

Special Advisor on 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development
IOM's International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) workshop on
"Follow-up and review of migration in the SDGS"

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[AS PREPARED]

Talking points:

- The year 2015 provided an unprecedented opportunity for change. At the meetings in Sendai, Addis, New York and Paris, the international community took action to eradicate poverty, build resilient societies, address climate change and put the world on a sustainable development path. These agreements have set a high level of ambition which requires collaboration by all actors and scaled-up efforts in every area.
- The 2030 Agenda is a universal agenda that applies to all countries, regardless of their level of development. It is integrated and indivisible, because people do not live in discrete silos but in a continuum of communities and peoples. It is transformative, because our aim is to put people at the center and leave no one behind.
- Recent global events have raised deep concerns about the heightened risks faced by migrants and refugees. Those who are most vulnerable are often those who are already marginalized – either as refugees, internally displaced persons or migrants, or those who have been left behind in shattered communities without access to their basic needs.

Challenges and Opportunities

- Migrants have an integral role in the new development agenda. The 2030 Agenda for sustainable development is focused on leaving no one behind and on the need to place people at the centre of sustainable development to ensure a life of dignity for all.
- The 2030 Agenda is underpinned by a human rights based approach. Protecting the human rights of all migrants and saving migrant lives are integral to the new agenda.
- The 2030 Agenda presents an opportunity to address the root causes of migration and invest in the medium to long-term measures to tackle them from all aspects – people, planet, prosperity, partnership and peace.
- The agenda has migration-related targets, which include promoting safe, orderly and regular migration and mobility, fighting human trafficking, and facilitating the transfer of remittances.
- Meeting these targets will require enormous efforts. Many difficult challenges will need to be overcome. But the challenges are a flip-side of opportunities. Having set these targets, we can mobilise political will, strengthen institutions, put in place legal measures and increase investments in scaling up the efforts towards achieving them.

- The 2030 Agenda also recognises the positive contributions of migrants and their fundamental role in sustainable development. A well-managed migration can contribute to sustainable development; hence it is important to establish sufficient avenues for safe, orderly and regular migration.
- Anti-migrant sentiments must be eradicated; the positive benefits of migration provides to both countries of origin and destination should be highlighted, as sustainable development can only be achieved with the inclusion of all vulnerable groups.
- The universality of the Agenda underscores the need for countries of origin, transit and destination of migrants to work together closely to find coherent and comprehensive responses to the challenges and opportunities posed by international migration.
- The integrated and indivisible nature of the Agenda means that addressing the SDGs in its totality will be a challenge, but also an opportunity to transform the way we think and operate (having one of the SDGs as the entry point, point of departure, hook for building movements, while keeping the SDGs as a whole).
- For example, migration is intrinsically linked to reducing inequalities among and within States (Goal 10) and promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth for all (Goal 8).
- To ensure that we “leave no one behind,” we need to reach the furthest and the most vulnerable, including those in protracted crises (Goal 16).
- Implementation will need the active involvement of all stakeholders and the mobilization of all resources. All citizens, civil society, responsible businesses, local authorities, sub-national and national governments, parliaments, trade unions, regional organizations and global institutions, and the scientific and academic communities have an essential and leading role to play in the transformation.
- For example, data collection and analysis on migration would require partnerships between governments, the UN system, civil society and various organizations public and private, national, regional and international. Investing in capacity building for data and statistics needs to be part of the development strategy to improve access to quality and timely data that has been disaggregated by age, sex, and income.
- Commend IOM’s role in the efforts which led to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and encourage its continued leadership in the implementation and monitoring of progress.