

# Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation

## UNECE Activity Report

### Regional Workshop to Improve International Migration Statistics and to Promote the Use of Such Data for Policymaking

(under the project "Strengthening National Capacities to Deal with International Migration: Maximizing Development Benefits and Minimizing Negative Impact")

The availability of accurate and comprehensive statistics on international migration is of paramount importance in the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, where migration flows have a decisive influence on labour markets and the gross domestic product, and change the lives of thousands of people. Without reliable data on migration, states in the region cannot assess the positive or negative social and economic consequences of this phenomenon in order to develop a sound and efficient migration policy. Unfortunately, statistics on international migration in countries in the region are often limited with regard to comprehensiveness, quality and level of detail. Furthermore, the collaboration between various agencies responsible for producing statistics in each country (including the National Statistical Institute and various Ministries or Agencies responsible for migration issues) is often not ideal, resulting in difficulties in the production, exchange and dissemination of migration statistics.



The Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in collaboration with the UN Population Division (DESA) and other members of the Global Migration Group (including IOM, OSCE, ILO, UNHCR and others), organized a workshop on international migration statistics on 6-8 December 2010 in Istanbul, Turkey. The target audience included producers and users of official statistics on international migration in the participating countries. Producers included staff of NSIs and other agencies producing migration statistics. The users of official statistics included policymakers.

The outcome of the regional workshop include: (a) additional training of participants in the practices and methods to produce and disseminate migration statistics in accordance with international and regional data standards; (b) finalization of methodological material and practical tools to improve the capacity to produce migration statistics in the region; (c) improved efficiency of the different projects and data collection activities on migration statistics currently being conducted in the CIS region; and (d) finalization of plans on a migration data collection and sharing initiative promoted by UNECE. The ultimate impact will be the improved availability, quality and accessibility of international migration statistics in the countries in the region.

To view the workshop report please go to:

<http://www-dev.unece.org/stats/documents/ece/ces/ge.10/2010/mtg5/inf.3.e.pdf>

Thematic focus	Venue	Date	Total participants
International migration statistics	Istanbul, Turkey	6-8 December 2010	35