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Enhancing Labour Migration data for strong Labour Migration governance and integration in Africa

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Introduction

- Reliable labour migration data – critical for developing and implementing evidence based, effective and responsive labour migration policies.
- Important to collect, analyse and disseminate reliable, accurate and timely labour migration data
- Essential for securing the rights migrant workers and their families
- Stimulates the development potential and benefits of migration for both countries of origin and destination



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Policies

- AU Agenda 2063
- New Migration Policy Framework for Africa (2018-2030)
- Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and Right of Establishment
- Ouagadougou Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment Promotion and Poverty Alleviation(Ouaga+10).
- SDG Agenda 2030
- Global Compact for Migration (GCM)



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Key trends – Labour migration in Africa

- 26.3 million international migrants in Africa, 2019, 53% increase from 2010(17.2 million)
- 20.2 million working-age international migrants in Africa
- 14.5 million international migrant workers in 2019, with 6.7 million young international migrant workers
- US\$86.4 billion remittances



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Collection of labour migration data collection for policy development

Required type of Data	Policy areas in country of origin	Policy areas in country of Destination	Policy areas in both CoO and CoD
Disaggregated data : Age, gender, ethnicity, language, migratory status and literacy of migrants	<p>Gender-appropriate recruitment and employment policies</p> <p>More targeted information campaigns to reach potential migrants</p>	<p>Gender-sensitive policies related to working and living conditions.</p> <p>Provision of resources to develop services and materials in major languages</p>	
Education, skills, competency in technology, socio-economic sectors, and occupation	<p>Diversity and gender sensitive policies to promote appropriate vocational skills training</p>	<p>Develop appropriate occupational skills training utilizing sectoral approach</p>	<p>Skills training, accreditation, and mutual recognition agreements</p>



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Collection of labour migration data collection for policy development

Required type of Data	Policy areas in country of origin	Policy areas in country of Destination	Policy areas in both CoO and CoD
Year of movement, reason, motivation migration and status in employment	Addressing negative drivers of migration Forecasting migration trends	Develop policies relating to migrant's length of stay, work permits, residency rights Eligibility for social security benefits	Development of MOUs on labour migration
Migration corridors (Origin to Destination)	Develop or conduct appropriate pre-departure trainings	Develop or conduct appropriate post-arrival trainings. Integration and social cohesion policies Proper planning for essential services (health, education, etc.)	Portable social security mechanisms for transfer of social security benefits Development of bilateral/cross-border committees



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Main sources of Labour migration data

- Population Census
- Labor force and household surveys
- Administrative data
- Population registers



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Challenges

- Difficult to compare labour migration data due to:
 - Usage of different definitions, concepts;
 - Data collection is done over different time periods (e.g., monthly, annual, quarterly, 10-yearly);
 - Collection of different levels of data
- Data sharing and accessibility.
- Migration through irregular channels
- Reasons for migration change over time
- Private recruitment agencies/enterprises have their own interests
- Weak/no coordination mechanisms amongst producers/users of labour migration data



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Migrant characteristics required for policy development

All information needs to be disaggregated by gender, age, work sector, language, and migration status.

- Demographic and socio-economic characteristics
- share of labour migrants in the total work force.
- economic sectors, occupations, and skills.
- status in employment, migration status (documented/undocumented)
- working conditions (working hours, wages, resting period, and other contractual conditions etc.
- social security coverage.
- length of stay.
- emerging changes in existing and new migration corridors.
- drivers of labour migration.
- remittances.
- contribution to/impact of labour migration on CoO and CoD (labour markets, share of GDP, job creation, poverty reduction, human development, etc.)



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Recommendations

- Adoption of standardized definitions, concepts and methodologies on labour migration statistics
- Enhance capacity building support to stakeholders on how to collect, analyze, and disseminate labour migration data according to international standards.
- Improved coordination and cooperation
- Enhancing accessibility and dissemination of LM data
- Mainstreaming labour migration- inclusion of labour migration modules/questions in local statistical and data systems including censuses, household surveys, and labour force surveys
- Ethical data collection – ICLS guidelines, protection, privacy



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Recommendations

- Explore innovative ways to collect data on irregular migrants
- Coordinate with countries of destination to collect data on nationals working abroad
- Big data
- Establishment of a continental labour migration data base
- Establishment of well-functioning Labour market Information Systems
- Conduct more research to identify potential sources and new data types for labour migration statistics



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Thank
you

Merci!

