of Household, 2000

Annex 4 – Republic of Zambia, Form B: Questionnaire on Personal Information, 2000

Annex 5 – Republic of Zambia, *Zambia Population and Household Census 2000: Summary Report*, 2003

2.3.2. At the regional level

African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Countries: Intra ACP Migration Observatory Programme

In October 2010, the ACP Observatory on Migration held its launching event in Brussels. The ACP Observatory on Migration is an ACP Group of States Secretariat initiative, implemented by a Consortium of 15 partners and associates led by IOM with the financial support of the EC and additional funding from Switzerland. The ACP Observatory on Migration will establish research networks in 12 pilot countries (i.e. Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Senegal, Tanzania, Timor Leste, Trinidad and Tobago) in the six ACP regions (i.e. Caribbean, West Africa, East Africa, Central Africa, Southern Africa and the Pacific). Its goal is to improve data collection methods, sharing, and analysis on South-South ACP migration flows for better informed decision making and policy development. The networks will be comprised of the main stakeholders at the national level, policy makers, civil society and academia.

The project is expected to enhance research capacities in ACP countries which, in turn, will help inform policies to improve migrant's conditions and strengthen knowledge on the South-South migration-development nexus. The final objective is for the ACP Observatory on Migration to support the migration-related data collection needs of all 79 ACP Member States.

See: www.acpmigration-obs.org.

AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION: INTERACTIVE MAP ON MIGRATION (I-MAP) 2008 – PRESENT

A. Background and Rationale

In 2006, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), the European Police Office (EUROPOL) and the European Border Agency (FRONTEX), within the framework of the Dialogue on Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM), developed an interactive web-based database, presented in the form of an interactive map (I-Map). The MTM I-Map was created to help Arab and European States and partner agencies collect and exchange information on migratory movements in Africa, the Middle East and the Mediterranean region, and to support the development and implementation of cooperation initiatives.

B. Actors

• Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia as Partner States;

• Australia as an Observer State;

• EC;

• EUROPOL;

• EU Member States;

• FRONTEX;

• International Police Organization (INTERPOL);

• Norway;

• Odysseus Academic Network;

• Switzerland;

• Turkey;

• UNHCR; and

• UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

NB: There are plans to extend the I-Map Project to other countries, including Ethiopia, Jordan, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal.

C. Actions

• Provide a visual geographic picture of migratory routes and flows in Africa, the Middle East and the Mediterranean region;

• enhance knowledge about the composition of irregular migratory movements;

• gather information, through questionnaires completed by partner States or on-site information gathering and by allowing partner States and organizations to add information on an ad hoc basis;

• create a platform to exchange information on migratory movements and transit routes;

• provide an in-depth analysis of the core elements of migration management and engage expert partners to conduct quality assessments;

- compile information on interception and apprehension, analysis of irregular flows, smuggling and trafficking, reception and detention of irregular migrants, asylum and protection issues, return and readmissions; and

- use information gathered for research, analysis, strategic planning and policy development.

Features of the MTM I-Map tool are listed below.

- Public interface and secured interface with restricted access: Users with access to the secured area (partner States and partner agencies) can send comments and suggestions to the I-Map team and complete the MTM Questionnaire on irregular migration and trafficking in human beings.

- Three working languages: English; French; and Arabic.

- Three areas of analysis: irregular migration (first phase - under development); regular migration (next phase - planned development); and migration and development (next phase - planned development).

- Three levels of information: national; migration route (regional); and migration hub (local). A fourth category on legislative profiles will be added.

D. Review

The MTM I-Map is valued by all partners as an effective interactive tool that visualizes migratory trends and patterns. In addition to graphically illustrating information on migratory movements and promoting data collection and data exchange, it is also seen as a tool to improve dialogue and promote better cooperation among States. Access to the MTM I-Map layer on irregular migration is restricted to partner States and partner agencies. Third countries do not have access to the MTM I-Map and unanimous consensus of all partner States is required in order for a third country to gain access. However, maintaining the I-Map is cost and labour-intensive and requires timely and accurate information from partners. The section on protection aspects in the I-Map layer on irregular migration could be strengthened to better reflect the mixed character of irregular movements. The MTM I-Map is still in its first phase and there is room for further development.

E. Further information

Available at: http://www.imap-migration.org/.

Annex 6 – Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue, *Arab and European Partner States Working Document on the Joint Management of Mixed Migration Flows*, 2007

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA: DATA SHARING MECHANISM (DSM) – PROGRAMME FOR THE CREATION OF A GENERAL MODEL FOR THE COLLECTION, SHARING AND APPLICATION OF MIGRATION-RELATED DATA
2002

A. Background and Rationale

The Data Sharing Mechanism: Programme for the Creation of a General Model for the Collection, Sharing and Application of Migration-related Data ("the Data Sharing Mechanism") was designed at the request of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) countries following the workshop on Organizational Structures, Collection and Sharing of Migration-related Information held in July 2002 in Prague. The programme sought to build national capacity and ownership of migration-related data while facilitating the cross-border exchange of comparable statistical data.

B. Actors

• Countries in EECA;
• Danish Immigration Service;
• Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR);
• OSCE;
• IOM; and
• Inter-governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies in Europe, North America and Australia (IGC).

C. Actions

• At the national level: Assess existing data collection and management methods, identify the demand for migration-related data in government agencies, define migration-related statistical indicators, and provide technical assistance to national migration agencies.
• At the regional level: Organize technical workshops for data experts from participating States, identify gaps in collecting data, and develop tools to collect and share compatible data.
• Collect data from existing sources, such as entry and departure records, population censuses and household surveys, to provide insight into migration trends.
• Create a data-sharing mechanism to store and share migration-related statistics, legislation and policy documents through user-friendly tools.
• Conduct capacity-building activities through internships for government officials in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), and organize a "training of trainers" workshop.

D. Review

The Data Sharing Mechanism is a unique State-driven tool that creates a platform for regional cooperation and data exchange. It promotes the systematic recording of migration data and has resulted in the development of a number of national databases, as well as bilateral and regional cooperation arrangements. The Data Sharing Mechanism has been piloted in participating countries to collect and share available aggregated data, according to agreed terms. It is also used to inform policy-making and as a basis for convening working groups, expert meetings and ad hoc consultations at the national level.

EUROPE: CLANDESTINO PROJECT ON IRREGULAR MIGRATION 2007 – 2009

A. Background and Rationale

The Clandestino Project on irregular migration entitled "Undocumented migration: Counting the Uncountable – Data and Trends across Europe" was developed to collect reliable data on trends in irregular movement across Europe. It aims to provide an inventory of data on migration stocks and flows in selected EU countries, to analyse comparative data collected, and to develop a methodology for the use of data in the context of the formulation of migration policies.

B. Actors

- Centre for International Relations, Poland (CIR);
- Centre for the Study of Migration Policy and Society (COMPAS)-UK;
- International Centre for Migration Policy and Development (ICMPD)-Austria;
- Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI)-Germany;
- Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP);
- Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)- Belgium;
- three non-EU transit countries (namely Morocco, Turkey and Ukraine); and
- twelve European countries (namely Austria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, and UK).

C. Actions

- Collect available quantitative data and estimates for the period 2000-2007, review literature and available sources, and interview key experts, policy makers and NGOs in each country.
- Develop a database on irregular migration to store information gathered, including general overviews, country profiles, detailed tables and background information.
- Use differentiated data quality checks to ensure that data is comparable, reliable and up-to-date.
- Study the main patterns of irregular movements which include the asylum system (notably rejected asylum-seekers who do not return to their countries of origin and/or those who are de facto non-removable), legal entry from visa and visa-free countries and subsequent overstay, or legal entry and stay whilst working or engaging in self-employment in breach of immigration regulations.
- Draft country reports on findings in the 12 selected European countries, as well as the overall estimate of irregular movements in the 27 EU countries.

- Study the dynamics and mechanisms that affect irregular transit migration in the three selected EU neighbouring countries.
- Develop a set of recommendations to support policy makers to formulate new policies in relation to irregular migration and to encourage scientific dialogue among experts.
- Draft policy briefs outlining the size and main demographic features of irregular migration, geographical migration flows, change of status during the migration route and the way in which existing policies affect irregular migration.

D. Review

The research methodology focused on gathering comparable data. Ethical guidelines were established to ensure that the data collection exercise was subject to data protection safeguards. The Clandestino database provides an inventory of the data collected and estimates based on country reports and indicators (e.g. the composition of the irregular migrant groups in the selected countries, age, gender, nationality and economic sectors where regular migrants tend to overstay their work permits). The data provided the basis for an in-depth analysis of irregular movements and different entry points (e.g. overstaying visas and other breaches of immigration regulations). The research results demonstrated that clandestine entry is the least frequent path of entry into the EU, and that improved migration policies and implementation of existing laws and regulations could reduce patterns of irregular entry.

E. Further information

Annex 7 – Clandestino Project, Final Report, November 2009
See also Clandestino database, available at: http://irregular-migration.hwwi.net/.

Latin America: Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA) Project
1970 – Present

The project on Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA) is used as a basis for systemizing, diffusing, explaining and analysing data collected on census rounds in the region from a migration perspective. The data is used to collate background information, make policy recommendations and analyse, inter alia, migration trends and patterns, migrant profiles, return migration and gender issues. The IMILA Project has been extended to include statistics on population and housing censuses from 20 Latin American countries and English-speaking Caribbean countries. It now also includes statistics on Latin American and Caribbean emigrants who have been included in censuses conducted outside the region.

The IMILA Project demonstrates the advantages of intra-regional cooperation and allows for the exchange of information to determine the extent and characteristics of migration in Latin America and the Caribbean. Census data is the most diverse source of information available and it is heavily relied upon given the lack of entry and exit records and work or residency permit figures in the region. Since census data is only collected once every 10 years, the analysis is limited to the variables incorporated in the census round.

Despite these limitations, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and several other international organizations have recognized the IMILA Project as a unique example of systemizing data to reflect international migration trends and patterns, and have recommended that other regions undertake similar initiatives. The IMILA Project has also been instrumental in the development of regional strategies and interventions.

Additional information is available at: www.eclac.cl/celade.

See also: Martínez Pizarro, J., "The Project Conducted by The Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division Of The Economic Commission for Latin America and The Caribbean (ECLAC)", Paper presented at the Joint OAS/OECD Technical Seminar on OAS Continuous Reporting System on Labour Migration For The Americas (SICREMI), 17 March 2009, available at: http://www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/celade/noticias/documentosdetrabajo/7/36587/P36587.xml&xsl=/celade/tpl-i/p38f.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom_mig.xslt.

Other Examples of Databases in the Americas

The Statistical Information System on Migration in Mesoamerica (SIEMMES) 2001 – Present

SIEMMES has been created to monitor the magnitude and characteristics of migratory movements from, to and between Central American countries and Mexico. The data is collected from departure records, population censuses and surveys in the region and is used to monitor migration movements, including cross-regional movements, and to facilitate regional policy-making. The database is also used to provide technical assistance to, and build the capacities of, migration departments and statistical institutions at the national level. It allows for the synchronization of migration-related data from the various statistical sources, and for comparable indicators to be developed based on the number of non-nationals in the country, work permits granted and border crossings. Data on asylum and RSD are provided by UNHCR.

Further information is available at: http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/microsites/IDM/workshops/Data_Collection_08090903/pre_maguid.pdf.

The Continuous Reporting System on Labour Migration (SICREMI)

SICREMI (Sistema Continuo de Reportes sobre Migración) is a pilot project that aims to develop indicators to collect standardized, comparable, reliable and up-to-date information on migratory movements in the region. The first phase of the project focused on data collection in 10 countries based on their experiences as countries of origin, transit and destination. The project will be replicated in 10 additional countries during the second phase, and the third phase will aim to include all remaining countries in the region.

Annex 8 – SICREMI Information Brochure: Continuous Reporting System on Labour Migration

MEDITERRANEAN REGION: REGIONAL PROGRAMME OF STATISTICS – MIGRATION SECTOR 1999 – PRESENT

A. Background and Rationale

The implementation of the Regional Programme of Statistics in the Mediterranean Region (MEDSTAT) occurred in three phases, namely: MEDSTAT I (1999-2003), MED-Environment 2 (2003-2006) and MEDSTAT II (2006-2009). The objective of the programme is to harmonize statistical methods in line with European and international standards and to improve the coherence and compatibility of statistical data in the Mediterranean region. It also aims to improve the quality and service of national statistic institutions in order to produce up-to-date, reliable, relevant and high-quality statistical data for the purpose of formulating policies and good governance.

The next phase aims to include the Mediterranean Household International Migration Survey (MED-HIMS), a multi-component research programme that involves the coordinated collection of data in several Mediterranean countries by using common methods and tools to analyse the recent migration and asylum trends, determinants, dynamics and consequences of international migration, as well as attitudes and perceptions of host communities.

B. Actors

- EU;
- Eight Mediterranean partner countries [namely Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Syria and Tunisia (while Yemen and Sudan also have expressed an interest to join);
- international experts;
- World Bank; and
- UNHCR.

C. Actions

- Assess the legal framework, existing information sources, user needs and cooperation among national agencies and statistical institutions;
- include mixed movements and refugee-related questions in existing questionnaires and surveys on household and migration issues;
- develop a model questionnaire and indicators, including relevant data categories [e.g. previous travel routes, reasons for travel, intended destination country, perceptions of local communities about refugees and migrants, and protection issues (e.g. documentation, status in host country)];
- strengthen national administrative systems to maximize existing administrative records, and promote information dissemination and regional cooperation;
- support the technical preparation and implementation of household surveys and censuses related to migration in selected Mediterranean countries;
- develop the use of data on international migration flows and stocks through data exchange, comparability, and information dissemination;

- provide training and technical assistance on migration data collection and analysis to improve national capacities on the collection of statistics about migrant populations; and
- promote good governance on migration in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

D. Review

The MED-HIMS phase of the MEDSTAT Programme aims to consolidate activities and results obtained from previous phases, exchange knowledge and technical expertise amongst partners and promote regional cooperation. The model questionnaire is a useful practical tool and the inclusion of questions relating to UNHCR's 10-Point Plan will help countries to better understand and respond to mixed movements in the region. UNHCR is in the process of developing a project to disaggregate data collected by age and sex to ensure that it captures the migration trends of women and children, as well as asylum and family reunification.

E. Further Information

Annex 9 – MEDSTAT, Guide on the Compilation of Statistics on International Migration in the Euro-Mediterranean Region, 2009

2.3.3. At the global level

IOM GLOBAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING DATABASE 2000 – PRESENT

A. Background and Rationale

The Global Human Trafficking Database was initially designed by IOM as a case management tool for IOM counter-trafficking direct assistance programmes. It stores primary data on registered trafficked persons and serves as a knowledge databank contributing to the understanding of the phenomenon of human trafficking. Data can be extrapolated from the database to produce statistical reports and detailed narrative reports to demonstrate trafficking trends and to help governments, research institutes and other actors to better tailor counter-trafficking policies and programmes. The database strengthens IOM's research about, and understanding of, the causes, processes, trends and consequences of human trafficking.

B. Actors

- IOM, headquarters and field offices; and
- interested stakeholders.

C. Actions

- Maintain a global database to serve as a repository of valuable primary data on trafficked persons registered with IOM both at its headquarters and in its field offices;
- promote international best practices for the secure collection, storage and processing of standardized and comparable data on human trafficking;

- apply strict access controls to the database to protect the confidentiality and security of the data;
- store both quantitative and qualitative data on, inter alia, the socio-economic profiles of trafficked persons, profiles of traffickers, trafficking routes, patterns of exploitation and abuse, nature of assistance and reintegration received, mapping of the trafficked person's experiences and instances of re-trafficking;
- follow a standardized format to record data collected through set templates;
- disaggregate data by a number of variables, inter alia, sex, age, nationality, as well as the personal experience of the trafficked person, migratory movements, exploitation suffered, and protection and assistance received;
- employ standardized methodologies and comparable indicators to monitor and evaluate international counter-trafficking programmes and initiatives; and
- analyse data and publish in-depth narrative reports to inform policies.

D. Review

The IOM Global Human Trafficking Database is the largest database storing only primary, victim-centred data on human trafficking and has been commended as a good practice model for the systematic collection of human trafficking data. Currently, it contains primary data on more than 16,000 registered trafficked persons of more than 85 different nationalities trafficked to more than 100 destination countries. The database serves as a common research and methodological tool, provides a useful systematic profile of trafficked persons across countries, and improves the overall understanding of the broader dimensions of trafficking. The IOM screening and interview form includes asylum-related questions. Although the data is limited, the information could be used to better address refugee protection for trafficked persons.

Quantitative and non-personal qualitative data stored in the database are used to feed into the Global Trafficking Thematic Series. The Series covers contemporary issues, including cases of re-trafficking, trafficking of men, organized crime, labour trafficking, and methodological issues when collecting victim-centred data on human trafficking. A number of regional reports have also been published to explore the development of trafficking trends in different regions.

E. Further Information

Available at: http://www.iom.int.

Additional Migration Databases

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

Global Migration Database: This database consists of a comprehensive collection of publicly available empirical data on migration trends and the number ("stock") of international migrants by country of birth, citizenship, sex and age as enumerated by population censuses, population registers, and nationally representative surveys. The database contains a series of estimates and projections of the number of international migrants in different countries for the period 1960-2010.

Available at: http://esa.un.org/unmigration/.

International migration flows to and from selected countries: The 2005 revision demonstrates inflows and, where available, outflows and net flows of international migrants in 15 countries by country of origin and year of arrival/departure information. Available at: http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/migration/UN_Migrant_Stock_Documentation_2005.pdf.

World Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision – Database: This database represents global estimates of the total number of international migrants by country of destination and by sex for the period 1960–2005. Available at: http://esa.un.org/migration/.

UNHCR

Asylum Levels and Trends in Industrialized Countries: This is a semi-annual report documenting detailed asylum flows in 44 countries.

Registers for refugees and asylum-seekers: UNHCR maintains hundreds of registers in order to administer assistance (mainly in camps), to carry out RSD, and to manage durable solutions. These registers, particularly those concerned with individual RSD, contain valuable information on migratory routes, conditions in the country of origin, and family characteristics.

UNHCR Statistical Yearbook and Population Database: This database is a comprehensive overview of annual stocks and flows of asylum-seekers, refugees and other persons of concern to UNHCR. Available at: http://www.unhcr.org/statistics.html.

Others

Database on Immigrants in OECD countries (DIOC): This database is a comprehensive and comparative source of information on a broad range of demographic and labour market characteristics of immigrants living in the OECD countries. Available at: http://www.oecd.org/document/51/0,3343,en_2649_33931_40644339_1_1_1_7415,00.html.

Euro-Mediterranean Consortium for Applied Research on International Migration (CARIM), Demographic and Economic Database: This includes standardized tabulations on stocks and flows, asylum, naturalization, labour migrants, students and remittances. Available at: http://www.carim.org/index.php?areaid=4&contentid=5.

Eurostat: Eurostat provides statistical data, including data about asylum-seekers and decisions on asylum applications. EC statistical data is governed by the principles of impartiality, reliability, relevance, cost-effectiveness, statistical confidentiality and transparency. Available at: www.eurostat.com.

ILO International labour migration database: This database stores online international labour migration surveys and statistical information gathered from 86 countries and developed guidelines on data collection. Available at:
http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/migrant/info/ilm_dbase.htm.

International Migration Outlook: This is an annual publication providing comprehensive immigration data and trends in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries. International Migration Outlook 2010 is available at:
http://www.oecd.org/document/41/0,3343,en_2649_33931_45591593_1_1_1_1,00.html.

MPI Data Hub: Migration facts, stats and maps: This hub is comprised of interactive tools that provide easy access to immigration data (stock, flow, net migration, asylum, and naturalization data) over time and to generate instant charts. Available at:
http://www.migrationinformation.org/DataHub/.

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