

A hand is shown placing a puzzle piece onto a globe that is constructed from many interlocking puzzle pieces. The scene is set against a dark blue background with a wooden surface. The globe is the central focus, and the hand is positioned on the right side, with fingers carefully fitting a piece into the structure.

Measuring well-managed migration: The Migration Governance Index

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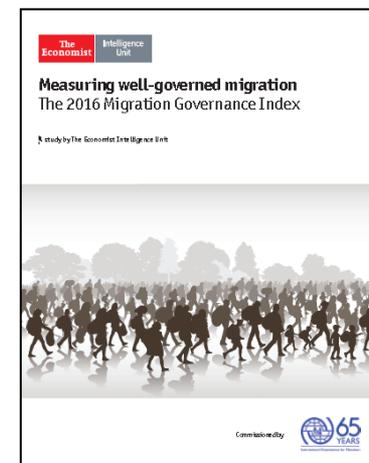
EIU Consulting

2 December 2016

Benchmarking migration governance globally

Background of the project

- **Hyper-globalised world: International migration continues to increase—244m in 2015, up 41% since 2000.**
 - Challenge: Ensuring that migration occurs in a safe, secure, legal and orderly way
 - Migration is recognised in the SDGs as a driver for reducing inequalities
- **IOM has been collaborating with The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) to develop a benchmarking framework for national migration policies that aims to:**
 - Goal 1: Use internationally agreed definitions of “well-managed migration”
 - Goal 2: Go beyond existing research to produce a more comprehensive understanding of migration governance, using a unique scoring system
 - Goal 3: Provide a tool to assist governments in evaluating the scope of their policies; help them identify gaps and set priorities around institutional capacity on migration
- **The Index does not establish a global ranking of states on overall migration policy; rather, it seeks to identify progress within domains**



The SDGs, MiGOF and the Migration Governance Index

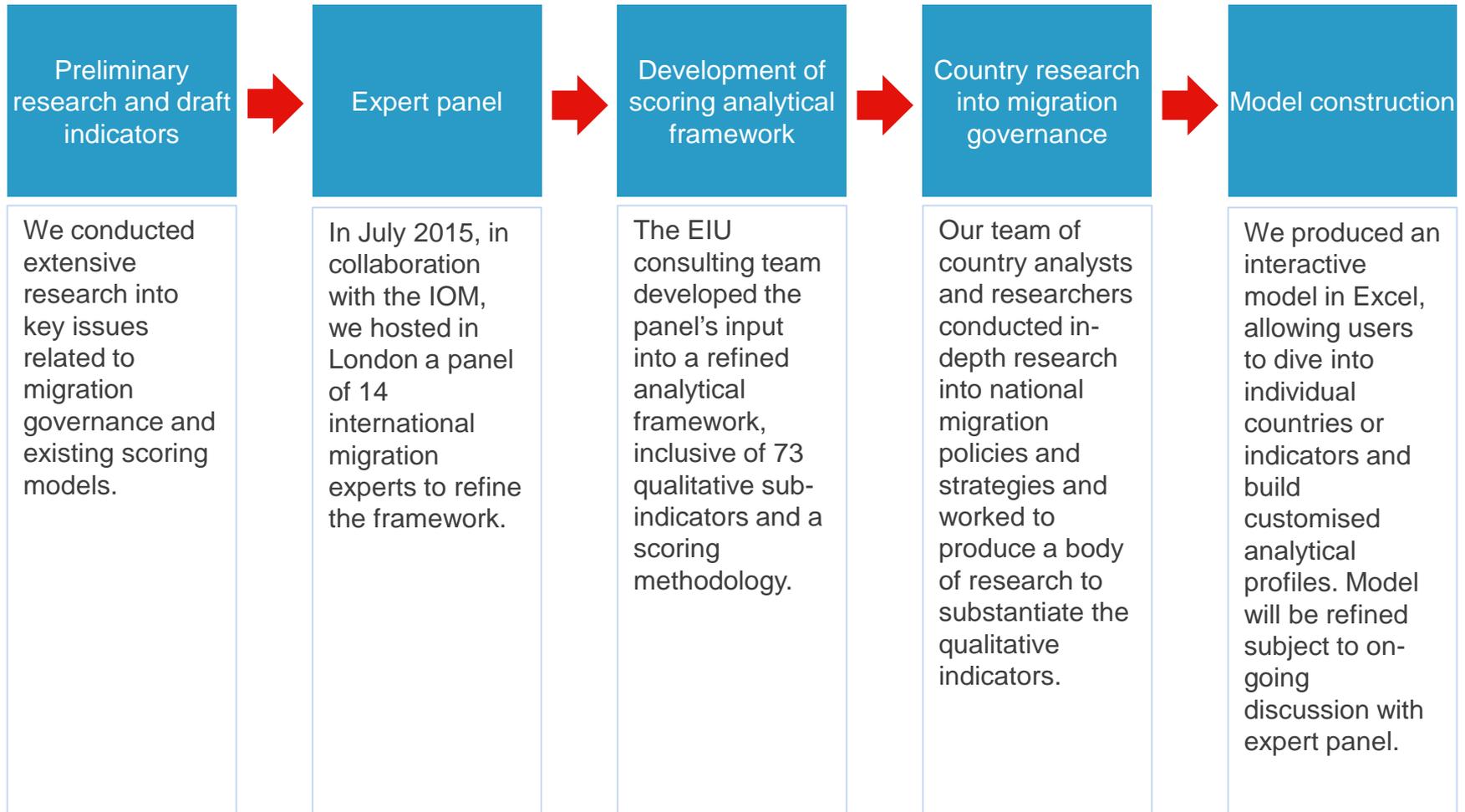
The MGI provides a strong analytical foundation for monitoring progress towards SDG target 10.7

- **The centre-piece for migration in the post-2015 development framework is target 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals**
 - Target 10.7 focuses on the facilitation of “*orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies*”.
- **The Migration Governance Index (MGI) was inspired by the IOM’s Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF), which sets out the essential elements to support planned and well-managed migration**
 - The IOM Council has been leading inter-governmental discussions on the establishment of a Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF) to help track progress towards target 10.7.
 - By measuring 73 indicators grouped under five different domains of migration governance, the MGI offers an important foundation for this endeavour.
 - The IOM, at its International Dialogue on Migration in February 2016, discussed different approaches for measuring progress; the MGI was presented to a diverse audience encompassing country representatives and members of the migration community.



The research programme

From framework creation to model finalisation



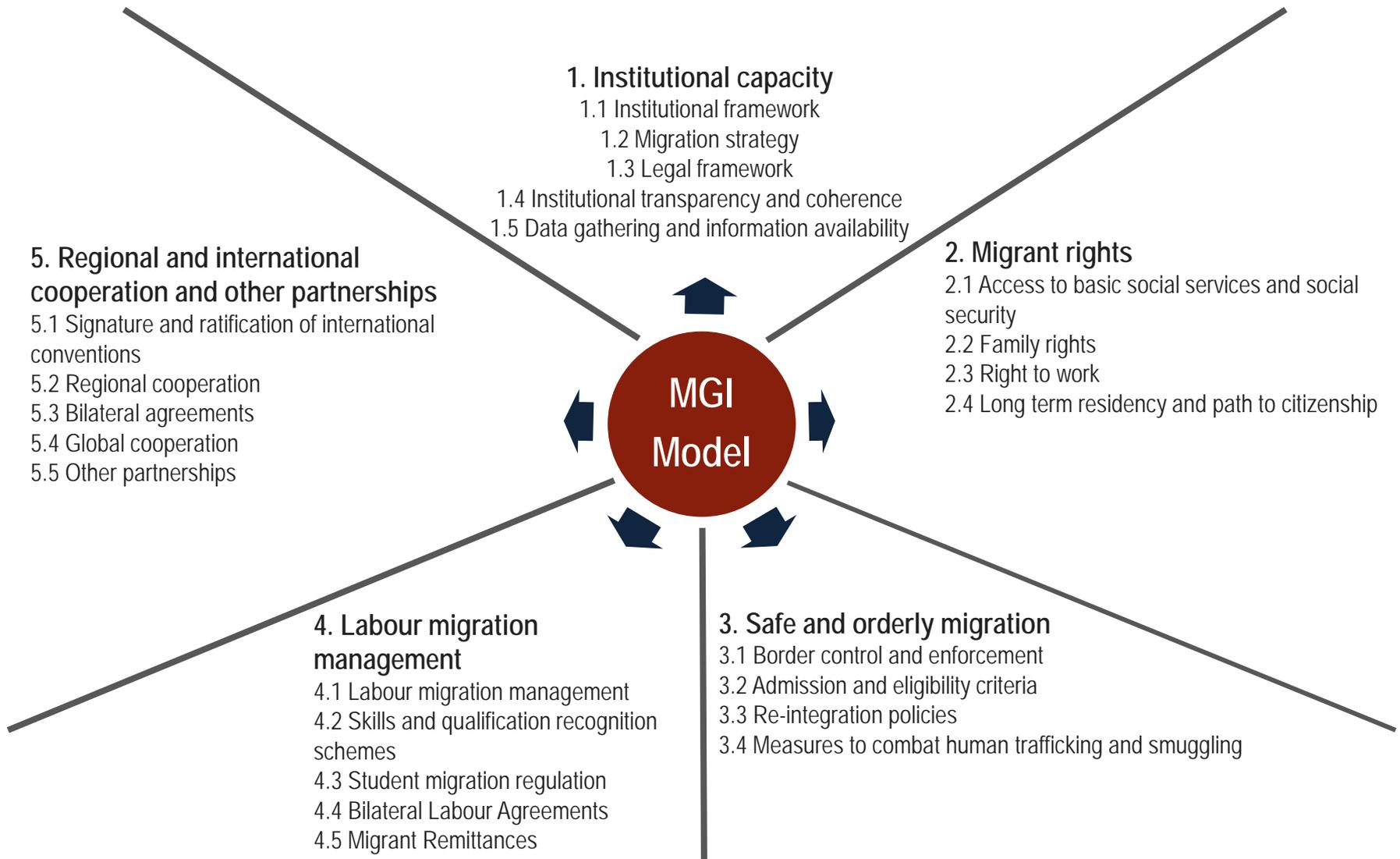
Index construction: country sample

We have been researching 15 countries



Countries were selected by IOM and EIU to reflect geographical diversity, levels of economic development, and a balance of receiving and sending countries.

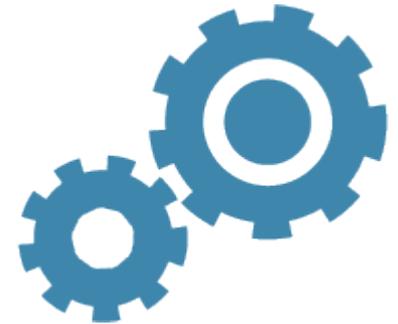
The MGI model framework



Institutional capacity

This domain assesses countries' institutional frameworks, the existence of migration strategies, the presence of inward and outward migration governance legislation, and data availability and transparency

- **Institutional capacity requires a dedicated 'lead' agency**
 - All countries in the MGI have dedicated government entities focused on migration policy, but they vary between those with a single 'apex' agency and those that spread migration policy across several actors.
- **Successful 'sending' countries link migration to development through diaspora outreach and 'circular' migration programmes**
 - Sending countries are linking migration to development through initiatives that utilise their overseas citizens.
- **Successful 'receiving' countries link migration to economic development through labour market audits and 'critical skills' lists**
 - The link between inward migration and economic development relates largely to whether the country is attracting workers who can fill specific gaps in the workforce



Migrant rights

This domain assesses countries' structures for ensuring access to basic social services for migrants, family rights, the right to work, and long-term residency and paths to citizenship

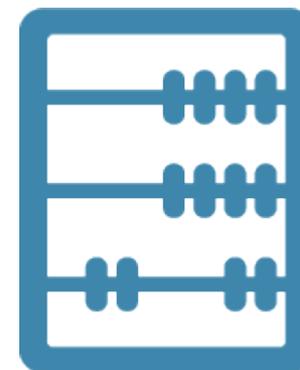
- **Practical, non-legal factors constrain access to services**
 - Migrants' access to social services does not depend only on the law. In some cases, migrants have access to services, but do not take advantage of the opportunities, either through lack of knowledge, lack of interest or other, non-legal factors.
- **All countries have paths to long-term residency and citizenship**
 - All countries in the MGI offered some path to long-term residency and citizenship for migrants, although criteria varied. Usually, such processes depend on a minimum period of residence in the country, ranging from 3 to 5 years.
- **Emerging economies in the MGI show support for distressed migrants**
 - Three developing countries in the MGI have taken concrete steps to support the safety, and uphold the rights, of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants fleeing conflict or turmoil.



Safe and orderly migration

This domain assesses countries' border control and enforcement practices, measures to combat human trafficking and smuggling, and re-integration policies

- **Countries need infrastructures for managing flows of distressed migrants**
 - Some countries receiving 'distressed' migrants, for whom safety considerations are most acute, are taking initiatives to ensure that safety - largely as emergency measures that attempt to keep pace with inflows. More sustainable plans are needed.
- **Human trafficking responses require coalitions across government**
 - Migrant safety is upheld best by countries that have strong systems and procedures in place for dealing with human trafficking. This means dedicated structures and agencies, national strategies, and transparent data collection.
- **Developing countries nurture 'circular' migration through networking, diaspora engagement and reintegration incentives**
 - Orderly migration does not end when a migrant arrives in a new country - it also affects his/her onward journey.



Labour migration management

This domain assesses countries' policies for managing labour migration, skills and qualification recognition schemes, student migration regulation, bilateral labour agreements and remittance schemes

- **Receiving countries perform skills audits and labour market reviews**
 - In receiving countries, labour management relates in large part to whether the country has a system for ensuring that migrants entering the country are supporting national economic imperatives.
- **Emerging economies need to assess effects of outward migration on the national economy**
 - While outward migration brings benefits in the form of remittances and 'circular' migration later, it can also create gaps in the national labour force.
- **Protecting foreign workers requires both adherence to international codes and unilateral initiatives**
 - A critical governance question concerns migrant workers' access to decent working conditions.



Regional and international cooperation and partnerships

This domain assesses the regional and international dimension of migration through an analysis of international conventions, treaties and laws, regional consultative processes, and bilateral agreements

- **Regional consultative processes (RCPs) have high rates of government engagement**
 - All countries in our assessment are involved in RCPs, suggesting these are a popular form of collaboration.
- **Bilateral relationships remain the most vital mode of cooperation**
 - Migration “corridors” are a feature of labour mobility: migrants tend to follow particular, well-trodden routes to benefit from established migration infrastructures and tap into existing networks. As a result, tangible cooperative ventures tend to happen at the bilateral level.



Pilot benchmarking

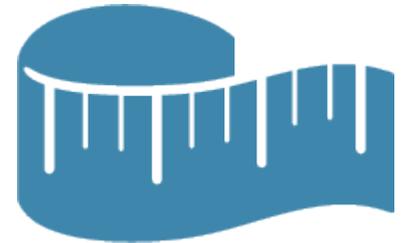
We banded policy assessments to identify best practices: **Nascent, Emerging, Developed, Mature**

	Institutional Capacity	Migrant Rights	Safe & Orderly Migration	Labour Migration Management	Regional & International Cooperation
Bahrain	Emerging	Emerging	Developed	Emerging	Developed
Bangladesh	Emerging	Emerging	Emerging	Developed	Mature
Canada	Mature	Developed	Developed	Developed	Mature
Costa Rica	Developed	Developed	Developed	Emerging	Mature
Germany	Mature	Developed	Mature	Developed	Mature
Ghana	Developed	Emerging	Mature	Nascent	Mature
Italy	Developed	Developed	Emerging	Developed	Mature
Mexico	Developed	Emerging	Emerging	Developed	Developed
Moldova	Developed	Developed	Mature	Developed	Mature
Morocco	Developed	Emerging	Emerging	Emerging	Developed
Philippines	Mature	Mature	Mature	Developed	Mature
South Africa	Mature	Developed	Developed	Developed	Mature
South Korea	Mature	Developed	Mature	Developed	Mature
Sweden	Developed	Mature	Developed	Developed	Mature
Turkey	Mature	Developed	Emerging	Developed	Developed

The way forward

The MGI highlights the importance of good data and the development of insights on what “good migration governance” looks like

- **The nations with the most effective migration governance have proactive “lead” agencies, forge collaboration between departments and successfully connect migration to wider economic objectives.**
 - For migrant-sending countries, policies include diaspora investment programmes and “circular” migration incentives. For migrant-receiving countries, comprehensive skills audits ensure migration fills key gaps in the labour market.
- **Transparency is essential to good migration governance.**
 - This relates to having clear information for immigrants about laws and regulations, releasing data on sensitive information such as migrant deaths and human trafficking, and sharing information between stakeholders.
- **More regional collaboration and greater insights on institutional effectiveness are needed to design better migration policies.**
 - Migration is inherently cross-border; more work on migrant rights, humanitarian issues, etc.
 - As more countries become part of the MGI, greater cross-country comparison and contextual nuance will emerge.



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