Migration and the 2030 Agenda: Preparing Voluntary National Reviews

Bela Hovy
Population Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

www.unmigration.org

Meeting of the Friends of the Forum
Thursday, 21 February 2019
Palais des Nations, Geneva
9-18 July 2019 HLPF

Theme “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”

Review of:

- SDG 4 Equitable and quality education
- SDG 8 Sustained economic growth, productive employment
- SDG 10 Reduce inequalities
- SDG 13 Combat climate change
- SDG 16 Peaceful and inclusive societies
- SDG 17 Means of implementation
Migration in the 2030 Agenda
(10 out of 169 targets are “migration-related”)

Source: Integrating migration into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Figure 2. Migration in the sustainable development goals and targets

- Strengthen and retain the health workforce in developing countries (3.c)
- Increase the number scholarships for study abroad (4.b)
- Eradicate human trafficking (5.2, 8.7, 16.2)
- Protect labour rights of migrant workers (8.8)
- Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration (10.7)
- Reduce transaction costs of remittances (10.c)
- Establish legal identity, including through birth registration (16.9)
- Disaggregate data by migratory status (17.18)

Figure 3. Migration in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda

- Combat xenophobia
- Facilitate integration through education and communication strategies
- Lower the cost of recruiting migrant workers
- Increase portability of earned benefits and recognition of qualifications
- Promote faster, cheaper and safer transfer of remittances
- Enhance the productive use of remittances
- Mitigate negative consequences of anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing measures
SDG indicators related to migration

(Source: A/73/286, p. 14)

1. 4.b.1 I OECD Official development assistance flows for scholarships
2. 8.8.1 II ILO Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries
3. 8.8.2 III ILO Level of national compliance with labour rights
4. 10.7.1 III ILO, World Bank Recruitment cost borne by employees
5. 10.7.2 III UN DESA, IOM Implemented well-managed migration policies
6. 10.c.1 II World Bank Remittance costs as proportion of amount remitted
7. 16.2.2 II UNODC Victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population
8. 17.3.2 I World Bank Volume of remittance as a proportion of total GDP
9. 17.18.1 III UN DESA % of indicators disaggregated by migratory status

Source: Tier Classification for Global SDG Indicators, 11 May 2018.
Decides to convene, in the first half of 2019, a one-day high-level debate on international migration and development, under the auspices of the President of the General Assembly, in lieu of the 2019 High-level Dialogue, to inform the high-level political forum on sustainable development, which will review the Goals and targets relevant to migration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into consideration the outcomes of other processes related to international migration and development;
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) of implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the HLPF are the cornerstone of the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda.
Guidance for VNR preparations (A2030, para 74)

1. Voluntary and country-led, diverse national realities
2. Track progress in implementing SDGs and targets
3. Identify achievements, challenges and critical success factors
4. Open, inclusive, participatory and transparent preparation
5. People-centered, gender-sensitive, those furthest behind
6. Build on existing platforms and processes
7. Rigorous and based on evidence
8. Enhanced capacity-building, including national data systems
9. Benefit from the active support of the United Nations system
Report structure and content (some key elements)

a. Initiatives to adapt the SDGs and targets to national circumstances and to advance their implementation
b. Identification of vulnerable groups (data disaggregation)
c. Progress on Goals and targets
d. What resources are needed to implement the 2030 Agenda (financing, capacity development, data needs, partnerships)
e. Annex: Use the global SDG indicators; pinpoint major gaps in official statistics on indicators
VNR submissions
(*: Submitting for second time)


50 of 111 VNRs (45%) include some reference to migration-related issues
(Total VNRs/migration language/European countries)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016 (22/14/6)</th>
<th>2017 (43/33/9)</th>
<th>2018 (46/../..)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colombia, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Mexico, Montenegro, Norway, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Togo</td>
<td>Afghanistan, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Monaco, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand</td>
<td>Greece, Kiribati, Latvia, .....</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key findings

1. Most VNRs follow DESA’s Handbook for the Preparation of Voluntary National Reviews
2. Reviews become more elaborated over the years
3. Reviews often general, not data-driven, some have no data
4. Few countries provide data or indicators
5. Some countries report the number of international migrants or the amount of remittances
6. Countries report on country-specific migration issues
7. Migration is more often reported as a challenge
8. Sending, receiving and transit country perspectives
Some recommendations

1. Be specific: mention laws adopted, use percentages in stead of total numbers, focus on substantive issues, make verifiable statements

2. Relate issues being discussed with the SDGs and targets, using SDG indicators to illustrate progress

3. Clarify connections between the implementation of policies and achieving SDGs and targets
1. Regional preparatory meetings
   a) UN ECE: 21 - 22 March 2019, Geneva, Switzerland
   b) UN ESCAP: 27 - 29 March 2019, Bangkok, Thailand
   c) UN ESCWA: 9 - 11 April 2019, Beirut, Lebanon
   d) UN ECA: 16-18 April 2019, Marrakech, Morocco
   e) UN ECLAC: 22- 26 April 2019, Santiago, Chile

2. Workshops [...]
