

**UNITED NATIONS THIRTEENTH INQUIRY AMONG GOVERNMENTS
ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

MODULE ON

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

This module contains questions about government policies, programmes and strategies relating to international migration. Responses to questions in this module are needed for global monitoring of SDG indicator 10.7.2 on policies to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, as well as to assess migration policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

An international migrant is defined as any person who changes his or her country of usual residence for at least a year (12 months). Short-term visitors such as tourists, business travellers, exchange students and related categories are not considered international migrants in this context.

Please identify the office responsible for coordinating responses to this module, and include the contact information of the official who completed the module.

*COUNTRY:			
*OFFICE:			
NAME:		TITLE/POSITION:	
*E-MAIL:		TELEPHONE:	
MAILING ADDRESS:			

*Mandatory field

Please return the completed Inquiry Module and any attachments using the following contact information:

E-MAIL:		TELEPHONE:	
MAILING ADDRESS:			

This Inquiry Module can also be filled and submitted online at:



1. Does the Government have any of the following institutions, policies or strategies to govern immigration or emigration?

MEASURE	YES	No
a. A dedicated Government agency ¹ to implement national migration policy		
b. A national policy or strategy for regular migration pathways, including labour migration		
c. A national policy or strategy to promote the inclusion or integration of immigrants ²		
d. Formal mechanisms ³ to ensure that the migration policy is gender responsive ⁴		
e. A mechanism to ensure that migration policy is informed by data, appropriately disaggregated ⁵		

2. Does the Government address regular or irregular immigration⁶ through any of the following measures?

MEASURE	YES	No
a. System to monitor visa overstay ⁷		
b. Pre-arrival authorization controls		

¹ A dedicated Government agency refers to either a separate government entity, such as a ministry, or an entity, such as a department or unit, within a larger government agency.

² Integration refers to a two-way process of mutual adaptation between migrants and the societies in which they live, whereby migrants are incorporated into the social, economic, cultural and political life of the receiving community. It entails a set of joint rights and responsibilities for migrants and communities, and incorporates other related notions such as social inclusion and social cohesion.

³ A formal mechanism refers to any institutional or legal provision for an advisory committee, council, forum or similar body appointed for or tasked to serve the specified purpose.

⁴ Gender-responsive policies ensure that the human rights of women, men, girls and boys are respected at all stages of migration, their specific needs are properly understood and addressed, and they are empowered as agents of change.

⁵ Disaggregation could be by age, sex, migration status, geographic location, income, education level and other relevant characteristics.

⁶ Irregular migration refers to movement of persons that takes place outside the laws, regulations, or international agreements governing the entry into or exit from the State of origin, transit or destination.

⁷ Visa overstay refers to remaining in a country beyond the period for which stay was authorized.

c. Provisions ⁸ for unaccompanied minors or separated children ⁹		
d. Migration information and awareness-raising campaigns ¹⁰		
e. Formal strategies to address trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling ¹¹		

3. Does the Government take any of the following measures to foster cooperation among countries and encourage stakeholder inclusion and participation in migration policy?

MEASURE	YES	NO
a. An interministerial coordination mechanism on migration ¹²		
b. Bilateral agreements on migration, including labour migration ¹³		
c. Regional agreements promoting mobility ¹⁴		
d. Agreements for cooperation with other countries on return and readmission ¹⁵		
e. Formal mechanisms ³ to engage civil society ¹⁶ and the private sector in the formulation and implementation of migration policy ¹⁷		

⁸ These could include specialized procedures for their identification, referral, care and family reunification; legal assistance; and specific visa and asylum procedures.

⁹ Unaccompanied minors are children who have been separated from both parents and other relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so. Separated children are children who have been separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives.

¹⁰ These could include government websites, awareness-raising events and/or trainings on topics related to pre- and post-arrival in destination countries or after return.

¹¹ These strategies may be carried out in the country itself and/or jointly in other relevant countries.

¹² An interministerial coordination mechanism refers to an existing, ongoing, institutionalized forum, council, committee or similar body that involves at least two ministries or government entities.

¹³ For “Yes” to apply, the country must have at least one bilateral agreement on migration in place with another country.

¹⁴ For “Yes” to apply, the country must be included in at least one regional agreement promoting labour mobility.

¹⁵ For “Yes” to apply, the country must have at least one cooperation agreement with another country on return and readmission.

¹⁶ Civil society here refers to diaspora members and other non-profit groups that represent the interests of migrants.

¹⁷ For “Yes” to apply, there should be ongoing mechanisms to engage both civil society and the private sector on a periodic or regular basis.

4. Does the Government provide non-nationals equal access to the following services, welfare benefits and rights?¹⁸

CATEGORY	YES ¹⁹		No
	REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS	ONLY FOR THOSE WITH LEGAL IMMIGRATION STATUS	
a. Essential and/or emergency health care ²⁰			
b. Public education ²¹			
c. Equal pay for equal work ²²			
d. Social protection ²³			
e. Access to justice ²⁴			

5. Does the Government take any of the following measures to maximize the positive development impact of migration and the socioeconomic well-being of migrants?

MEASURE	YES	No
a. Align, through periodic assessments, labour migration policies with actual and projected labour market needs		

¹⁸ Equal access refers to parity of treatment with citizens of the State concerned.

¹⁹ Immigration status refers to the status of a migrant under the immigration law of the country of destination. Regardless of immigration status implies both migrants with legal immigration status and those in an irregular migration situation. Migrants with a legal immigration status are persons who move or have moved across an international border and are authorized to enter or to stay in a State pursuant to the law of that State and to international agreements to which that State is a party.

²⁰ Essential health care refers to essential services for reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, and non-communicable diseases, as well as service capacity and access. Emergency health care refers to any medical care that is urgently required for the preservation of a person's life or the avoidance of irreparable harm to their health.

²¹ Public education refers to public pre-schools, primary schools and secondary schools.

²² Refers to equal payment of salary and benefits to all people in the same workplace doing similar work, irrespective of their migration status or other characteristics.

²³ Social protection programmes include contributory and non-contributory pension schemes (old age, survivor, disability), unemployment insurance, health insurance, workers' compensation, sickness benefits and basic social assistance.

²⁴ Access to justice includes: legal advice, assistance and representation for persons detained, or charged with a criminal offence (including no cost for those without sufficient means); access to legal information; access to other services provided through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, and interpretation (for those who cannot understand or speak the language used in proceedings before a court).

b. Facilitate the portability of social security benefits ²⁵		
c. Facilitate the recognition of skills and qualifications acquired abroad ²⁶		
d. Facilitate or promote the flow of remittances ²⁷		
e. Promote fair and ethical recruitment of migrant workers ²⁸		

6. Does the Government take any of the following measures to respond to refugees and other persons forcibly displaced across international borders?

MEASURE	YES	NO
a. System for receiving, processing and identifying those forced to flee across international borders		
b. Contingency planning ²⁹ for displaced populations ³⁰ in terms of basic needs such as food, sanitation, education and medical care		
c. Specific measures to provide assistance to citizens residing abroad in countries in crisis or post-crisis situations		
d. A national disaster risk reduction strategy with specific provisions for addressing the displacement impacts of disasters ³¹		
e. Grant permission for temporary stay or temporary protection for those forcibly displaced across international borders and those unable to return		

²⁵ For “Yes” to apply, the country must have an agreement with at least one other country on the portability of at least one type of social security benefit.

²⁶ For “Yes” to apply, the country must have formalized criteria (accreditation) for recognizing foreign qualifications (degrees, skills and competencies) acquired abroad.

²⁷ For “Yes” to apply, there must be at least one government programme currently in operation to: reduce the transaction costs of remittances; increase the availability of remittance services; improve the conditions under which remittances are sent; and support financial literacy and inclusion so that remittances are better used.

²⁸ Promoting fair and ethical recruitment entails combatting abusive and fraudulent recruitment practices including: deception about the nature and conditions of work; retention of passports; illegal wage deductions; debt bondage linked to repayment of recruitment fees; threats if workers want to leave their employers; and instilling fears of subsequent expulsion. For “Yes” to apply, there must be at least one government programme currently in operation focusing on migrant workers in the host country or citizens of the country working abroad (overseas workers).

²⁹ For “Yes” to apply, the country must have a plan to respond, through adequate and appropriate arrangements, to the basic needs of populations displaced across international borders from other countries.

³⁰ Displaced populations here refer to those who have fled across international borders, not internally displaced people (IDPs).

³¹ For “Yes” to apply, the country must have a strategy to react to, and mitigate the risks associated with, crises in the country itself, including the eventuality of population displacement across international borders into other countries.

7. Has the Government taken any of the following policy measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

MEASURE	YES		No
	TEMPORARILY, ALREADY LIFTED	STILL IN PLACE ³²	
a. Travel restrictions (travel bans or border closures)			
b. Suspension of visa services (processing of applications or visa issuance)			
c. Suspension of processing of applications from asylum seekers			
d. Extension of residency or work permits for migrants already in the host country			
e. Special programs to facilitate the retention or entry of migrant workers in essential service sectors ³³			
f. Providing access to testing and treatment for COVID-19, regardless of migration status			
g. Other			

8. If Yes to Q.7g, please specify the "Other" measure.

9. Please provide any additional comments and information, including references or links to relevant policy documents.

— END OF MODULE —

³² As of the time of the response to this questionnaire.

³³ Sectors such as health care, agriculture, food production and distribution.