



Promoting Best Practice to Enhance Labour Market Information Systems

IOM Tunisia Hosts International Seminar on Labour Migration Data

On **21 and 22 November 2012**, IOM Tunisia organized a 2-day international workshop - funded by the European Union (EU) - on the impact of projects designed to integrate labour migration data into labour market information systems.

This international workshop represents the culmination of a series of 3 international events, as well as national events and studies in six countries; the objectives were *“to create partnerships for the sharing of experiences and the exchange of best practices among target countries and with interested EU Member States”*. It gathered participants involved in labour migration and labour market data issues from 11 different countries from governmental institutions, the private sector and academia.

The event is part of an EU-funded, IOM-implemented project: *“Best Practices in Collecting and Sharing Labour Migration Data for the Improvement of Labour Market Information Systems – LMIS,”* managed by the IOM Regional Office for Europe in Brussels. It started in January 2010 and will end in January 2013.

The project, which focuses on enhancing the labour migration component in labour market information



systems, is being implemented in six countries: Colombia, Costa Rica, Ghana, Nicaragua, Senegal and Tunisia.

This workshop presented conclusions from the main findings identified throughout the implementation of the LMIS project from 2010 until now, and aims to ensure the project’s sustainability by setting out follow-up actions at the national and regional levels.

Participants’ interventions underlined an increasing interest from decision-makers in labour migration and LMIS. They stressed the need for an improvement in national indicators and information systems, which allow for the development of more relevant and effective national strategies. Despite

the ongoing implementation of concrete activities, it was still necessary to match decision-makers’ interests in LMIS objectives with material and financial means. The need to improve communication channels and the usability of data by decision makers in the policy and programming arena was emphasized by participants.

The main achievement of the international workshop has been the identification of future challenges and next steps to guarantee the sustainability of the project, i.e. the need for established national focal points and a well-defined repository of information, as well as an inclusive development strategy which includes labour migration data.

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