

THE JLMP DISPATCH

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The AU-ILO-IOM-UNECA Joint Programme on Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration in Africa (JLMP)



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JLMP Hands Over Comprehensive Labour Migration Policy to Cameroon

A total of four Honorable Ministers and 86 High-Level experts converged in Yaoundé, Cameroon on 29 September for a Restitution Meeting to hand over a Labour Migration Policy, marking a significant step in advancing the rights-based, legal, safe, and dignified labour migration governance in the country. JLMP officially handed over the comprehensive policy document to Cameroon's Minister of Labour and Social Security, Hon. Grégoire Owona.

It emphasizes a rights-based approach, ensuring the safeguarding

of fundamental rights for all migrant workers. Additionally, it adopts a gender-sensitive perspective, guaranteeing equal opportunities for both male and female migrant workers.

The JLMP supported the development of this inclusive policy, under the leadership of the Government of the Republic of Cameroon.

“Cameroon intends to position itself as a true advocate for the rights of both female and male migrant workers, each with their specific gender-related considerations,” Hon. Minister Grégoire said. [Read more](#)



AUC and Partners Call for Inclusive Policies Prioritizing Migrant Rights within AfCFTA Framework

On the sidelines of the African Business and Human Rights Forum (5 to 7 September 2023), the AUC and partners made a call for inclusive policies prioritizing migrants' rights as guided by the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) framework.

The call was made during a panel discussion titled "Migration under AfCFTA: Towards Human Rights-Compliant Mobility Governance in Africa", organised by the JLMP.

Attended by ILO, IOM, UNDP, and civil society, participants stressed the need to address potential human

rights vulnerabilities faced by migrant workers, such as exploitation, discrimination, violence, and limited access to essential services.



Migrants stand to gain significantly from this initiative [AfCFTA], as it encourages cross-border labour mobility, leading to increased employment opportunities and better working conditions for migrant workers, fostering economic empowerment and social integration.

*Abibatou Wane,
Chief of Mission, IOM Ethiopia*

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Effort to Boost Trafficking in Persons & Labour Migration Statistics: JLMP, Member States & RECs Join Forces

Experts and representatives from Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Member States and international organizations gathered in Lusaka, Zambia, for a three-day (2-4 August 2023) Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Trafficking in Persons (TiP) and Labour Migration Statistics.

The workshop aimed at enhancing the capacity of participating countries to provide timely, reliable, and high-quality data on Trafficking in Persons and Labour Migration. Through this data-driven approach, the JLMP believes policymakers, planners, and decision-makers will be better

informed to address critical challenges affecting labour migration governance.

Experts emphasized the importance of harmonizing the current fragmented administrative data, transforming it into a practical utility for seamless reference and usability by policymakers.

Skills, experiences, tools, and contacts shared during the training were disseminated by participants to their national counterparts, regional and local authorities, and other experts. Trainees were anticipated to serve as conduits, disseminating the acquired knowledge and ensuring its broader application and impact. [Read more](#)



JLMP, Government of Côte D'ivoire Validate Country's First Report on Labour Market Information System (LMIS)

The JLMP together with the Africa Regional Migration Program (ARMP), under the stewardship of the Ministry of Employment and Social Protection of Côte d'Ivoire validated an assessment report on LMIS in the country.

The validation process took place at the commencement of a five-day workshop (24 to 28 July 2023), organized to strengthen the capacity of Ivorian stakeholders in producing accurate and reliable labour migration data and labour market statistics.

The assessment report shed light on data collection methodologies, database management, and data

analysis processes. It also highlighted existing challenges as well as a series of well-considered recommendations aimed at closing the identified gaps and bolstering the LMIS capabilities.

Continued efforts to analyze data on migration impacts remain imperative, aligning with the primary objectives of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM). By gaining a deeper comprehension of the disparities between skill supply and demand in the job market, the JLMP will support Member States to effectively address identified labour requirements and enhance the employability of people on the move. [Read more](#)



Advancing Harmonization of Migration Data: JLMP Joins IGAD to Offer Continental Insights

From 10 - 13 July, the JLMP joined the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) for their fourth Migration Data Technical Working Group Workshop.

The Workshop advanced discussions and strategies to support the harmonization of migration statistics within the region by strengthening national and regional actors in the production and utilization of migration statistics.

The JLMP shared continental insights on harmonizing labor migration data, leveraging the experiences of African Union Member States that have

demonstrated consistent improvement in this domain. JLMP works with member states to enhance their data production, analysis & utilization capabilities in labour demographics, migration patterns, remittances, integration and social indicators, and labour markets.



The African Union and its partners are currently compiling the fourth edition of the Labour Migration Statistics report in Africa.

*Brian Okengo
JLMP Statistics Officer*

[See here](#)



OPINION



Understanding that the scale of migration challenges demands scalable solutions, we have strived to develop practices that can be adapted and implemented across diverse contexts.

It is time to fortify our commitment to inclusive, rights-based labour migration governance. This entails amplifying voices of all stakeholders, especially the migrants themselves, and integrating their experiences into the heart of our policies and strategies.

Sabelo Mbokazi
Head of Labour, Employment and Migration (LEM) Division

Fostering Sustainable Progress in Labour Migration Governance: Lessons and Collaborative Endeavors

Never before has been a period where Labour Migration Governance is such an important policy imperative. As the Head of the Labour, Employment, and Migration Division at the African Union, it is great to see the Joint Programme on Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration in Africa (JLMP) accelerate on a journey marked by a commitment to excellence, collaboration, and impactful outcomes.

The JLMP stands as a testament to the power of collaboration, coordination and cooperation. It is founded on the understanding that addressing the complexities of migration demands a collective effort and shared responsibility. Our collaborative initiatives with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) have not only enriched the discourse on migration governance but have also paved the way for pioneering solutions.

Best Practices in Action

The key achievements of the JLMP are in the implementation of best practices that have significantly influenced the landscape of labour migration governance in Africa.

Several project initiatives have and are currently being implemented to support several elements of this programme.

Through detailed research and data-driven insights, the programme has identified and showcased interventions that have yielded tangible results. For instance, targeted capacity-building programmes have empowered stakeholders at various levels, enhancing their ability to navigate the challenges posed by migration.

Our implementation continues to be an invaluable source of lessons and inspiration to Labour Migration practitioners. We have come to appreciate that sustainable solutions in labour migration governance go beyond policy formulation; they necessitate a holistic approach. By actively engaging with Member States, RECs, civil society, and the private sector, we have learned that the inclusivity of perspectives and collaboration with diverse stakeholders are pivotal for success.

One of the core principles guiding our interventions is replicability. Understanding that the scale of migration challenges demands scalable solutions, we have strived to develop practices that can be adapted and implemented across diverse

contexts. Whether it's the development of evidence-driven strategies or the incorporation of gender-sensitive approaches, our focus has been on ensuring that successful interventions serve as blueprints for broader application.

The Labour migration interventions and policy propositions we continue to propagate cannot be undertaken in isolation. The complexities of migration demand a multidimensional response. By synergizing efforts, pooling resources, and fostering a shared vision, the JLMP has demonstrated that the sum of collaborative actions far exceeds the impact of individual endeavors.

In moving forward, let us consider this not merely as a chapter closed, but as a prelude to a narrative yet to be written. It is time to fortify our commitment to inclusive, rights-based labour migration governance. This entails amplifying the voices of all stakeholders, especially the migrants themselves, and integrating their experiences into the heart of our policies and strategies. The journey ahead is a shared responsibility all between corridors of policy chambers, communities, and international forums. Let us all look at this as a call to transcend boundaries, overcome obstacles, and create a future where labour migration becomes a force for collective prosperity.

Our Objective: Contribute to improved labour migration governance to achieve safe, orderly, and regular, migration in Africa as committed in relevant frameworks of the African Union (AU) and Regional Economic Communities (RECs), as well as relevant international human rights, labour standards and other cooperation processes.



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