Key Points of Discussion

- Q1: Effective management starts with data collection : what data can be collected and shared?
- Q2: How can producers and users be connected and communicate?
- Q3: How can data be found and how can it be accepted? The issue of standardization
- Q4: Regional cooperation
- Strategies need to be adjusted to institutional and geographic realities, resources a priorities

Key Data Elements that are needed to address the issue

- 1. Persons arriving
- 2. Persons leaving
- 3. Persons returning
- 4. Stock of persons present
- 5. Stock of persons abroad
- Need of information that can be used to describe their economic activities, qualifications and conditions of work

Principal data collection agencies concerned (domestic or otherwise)

- Ministries/agencies responsible for controlling foreigners and their economic activities, both national and foreign.
- Ministries/agencies responsible for supporting/protecting nationals residing abroad for work, both national and foreign
- National statistical institutes conducting surveys and censuses of establishments and households, both national and foreign.

Effective approaches

- Must be seen in the context of circumstances and priorities
- On flows: border registrations and travel surveys, arrival and departure passenger cards, work permits, visa applications and re-newals
- On stocks: population censuses, household surveys, registers of foreigners and residents, regularization drives

Major challenges

- Assessing the quality of data and identifying ways to improve it, given the available resources and the main objectives that the registrations are designed to serve
- Identify the groups that are relevant and important for various economic and social policies
- Identifying possible sources, national and foreign
- Registration of the characteristics on economic activities and other aspects that are important for description and analysis
- Mobilizing an analytical capacity that can make use of the information available to answer important questions, demand improvements to data and convincing politicians and officials that they will support better policies and better implementation of policies.