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**Monitoring of population programmes, focusing on new trends in migration:  
demographic aspects**

**Report of the Secretary-General**

The present report responds to Decision 2011/101 of the forty-fourth session of the Commission on Population and Development that the special theme of the forty-sixth session in 2013 would be “New Trends in Migration: Demographic Aspects”.

The report examines the programmatic response of the United Nations Population Fund at global, regional and country levels to the new trends in migration. The focus is on international migration and includes UNFPA’s work in the areas of global advocacy, capacity development, policy dialogue, data and research, and awareness raising.

International migration is a global issue and is a central part of the global development agenda. It presents both opportunities for, and challenges to, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The growth and diversity of current migration flows clearly demonstrate that migration can no longer be considered peripheral to the mainstream of population and development policy. There is an emerging consensus that migration issues must figure prominently in the post-2015 development discourse.

Today, migration affects nearly every country in the world, either as point of origin, transit, or destination and often, all three at once. With the decline in fertility in many parts of the world, migration has taken on increased significance, becoming an important component of population growth in many countries. Increasingly, efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals and projecting to the post-2015 future embrace migration as a development force, not a development failure.

More detailed research on migration and development linkages together with an increased availability of age and sex-disaggregated migration data are essential for evidence-based policy dialogue, development planning and programme formulation. Research in such key areas as the root causes of migration, the development impact of migration, the impact of migration on gender equality and women’s empowerment, and labour migration in a globalized economy is also essential to enhance understanding of the migration process and contribute to better migration governance.

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## **I. Introduction**

1. The present report has been prepared by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in response to a decision of the forty-fourth session of the Commission on Population and Development that the special theme of the forty-sixth session in 2013 would be “New Trends in Migration: Demographic Aspects”.

2. The report highlights recent migration-related programmatic activities of UNFPA at global, regional and country levels to respond to the growing demands posed by the new trends in migration. The report focuses on international migration and includes UNFPA’s activities in the areas of global advocacy, capacity development, policy dialogue, data and research, and awareness raising. UNFPA is currently undertaking a mapping of migration activities at country level to better inform institutional policy and to enable the sharing of good practices.

3. International migration is an integral aspect of the global development process. Migrants play an important role in promoting development and reducing poverty in countries of origin, and contributing towards prosperity in countries of destination. With the decline in fertility in many parts of the world, migration has taken on increased significance, becoming an important component of population growth in many countries.

4. International migration has important implications for population dynamics, gender, and young people and thus for the core mandate of UNFPA. The increasing focus on inter-linkages between migration, poverty reduction and development has significant implications for UNFPA programmatic work in a number of key areas.

5. Among issues of particular concern to UNFPA are the challenges of female migration, including trafficking and smuggling; the provision of basic social services, including reproductive health services, in areas of destination; protection of the human rights of migrants; migration and the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS; migration and climate change; migration and young people; and migration statistics.

6. UNFPA strategies in this area include developing capacity for formulating and implementing migration policies and programmes, building a knowledge base, improving migration data, facilitating policy dialogue, and strengthening partnerships to enhance understanding of the complexity of international migration flows and their links to development.

7. Migration is an important component of UNFPA-led consultations on population dynamics in both the ICPD Beyond 2014 and the post-2015 development agenda processes. The UNFPA ICPD Beyond 2014 Global Survey includes sections on both internal and international migration and requests information on national policies, programmes and strategies, institutional entities addressing migration issues, national priorities, areas of progress, civil society partners and international cooperation. The survey provides governments with an opportunity to reflect on progress in this area and to identify the most relevant issues that should be the focus for the next five to ten years. A report of the survey is expected to be completed in mid-2013.

8. Migration also features prominently in discussions relating to the post-2015 development agenda. Increasingly, efforts aimed at achieving development goals embrace migration as part of strategies to promote sustainable development. UNFPA collaborates with its partners to ensure that migration is an integral part of development.

## **II. Global Advocacy**

9. UNFPA is working with its partners to ensure that migration is given full consideration in the post-2015 agenda, either as a potential goal, as indicative targets, as indicators to measure achievement of other Millennium Development Goals, or as an enabling factor. UNFPA seeks to raise awareness of the important link between migration and development and to increase understanding of how migration can contribute to the achievement of development goals including poverty reduction, maternal and child health, primary education, and gender empowerment. It encourages countries to mainstream migration in policymaking and development planning.

10. UNFPA is collaborating with its partners in the preparations for the 2013 United Nations General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD). At the recommendation of the United Nations High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), and at the request of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board (CEB), UNFPA and the International Organization for Migration prepared, in collaboration with the Global Migration Group (GMG), a set of draft outcomes and recommendations on migration in preparation for the High-level Dialogue. Member agencies of the HLCP, the GMG, as well as the United Nations Regional Commissions, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Migration and Development, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, and the NGO Committee on Migration were invited to submit inputs that focused on a stock-taking of experiences since the first High-level Dialogue in 2006 in promoting the developmental aspects of international migration, in providing a coherent inter-agency response to the opportunities and challenges of international migration, and in promoting the application of international standards and norms relevant to international migration and international migrants. The inputs highlighted good practices, challenges encountered, existing gaps, recommendations on how to overcome these gaps, and suggested outcomes for the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

11. UNFPA is also collaborating with the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in the convening of information meetings to help inform discussions and advance the global migration debate. The High-level Dialogue Roundtable Series, which is led by the International Organization for Migration, is designed as a forum for the Permanent Missions in New York to engage in the themes that will be discussed at the High-level Dialogue: 1) assessing the effects of international migration on sustainable development and identifying relevant priorities in view of the preparation of the post-2015 development framework; 2) measures to ensure respect for, and protection of, the human rights of all migrants, with particular reference to women and children, as well as to prevent and combat smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, and to ensure regular, orderly, and safe migration; 3) strengthening

partnerships and cooperation on international migration, mechanisms to effectively integrate migration into development policies, and promote coherence at all levels; and 4) international and regional labour mobility and its impact on development. The roundtable series, which began in October 2012 with a discussion of the global migration debate from the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development to the present, aims to prepare Member States for the High-level Dialogue by providing an opportunity for discussion, exchange of experience, and networking with experts from governments, the United Nations, the Global Migration Group, civil society and academia. The series also supports delegates in their consideration of migration in other relevant discussions, including the ICPD Beyond 2014 and the post-2015 development processes.

### **III. Capacity Development**

12. Strengthening capacity of countries to address the challenges of migration is one of the main priorities of UNFPA work in this area. UNFPA's policy guidance note on international migration encourages its Country Offices to support enhancement of national capacity to integrate migration issues into national and sectoral development policies, programmes, strategies and action plans, including poverty reduction strategies.

13. At global level, UNFPA helps increase understanding of migration issues within the United Nations community by collaborating with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the International Organization for Migration, and the MacArthur Foundation in the convening of seminars on key migration and development topics for delegates of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and the United Nations system. The seminars are intended to provide government officials and the international community with a better understanding of the relationship between migration and development and a forum for discussion of important issues of concern to countries of origin, transit and destination. Topics over the years have included: labour migration, female migration, migration and AIDS, migration and ageing, contributions of diasporas, environmentally-induced migration and climate change, migration and human rights, irregular migration, migration and the Millennium Development Goals, health challenges of migrant youth, countering human trafficking, regional consultative processes, migration and the economic crisis, migration data, migration profiles, and mainstreaming migration into development planning. The seminar on migration profiles was convened as part of the 2011 Global Forum on Migration and Development thematic meetings co-chaired by the Governments of Ghana and Moldova.

14. UNFPA is an active member of the Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI) programme management unit and continues its partnership with the United Nations Development Programme, the International Organization for Migration, the International Labour Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the Initiative to set up and reinforce migration and development networks, identify good practices, and inform policy making on migration and development.

15. Together with the International Organization for Migration and other partners, UNFPA supports the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Observatory on Migration to

foster the evidence base for mainstreaming migration into development and enhance understanding of the impact of South-South migration on development for evidence-based policy making and mainstreaming human mobility into development planning.

16. At regional level, in partnership with the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs, UNFPA and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe conducted workshops on migration statistics targeting countries in Central Asia and the Commonwealth of Independent States to identify gaps in the availability of data on international migrant stocks, flows, and characteristics in the region, to raise awareness of the global and regional policy context, and to provide training in global and regional data standards.

17. To build capacity of national institutions in the collection and analysis of migration data and in policy formulation, UNFPA collaborated with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe within the UNECE Development Account Project “Strengthening National Capacities to Deal With International Migration: Maximizing Benefits and Minimizing Negative Impact” in a number of countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

18. To further strengthen country capacity to address migration issues, UNFPA Regional and Country Offices disseminated the publication “Migrants Count, Five Steps Toward Better Migration Data” to National Statistical Offices and research institutes to facilitate the collection of improved migration data for evidence-based policy formulation.

19. At national level, many UNFPA Country Offices support training and capacity development activities to ensure that countries are adequately prepared to address migration issues and have the knowledge and data they need to formulate appropriate migration policies.

20. In sub-Saharan Africa, UNFPA convened a training workshop on demographic and statistical analyses and policy brief writing techniques in Kenya for the authors of the 2009 Population and Housing Census monographs. After the training, thirteen monographs, including on migration and urbanization, to be used by policy makers and planners for programming and formulation of the new development plans, were successfully completed. In Sao Tome and Principe, personnel of the departments of immigration and borders were trained in the collection of international migration data.

21. In the Asia and the Pacific region, the UNFPA Country Office in Bhutan collaborated with the National Statistics Bureau and the Gross National Happiness Commission to present a summary of the Population Perspective Plan to the Prime Minister and raised awareness about the need to address population dynamics, including migration. The consultative process informed policy makers of the importance of addressing migration issues and its indicators for evidence-based planning. Through this project, policy makers and planners from different ministries became much more aware of issues related to international migration and recommended that they be included in the formulation of a

national population policy. UNFPA supported the training of planning and statistics officers in the importance of demographic indicators and the use of statistics.

22. In Cambodia, the UNFPA Country Office continues to play a central role in promoting capacity development of its national counterparts through a variety of means, including technical assistance, provision of training, and sharing of experiences and lessons learned at national and international levels. This contributed to the further strengthening of data collection, analysis and utilization in support of policy and strategy development and the integration of priority population issues in existing policies and strategies towards poverty reduction. Major capacity development activities targeted policy makers at both national and subnational levels. At the national level, this included the National Institute of Statistics and General Directorate for Planning of the Ministry of Planning and contributed to further strengthening data collection, analysis and utilization in support of policy and strategy development and the integration of priority population issues in existing policies and strategies towards poverty reduction. At the subnational planning level, this included the Provincial and District Councils, Commune Councils, and Women's and Children's Consultative Committees and was intended to strengthen capacity to respond to the needs of communities in the areas of reproductive health, youth, gender-based violence and migration.

23. The UNFPA Country Office in Iran supported the Population Association of Iran and the Statistical Center of Iran in conducting a national seminar on migration. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the UNFPA Country Office continued to support the Ministry of Planning and Investment to build capacity to conduct population analyses.

24. The UNFPA sub-regional office in the Pacific supports analyses of migration based on census data and helps strengthen capacity by involving national staff in the analytical work. This is currently planned to take place in the Solomon Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, but is likely to eventually extend to several other Pacific Island countries as well.

25. The issue of international migration is high on the agenda of the government of Kiribati. National capacity development has largely been provided through policy dialogue, awareness and advocacy on this issue. UNFPA strategies and priorities in Kiribati continue to address high population growth, reversing high rural-urban migration and outer island-to-urban centre migration by providing more opportunities in the outer islands in terms of strengthening government services and promotion of small medium enterprises and sustainable livelihoods. The review of the current Kiribati Development Plan (KDP) 2008-2011 and the development of the new KDP 2012-2015 prioritize population displacement, migration and family planning.

26. In the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, in Azerbaijan, key government officials were trained to address challenges arising from the lack of an efficient migration-related data collection and analysis system. Cooperation and coordination among relevant government entities dealing with migration data were improved and government officials representing key institutions responsible for migration data participated in training in Poland to learn about the functioning of the European data management system, and best

practices in collecting, analyzing and sharing migration data. New tools and indicators were selected and tested in a migration survey, and 15,000 individuals were introduced to the data management system of the State Statistical Committee. The introduction of new tools and indicators made it possible for the Committee and other key national authorities to better assess the dynamics of migration in Azerbaijan based on more accurate and up-to-date data. The level of coordination and cooperation among key government agencies was increased through the promotion of dialogue, as well as through the study of best international practices, publications and participation in training courses. The assessment of the national legal framework on migration-related data enabled national authorities to review areas which required further improvement.

27. In Kyrgyzstan, staff members of the demographic statistics department of the National Statistics Committee participated in a course on population and development organized by the UNFPA Regional Office and the Higher School of Economics in Moscow to improve skills in a number of areas including migration indicators. In Uzbekistan, several capacity development trainings for national partners have been conducted, including training on migration methodologies and analysis for research staff of the Institute of Social Research.

28. In the Latin America and the Caribbean region, the UNFPA Country Office in Bolivia supported various activities in communication, dissemination, training and advocacy that helped to strengthen organizations, and build and strengthen networks to implement the Migration Act, particularly in promoting sexual and reproductive rights, including HIV/AIDS and combating gender-based violence of women and young Bolivian migrants. As a result of UNFPA support, the Comprehensive Sexual Health Programme of the Ministry of Health of the Nation has begun to create a registration system which includes data specific to the migrant population. UNFPA supported civil society organizations in their advocacy work, contributing to the exercise of migrants' rights and the enforcement of migration. The UNFPA Country Office in Nicaragua supported the training of officials on migration management and procedures for the management of migration data flows and developed an information campaign on international migration.

#### **IV. Policy Dialogue**

29. A number of countries have been engaged in policy dialogue and collaborating with government partners in formulating and reviewing national population policies, including international migration policies. For example, in Cameroon, UNFPA supported the national inter-ministerial task force on international migration and capitalized on the dividends of the Cameroon diaspora. In Cote d'Ivoire, UNFPA was instrumental in the integration of the Population and Development section into the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper which included, *inter alia*, issues relating to the implementation of a policy for managing migration.

30. The UNFPA Country Office in Mozambique collaborated in the finalization of a report of the National Population Policy and initiated the revision of the population policy



in order to incorporate emerging thematic issues such as climate change, migration and urbanization.

31. In the Arab States region, the UNFPA Country Office in the Occupied Palestinian Territory strengthened the policy dialogue between the government and academic institutions, focusing on national population priorities. A policy dialogue with experts was conducted to discuss the national priority needs in migration and a policy brief on external migration was drafted using data from the 2010 migration survey. Strengthened partnerships and policy dialogue between government and academic institutions on population issues has enhanced the production of research and evidence-based tools on population dynamics related to youth, gender, migration and the elderly, which will inform national policies and programmes.

32. In Sudan, the UNFPA Country Office supported the review of the National Population Policy, which addresses, *inter alia*, population dynamics, including international migration, urbanization, and displacement. UNFPA supported technical thematic groups, recruitment of national experts, the organization of consultative meetings, and the production of thematic background papers. UNFPA also supported the participation of National Population Council staff in expert meetings in conjunction with the Regional Arab Meeting for Directors of National Population Councils.

33. The Asia and the Pacific Regional Office is currently co-chairing with the regional office of the International Organization for Migration the working group in charge of the organization of the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. In the UNFPA Sub-regional Office in Fiji, migration features as an integral part of UNFPA's work on population policies. UNFPA contributed to the formulation and endorsement of population policies for Vanuatu and Tuvalu, and work is ongoing on the population policy for the Solomon Islands. Fiji is expected to follow.

34. In Nepal, after the dissemination of the Population Perspective Plan 2010-2031 (PPP), there is growing realization among national stakeholders of the need to formulate a national population policy based on the PPP document. To inform the new population policy as well as to contribute to the ongoing debate on the relevance of ICPD issues for the country, at central level, UNFPA, in collaboration with the Population Division/MoHP and the Association of Youth Organizations of Nepal (UNFPA's implementing partner for the youth programme) successfully organized five national population debates on emerging population issues including population, international migration and the economy, youth and adolescent sexual and reproductive health, urbanization and the environment, and data/statistics for development and population policy.

35. In the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, the UNFPA Country Office in Azerbaijan provided support to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population, the government body directly involved in the planning, development and monitoring of population-related programmes and policies in the country, in the start-up process of evaluation of the State Program on Population Development and Demography, including in the identification of ways to regulate migration. In this way, UNFPA supported the

government's efforts and commitment in advancing the ICPD agenda in the country by linking its principles to the national policies and programmes in the area of population and development.

36. UNFPA provided technical assistance to the Government of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the review and revision of the country's Strategy for Demographic Development which includes, *inter alia*, specific goals and measures on migration.

37. In the Latin America and the Caribbean region, the UNFPA Country Office in Guatemala provided technical and financial assistance to the National Migrant Care Council to facilitate the elaboration of a general framework for government action regarding migration matters which will be used to promote the elaboration of a migrant care policy.

38. The Government of Jamaica has embarked upon the development of a Migration Policy to identify gaps in the country's response to migration as well as the opportunities that can be harnessed from enhanced engagement with the diaspora. The Policy is significant because while the population of Jamaica is approximately 2.7 million people, it is estimated that approximately 2.6 million Jamaicans are living outside the country. Therefore, the Policy will provide guidance on how to optimize engagement with this group. A technical working group on migration has been established to identify the key issues that should be examined in the migration policy development process, and UNFPA has been actively participating in this working group. Issues relating to health services for migrant women and girls in particular, as well as concerns relating to older persons who leave the country during their youth, but return upon retirement have also been raised by UNFPA. This perspective has also been articulated in the technical working group on migration and will be reflected in the final policy.

39. In Mexico, one of the main results achieved regarding advocacy on population and development issues has been the establishment and strengthening of policy dialogue with Federal institutions and local governments, particularly with the States of Chiapas, San Luis Potosi, Oaxaca and Puebla. Among the issues raised with government authorities are internal and international migration, population ageing, adolescence and youth, human trafficking, and local development.

## **V. Data Collection and Research**

40. Timely migration data are essential for policy formulation and programme planning. UNFPA encourages its Country Offices to support activities that promote the establishment and maintenance of reliable databases on migration and development and on cross-border movements between countries and geographic regions. It encourages support for operational research that fosters increased understanding of migration processes, including female migration, and addresses the needs of migrants, particularly sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as well as studies that focus on the relationship between migration and development; the root causes of migration; young people and the

gender dimension of migration in a life cycle approach including the impact of migration on gender equality and women's empowerment; labour migration in a globalized economy; the impact of remittances; the role of the diaspora; measures to prevent human trafficking, especially of women and girls; ensuring the human rights of migrants; addressing the challenges of irregular migration; and the impact of migration on the environment.

41. Many UNFPA Country Offices support the collection and analysis of migration data and research activities in this area. For example, in Sub-Saharan Africa, the UNFPA Country Office in Cameroon presented various discussion papers on the challenges of data availability in migration analysis. In Namibia, UNFPA commissioned a baseline study on youth migration. In Nigeria, UNFPA worked with partners to support country-level capacities for improved migration-related data with a view to augmenting evidence-based policymaking.

42. UNFPA Country Offices in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Niger, Nigeria and Chad are collaborating to address cross-country population dynamics in the Lake Chad Basin region. A study on the socio-demographic, behaviour and HIV-AIDS seroprevalence in the Lake Chad basin was conducted as a baseline before the development of a programme to combat HIV. Because of the cross-country dynamics (population migration between countries), it was impossible to conduct the study in countries separately. To address this issue, the Country Offices acted as facilitators for the coordination of the studies in their respective countries by the national counterparts. This collaboration resulted in a study incorporating the migration dynamics in the region as well as data and diversity of all the countries involved. The study analyzes the link between migration dynamics and HIV in the region. It is expected that the programme developed on the basis of this study will address the issue in the region.

43. The UNFPA Arab States Regional Office is collaborating with MED STAT, the World Bank, UNHCR and other partners in the Mediterranean International Migration Survey which covers eight countries: Jordan, Lebanon, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Syria. The survey addresses various forms of international migration, including voluntary and forced migration, and implications for migrants, their households, and sending and receiving countries. The UNFPA Regional Office and Country Offices are supporting the survey technically and financially.

44. In Jordan, UNFPA continues discussions with national partners on improving the availability of data on migration. The Country Office seeks to strengthen partnerships with other United Nations agencies working in this area and with the International Organization for Migration and to ensure access to qualified expertise in migration that is responsive to national needs and aware of the sensitivities in the region. UNFPA and the Higher Population Council advocated for the establishment of two committees to improve the quality of data on migration and on population projections. The two committees are now very active, have reviewed all issues related to migration in Jordan, and have produced a report which will be published soon.

45. In Morocco, the results of a study on international migration and development analyzed the following issues: illegal migration, return migration, brain drain, and

international migration and development. UNFPA provides leadership to the Migration Thematic Group to ensure the inclusion of migration, both internal and international.

46. The UNFPA Country Office in the Occupied Palestinian Territory supported the first national household survey on internal and international migration conducted by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics in 2010. Other activities supported by UNFPA include production of the reports of the main findings and analysis of the national migration survey, policy dialogue to discuss the survey findings conducted by the population policy department within the Ministry of Planning and Administrative Development, dissemination and production of a user-friendly data file for use by academia and research institutes, and production of a policy paper on international migration.

47. The Asia and the Pacific Regional Office produced a report entitled "Socio-cultural Influences on the Reproductive Health of Migrant Women: A Review of Literature in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam" which explores the nexus between socio-cultural factors, health-seeking behavior and access to sexual and reproductive health information and services among migrants in four countries of the region. A key finding of the reviews is that migrant women's reproductive health needs are being neglected. A focus on socio-cultural factors is essential in order to understand the multiple factors that impact on migrant women's behavior and preferences for health care. The report makes recommendations on how policymakers, employers and service providers can better address the reproductive health needs of migrant women.

48. The Asia and the Pacific Regional Office is a member of the Thematic Working Group on Migration co-chaired by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the International Organization for Migration. As a collaborative effort with other sixteen regional offices of the United Nations, the UNFPA Regional Office supported the development of the "Situation Report on International Migration in South and South-West Asia" which provides country overviews on the migration situation, as well as thematic chapters on regional migration trends and issues from eight different perspectives, namely environment and climate change, gender, health, labour migration, policy and international cooperation, protection of the rights of migrant workers, refugees and stateless persons, and remittances.

49. The UNFPA Office in Cambodia assisted in the incorporation of migration questions into the 2008 census questionnaire as well as the analysis, report writing, and dissemination of findings. UNFPA was also involved in the comprehensive study on rural-urban migration which sought to examine the characteristics of migrants and investigate the linkages between migration and the welfare of individuals, families and communities. The findings and recommendations of the study will facilitate the development of an overall strategy to meet the challenge of rapid migration and the formulation of development policies aiming at achieving the betterment of Cambodian society. There are plans to do a secondary in-depth analysis on other topics (education, gender, ageing) affected by migration using available data as well as a follow-up survey to study the impact of migration.

50. The UNFPA Country Office in Mongolia provided technical and financial support to the 2010 Population and Housing Census. The capacity of the National Statistical Office, particularly of the Census Bureau has improved with the application of Geographical Information Systems in the census to provide spatial information on population and housing down to the soum or khoroo (an equivalent of a county) level, using an online method to include Mongolian citizens living abroad, conducting a post-enumeration survey to validate census results, and analysis of census data by key population issues such as migration and gender.

51. In Thailand, together with the involvement of key stakeholders, UNFPA supported the National Statistical Office with an in-depth analysis of cross-border migration based on census data. In the Pacific region, UNFPA's migration-related activities are focused primarily on in-depth analyses of migration based on census data. A migration monograph is being finalized in the Solomon Islands, monographs are planned for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Marshall Islands and migration profiles are planned for the Cook Islands. There are plans to gradually increase involvement in vital statistics with support to population registers for selected countries which is expected to greatly increase available data on migration.

52. In the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, the UNFPA Regional Office continues its collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) on migration statistics, including capacity building, facilitating data exchange among countries, support to the UNECE clearinghouse establishment and operation, and awareness-raising of policymakers regarding the role of migration in national development. In Moldova, an important achievement was the integration of a complex migration agenda in the activity of the Commission on Population and Development which endorsed the Extended Migration Profile contributing significantly to the implementation of the EU-Moldova Action Plan on Visa Liberalization. In Uzbekistan, UNFPA supported the participation of staff of the National Statistical Office in meetings on migration statistics and on censuses.

53. In Latin America and the Caribbean, with sponsorship from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, UNFPA worked together with Governments and strategic partners in the region in the Initiative for Sexual and Reproductive Health Care for Migrant Youths and Women to place the themes of sexual and reproductive health care, including HIV/AIDS and sexual violence affecting migrant youth and women, on the public agenda as a right that goes beyond borders. The work promotes bi-national and cross-sectoral work between Argentina and Bolivia; Colombia and Ecuador; Costa Rica and Nicaragua; El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico; and Haiti and the Dominican Republic in order to improve migrants' access to sexual and reproductive health services and strengthen programmes for the prevention of STI/HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence. Regional and bi-national studies on the sexual and reproductive health of the migrant population in highly vulnerable border areas helped to identify needs and bottlenecks in order to develop strategies to promote the human rights of migrant youth and women and improve their access to sexual and reproductive health services. The creation of bi-national Commissions as coordination mechanisms at each of the borders stimulated exchange of

information, identification of intervention zones, preparation of policies, the integration of associations of civil society and Governments, and the establishment of care services. With the participation of governmental and civil society institutions, border and cross-border cooperation networks have been strengthened for the design of health policies, development and implementation of sexual and reproductive health-care strategies, and the monitoring and evaluation of policies.

54. The Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office supported the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in the area of migration, including the update of the Regional Migration Database IMILA with census information from Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean collaborated with the International Organization for Migration in assisting the Department of Foreign Affairs and Migration of Chile in discussions preceding a project on migration law, and collaborated in the preparation of a work plan to elaborate the statistical compendium on migration, CELAC-European Union with IOM and the Chilean government. UNFPA participated in a number of migration meetings in the region, including the XII South American Conference on Migration; the first meeting on migration in the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC); and the seminar on cities, migration and human rights which addressed international migration and refugees, all of which were held in Chile; as well as the international congress on poverty, migration and development held in Mexico.

55. In Bolivia, the UNFPA Country Office supported the preparation of the report on "Health and International Migration: Bolivian Women in Argentina" which helped to develop a more efficient design and implementation of public policies to improve access and quality of care for migrant populations. In Colombia, UNFPA collaborated with the National Statistical Department (DANE) to train the technical team on the use of tools and new technologies for the production of population projections at the national and subnational levels. In addition, the technical capacities of DANE were strengthened in the use of administrative registries as inputs for the generation of statistical information on international migration. UNFPA provided support to ensure the completion of the design and application of the methodology for estimating international migration flows.

56. In the Dominican Republic, working jointly with the National Statistical Office and the Ministry of Planning and Development, UNFPA took the lead in a study on internal and international migration. UNFPA also sponsored an updated study on "Trafficking and Exploitation of Foreign Migrant Women". UNFPA assisted in the country's First National Immigrants Survey supported by the European Union and the UNFPA Country Office in Haiti. It also supported the National Statistics Office by providing technical assistance for the methodological design and survey sample selection; implementing a training and skill-building programme for supervisors, surveyors, facilitators, interpreters, and quality control teams; and monitoring the field work, the elaboration of the final and complimentary reports, and the design of the lobbying strategy. UNFPA promoted the creation of a socio-demographic information system that includes data on poverty, sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, gender violence, and migration, disaggregated by age and gender at the

local level. UNFPA participated in the seminar on international migration and development organized by the Ministry of Haitians Living Abroad and other partners.

57. The UNFPA Country Office in Haiti supported two internal and international surveys after the 2010 earthquake. In addition, UNFPA supported the government in the preparation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper in the area of population dynamics, including international migration.

58. The UNFPA Country Office in Mexico continues to collaborate on international migration issues with several partners at the national and state levels. At the national level, the Country Office supported the development of indicators and case studies, including updates on the situation and trends of international migration flows in Mexico, indicators on the reception and use of remittances at household level, economic and social factors associated with international migration in communities of origin and destination, impact of international migration on the health of migrants and their families, and policy analysis of the employment, education and health sectors linked to migrants' needs. At the State level, UNFPA supported the creation of information systems on migration, especially in the main States of origin. The UNFPA Country Office also supports projects on the Analysis of Economic Determinants of Mexico-USA Migration and a sub-national study on the Population and Development Factors along the Southern Border of Mexico, a key area for migration flows from Central America to the United States.

## **VI. Awareness Raising**

59. A number of UNFPA Country Offices have undertaken advocacy and awareness raising activities to raise the profile of international migration. Some Country Offices used UNFPA's 7 Billion campaign to advocate for demographic issues, including migration. For example, in sub-Saharan Africa, the commemoration in Botswana of the World Population Day and the launch of *The State of World Population* report both focusing on the 7 billion milestone raised awareness of the inter-linkages between population and development and spurred discussions on the implications of population growth, migration and other population dynamics in relation to development in the context of Botswana. The events were attended by policy makers such as Ministers, parliamentarians, district commissioners, development partners, civil society organisations, and private sector institutions. Messages were disseminated through different media.

60. In Senegal, UNFPA worked on the reduction of the root causes of migration of young people through advocacy efforts by all partners under the auspices of the International Organization for Migration. The migration profile of Senegal facilitated the development of strategies for keeping young people in their lands. The UNFPA Uganda Country Office supported the first-ever National Population Conference that came up with recommendations to address key population issues related to the demographic bonus in the following sectors: education, health, housing and urban development, and immigration.

61. In Papua New Guinea, the UNFPA Country Office supported the preparation of a radio drama by the Population Media Centre focusing on the Millennium Development

Goals and relevant population issues, in particular the effects of international migration, urbanization, health issues such as HIV and reproductive health, and the impact of climate change on the daily life of Papua New Guineans. The script writers received training on how to integrate social issues related to population and development in a drama script. The key lesson learned is the importance of advocacy aimed at decision makers and legislators to ensure that the issue of international migration is incorporated into development plans.

62. In the Dominican Republic, UNFPA undertook lobbying efforts around the Migrant Regularization Plan. The Country Office had a very active role together with the International Organization for Migration, the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme in the negotiations to guarantee the rights of migrants within the Plan. In Guatemala, UNFPA conducted advocacy work to facilitate the process of elaboration of the Migrants' Policy.

## **VII. Other Initiatives**

63. At global level, as Chair of the Global Migration Group (GMG) for the period January to June 2008, UNFPA initiated a collaborative effort analyzing the challenges of protecting the human rights of international migrants which resulted in the publication, *International Migration and Human Rights: Challenges and Opportunities on the Threshold of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. The GMG report points out that migrants are human beings with rights which States, exercising their sovereign right to determine who enters and remains in their territory, have an obligation to protect. It underscores the fact that fundamental human rights are non-negotiable and that an individual's immigration status is irrelevant in this respect. International migration, development and human rights are inextricably linked. Respect for the fundamental rights of migrants is essential to reap the full benefits of migration.

64. UNFPA has taken the lead in conducting an inventory of impact assessments of international migration projects and programmes on development carried out by the member agencies of the Global Migration Group. The purpose of this exercise is to raise awareness of the importance of assessing the impact of migration projects and programmes to ensure that resources are used as effectively and efficiently as possible to achieve the desired results. The inventory revealed that GMG agencies carried out projects that addressed a wide range of migration issues, including labour migration, temporary and circular migration, return and reintegration, highly skilled migration/brain drain, costs of migration, diaspora engagement, refugees, reintegration and resettlement, remittance transfers, combating human trafficking, migrant integration, migrant health, and migration statistics. Most agencies conducted evaluations of their projects but not impact assessments. The evaluations were typically part of the monitoring and evaluation exercise of the logical framework or donor reporting.

65. UNFPA joined the new initiative, Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD), established under the leadership of the World Bank. UNFPA



plans to participate in the data thematic working group focusing on the core set of indicators for migration profiles, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, web-based training materials/modules and capacity building. The Fund expects to contribute to future working groups that address demographic changes, climate change, migrants' rights, and social aspects of migration.

66. UNFPA collaborates with other United Nations agencies in the Conference of the Parties (COP) process to ensure that population dynamics, including migration, are addressed in the climate change discourse. Migration policies and measures to address displacement must be part of adaptation strategies.

67. The UNFPA Panama Office, in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme are seeking the support of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security for a 36-month programme that aims to improve human security of Ngöbe and Buglé temporary migrants in Costa Rica and Panama, particularly economic, food, health, personal, community and political security, through the empowerment and promotion of better access to improved culture and gender-sensitive public services. The direct beneficiaries of this initiative will include some 10,000 Ngöbe and Buglé migrants along their entire migratory route.

68. UNFPA Country Offices collaborate in the pilot mainstreaming exercises in Bangladesh, Jamaica, Moldova and Tunisia to ensure that migration is mainstreamed into development plans and strategies. Other countries are members of the United Nations Country Team Migration Theme Group and collaborate on migration issues.

## **VIII. Conclusion**

69. International migration is a global issue and must be a central part of the global development agenda. It presents both opportunities for, and challenges to, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The growth and diversity of current migration flows clearly demonstrate that migration can no longer be considered peripheral to the mainstream of population and development policy.

70. Today, migration affects nearly every country in the world, either as point of origin, transit, or destination and often, all three at once. With the decline in fertility in many parts of the world, migration has taken on increased significance, becoming an important component of population growth in many countries. Globalization of markets, shortages and surpluses of labour, easier transportation and communication as well as conflicts are other factors that have contributed to the size and complexity of migration flows. Increasingly, efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals embrace migration as a development force, not a development failure.

71. More detailed research on migration and development linkages together with an increased availability of age and sex-disaggregated migration data are essential for evidence-based policy dialogue, development planning and programme formulation.

Research in such key areas as the root causes of migration, the development impact of migration, the impact of migration on gender equality and women's empowerment, labour migration in a globalized economy is also essential in order to enhance understanding of the migration process and to help countries promote the orderly flow of migration to maximize the benefits and minimize the negatives consequences of migration for countries of origin and destination as well as for the migrants themselves.

72. The upcoming High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development is a perfect opportunity to ensure that the issue of migration figures prominently in all discussions relating to the post-2015 development agenda.

73. The United Nations Population Fund is committed to work with governments, the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and civil society to improve migration data, to facilitate policy dialogue, to develop capacity to formulate and implement migration policies and programmes, and to strengthen partnerships in order to enhance understanding of the complexity of migration flows and their links to development. The Fund will continue to advocate for the provision of the full range of health services for migrants, particularly female migrants, including reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. UNFPA will also continue to ensure that migration issues are an integral part of the post-2015 development agenda.