

Roundtable 1
General Rapporteur's Report¹
Mr Easton Williams, Jamaica

This report from Roundtable 1 on *Integrating migration in global, regional and national development agendas*, captures the discussions from two roundtable sessions. The first had to do with *mainstreaming and coherence in migration and development policies*. The second had to do with the *inclusion of migration in the post-2015 development agenda*.

These are closely linked as you will see.

Starting with mainstreaming and coherence, Roundtable session 1.1, the discussion set out with clarifying the topic, as follows:

Policies related to migration and development, across various policy domains, are coherent to the extent that they:

- *pursue synergies to advance shared objectives and actively seek to minimise or eliminate negative side effects of policies; and*
- *prevent policies from detracting from one another or from the achievement of agreed-upon development goals.*

From the experiences shared of mainstreaming a number of aspects were addressed:

1. The level of institutionalization differs– be it commissions in charge of migration issues, a line ministries etc. The most important feature for all is the need for a centralised responsibility and in the meantime a de-centralised understanding. i.e. a common understanding, among partners involved.
2. Prioritizing is key to success in policy and institutional coherence and these need to be clear and acceptable to all partners involved. Interests and priorities can vary to a large degree – and thus diverging objectives also need to be made explicit.
3. There was a strong consensus about the significance of bringing migration into national development planning and the importance of having the right tools for this, such as migration profiles, checklists and other tools
4. We set out with ambitions to also discuss factoring migration into sectoral planning, but this issue was not adequately dealt with and was thus identified as one that needed to be explored further in prioritized sectors.
5. Monitoring and measuring the impact of mainstreaming and policy coherence was also raised as a challenge, and an important subject for future discussions,

¹ This is a preliminary report from the general rapporteur of Roundtable 1. The final report from the Roundtable will be provided in the Chair's Report.

research and development of tools. It was suggested that the Knowledge Partnership, KNOMAD, could play role in this respect. In particular the effort to develop a standard set of indicators

Recommendations

In general the discussions in the meeting lent support to the recommendations of the background paper, including:

1. Promoting the assessment, and mainstreaming of migration into national development planning and vice-versa
2. Encouraging peer-to-peer learning as well as support from international organizations in analysis, implementation and policy dialogue;
3. Promote synergies at the sub-national, national, regional and international levels as well as cooperation between countries of origin and destination;
4. Promote enhanced coordination and cooperation within/between the UN and IOM, in the realm of mainstreaming migration in development planning at the country and international level.
5. Integrating migration in the post-2015 development agenda and explore how this inclusion subsequently can be mainstreamed into development planning;

The last recommendation brings me to the **roundtable session 1.2 on including migration in the post-2015 development agenda**.

During the meeting we were reminded of the processes, leading up to where we are now, from the Rio+20 Outcome Document, to the current Open Working Group deliberations on the Sustainable Development Goals.

In short, following the Declaration from the High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development there is a very strong consensus that migration must be included in the post-2015 development agenda. The question was rather *how* migration should be included in the 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.
2. There is consensus that migrants and migration should be recognized as enablers of development and should be included as such.

Recommendations

Recommendations were to ensure that migrants and migration is recognized as a cross-cutting enabler for sustainable development and that their positive contributions to societies of origin, transit and destination, are acknowledged and enhanced.

In concrete terms, this means migrants and migration related aspects should be: included in the narrative of the agenda; clustered and included within a Means of Implementation/Global Partnerships focus area; included as targets under the following SDGs: Poverty Eradication; Education; Health and population dynamics; Economic growth and decent work for all; Promoting equality; and that targets and indicators are disaggregated to account for development outcomes of migrants and their families. **In short, the recommendations in the background paper were endorsed.**

A number of targets were suggested, including, but not limited to the following areas:

- Protecting migrants' rights and preventing labour exploitation, discrimination and xenophobia
- Reducing the costs of recruitment and remittances' and enhancing financial inclusion of migrants.
- Enhancing access to, and portability of, social security benefits
- Facilitating mobility and the portability of skills, e.g. through bilateral and multilateral agreements.

There was a strong call to refer to the papers' annexes as well as the Recommendations from the Dhaka Global Experts Meeting on Migration in the post-2015 development agenda, for the concrete suggestions of how such migrant and migration targets and indicators could be formed.

Strategies

As a strategy to take the work forward, there was a consensus to work in a partnership and collaboration, including with civil society, for a unified approach that is ambitious, balanced and realistic. To focus on migration SMART targets and to plan for the implementation at the country-level.

The meeting called on the Chair to formally submit the outcomes of this roundtable discussion to the UN Secretary-General, the Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. This would enhance the chances of the outcome to be reflected in the OWG's final report as well as the upcoming synthesis report from

the UN Secretary General. In conclusion, Turkey expressed its commitment to sustain the momentum.

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