Migration Profiles Development Seminar

Topic: Migration Profiles through data and research: Ghana's Experience

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Outline

- Introduction
- MP Development Processes
- Key Sources of Data for Developing MP
- Gaps identified in the Migration Data
- MP Development as a Capacity Building Tool
- Lesson Learnt

Introduction

- Meaningful data on migration stocks and flows is one key element to the success of preparing Migration Profiles as well as for effective migration management.

- At present, much of the statistical and documentary information on migration in Ghana is scattered in various departments (MOI, GIS, BoG, UNHCR, etc.).

MP Development Processes

- Establishment of Migration Unit at the Ministry of Interior as a centre of a migration database
- Formation of a Ministerial Committee and Technical Working Group to support data collection and forster institutional coordination and collaboration
- Meetings were organized to discuss the draft migration profile with the consultant

Key Sources of Data for Developing Migration Profile

- Reliable data are essential for monitoring flows and understanding trends, assessing impacts and also facilitating the updating of the Migration Profile regularly.
  - i. Operational Processes
  - ii. Censuses
  - iii. Surveys

Operational Processes

- Data on Border inspection at entry/exit point e.g. airport, harbor, border post by Ghana Immigration Service
- Data on refugees from UNHCR, Ghana Refugee Board
- Data on resident permit/stay and granting of application for asylum by MOI
- Visa processing at the embassies in Ghana

Operational Sources *(cont.)*

- Remittances data from Bank of Ghana and other money transfer institutions
- Registration of foreign citizens by Embassies and Ministry of Interior
- Registration of Ghanaians abroad by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through Ghanaian Missions
- Data on enforcement operations by Ghana Police Service, GIS
- Measuring migration phenomenon in a specific country through the data available in other countries in an emerging approach.

Gaps identified in the Migration Data

- Data collected from persons arriving in and departing from Ghana has not been disaggregated by sex, age, level of education, etc.

- Information is not shared between departments dealing with migration issues, partly because information provision and requirements vary from department to department.

  ◦ A weakness in policy formulation which was identified in drafting the MP.

Gaps identified in the Migration Data *(cont.)*

- The challenge of bureaucracy in providing data, friendly manner, inadequate support for institutions involved in data collection and research

    ◦ The MP has highlighted as an urgent policy requirement – the need to improve migration data.

Using MP Devt to Build Capacity

- In the process of developing the MP, there were series of capacity development activities in the form of attending data collection workshops/seminars
  - Essentials of data collection
  - Regional Training Workshop on Data collection for Migration Policy Development in Dakar, Senegal on 17th to 18th June 2009.
  - Training Workshop on Labour/Migration Policy Devt for Nigerian and Ghanaian Govt Officials in Jos, Nigeria, from 14th to 17th September, 2009.
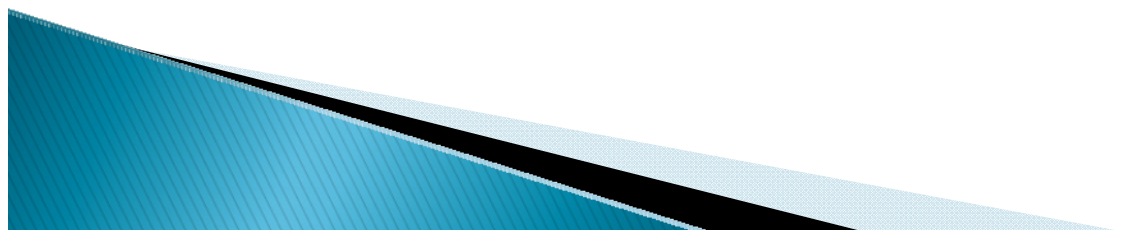
Achievements

- Drafted of Strategy on National Migration Database for Ghana
- Drafted a National Action Plan on Development of Migration to
  - Improve on migration data collection for the update of the Migration Profile and for policy planning
  - Disseminate updated MP Improve the accessibility and availability of data and information relevant to migration issues.
  - Present a cost efficient strategy for enhancing the use of existing data.

Outcome

◦ A useful set of capacity development tools to help identify information gaps and promote exchange at all levels.

◦ Official endorsement of **Technical Working Group** to review the MP

END OF PRESENTATION

THANK YOU