Armenia, Migration & the Sustainable Development Goals

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Migration & SDGs: Implications

Inclusion of migration in SDG targets paves the way for more effective migration management worldwide. It enables better international and national migration policies, processes and systems to be formulated that will benefit countries of origin, transit and destination.

Armenia in particular stands to gain a lot from the inclusion of migration in the SDGs. The SDG targets cover many issues relating to migration that are of interest to Armenia specifically. These include but are not limited to:

- Increasing the effectiveness of remittances
- Strengthening anti-trafficking efforts, especially against women and children
- Protecting migrant rights and ensuring safe migration
- Boosting regional and international cooperation on migration
- Improving the capturing, monitoring, analysis and sharing of migration data
SDG Localisation Approach and Process in Armenia
The SDGs are global goals, but to be successful they need to be implemented at the national and local level. To make the SDGs relevant for local and regional governments, a localisation/nationalisation process must take place.

Countries combine the SDG framework with local development policy to develop local methods to implement the SDGs. SDG plans are nationally owned and sensitive to country contexts, increasing chances of success.

In the context of Armenia and migration, this entails launching a process to develop and align national migration plans and activities to the SDGs.

The localisation process involves a key role for national statistical authorities in developing and maintaining appropriate data systems and processes that feed into SDG implementation and monitoring.

For ArmStat, this involves:

- Developing ways to measure Armenia’s progress towards migration related SDG targets
- Strengthening or building data systems and processes to support this
Localisation Process (1/2)

Key Steps:

- **Identifying national priorities under SDG migration targets.** Prioritising SDG migration targets according to Armenian objectives, and identifying priorities within each target (some targets are multidimensional).

- **Mapping and assessing national migration data.** Mapping existing Armenian migration data to data needs for the SDGs, and conducting a gap analysis.

- **Developing national indicators for SDG migration targets.** Developing indicators that measure Armenian progress towards SDG targets, reflecting national priorities and objectives.

- **Harmonising national and international indicators.** Nationally generated indicators need to be aligned with global standards and guidance on migration & the SDGs, including relevant work by UN’s ECOSOC, IOM, and others.
Localisation Process (2/2)

• Ensuring appropriate migration data systems & processes are in place. To make sure the correct migration data is captured, monitored and analyzed for the chosen indicators, relevant systems and processes will be reviewed and adapted.

Other Components

• Coordinating wide stakeholder input. Broad national stakeholder engagement is important throughout, including horizontally (with civil society) and vertically (with local, other sub-national and national levels of government). These actors’ different perspectives on Armenian migration priorities need to be considered to build a comprehensive and sustainable SDG migration framework for Armenia.

• Knowledge sharing. A strong knowledge-sharing component is key to all SDG migration data work. Methodologies and activities should be as transparent as possible, and best practices and lessons learned need to be publicised following the process. As this is an emerging area of activity around the world, it is important to share Armenian SDG migration data experiences for other countries to learn from.
Once national indicators for the SDGs have been established, Armenia must ensure it is managing migration data effectively, in order to best monitor and evaluate national progress towards these. National Statistical Service will play a key role in this, to ensure effective:

- **Monitoring: Capturing necessary data**
  - Collecting relevant migration data at all levels through appropriate mediums
  - Linking migration data between government levels and agencies as appropriate. Data will need to be harmonised from local to national levels and further, the level of data centralisation will need to be considered, as monitoring some indicators may involve inter-agency data sharing

- **Evaluation: Analysing and linking data to decision making**
  - Using this data to evaluate progress towards migration indicators
  - Creating feedback loop mechanisms for this data to inform migration policy; building sustainable data processes that allow for adaptive management.
SDG Localisation Approach

1. Identify national migration priorities under SDGs
2. Map and assess national migration data
3. Develop national indicators under SDG targets
4. Harmonise indicators with global guidelines
5. Review data systems & processes for indicator monitoring
6. Review data systems & processes for indicator evaluation
7. Adapt data systems & processes for indicator monitoring
8. Adapt data systems & processes for indicator evaluation

National indicators for migration related SDGs finalised

Indicator monitoring & evaluation structures finalised

Stakeholder Engagement

Knowledge Sharing
Release Calendars

Main Statistical Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator of economic activity</th>
<th>Aug 2016 in comparison with same period of last year (%)</th>
<th>in comparison with previous period (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Domestic Product at market prices, mln. drams</td>
<td>1128072.6</td>
<td>101.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volume of gross agriculture output, mln. drams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consumer Price Index, %</td>
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<td>External Trade Turnover, mln. USA dollars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Export, mln. USA dollars</td>
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<td>136.6</td>
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