International Migration and Development Initiative (IMDI)

Labour Mobility for Development
Why IMDI?

- Important year for migration
  - High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD)
  - Global Migration Group (GMG)
  - Business Advisory Board (BAB)
IMDI Goals

1. Facilitate the matching of labour demand and supply

2. Enhance the positive impact of migration on development

3. Ensure safer, more humane and orderly labour movements
IMDI in brief

- Shared expertise
- Common tools and resources
- Joint, more sustainable programmes
IMDI in brief

- Voluntary, open alliance of migration & development stakeholders and actors

- Practical framework for working together on labour migration & development
Genesis of IMDI: two sources

1. IOM’s own operational experience

• New type of project needed
  - More strategic
  - More sustainable
  - More cross-cutting: demographics, development, trade, human rights

• One-angle approach: considerable limitations
Genesis of IMDI: two sources

2. Initiative of the International Community

- 2003: GCIM to establish framework for coherent, comprehensive and global response to international migration issues

- October 2005 Final Report – Work on means to improve inter-agency cooperation - GMG

- Request from GCIM Commissioners to IOM & WB
  - Work on means to improve inter-agency cooperation
  - Address growing gap between labour supply and demand & human resource development issues from a global perspective
  - IOM initiated consultations with World Bank in early 2006
  - Expanded to include all GMG agencies by mid-2006
The Migration Issue: A Fragmented View

Each entity addressing solely its own field of expertise/mandate

IMDI

Migration

Development

Human Rights

Labour Migration

Demographics

Social Integration

Trade
The Migration Issue: A Fragmented View

IMDI main contributions:

Strengthen link between labour migration and development

Bring in the private sector
IMDI: a process

• IMDI: broad-scope project
  - Broad alliance of resources & capacities
  - Reflects the complexities of migration

• IMDI work in progress
  - Clear objectives and desired outcomes
  - Inclusive process needs to identify operational modalities
IMDI: immediate & strategic needs

Core objectives & activities

• International Scope
• Jointly defined by IMDI members

Ad-hoc projects

• Country Specific
• Submitted by Gov. IOs, NGOs or other parties

Voluntary contributions by Governments and private sector
IMDI: common resources - types

- Databases on labour migration trends
- Collection of policy & programmes examples
- Indicators of Impact of Migration on Development
- Assessment tools & mechanisms
- Regional & national migration legislation

Common resources
IMDI: common resources - sources

Much richer, easier to access resources & tools

No new institution
IMDI: flexible cooperation structure

Actors coming together in variable geometries to complete a specific task
IMDI in practice: a few examples

1. Immigration legislation & procedures

- Provide information on legislation & procedures applying to labour mobility
  - National, bilateral, regional

- Strengthen the capacity of governments to streamline their legislation & procedures
IMDI in practice: a few examples

2 Capacity building for human resource development & foreign employment

Harness positive & counter negative effects of migration

• Gather information on foreign labour markets of interest to their nationals

• Promote their labour force abroad

• Collect statistics on nationals working abroad: by skills, gender, status in the home country, and occupation in the receiving country

• Support networking between public/private employment & recruitment agencies

• Facilitate mutual recognition of qualifications agreements

• Identify measures for the protection of the rights of migrants
IMDI in practice: a few examples

3 Diaspora Mobilization

- Skills mapping of populations abroad
- Identify key development needs/projects/areas in home countries
- Incentives for encouraging diasporas’ contributions
- Government tools to work with diasporas: consular services, communication tools
- Partnerships between home and host countries
- Research on the potential contributions of diasporas to development and poverty reduction
IMDI in practice: a few examples

Direct services to governments for the preparation of workers for employment abroad

- Document preparation
- Security checks
- Skills/qualification checks: diploma, language & professional abilities
- Language training
- Cultural orientation: familiarizing with work, educational & social environment
- Medical examinations
- Travel loans
IMDI benefits

- Better-defined, common objectives

- Quicker, wider consultation and sharing of information amongst a broader, more representative circle of stakeholders and actors

- More efficient, needs- and capacity-based co-operation

- One-stop shop for labour migration & development expertise, capacity building & operational resources

- Broader funding base
IMDI benefits

Better documented, more responsive labour migration & development policy

More efficient, sustainable response mechanisms & programmes
IMDI: a momentous tool

- Well grounded in IOM Constitution and expertise
- Reflects broader and more diverse needs and priorities of IOM’s growing and more universal membership
- Addresses priority issues of the international community in the migration area
IMDI place in current institutional architecture

- IMDI: first technical assistance and capacity building activity taken up collectively by several GMG members

- Brings in non-governmental stakeholders such as the private sector

- IMDI will be an action-oriented tool that could be used by the Global Forum
  - Not a substitute or competitor to the Forum

- IMDI a means by which the international community can make concrete progress on labour migration and development
IMDI: next steps

- Inter-agency work moving forward constructively
- Further engage private sector
  - BAB has provided its encouragement and support
- Government active engagement needed