Mainstreaming migration into national development strategies – Moving from talk to action

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What is mainstreaming?

“The process of assessing the implications of migration for any action or goals planned in a development and poverty reduction strategy” (and vice versa) – GMG Handbook

Mainstreaming means bringing systematic attention to migration and development linkages:

- At the policy level
- At the institutional level
- In development partnerships
Mainstreaming at the policy level

Goals:

• Facilitate a comprehensive analysis of the interlinkages between migration and human development at national and local level

• Identify policy objectives for migration and development

• Ensure coherence among relevant policy areas and interventions

• Secure public support
Mainstreaming at the institutional level

Goals:

- Ensure coordination and cooperation between different ministries (whole-of-government approach)
- Engage all relevant levels of governance (local, sub-national, national, regional)
- Facilitate the institutionalization of regular multi-stakeholder consultations, including non-governmental actors
Mainstreaming in development cooperation

Goals:

• Align development assistance with national migration and development priorities
• Secure support for capacity development
• Promote coherence in development assistance strategies
GMG Handbook

- Brings together collective GMG expertise
- Lays out different phases of the development planning process – from situation analysis & stakeholder assessment to final evaluation – and demonstrates how migration can be taken into account at each stage
GMG Handbook

- Provides an overview of the interlinkages between migration and key development sectors, such as health, education, employment, and environment
- Features examples of existing programmes and projects that link migration and development policy goals
- Includes practical tools and resources in the annexes
Operationalizing the Handbook

GMG Working Group on mainstreaming migration into national development strategies

• Since 2010
• Self-selected group of GMG members
• Co-chaired by UNDP & IOM
• Allows to maintain consistent focus on bringing GMG cooperation to bear at country-level
• Serves as steering group for pilot project
Operationalizing the Handbook

Pilot project on mainstreaming migration into national development strategies

- 2 year-project, implemented by UNDP, IOM & GMG partners; funded by SDC
- 2 pillars of intervention:
  - At global level: Consolidation of guidance and support for UNCTs on M&D
  - In 4 pilot countries: Support for the integration of migration in national development strategies and UN planning instruments (UNDAF)
Operationalizing the Handbook

Project objectives:

1. Enhance the capacity of UN country teams to advise and support countries that wish to integrate migration into their national development strategy.
Project objectives:

2. Enable four pilot countries to comprehensively address the interlinkages between migration and development in their national development planning instruments.
3. Create sustainable consultative mechanisms within government and with civil society stakeholders to ensure the implementation, monitoring and continuous adjustment of policies and programmes on M&D.
Operationalizing the Handbook

Strategy:
Establish/strengthen national support structures for the mainstreaming process, including:

- A national focal point within government;
- An expert facilitator;
- A project focal point in the UNCT;
- A steering group;
- An inter-ministerial mechanism;
- A multi-stakeholder consultative mechanism.
Operationalizing the Handbook

Strategy (cont’d):
Support select steps in the mainstreaming process (based on and adjusted to the country-context):

- Assessment of the evidence-base and institutional structure on M&D;
- Formulation and prioritization of policy objectives;
- Action/Programme planning;
- Implementation planning;
- Capacity-development;
- Resource mobilization strategy.
Role of the GMG & UNCTs

- Exploration with governments of demand for support
- Preparation of guidance for UNCTs
- Mobilization of global and local expertise for pilot countries (studies, workshops, trainings)
- Inter-agency coordination at global and country-levels
- Support for national governments
- Support for project activities as requested (e.g. data collection, consultations, workshops etc.)
- Discussion of project lessons learned and follow-up
Outlook

- Make support in 4 pilot countries as effective as possible
- Consider extension of pilot project to other countries
- Develop training and tools package on mainstreaming migration from a gender perspective (UN Women-led)
- Develop expert roster on migration and development
- Develop an online training course based on the Handbook (UNITAR-led)
- Feed lessons-learned from the pilot project into the HLD 2013 and GFMD process