

ACTIVITIES OF UNITAR ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The work of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in the field of international migration is designed to support global processes of dialogue and sharing of ideas and practices initiated with the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and now continued through the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). The Institute's migration-related training is an example of inter-agency cooperation on matters of critical relevance to Member States. It falls within the broader mandate of UNITAR to strengthen the United Nations system through appropriate training on social and economic

between international migration and development. A solid evidence base is required for advising Governments on the effects and implications of their policy choices. Issues to be considered under the umbrella of international migration and development include: the internal-international migration nexus; skills management; facilitation of remittances; the role of transnational communities, and the mainstreaming of migration into other policy areas.

Both donors and developing countries are starting to see migration as an integral part of development planning. Co-development policies and the mainstreaming of migration into national poverty reduction strategies are evidence of this trend. In many industrialized countries, migration is being discussed as a “remedy” to population ageing and resulting labour shortages. However, it has been stipulated time and again that immigration alone cannot reverse this trend.

The ability of migrants and transnational communities to contribute to the development of their countries of origin is largely a function of their situation and opportunities in the host country. New