

INTRODUCTION

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is proud to launch “Strengthening data-informed and migrant-centred migration and management frameworks in India.” The 24-month long project’s primary objective is to contribute to improving access to labour migration opportunities for aspiring Indian migrants through strengthened migration management frameworks.

India is an important country in global migration dynamics and trends. As a country of origin, transit and destination, India contributes greatly to international migration and development. The population of the Indian diaspora, which includes Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs), exceeds 32 million.¹ International migration and remittances contribute to 2.83% of India’s GDP (almost three times the Asia Pacific average).² The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the gaps in the available evidence base and the need to innovate and develop upon existing data systems. Furthermore, the crisis has produced a new terrain of shifting global economies and rendered it necessary to strengthen migration management frameworks to improve labour migration opportunities for aspiring Indian migrants. Accurate and harmonized data and innovative research is essential for the development of evidence-based and migrant-centred policies.

Implemented in collaboration with the India Centre for Migration (ICM), the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), and the Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) in Berlin, the project aims to:

Improve migration data collection and management frameworks in India, and;

Foster new initiatives to promote and facilitate labour migration from India to emerging markets in Europe.

KEY DELIVERABLES

Migration Data Needs Assessment

Migration Data Management Strategy

Labour Market Research

Communications Materials

Migration Policy Dialogues

PARTNERS



GMDAC
IOM Global Migration
Data Analysis Centre



IOM
UN MIGRATION



ICM
INDIA CENTRE
FOR MIGRATION





MIGRATION DATA MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

“Migration data” refers to all types of data that support the development of comprehensive, coherent and forward-looking migration policies and programming, as well as those that contribute to informed public discourse on migration. This includes data on different forms of population movement, whether short or long term, forced or voluntary, as well as data concerning characteristics of movement and those on the move, and the reasons for and impacts of migration.³ The availability of timely, accessible, reliable, disaggregated and comparable data is essential to produce informed policies, action and public opinion. Such data plays a crucial role in guiding governments’ decision-making and measuring their progress toward achieving the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In fact, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration highlights the importance of such data by calling for the collection and utilization of “accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies.”

To meet this end, IOM will support the Government of India in developing a comprehensive, gender-sensitive national migration data strategy. Such a strategy is not limited to improving the collection of migration data as an end in and of itself, but aims to have the effect of expanding the scope and potential of analysing and utilizing migration data for good migration governance, effective management and preparedness, and socioeconomic development.

LABOUR MARKET RESEARCH

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unparalleled effect on labour migration and mobility and has caused an unprecedented loss of employment opportunities. In turn, additional research is required to survey new opportunities, establish bilateral agreements, ensure secure socioeconomic prospects for migrant workers, and integrate Indian migrants into emerging labour market pathways in order to support aspiring Indian migrants in utilizing their skills and experiences gainfully.

In conducting research on emerging labour markets, IOM aims to produce actionable insights. By convening multiple key government, public, and private stakeholders and facilitating migration policy dialogues, such as bilateral seminars and sectoral consultations, the project aims to develop an enabling environment for safe, orderly, and regular migration and mobility to emerging labour markets.

SUPPORTED BY



References:

1. Ministry of External Affairs, Population of Overseas Indians (2019) .
2. World Bank Report (2020).
3. IOM MIGRATION DATA STRATEGY: Informing Policy and Action on Migration, Mobility and Displacement (2020-2025).

