

UN/POP/MIG-9CM/2011/04
07 March 2011

**NINTH COORDINATION MEETING ON
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**
Population Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations Secretariat
New York, 17-18 February 2011

**STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS IN SUPPORTING THE RECOVERY AND
RESILIENCE OF THE ECONOMY**

This paper is providing an overview of the activities the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in migration statistics. It highlig

- Definition and availability of data on short-term migration flows

The definition of migration directly affects the size of the estimate produced. Accordingly, a broader definition of migration would allow for covering more moves.

The Task Force on the Analysis of International Migration Estimates Using Different Length of Stay Definitions was set up in 2008 to tackle these issues. It aims at (a) assessing the impact on international migration estimates derived from the use of different duration thresholds to define usual residence, (b) assessing the availability of data on short-term migration, (c) exploring their accuracy and (d) considering alternative definitions of short-term migration. The Task Force plans to conclude its work in 2011.

3. Improving migration and migrant data using household surveys and other sources

The Task Force on Improving Migration and Migrant Data Using Household Surveys and Other Sources, denoted as Suitland Working Group, was established in 2009. It will provide practical guidance on how to best use household surveys to measure levels and outcomes of international migration and the characteristics of migrant populations.

Its outputs will include tools and materials that will facilitate production and dissemination of high-quality and comparable statistics on migration and migrants, using data from household surveys in combination with other sources. The outputs target national statistical agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and universities in both developed and developing countries.

4. Measurement of socio-economic conditions of migrants

The 2010 joint UNECE-Eurostat work session on migration statistics concluded that additional research is needed to improve the measurement of the different dimensions of socio-economic conditions of migrants, and to improve the availability, quality and comparability of data in this field.

The Task Force on Measurement of the Socio-economic Conditions of Migrants was recently established to identify and develop indicators applicable to different contexts and population groups. The Task Force will focus on (a) a study of socio-economic dimensions that are most relevant to a better understanding of the situation of different migrant groups, including second-generation migrants, and (b) the review of definitions and practices adopted by countries for the measurement of the relevant migrant groups. Its main output will be the guidelines to countries intending to produce statistics on socio-economic conditions of migrants using existing sources or ad hoc surveys. The Task Force is coordinated with the Eurostat programme for the development of European statistics on migration.

5. Inventory of definitions of migrant stocks and flows

In April 2008, a comprehensive questionnaire was sent out to collect information on definitions and sources used in countries to collect information on stocks and flows of migrants. The analysis of the results of the questionnaire was presented at the 2010 work sessionⁱⁱⁱ.

C.

and dissemination of migration statistics. The involvement of other international agencies and programmes brings synergies and helps identify gaps and prevent duplication. These partner agencies include the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Population Division, the International Organization for Migration, the International Labour Office, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the World Bank and the United Kingdom Department for International Development.

D. E D.