

# Preparing evidence-based and comparable Migration Profiles: Contributions from the GMG



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# Presentation outline

## 1. **The Global Migration Group (GMG)**

- ✓ Who we are and what we do

## 2. **International standards for international migration statistics, based on:**

- ✓ 1998 United Nations Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration
- ✓ 2008 United Nations Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Rev 2

## 3. **Five easy steps to improve migration data**

- ✓ Migrants Count (Center for Global Development, 2009)

# **1. The Global Migration Group (GMG)**

# What is the Global Migration Group?

- Created by United Nations Secretary-General in context of the 2006 High Level Dialogue
- 16 members, including the 14 United Nations entities (...), IOM and the World Bank
- Objectives:
  - Apply international instruments and norms on international migration
  - Promote coherent, comprehensive and coordinated approach to international migration

# What can the GMG do?

1. Support the *process* of Migration Profiles at country level, according to our expertise
2. Contribute a common set of indicators on international migration and development
3. Build national capacities to improve migration data collection and analysis
4. Strengthen dialogue between users and producers of migration data

# **2. International Standards for International Migration Statistics**

# Defining international migration

1. **Duration: short-term (3 months to < 1 year) vs. long-term (change of place of residence, > 1 year)**
2. **Causes: voluntary vs. forced**
3. **Reasons: settlement, work, study, family reunification, conflict, disasters, etc.**
4. **Legal status: regular vs. irregular**

# Types of migration data

- **Migrant stocks**

- **Foreign-born. Persons\*** whose country of usual residence is different from their country of birth
- **Foreigners. Persons\*** whose country of usual residence is different from their country of citizenship

- **Migration flows**

- **Inflows. The arrival of persons\*** who are changing their country of residence
- **Outflows. The departure of persons\*** who are changing their country of residence





# International migrant stock

## Criterion

- Country of birth or citizenship

## Sources

- Population censuses, population registers (surveys)

## Advantages

- Global, comparable

## Disadvantages

- Once every 10 years; “life-time” migration (regardless of length of stay in country)

# International migration flows

## Criterion

Change in place of residence

## Sources

Administrative records (residence permits, exit permits, population registers, border statistics) (surveys, census - country of residence 1 or 5 yr. ago)

## Advantages

Annual data, recent migrations

## Disadvantages

Comparability, coverage (< 40 countries)

# Recommended stock tabulations

(core – for international comparability)

- Native and foreign-born population by age and sex
- Foreign-born population by country of birth, age and sex
- Foreign-born population 15 years and over by educational attainment and sex
- Population by citizenship status, age and sex
- Foreigners by country of citizenship, age and sex
- Economically active foreign-born by occupation

*(Source: Migrant stock tables of United Nations Statistics Division Population census questionnaire 2011)*

# Recommended flow tabulations

(core – for international comparability)

- Inflow by reason (work, study, etc.)
- Inflow and outflow by citizenship status, sex and age
- Inflow and outflow by origin/destination (citizenship, country of residence (previous/next), country of birth)

*(Source : United Nations Statistics Division Questionnaire on International Travel and Migration)*

# Data availability - examples

## Empirical data

- UN Population Division Global Migration Database
- UN Population Division International Migration Flows
- OECD SOPEMI
- UNHCR refugee population

## Estimates

- UN Population Division International migrant stock
- OECD Database on Immigrants
- World Bank remittances

# Reporting compliance by countries

## Example 1: migrant stock (total)

<i>Total foreign-born/ foreigners</i>	<i>Percentage countries with data</i>			<i>Percentage migrants covered</i>		
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
<i>Africa</i>	70	51	11	62	69	22
<i>Asia</i>	64	76	28	74	87	42
<i>Europe</i>	81	88	58	96	99	85
<i>LAC</i>	83	76	15	85	95	9
<i>Northern America</i>	80	80	80	100	100	100
<i>Oceania</i>	83	92	25	100	100	95
<i>Total</i>	75	74	28	86	93	68

# Reporting compliance by countries

## Example 2: migrant stock (age)

<i>Foreign-born, foreigners by age</i>	<i>Percentage countries with data</i>			<i>Percentage migrants covered</i>		
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
<i>Africa</i>	54	33	5	53	50	8
<i>Asia</i>	40	52	22	41	59	37
<i>Europe</i>	54	81	38	53	99	69
<i>LAC</i>	80	63	13	85	89	9
<i>Northern America</i>	80	80	60	100	100	100
<i>Oceania</i>	67	71	17	98	99	79
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b>58</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>60</b>

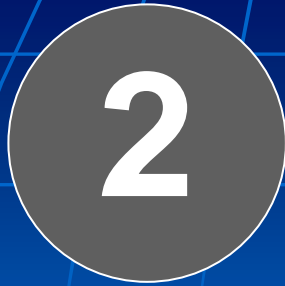
# Reporting compliance by countries

## Example 3: migrant stock (origin)

<i>Foreign-born, Foreigners by country of birth/ citizenship</i>	<i>Percentage countries with data</i>			<i>Percentage migrants covered</i>		
	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
<i>Africa</i>	65	46	5	33	88	7
<i>Asia</i>	50	62	16	52	75	18
<i>Europe</i>	79	88	56	82	100	85
<i>LAC</i>	83	74	7	81	100	6
<i>Northern America</i>	80	80	80	100	100	100
<i>Oceania</i>	75	79	25	98	100	95
<i>Total</i>	70	68	22	71	91	60



# **3. Five Steps Toward Better Migration Data**



# Ask 3 basic census questions and disseminate tabulations

National Statistical Offices

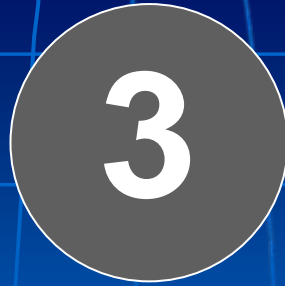


DESA (UNSD), UNFPA, World  
Bank

# Countries asking the three key questions on international migration

Questions	Number of countries	Percentage of countries
Country of birth	46	74
Citizenship	44	71
Year or period of arrival	23	37

*Note: Based on 62 censuses undertaken between Jan 2005 and Nov 2009*



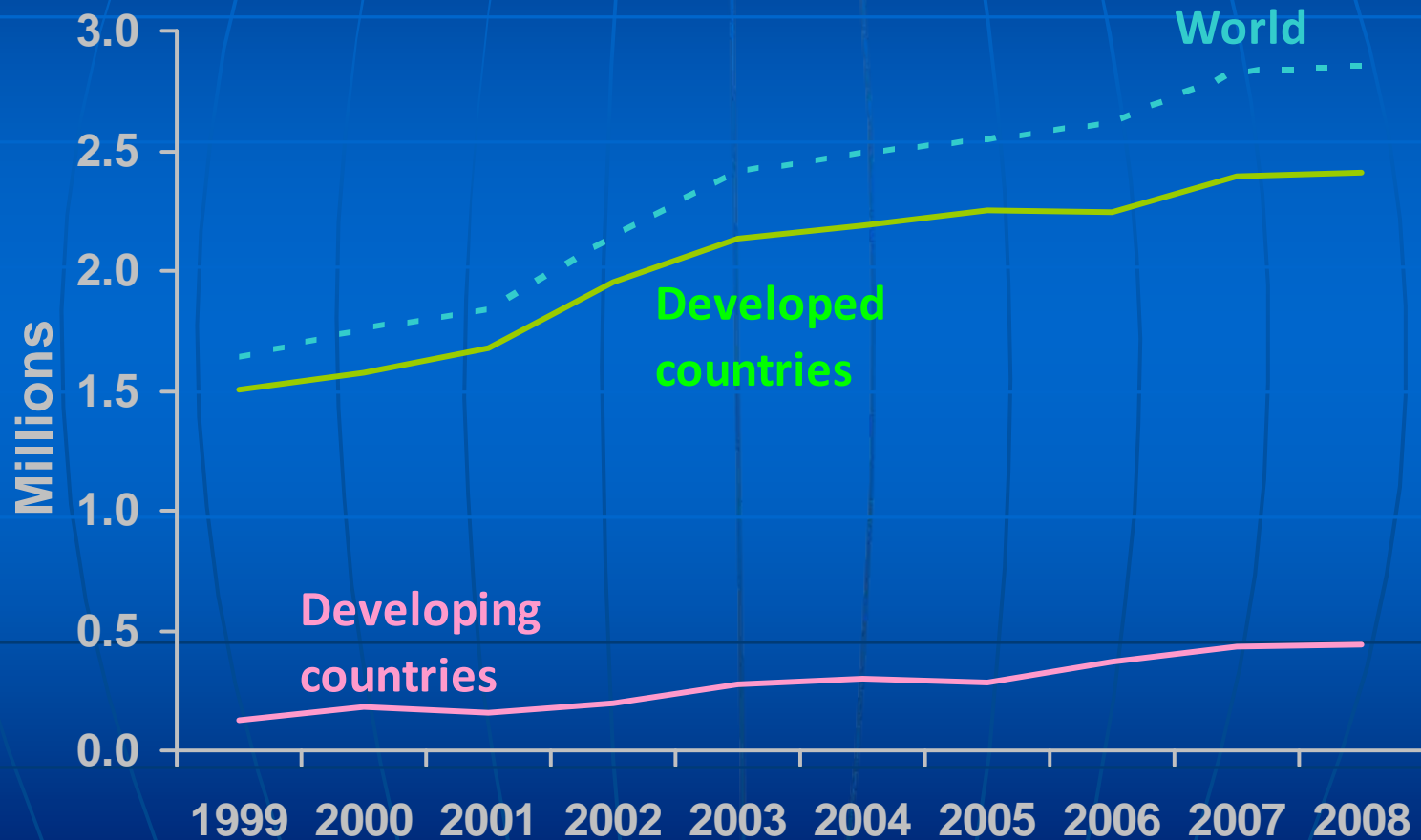
# Exploit administrative data sources

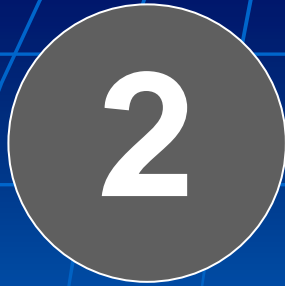


Ministries in charge of migration,  
National Statistical Offices  
UNESCO, UNHCR

# Example of exploiting administrative data

## Tertiary international students, 1999-2008

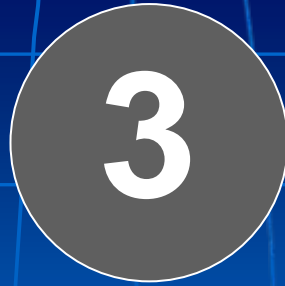
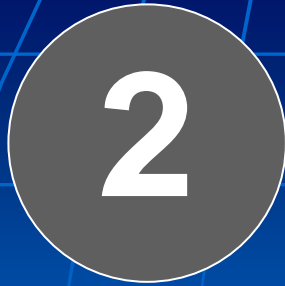




# Centralize Labor Force Surveys



OECD, Eurostat (ILO)



**Provide access to  
microdata**



National Statistical Offices  
Eurostat, IPUMS

# Example of access to micro-data

## IPUMS International

MINNESOTA POPULATION CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



[Home](#) | [Select Data](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Contact](#) | [Login](#)

### PROJECT

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[Microdata Handbook](#)  
[Bibliography](#)

## Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, International

census microdata for social and economic research

IPUMS-International is a project dedicated to collecting and distributing census data from around the world. Its goals are to:

- Collect and preserve data and documentation
- Harmonize data
- Disseminate the data absolutely free!

**62 countries - 185 censuses - 397 million person records**

### IPUMSI News

[June 2011 data release](#)  
[2010 award winners](#)  
[Improved web interface](#)  
[IPUMS Havana workshop](#)  
[June 2010 data release](#)  
[Mortality and fertility data](#)  
[NIH extends IPUMS-I](#)  
... All news items

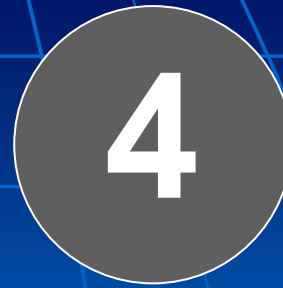
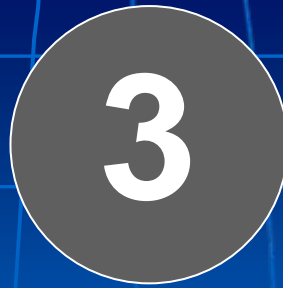
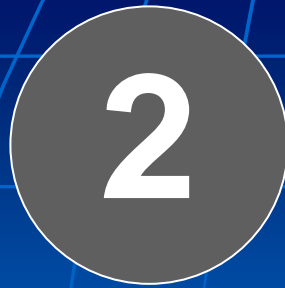
### MPC Data Projects

[IPUMS-USA and others](#)



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# Broaden the use of standardized survey modules

National Statistical Offices



ILO, World Bank, UNICEF,  
Eurostat, DHS

# Why strengthening the evidence base?

## “The Policy Prerogative”

- National policies
- Bilateral and regional policies
- 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development
- Global Forum on Migration and Development

**Thank you**  
**Questions or comments?**

**<http://www.gmg.org>**