Migration Profiles Development Seminar

**Topic:** Migration Profiles through data and research: Ghana’s Experience

**Date:** 30th June, 2011

**Venue:** UN HQ. Conference RM. A (NLB), New York

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Outline

- Introduction
- MP Development Processes
- Key Sources of Data for Developing MP
- Gaps identified in the Migration Data
- MP Development as a Capacity Building Tool
- Lesson Learnt
Introduction

- Meaningful data on migration stocks and flows is one key element to the success of preparing Migration Profiles as well as for effective migration management.
- At present, much of the statistical and documentary information on migration in Ghana is scattered in various departments (MOI, GIS, BoG, UNHCR, etc.).
MP Development Processes

- Establishment of Migration Unit at the Ministry of Interior as a centre of a migration database
- Formation of a Ministerial Committee and Technical Working Group to support data collection and foster institutional coordination and collaboration
- Meetings were organized to discuss the draft migration profile with the consultant
Key Sources of Data for Developing Migration Profile

- Reliable data are essential for monitoring flows and understanding trends, assessing impacts and also facilitating the updating of the Migration Profile regularly.
  
  i. Operational Processes
  ii. Censuses
  iii. Surveys
Operational Processes

- Data on Border inspection at entry/exit point e.g. airport, harbor, border post by Ghana Immigration Service
- Data on refugees from UNHCR, Ghana Refugee Board
- Data on resident permit/stay and granting of application for asylum by MOI
- Visa processing at the embassies in Ghana
Operational Sources (cont.)

- Remittances data from Bank of Ghana and other money transfer institutions
- Registration of foreign citizens by Embassies and Ministry of Interior
- Registration of Ghanaians abroad by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through Ghanaian Missions
- Data on enforcement operations by Ghana Police Service, GIS
- Measuring migration phenomenon in a specific country through the data available in other countries in an emerging approach.
Gaps identified in the Migration Data

- Data collected from persons arriving in and departing from Ghana has not been disaggregated by sex, age, level of education, etc.
- Information is not shared between departments dealing with migration issues, partly because information provision and requirements vary from department to department.
  - A weakness in policy formulation which was identified in drafting the MP.
Gaps identified in the Migration Data (cont.)

- The challenge of bureaucracy in providing data, friendly manner, inadequate support for institutions involved in data collection and research
  - The MP has highlighted as an urgent policy requirement – the need to improve migration data.
Using MP Devt to Build Capacity

- In the process of developing the MP, there were series of capacity development activities in the form of attending data collection workshops/seminars
  - Essentials of data collection
  - Regional Training Workshop on Data collection for Migration Policy Development in Dakar, Senegal on 17th to 18th June 2009.
  - Training Workshop on Labour/Migration Policy Devt for Nigerian and Ghanaian Govt Officials in Jos, Nigeria, from 14th to 17th September, 2009.
Achievements

- Drafted of Strategy on National Migration Database for Ghana
- Drafted a National Action Plan on Development of Migration to
  - Improve on migration data collection for the update of the Migration Profile and for policy planning
  - Disseminate updated MP Improve the accessibility and availability of data and information relevant to migration issues.
  - Present a cost efficient strategy for enhancing the use of existing data.
Outcome

- A useful set of capacity development tools to help identify information gaps and promote exchange at all levels.
- Official endorsement of Technical Working Group to review the MP
END OF PRESENTATION

THANK YOU