International Migration

- International migration (can be immigration and emigration): movement of people across national borders
- Immigration: movement into a country
- Emigration: movement out of country
- Duration: short-term (at least 3 months but less than a year) or long-term migration (at least 1 year)
- Purpose: employment, family reunification, study, asylum
Some concepts

✓ An immigrant of a country:
  ✓ entering the country by crossing the border
  ✓ not a usual resident of the country when entering
  ✓ staying or intending to stay in the country for at least one year.

✓ An emigrant of a country:
  ✓ leaving the country by crossing the border
  ✓ being a usual resident of the country
  ✓ staying or intend to stay in another country or abroad for at least one year.
Migrants Flows: number of people that cross an international border during a period (year)
Migrants Stocks: number of foreign-born or foreign citizens at a moment in time
## What data are needed to answer the questions?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy questions</th>
<th>Data required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Immigrants</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Who are the immigrants?</td>
<td>Sex, age, country of origin, duration of stay in the country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Where are they from?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- How long are they in the country?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- What is the skill level of immigrants?</td>
<td>Educational attainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Are immigrants employed/unemployed?</td>
<td>Labour force status, Occupation (ISCO), Economic sectors (ISIC), Status in employment (ICSE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- What type of jobs?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emigrants</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Who are the emigrants?</td>
<td>Sex, age, country of destination, year of departure, educational attainment at departure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- At what age do people emigrate?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- When did they leave the country?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- What is their skill level when they left the country?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Countries census and migration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Census years</th>
<th>Information asked on census</th>
<th>Return migrants</th>
<th>Socio-economic conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Country of birth: Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Country of citizenship: Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Country of birth: Yes, Year/period of arrival: Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Country of birth: Yes, Year/period of arrival: Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>No census in 2010 round</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Country of birth: Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Country of birth: Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Country of birth: Yes, Year/period of arrival: Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: United Nations Statistics Division
Analysis of International Migration

✓ Levels, trends, characteristics
✓ Key variables:
  ✓ Legal status
  ✓ Country of origin: identify 5 most common origin
  ✓ Country of destination: identify 5 most common destination
  ✓ Reason for migrating
  ✓ Duration of stay
  ✓ Period of arrival
Analysis of International Migration

✓ Use info on country of citizenship, country of birth and country of previous residence
✓ Make cross tabulation of the above information by disaggregating them by age and sex
✓ Analyze reason for migration by determining push and pull factor
  ✓ Push factors: economic, environmental, political, conflict, lack of employment
  ✓ Pull factors: education, differential in salaries, better opportunities
Identifying migrants for what?

✓ Population estimates & projections

Population in 2015
+ births in 2015
- deaths in 2015
+ net international migration in 2015
= Population in 2016
Identifying migrants for what?

✓ How many foreigners are coming to the country each year?
  ✓ From which country? Age? Education level?
  ✓ They are coming for what reason(s)? (Study? Work?)
  ✓ Is the labour market ready for the immigrants?

✓ How many citizens are emigrating each year?

✓ How many emigrated citizens are moving back to the country each year?
Stocks of international migrants

- Stock of immigrants
- Stock of emigrants
- Stock of foreign-born
- Stock of foreigners
- Stock of returned migrants (citizens)
Capturing international migration data in Population Census

✓ **Advantages:**
  ✓ Capturing the small proportion of migrants
  ✓ Limited questions → more comparable data across countries
  ✓ Large number of social-economic characteristics compared to administrative sources
  ✓ Small areas estimates

✓ **Limitations:**
  ✓ Infrequent
  ✓ Not into causes/consequences because of limited questions
  ✓ Unreliable data on emigration (rely on proxy respondent)
Capturing international migration data in Household sample surveys

- Household sample surveys
- Specialised survey on international migration
- Integrating migration questions in a multi-purpose survey (Labour Force Survey, DHS, National Socio-economic Survey, etc.)
Advantages:
- Many informations can be gathered, causes and consequences (e.g., employment conditions of labour migrants)
- Able to add more questions to identify migrant groups

Limitations:
- Sample size!
- Expensive (especially for specific migration survey)
Administrative sources

- Registers (population register, register of foreigners, register of asylum seekers)
- Issuance of residence permits/work permits
- Register at consulates abroad
Administrative sources

- Counting of people
- Coverage issue – rules for registration not strictly followed
- Set up for administrative rather than statistical purposes
- All information is valuable – piece information together
Other data sources

- Border collection (arriving/departure cards)
- Border surveys
  - Sampling among passengers arriving/departing at different location and time
  - Asking questions to find “migrants” (duration, country of residence, purpose)
  - Interviewers following a passenger and asking questions
  - Expensive
Identifying immigrants at the border

Have you been in the country before?
- Yes
- No

How long were you away from the country?
- 3 months
- 1.5 year

How long do you intend to stay in the country?
- 3 months
- 12 months

How long do you intend to stay in the country?
- NO
- YES
Almost all countries collecting basic information on international migration through population censuses (e.g., country of birth, citizenship and emigration)

Specialized migration surveys are being carried out

Migration module is incorporated in many national multi-purpose surveys

Administrative procedure is in place in almost all countries, although there are not uniformly
A few points about country experience/challenges

✓ **Challenges:**

✓ Linkage between collection of information and statistics is missing

✓ Many publish the volume of arrivals/departures, not directly relevant for international migration

✓ Census/survey data: not a priority for compilation, takes a long time before data are made available; or data on migration are not analysed
THANK YOU!