



Concept Note

Labour Migration Statistics Side Event

Title: Addressing labour migration data gaps in the 1st-3rd editions of the labour migration statistics reports for better policy development in Africa.

Date: 10 September 2021

Dakar, Senegal.

I. Background

Labour migration in Africa continues to draw attention from leaders, policy makers, professionals and the general public. The current and future economic and health crisis, increasing global economic systems, increasing demographic shifts, conflicts, climate change and increasingly large international wage gaps means that people will always be on the move. These movements need to be captured for better understanding of the growing patterns of labour migrants in Africa. The last decades have seen labour migration trends on the rise in Africa. In 2019, there were 26.3 million international migrants in Africa, an increase of 52.9 percent from 2010. With an estimated 20.2 million working-age international migrants and 14.5 million migrant workers in 2019, there is need for member states to collect accurate, up-to-date and relevant labour migration data on the stocks, flows and the contributions of migrants for better understanding of the impacts of migration to development on both origin and destination countries.

Given the importance accorded to labour migration, the Assembly of Heads of States and Governments Africa Union adopted the new Migration Policy Framework and Plan of action (2018-2030) and the AU/ILO/IOM/UNECA Joint Programme on Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration in Africa (JLMP) to support member states in the collection, analysis, dissemination and usage of labour migration data. Despite the efforts made by the Africa Union Commission, the RECs, and Member states with the support from international partners on the production of accurate, reliable and timely international labour migration statistics, disaggregated by gender, age, migratory status and other relevant characteristics to facilitate the design of evidence-based policies and decision-making, lack of comparable data continues to exist in many African countries. For instance, in the publication of 1st to the 3rd editions of the labour migration statistics reports, only 11 out of 55 AU member countries have been able to provide migration data disaggregated by economic activities, education, skills and occupation in the years analyzed (2016 and 2018).

During the development of the third edition of the labour migration statistics report, various capacity building workshops were held for member states in the ECOWAS, ECCAS and SADC RECs, coupled with virtual consultations for selected member states in an effort to bridge the gaps from the 1st and 2nd editions of the labour migration statistics reports. Besides these efforts, it is evident that there is need to have better strategies to help member states in the production of stocks and flows on other relevant characteristics for migrants for better policy development. In order to avail comparable and up to date data on labour migration statistics, there is need to strengthen/establish national coordination committees amongst agencies producing labour migration data, exploit the usage of existing administrative data sources which often contain rich and poorly utilized information on movements of labour migrants, increase systematically the use of standardized and harmonized modules of labour migration-related questions in census, labour force and household surveys. Enforcing better strategies to collect comparable labour migration data will help countries of origin and destination in understanding migrants' status, needs, reasons for movement, and existing rights.

Without the most basic characteristics on economic activities, education, skills, occupation, migratory status and year of migration on the stocks and flows of migrants desegregated by age



and sex, it will be difficult to understand the important aspects of the migration cycle. In addition, there is need for increased accessibility of administrative and survey data for more exploration and research to improve the quality of the data and its admission into the statistical production system. Further, building institutional capacity for African countries in the collection, analysis and dissemination of labour migration data remains a priority of the the AUC, data producers and data users so as to address better the data gaps identified from the three editions of the labour migration statistics report to inform the public debate about migration and support the formulation and development of labour migration policies that maximize the benefits of migration.

In this regard, this side event seeks to bring together statisticians, policy makers, researchers, migration specialists, civil society, international and development partners to discuss on the common strategies to address the persistent data gaps in the labour migration statistics reports for better policy development and institutional capacity development strategies to producers of labour migration data.

2. Objectives of the Side event:

The main objective of the side event is to develop a common approach of addressing challenges experienced by member states in producing labour migration data disaggregated by economic activities, education, skills and occupation.

Specific objectives are to discuss:

1. the challenges experienced by member states in producing gender disaggregated labour migration data and other characteristics
2. best approaches to exploit the usage, accessibility and dissemination of labour migration data from administrative sources.
3. how to build institutional capacity in the collection, tabulation analysis, and dissemination of labour migration data in African countries.
4. how to include and increase systematically, the use of standardized modules of labour migration-related questions/variables in census, labour force and household surveys with additional characteristics on migrant workers.

3. Outcome of the side event:

1. A common approach is developed in addressing the challenges experienced by member states in producing disaggregated labour migration data.
2. Long-term recommendations are agreed upon on the usage, accessibility and dissemination of labour migration data from administrative sources.
3. Adopt a common strategy and recommendations on using standardized modules of labour migration-related questions in census, labour force and household surveys.

4. Date and time:

The side event will be held in hybrid mode on September 10, 2021 ~~at~~ _____ GMT. |

Draft Agenda

Hours	Activities	Facilitator/Presenter	Session Chair
08.30 - 09.00	Arrival/Login and registration of participants	AUC	Session Chair
09.00 – 9.20	Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative of IOM - Representative of ILO - Representative of Statistics Sweden - Representative of Africa Union Commission - Director-General of INS Senegal 	AUC	Senegal
9:20 – 09:35	Session 1: Presentation and validation of the PAFoM 5 Implementation Status Report	AUC	Egypt
30 min	Open Session including Q and A		
09.40 –10.20	Session 2: Presentation of Key trends, Data Gaps, Lessons learnt from the 1-3rd editions of the labour migration Statistics reports	AUC	
10:20 – 11:20	Session 3: Strategies to improve the production, analysis and dissemination of Labour migration Data in Africa	AUC/ILO/IOM/SCB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines Common Approaches and best practices • Discussions 	All	
11:20-11:50:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tea/Coffee break 		
11:50 - 13:00	Overview of the Labour migration Statistics from Member States and RECs	AUC, Member States	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigeria • Cameroon (Pilot- Expanding the use of Admin data) • Ethiopia (LFS + Migration Survey) • Senegal (Retirement Institution, Social Security Agency, Ministry of Labour, etc) • Kenya • South Africa • Morocco or Tunisia • IGAD 	AUC	
	Discussions	All	
13:30 – 14.00	Brainstorming on Data collection strategy for the 4th Edition of Labour Migration Statistics	AUC	
	Recommendations and Way forward		
14:00-16:00	Lunch		

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