GRCP 8
Advancing a Common Understanding of Migration Governance Across Regions

5 April 2019, Geneva
INTER-STATE CONSULTATION MECHANISMS ON MIGRATION

ISCMs

1. Main specialized actors on migration at regional & global level
2. Impact migration polices & approaches contribute to migration governance.
3. Important players in international cooperation framework on migration
4. Have established structures, operational modalities and partnership models with many partners.
   
   → opportunities for further development
GRCP 8

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED:

• ISCMs continued relevance in evolving migration governance architecture

• Measuring their impact on migration governance & policies at all levels

• Sustainability

• Synergies & partnerships

Discussion paper + Survey results + GRCP deliberations = ASSESSMENT REPORT
Discussion Paper (i)

ISCMs contribute to migration governance at all levels, e.g. through:

• Providing a forum for dialogue
• Creating networks
• Providing technical support, training and capacity building
• Discussions which may lead to policy coherence and/or the development of laws or agreements
• Pilot projects and regional initiatives
• Preparing a common regional perspective for input into global processes
• Providing a repository for data migration
Discussion Paper (ii)

- Migration governance occurs at national, international (bilateral, regional and inter-regional) and global levels.
- Recently global migration governance has transformed from a number of fragmented initiatives into a coherent framework.
- SDG Target 10.7 provides a globally accepted standard of “orderly, safe, regular and responsible” migration.
- Migration Governance Framework provides more specific guidance in its six themes on how to achieve SDG Target 10.7.
**MiGOF Principles and Objectives**

1. **Adherence** to international standards and fulfillment of migrants’ rights.
2. **Formulates** policy using evidence and “whole-of-government” approach.
3. **Engages** with partners to address migration and related issues.

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1. **Advance** the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society.
2. **Effectively** address the mobility dimensions of crises.
3. **Ensure** that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

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IOM | UN MIGRATION
Discussion Paper (iii)

- How can ISCMs contribution to migration governance be measured
- How to track how ISCM’s work translates into action, i.e. results-based approach
- Can the work of ISCMs be assessed through the agreed global standards for good migration governance, i.e. Target 10.7.? 
- Are the MIGOF themes useful to measure impact of ISCMs on migration governance?
Discussion Paper (iv)

- **Structural features** of an ISCM may assist in the ISCM being able to achieve results, for example national focal points help ensure that global dialogue is followed-up at the national level.

- **Sustainability of ISCMs** is predicated on continued Member State support and continued funding.

- Being able to clearly demonstrate their significance and value is important. That is:
  1) being able to translate dialogue into action
  2) being able to track and measure those contributions
SURVEY of Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration

Preliminary Feedback

GRCP 8 – 5 April 2019, Geneva
Survey responses to-date

Feedback as of cut-off date 25 March 2019 and reflected in Survey Results:

- 18 of 30 ISCMs (60 % of those surveyed)
- 17 of 172 States (10 % of those surveyed)
- 2 of 5 organizations (UNHCR and IOM)
Survey Initial findings

Recurring Thematic Focus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thematic Focus</th>
<th>Number of answers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Migration law/Rights</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration &amp; Development</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration Management</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policies</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asylum</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irregular Migration</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brain Drain</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Migration</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change in Thematic Focus Since Inception

- Yes: 57%
- No: 29%
- No answer: 14%
Initial Findings: contribution to migration governance (1)

- Networking
- Partnerships
- Policy coordination
- Access to more stakeholders
- Technical advice and policy guidance
- Knowledge sharing
- To feed into global initiatives addressing migration
- Capacity building
- Dialogue on new emerging issues
- Participation in projects and programs
Initial Findings: contribution to migration governance (II)

ISCMs Contribution to Migration Governance by Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>No Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interregional</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Most ISCMs do not hold a legal personality

New Member States and Observers have increased over time

Some ISCMs admit international or regional organizations

Most ISCMs seek expanded cooperation with regional/international agencies and bodies related to their geographical area
3) Structure (II)

- Secretariat functions include:

  - Administration and Planning
  - Representation and Advocacy
  - Support and Technical advice
  - Information and Communication
  - Data and Research
Initial Findings: Funding

Funding mechanisms:

- Annual fees by Member States
- Project-specific funding
- In-kind contributions by ISCM Chair-in-Office/Member States/Secretariat
- In-kind contributions by the country hosting ISCM Secretariat
- Donor allocation / grants for targeted projects (Member State/Organization, etc.).

Allocation of funds:

- Common practice: host country is in charge of the ISCM Secretariat premises
- Secretariat staff are paid from operational funds of the ISCMs
- Travels, meetings, etc.

Sustainability:

- Many ISCMs looking for more secure funding
Initial Findings: Partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Type</th>
<th>% of Surveyed ISCMs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional/International</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academia</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Regional Commissions</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social entities and NGOs</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrant diaspora</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private sector</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- % of surveyed ISCMs
Initial Findings: Partnerships (II)

- Most ISCMs have institutional relations with **regional/international organizations**, mostly related to their geographical coverage:
  - The ACP in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States;
  - The EU agencies (EASO, FRONTEX, etc.) the OSCE or the Council of Europe for the European countries;
  - The OAS, SACM and the Puebla Process for the Americas;
  - ECOWAS in Africa, etc.

- Most of the ISCMs cooperate with **UN Regional Commission** and with thematically focused organizations
  - UNHCR, ILO, WHO, UNODC etc.
  - Most of ISCMs consider such cooperation useful for information exchange, knowledge sharing and experts’ contributions

- Some ISCMs work with **social entities** and **international NGOs**

- Cooperation with **universities and/or academic institutions**, looking for programmes/research that fit with the necessities of the ISCM’s working plan or the needs of Member States.

- Cooperation with **private sector**: rare

- Work with **migrant population or diasporas**: rare
Next Steps for the Assessment

1. More survey responses awaited
2. GRCP8 Participants to consider the discussion points throughout proceedings:
   4 SESSIONS + LUNCH
1. GRCP8 Participants to share their views and experiences on the themes in the assessment:
   • Contributions to migration governance
   • Synergies and Partnerships
   • Structures and Sustainability
GRCP 8 sessions, 5 April 2019

OPENING
1. ISCMs: Achievements & lessons learnt
2. ISCMs contribution to migration governance at national, regional & global levels

Working Lunch: Synergies & partnerships 1

3. Structures & Sustainability

4. Synergies & partnerships 2

CLOSING: Reflections and way forward

Issue paper + survey findings + GRCP proceedings = Report