Background document[1] for GFMD Roundtable 2.2 "Making migration work post-2015: implementing the SDGs" co-chaired by Bangladesh, Greece and Mexico – *first elements for GFMD input regarding migration related indicators*

Introduction

The post-2015 Development agenda (post-2015) process has entered its final phase with the start of the inter-governmental negotiations in January 2015. The main basis for the negotiations will be the outcome document of the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) containing suggested development goals and targets. This is complemented by the UN Secretary General's synthesis report on the post-2015. Of importance for the outcome regarding the issue of Means of Implementation/Global Partnerships will be the conference on financing for development to be held in Addis Ababa in July 2015. The UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) leads the work on establishing indicators which will be the back-bone of the monitoring framework for the SDGs. The UNSC will endorse indicators at its session in March 2016. Meanwhile, the co-facilitators of the post-2015 negotiations and the co-chairs of the UNSC have agreed on the latter presenting a preliminary list of indicators already ahead of the negotiations sessions in spring of 2015.

GFMD RT 2.2 has agreed that given the timelines of the post-2015 process and the GFMD calendar, one important work stream of the RT will be to produce an input to the post-2015 process by considering the status on current on suggestions for migration related indicators.[2]

GFMD input to post-2015

At the 7th Summit Meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development in May 2014, there was a consensus that migration must be included in the post-2015 development agenda. Two main principles were laid down for this:

1. Migration is first and foremost about human beings and the protection of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, irrespective of their migration status, needs to be included in the post-2015 development agenda.
2. There is consensus that migrants and migration should be recognized as enablers of development and should be included as such.

Furthermore, the GFMD Forum Meeting resulted in recommendations that migrants and migration related aspects should be:

1) included in the narrative of the agenda
2) included as targets under the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

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[1] The present background note has been produced by IOM with substantive suggestions taken from discussions within the Global Migration Group 10-11 February 2015 at Glen Cove, N.Y.
[2] See annexed overview of the respective timelines for post-2015 and GFMD.

- Poverty Eradication; Education; Health and Population Dynamics; Economic growth and Decent work for all; Promoting Equality; and

3) that targets and indicators are disaggregated to account for development outcomes of migrants and their families.

Current standing of migration in the post-2015 process[3]

The following OWG suggested SDG targets include <u>direct reference</u> to migration and related issues:

-SDG target 8.8: *protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments of all workers, including migrant workers, particularly women migrants, and those in precarious situations*

-SDG target 10.7: *facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies*

-SDG target 10.c: *by 2030, reduce to less than 3% the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5%*

-SDG target 17.18: *by 2020, enhance capacity building support to developing countries, including for LDCs and SIDS, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts*

A number of OWG suggested SDG targets <u>indirectly refer</u> to migration or related issues:

-*Disaster-related targets* implicitly covering displacement SDG 1, SDG 11 and SDG 13
-*Ensuring access to critical skills* implicitly referring to avoiding "brain drain"; SDG 3 and 4
-*Eliminating trafficking*; SDG 5 and 16
-*Facilitating mobility through* trade in services and *alternative sources of financing*; SDG 17

Suggested core migration related indicators

As noted in the introduction, it was deemed important to have preliminary formulations regarding indicators early during the inter-governmental negotiations on post-2015. Key guidelines for developing such indicators have been:

-Indicators must for few in number (100-120 global indicators for all 17 SDGs)
-Indicators should be supported by established concepts or concepts generating consensus
-Indicators have to be easy to communicate and influence development programming

While migration its related issues currently figure across a number of issues, leading up to the final adoption this is range is likely to narrow. Moreover, considering the timelines at hand it will be difficult to garner consensus on a large number of migration related indicators within the GFMD. <u>For</u>

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[3] For more detail see background note to GFMD first thematic meeting, 5 February 2015.)

the specific purposes of GFMD RT 2.2 and considering the previous discussions, below are presented a viable suggestion regarding the core migration related indicators for the SDG monitoring framework[4].

1) Well-managed migration policy

Goal:	**10 – Reduce inequality within and among countries**
Target:	10.7 – Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies
Proposed Indicator:	• Composite index on well-managed migration policies
Rationale:	States are increasingly entering into dialogue and collaboration on migration policy cognisant that migration policy entails a "whole-of-government" approach and forging of partnerships that supplement efforts within the national context. A common aim has been (i) to reach to a joint discourse between countries of origin and destination and (ii) to ultimately foster migration policies that improve the situation for migrants and the over-all quality of migration for the benefit of all. "Well-managed migration policies" consists of numerous actions under key heading such as; Human rights, Human mobility, Socio- economic outcomes, Crisis vulnerability and, Partnerships. Mindful that a limited number of global indices will be devoted to migration, the method of composite index is chosen in order to monitor the range of migration policies, the result of which can inform governments of progress as well as gaps and measures and investments that need to take place.

2) Fair labour migration

Goal:	**8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**
Target:	8.8 – Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments of all workers, including migrant workers, particularly women migrants, and those in precarious employment.
Proposed Indicator:	• Labour migration indicators (including wage gap between migrants and nationals, recruitment costs and other attributes, to be developed)
Rationale:	Upholding the rights of migrant workers is an essential element of the migration and development agenda as a matter of principal and is essential for countries of origins endeavours to protect vulnerable citizens often engaged in the lower skills sectors of labour markets. It is also essential to avoid distortions and to maintain level paying fields in labour markets in countries of reception.

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[4] These formulations for migration related indicators were discussed at the latest in a series of dedicated retreats organised by the Global Migration Group.

3) Lowering remittance costs

Goal:	**17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development**
Target:	17.3 – Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
Proposed Indicator:	• Remittance costs as a percentage the amount of remittances
Rationale:	Migrant remittances are an important income for migrant families and wider communities and they improve the human development of migrant households including through increased food security, improved school enrolment and health outcomes. OWG SDG 10.c proposed decrease of remittance cost to 3%. With total remittances for 2015 projected at USD 454 billion, reaching this target would save migrants USD 23 billion/year calculated in current remittance costs and remittance flows. Due to the structure of the spread of remittance cost across different corridors, it will be imperative to focus more on "high-cost corridors", which pertain mainly to intra sub-Saharan African corridors. Increasing the opportunities for channelling remittances flows to development investment can be dealt with in the composite index on well-managed migration policies under the strand "socio- economic outcomes".

ANNEX:

GREECE:

Goal:	**10 – Reduce inequality within and among countries**
Target:	10.7 – Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies

Proposed Indicator:	• Composite index on well-managed migration policies
	   - Legal channels and opportunities for regular migration in countries of emigration
	   - Measures taken and institutions established (information centers) by the immigration countries for informing their citizens on the risks of irregular migration and opportunities for legal migration.
	   - Number of bilateral or multilateral agreements between countries of origin and destination providing for orderly migration as well as for readmission.
	(Sweden: considering that most countries are now countries of emigration, immigration and transit, it would be suggested that it may be more useful not to make a division between countries of emigration and immigration.)

Goal:	**8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**
Target:	8.8 – Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments of all workers, including migrant workers, particularly women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

Proposed Indicator:	- indicators measuring possible discrimination against migrants on the basis of rate of unemployment between native - born and migrants with the same skills (diplomas etc) - the rate between migrants and nationals working in precarious jobs and entitled to restricted or no social rights etc. which might heavily affect fairness in the labor market.

Goal:	**17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development**
Target:	17.3 – Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
Proposed Indicator:	- The additional financial products that countries of origin have introduced in cooperation with national banks in order to maximize the contribution of remittances to the sustainable development, for example loans, social security services, high interest rates, education programs. - Bilateral agreements for preventing double taxation.

TURKEY:

Goal:	**17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development**
Target:	Data, monitoring and accountability 17.18 – By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts
Proposed Indicator:	• The number of migrants in the country (international comparable, annual, disaggregated by formal, informal, dependents, workers, sectors)
Rationale:	The MDG has fostered the strengthening of statistical systems at both national and international levels. Still, there exist inadequate data problems in MDGs. Even when national data are available, adjustments are often needed to ensure international comparability. To fill data gaps, data for many of the indicators are supplemented by or derived exclusively from data collected through surveys sponsored and carried out by international agencies. For example for the health indicators, which are compiled, for the most part, from Multiple Indicator Cluster surveys (MICS) and Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). The scale of international migration needs specific scope and definition in the development agenda. It is essential that indicators for the development agenda should be able to monitor for successive periods and comparable among the countries. Post-2015 process will help to improve statistical capacity, data availability and coordination within/among countries in terms of providing migration data.

SWEDEN:

Goal:	**8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**
Target:	8.8 – Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments of all workers, including migrant workers, particularly women migrants, and those in precarious employment.
Proposed Indicator:	o Establish national frameworks that protect migrants' rights o Ensure implementation of these national frameworks o Prevent labor exploitation and discrimination of migrants o Lower the wage gaps between migrants and nationals o Increase cooperation on access to and portability of earned benefits o Lower the recruitment costs for migrants o Prohibit unscrupulous recruiters o Enhance the possibilities nationally for recognition and validation of foreign qualifications, education and skills o Enhance the access to bridging courses for persons with foreign qualifications, education and skills in order to facilitate their access to the labor market in their profession.

Goal:	**10 – Reduce inequality within and among countries**
Target:	10.c – *By 2030, reduce to less than 3% the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5%*
Rationale:	The transaction cost of remittances would be better covered under **Target 10.c** instead of 17.3, as Target 10.c. As the number of indicators will be limited in the end, it would be useful to avoid overlap as much as possible so that all useful migration related indicators may be included.

Goal:	**17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development**
Target:	17.3 – Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
Proposed Indicator:	o Enhance financial literacy, including gender-sensitive financial literacy o Enhance access to financial services o Ensure safe channels for remittances o Assist in establishing attractive investment opportunities for diaspora, e.g. diaspora bonds
Target:	17.14 – Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development
Proposed Indicator:	o Enhance coherence between migration, development and other relevant policy areas o Integrate migration in development policies and development

	in migration policies

Goal:	**17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development**
Target:	Data, monitoring and accountability 17.18 – By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts
Proposed Indicator:	• *The ability to produce data for the number of migrants in the country*

IOM:

Briefing note: **Migration in post-2015 as "well-managed migration policies"** (SDG 10.7)

How can it be reviewed?

Governments are concerned about the complexity of migration issues. Meanwhile they see the huge benefits of embracing diversity through comprehensive approaches to migration, especially on supporting vibrancy of cities and efficient labour markets. IOM welcomes the Open Working Group's (OWG) recognition of the role migration plays for decreasing inequalities, the need to address the rights of migrant workers and to clamp down on trafficking.

Migration policy is by definition a whole of government exercise. Just like other policy areas where multi-disciplinary governance applies, IOM believes migration policy in SDG target 10.7 (see below) should be reviewed by a composite index. There has been considerable methodological progress in the area of constructing robust indexes on migration policy in the last ten years[5]. However there exists no global index covering all relevant policy areas. The UN TST has supported composite indexes for complex policy areas such as Ocean Heath, Multi-dimensional poverty and Early Childhood development, and some have received endorsement from the statistical community.

IOM would underline that <u>the aim of a migration policy index is not to produce a ranking of countries</u>. Similar to all post-2015 review, the aim is to identify apparent gaps and to inform the development community about necessary investments. IOM is flexible regarding what level of review the index should be utilised for[6].

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[5] See "Conceptualizing and measuring immigration policies: a comparative perspective" Liv Bjerre et al. (2014)
[6] cf. Synthesis Report of the Secretary-General On the Post-2015 Agenda, paras. 149-50

The scope of the migration policy index will be to review policies that contribute to reducing inequalities. Regarding the content, IOM suggests constructing a composite index that assesses migration governance in countries across five fundamental strands, such as:

-Human rights of migrants

-Regulated mobility

-Development outcomes of remittances

-Mitigating risk of forced migration

-Regional and global partnerships

IOM is collaborating with the Economist Intelligence Unit and other partners to construct, validate and test such a migration policy index initially in 15 countries. Planned launch is for autumn 2015.

OWG suggested SDG target 10.7

Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies