



Data and Research for more evidence-based policy making
Extended Migration Profile: Moldova

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Background

- Migration wave from 2000 onwards had a deep impact on the Republic of Moldova's development
- Approximately one fourth of Moldova's labour force is residing abroad (total population of Moldova – 3.9 mln)
- In addition, an estimated equally large number permanently established themselves and their families abroad
- Risk of being permanently lost for the country
- Migrants can be viewed as potential actors in Moldova's development, beyond the remittances they transfer to their families



Migration: Impact on Development

Positives:

- Economic gain - remittances, investment etc.
- Labor market and employment opportunities abroad (enhanced mobility of labor force)
- Migration can empower women/other groups
- Impacts on social institutions - origin & destination countries
- Migrants as development agents (human, social capital, skills, fostering innovation, progress and advancement, good governance)
- Diaspora as a source for economic and social development
- Return (brain/skills circulation) can maximize developmental impacts of migration by transfer of skills
- Equalizing effects on income of origin countries



Migration: Impact on Development

Negatives:

- Brain-drain (loss of human capital, including highly qualified specialists) and brain-waste (qualified/unqualified employment) entails difficulties in professional reintegration upon potential return
- Negative social costs: torn families, children and elderly left behind, burdening the social protection system
- Inflation impact on economy/pressure on currency exchange rate
- Increased inequality/disparity in incomes
- Creation of a “tradition of migration”
- Irregular migration harms inter-state relations



Main policy directions of the Government:

- To create effective mechanisms for management and **monitoring of migration flows**;
- Supporting and deploying strategies to promote **remittances** as a lever for development;
- To enhance the **linkages** of the Government with **Diaspora** and its contribution to the development of the country;
- To favour **legal mobility** of labour force;
- To enhance the **human rights of migrants and their families** (protection mechanisms for most vulnerable migrants, especially victims of trafficking and unaccompanied minors);
- To ensure the **social protection** of the migrants;



EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership

Tool of the Global Approach of Migration

- Pilot Mobility partnership concluded in 2008: conceived as an open-ended instrument based on political dialogue
- 15 EU MS, European Commission, Frontex, European Training foundation
- 70 initiatives (23 initiatives have been implemented, 47 projects under implementation and 10 new initiatives considered to be launched)
- Sources of financing: ENPI, Thematic Programme for Cooperation with third countries in the areas of migration and asylum, Bilateral financial assistance from the EU member states, national sources.



EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership

Objectives:

- Facilitating well-managed legal migration opportunities and their benefits
- Fighting illegal migration, protecting refugees and tackling the root causes of migration
- Investments of migrant remittances and local area support
- Limiting negative effects of migration
- National Migration Management System consolidation;
- Reintegration and return programs
- Diaspora consolidation
- Enhancing the cooperation between EU and Moldova in migration sphere
- Visa dialogue
- Social protection benefits



Migration profile within the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership

- Following up on the recommendations of the GFMD meeting in Athens (2009), MD has acknowledged the utility of the Migration Profile with implementing an Extended Migration Profile
- As an **activity** within the M. Partnership:
 1. Monitoring of migration flows in order to determine the needs and necessities;
 2. Via elaborating and updating a comprehensive monitoring mechanism which will offer detailed information on migratory flows and stocks, as well as on the impact of migration on the Moldovan labour market in general, and on its skills pool in particular;
 3. Also an important sustainable tool for the drafting of policies.



Justification

- Need for more effective migration management institutional framework and policies
- Lack of accurate information and statistics on the number of labor migrants, both legal and illegal, abroad hinders the development of effective migration management policies
- Coherence of national migration policies requires appropriate compilation and availability of internationally comparable migration data, national policy coordination, active cooperation among involved authorities and active international cooperation

Hence – the need to:

- Analyze the current situation in the area of collection and analysis of data/statistics
- Identify gaps in analysis and develop practical recommendations based on the experience of EU MS in order to enhance the migration statistics field in Moldova
- Strengthen the capacity of Government to understand and assess the actual and potential sources of regular and irregular migration and the effectiveness of national and regional migration policies



Objectives of the Migration Profile

General:

Fostering efficient migration management through:

- Enhancing the use of migration data for evidence-based policy development
- Strengthening the national capacity to update and disseminate data

Specific:

- Enhancing governmental knowledge about migration and its relationship to development
- Supporting government in establishing mechanisms for regular reporting on migration-related trends
- Improving the use of migration information for policy development
- Fostering greater inter-ministerial coordination and collaboration with respect to data collection and policy development



Key functions of the Migration Profile

- **Data collection tool** – identifying data gaps, enhancing data collection, analysis and sharing
- **Capacity-building tool** – empowering the Government to take ownership of the regular updating of the Migration Profile
- **Policy tool** – promoting a greater coherence and a more comprehensive approach to migration planning and policies
- **Reference tool** for supporting EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership – monitoring and evaluating the impact of the implemented initiatives



Specific features of the Migration Profile exercise in Moldova

- **Extended M.P.:** strong capacity building components geared towards achieving national ownership of the instrument
- Focus on the **process**, rather than on the output
- **Mainstreaming migration** into strategic development policies
- Special needs-based chapters to be prepared: the diaspora mapping exercise and profiling of special needs of the children and elderly left behind
- Tool to **monitor** and evaluate the implementation of the Mobility Partnership
- Enhancing data exchange with destination countries, including through twinning exercises



Technical Working Group (TWG)

Composition:

Members: 12 public institutions (policy makers/data users and data producers)

Observers: International development partners (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO, WB), EU Member States, other destination countries of Moldovan migrants

Functions:

- Platform for inter-agency dialogue between data users and producers to jointly assess the existing data and statistical capacity
- Guiding and supervising the entire implementation process
- Formulating recommendations addressing the issues of information sharing, capacity-building and coherent policy development related to migration
- Help identifying gaps in the currently collected migration data



Technical Working Group (TWG)

Functions:

- Providing inputs regarding indicators to be included during the development of the template for establishing the Migration Profile
- Supporting the expert team in the research and data collection activities, facilitating the access to the data
- Supporting the development of a national data management and dissemination strategy
- Designing and promoting policy options to increasingly manage migration for the benefit of national development, inclusive of the PRSP framework
- Approving capacity-building measures in mainstreaming migration into development plans, data collection and management
- Identifying a national institution which will take over the responsibility for the Migration Profile's regular updating
- Discussing the perspective and feasibility of utilising the Migration Profile as a tool for monitoring and evaluating the impact of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership



Implementation stages

- Assessing the effectiveness of the current Moldovan statistical data collection, analysis, dissemination and sharing and identifying how far the current practices are from the standards set by European/EU MS, evaluating data users' satisfaction and needs;
- Indicating gaps between international/ European standards and Moldovan practices;
- Providing concrete and useful recommendations on the aspects that need to be modified for effective reform in order to harmonize Moldovan methods of migration data management with international/ European principles;
- Developing indicators to be included in a Migration Profile template in the light of the needs assessment and international guidelines on migration statistics;



Implementation stages

- Assessing the statistical capacity in the light of selected indicators;
- Developing guidelines for producing missing data needed for the migration profile
- Drafting a strategy/plan for national production, updating and disseminating of the Migration Profile to data users;
- Compilation of the first Migration Profile Report;
- Implementation of capacity-building activities needed for an effective take-over of the tool by the Government.

Preliminary results of the MP

- The concept and the list of Migration Profile activities has been defined
- Three sessions of the TWG were organised
- The international and local expert team started work, having carried out three field missions
- The MP work in progress and preliminary results were presented within GFMD meeting in Mexico (2010)
- Cooperation with all the relevant stakeholders has been initiated
- An assessment was undertaken of the existing data collection and analysis mechanisms, needs of data users, resources and data needed to update an EMP on a regular basis
- A draft Data assessment report was produced, presenting the findings of the assessment, including recommendations on how to improve the current data collection and information sharing
- Draft core and non-core/country specific indicators, in the light of the Data assessment report and international standards on migration statistics, including not only information on migration trends, but also on the broader development and institutional context related to migration, and the labour market
- National Commission on Population and Development (NCPD) joined the TWG, given its mandate for coordination of the domain of population and development and demographic security and close coordination is ensured between the process of elaboration of the EMP and work of the NCPD.

Preliminary results on mainstreaming migration into development strategies

- Government of Moldova will be hosting and chairing a global event on Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning in order share and discuss the experience of implementation of the Extended Migration Profiles as a tool of mainstreaming policies for evidence-based policy making at national and regional level.
- Moldova has been selected as one of the four pilot countries under the project on Mainstreaming migration in national development strategies (articulated around the *Handbook on mainstreaming Migration into Development planning* that was conceived by IOM and endorsed by the GMG).
- IOM has been appointed lead agency for the mainstreaming process by the United Nations Country Team in Moldova and the State Chancellery of the Government of the Republic of Moldova is being involved as the lead agency on the Government side.

Capacity building

- In January - February 2011 have been carried out work sessions with statistical staff (both from demography and IT department of the National Bureau of Statistics) in order to produce the requested additional data and apply the newly developed methodology.
- In April 2011 took place the workshop for training on data collection and the management of the update of the Migration Profile Report.
- In September 2011 will take place work sessions for statistical staff, meetings with international expert team for analyzing the Migration Profile report and developing data management strategy and action plan for its implementation.



Questions & Answers



Thank you!