# Discussion brief by IOM: GFMD Thematic meeting on the post-2015 Development Agenda – session 2: "Facilitating Well-Managed Migration"

**Introduction**

Human mobility has become an essential driver of and factor in sustainable development. If the post-2015 UN Development Agenda can set clear targets and thus mobilize global action, migration will tangibly enhance the development outcomes of migration for migrants, their families, countries of origin and destination.

Realizing this potential will require tools to measure progress toward the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) framework. The SDG framework will include the SDG, their targets, and indicators that will be measured regularly (ideally every year). States and International Organizations and others will use these indicators and the pace of progress toward the SDG that they demonstrate, as a tool for programming and resource allocation.  Work on SDGs and indicators will intensify over the next several months, so participants in the post-2015 discussions will need to consider how to measure targets with no clear quantifiable measure, for example the SDG 10.7 target of well-managed migration.

**Well governed migration**

Participants at the GFMD Thematic meeting's session on "Facilitating Well-Managed Migration" on February 5 will be looking at examples of good migration programmes and practices.  Approaches tend to vary significantly, based on country interests and context.  Some countries of destination are good at managing the perceptions of migrants and supporting positive in-migrant programmes (Canada, Sweden).  Some countries have become quite systematic in linking migration and development (Moldova, Jamaica) and others manage out-migration and support their diaspora quite carefully (Philippines).  Others have made or are making efforts to develop comprehensive migration policies (Morocco, Costa Rica).  Some states have proven themselves resilient and responsive in the face of mass movements resulting from crises (Turkey, Jordan).  Many countries participate in global governance structures, including the GFMD, working with international organizations like IOM or through regional consultative processes.

There is significant material to help states develop and implement their migration schemes, including the body of international migration law; resolutions from UNGA's second and third committees; the 2006 and 2013 High Level Dialogues; and yearly GFMD meetings.  These contribute to a common understanding of migration governance and the key elements for states to consider in ensuring migration can benefit migrants and states of origin, transit and destination.

That said, as noted at the High Level Dialogue in 2013, migration is a complex and cross-cutting issue that should be addressed in a "coherent, comprehensive and balanced manner".  There is no single document setting out how migration should be governed, or encompassing in a coherent way all of the diverse issues relevant for migration governance, including activities related to economic development and prosperity, humanitarian action, evidence-based policy making, human rights standards and implementation of law. This then poses a challenge for determining common indicators of success for the P2015 SDGs that could be used for countries with diverse interests and perspectives.

**Towards a Migration Governance Framework**

IOM's Director General reported to its Council in November, 2014, that IOM is developing a Migration Governance Framework.  The Framework seeks to define a coherent, comprehensive and balanced set of principles which, if fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane and orderly and benefits migrants and society.  One of IOM's primary purposes in creating the Framework is to enable it to respond to frequent requests for advice to states on the principles necessary for well-run migration systems, and to help them measure improvements in migration governance: the Framework will therefore include development of "indicators of success".  The Framework will be discussed in IOM governing bodies in 2015.

The approach of the Migration Governance Framework is consistent with the approach states have adopted in drafting the post2015 agenda.  Key elements of the Framework include the need to fulfill human rights; ensuring coherence in national policies dealing with migration, mobility, labour, economic development and growth; collecting and using evidence to make migration policy; and, advancing the socio-economic well-being of migrants and society through a variety of labour migration approaches, lower cost channels for remittances, strong integration and social cohesion programmes, and access to education and health care.

In drafting the Framework and in order to develop the indicators of success, IOM will build on its experience dealing with a vast range of migration related issues, including managing the mobility dimensions of crises,  offering innovative approaches such as the IRIS programme, and helping states link migration and development policy.

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IRIS: *The International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) is an international voluntary "ethical recruitment" framework, led by IOM.  It provides a platform for addressing unfair recruitment, including through public-private alliances of like-minded governments, employers, recruiters and other partners committed to ethical recruitment.*

*IRIS includes a voluntary accreditation framework so that its members can be recognized as bona fide, fair recruiters and can distinguish themselves from unscrupulous intermediaries. Accreditation is based on adherence to common principles for ethical recruitment and a code of conduct which includes: no fee charging to job seekers; no retention of workers' passports or identity documents; and, a requirement for transparency in labour supply chain.*

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IOM also contributes to the global understanding of migration and migratory patterns.  Recent high profile examples include the publication "Fatal Journeys: Tracking Lives Lost during Migration", and pioneering analysis on the well-being of migrants using private sector data from the Gallup World Poll issued in the form of the World Migration Report 2013, but which can provide key information on an annual basis and for most countries in the world. IOM offices are leading projects to map ASEAN labour migration policies, to understand migration policy developments over the last 20 years, and to gather

data on integration policies in Europe. This data and analysis will be important for establishing and using indicators of success.

"Fatal journeys" – *In September 2014 IOM published the first global estimates of migrant border-related deaths in its report, Fatal Journeys: Tracking Lives Lost during Migration. The report indicates an unacceptable loss of at least 40,000 migrants since the year 2000. In 2014 alone, numbers jumped to more than 5,000 deaths, with two thirds of these occurring in the Mediterranean as migrants flee conflict and poverty in Africa and the Middle East. Regional examinations presented by key experts highlight the complexities of tracking migrant fatalities, but also the necessity of doing so. IOM continues to track migrant deaths around the world and to work with partners to reduce loss of life at sea, as well as to improve systems of identification of deceased migrants and tracing of family members so families are not left without knowing the fate of their loved ones.*

**Monitoring progress on the SDGs**

At the same time that IOM is working on the Migration Governance Framework, participants in the post-2015 agenda discussions are determining SDGs related to migration, their targets and indicators. One of these, target 10.7 includes two parts: (i) a call for facilitating orderly, safe and regular and responsible migration and (ii) doing this through well-managed migration policy. Decisions on what more precisely should be monitored would help states track movement towards (or away from) reaching target 10.7; therefore, it will be necessary to measure the extent to which well-managed migration policy has been put in place, for which there is no clear existing indicator.

For the purpose of post-2015 monitoring, IOM suggests that the following aspects of migration governance could be examined: human rights and protection; human mobility; socio- economic outcomes; management of mobility dimensions of crisis; and, partnerships.

In order to capture over-all development of key areas of migration governance, IOM suggests developing a composite index on human mobility governance. This would be similar to several other cases of monitoring complex issues, such as Disaster risk reduction, Multidimensional poverty, Early child development, Ocean health etc.

**Conclusion – GFMD's role in follow-up and review of post-2015 agenda**

The UN Statistical Commission will formally endorse the list of indicators for the p2015 monitoring framework in March 2016; however, suggestions on indicators will figure as essential background to discussions on the p2015 Goal/Target framework in the spring of 2015. GFMD could therefore play a unique role in supporting the post-2015 discussions by giving its view on migration related indicators.