

UN EXPERT GROUP ON MIGRATION STATISTICS**TASK FORCE FIVE****GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON MIGRATION STATISTICS****Terms of Reference****Background**

For many years, the UN General Assembly has called for accurate, timely and disaggregated data as well as quality statistics on international migration. Global initiatives such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/70/1), the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (A/71/1), the Global Compact on Refugees (A/73/12) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (A/73/195) all point to the need to strengthen national capacities to collect and use migration statistics and data to develop evidence-based migration policies and to integrate migration into national development planning.

In particular, Objective 1 of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration outlines key actions, for countries, regional organizations and the international community, to collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies. Objective 1 calls on the United Nations Statistical Commission to (a) continue its work on developing and harmonizing methodologies for data collection, for strengthening analysis and dissemination of migration-related data and indicators, and (b) to review regularly a global programme to build and enhance national capacities in data collection, analysis and dissemination. The global programme shall encourage collaboration and coordination between relevant stakeholders at all levels, in providing training, financial and technical support, as well as leveraging traditional and innovative data sources.

Furthermore, the UN Statistical Commission at the 50th session (2019) in its decision 50/117 on international migration statistics (E/CN.3/2019/34) requested the development by the UN Statistics Division and the Expert Group on Migration Statistics of a global programme to support national capacity development efforts, including estimates of resources needed for its implementation, and encouraged Member States and the donor community to provide adequate resources for its funding.

Subsequently, the UN Statistical Commission at its 52nd session (2021) in its decision 52/109 endorsed the revised conceptual framework and related statistical concepts and definitions on international migration and mobility proposed by the Statistics Division and the Expert Group. Most recently, the UN Statistical Commission at its 54th session (2023) in its decision 54/104 endorsed the set of core and additional indicators on international migration and temporary mobility as an integral part of the upcoming revision of the Recommendations on Statistics for International Migration and requested the finalization of the Recommendations and their submission to the Commission in 2025.

Objectives

The objective of the Task Force 5 (TF5) is to propose a Global Capacity-Building Programme on Migration Statistics which would guide international statistical community in providing technical assistance, based on the updated UN Recommendations on international migration and mobility statistics, for strengthening the capacity of producers of migration statistics, including the national statistical offices (NSOs), line institutes within the national statistical systems, as well as users and other key stakeholders. The Global Programme would suggest with priority the domains and types of capacity development activities needed in the area of migration statistics.

Recognizing the importance of co-ordination or collaborative arrangements among relevant international and regional entities in rolling out the capacity development programmes for countries or regions, the Programme would also recommend possible modalities through which activities could be extended effectively.

It is imperative for countries to strengthen their technical and methodological capacities, so that the data produced meet the international standards set forth by the Statistical Commission. Hence, the Programme would suggest how the outputs delivered by the other Task Forces¹, including the revised conceptual framework on international migration and mobility, the set of core indicators on international migration and temporary mobility and revised Recommendations on Statistics for International Migration, could be effectively introduced through proposed capacity building activities.

In designing the Global Programme, TF5 would be mindful of the different levels of statistical capacities by country and region, and different international migration and mobility profiles, hence different needs for capacity development building.

Task Force Membership

The Task Force will be led by co-Chairs with a membership that balances representatives from both receiving and sending countries, experts, international, regional and sub-regional organizations, as well as representatives from other communities including the private sector, academia and the donor community. Task Force members are asked to contribute actively to the work of the Task Force.

Main Duties

For achieving the above mentioned objectives, TF5 will concentrate on the following key areas of actions:

¹ **Task Forces of the Expert Group on Migration Statistics;**

Task Force 1: Data and Indicators Set on International Migration

Task Force 2: Key Concepts and Definitions related to International Migration

Task Force 3: Data Integration for Disaggregated Statistics on International Migration

Task Force 4: Data Sources for International Migration Statistics and Operationalisation of Revised Conceptual Framework

Task Force 5: Global Programme on Migration Statistics

1. Map capacity development programmes on international migration statistics and identification of main elements of programmes

The Task force will gather information from international and regional bodies and selected countries on existing training and capacity building programmes on migration statistics conducted in the recent years. Based on the information collected, the Task Force will examine the scope, targeted audience and methods used, in light of identified demands and needs for capacity building in migration statistics. Through these exercises, the Task Force may identify good practices, gaps and opportunities for synergies that the Global Programme can make reference.

2. Compile examples on resources needed for running capacity development activities to improve migration statistics

In order to meet the specific expectation by the Statistical Commission of estimating the resources needed for implementing capacity building activities, the Task Force will review the existing financial support mechanisms for capacity building activities, and collect examples of allocated costs from relevant international and regional organizations which had already conducted statistical capacity building activities in the area of migration statistics. This will be done in consultation with EG members and other EGs. The Task Force may also discuss strategies to fundraise and explore from where financial support might be sought.

3. Design a Global Programme on Migration Statistics

Drawing from the above mentioned reviews and analyses, the Task Force will develop an outline and draft a report of Global Programme on Migration Statistics. The programme report will propose types of activities and programmes to be undertaken. Efforts will be made to identify innovative ways to empower producers of migration statistics, including NSOs and line ministries, as well as users and other key stakeholders. The report will also suggest modalities and coordination mechanism under which relevant international and regional entities can be effectively involved in enhancing the statistical capacities of countries. It will include some examples of cost estimates to implement capacity building activities.

Work Programme

	Milestones and deliverables
June 2023	Approval of revised ToR of TF5 by Expert Group
June-Oct 2023	Assessment of existing capacity development activities/programmes for migration statistics offered by various international and regional organizations.

June-Oct 2023	Study on existing financial support mechanisms for statistical activities. Compile examples on financial resources mobilized for conducting training activities regarding migration statistics.
August-September 2023	Preparation of an outline of the report on Global Programme on Migration Statistics,
September 2023	Approval of the outline by the Expert Group
October –December 2023	Draft a report on the Global Programme on Migration Statistics
1 st Q 2024	Presentation of the preliminary report on Global Programme for review at the Meeting of Experts and receive comments and suggestions
April-August 2024	Revision of the report on Global Programme
October 2024	Submission of the final report to the Expert Group/UNSD
March 2025	Consideration at the 56 th Statistical Commission for adoption