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Migration and development

Towards Common Definition and Measurement of Diaspora: Practices and Lessons from South-Eastern, Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Note by the International Organization for Migration (IOM)¹

I. Introduction

Migration and its impact on development are prominent on national and international agendas; among research and academic communities; practitioners and policy makers. Considerable efforts are put into identifying common practical solutions on how to increase positive benefits from migration for all involved – individuals and communities; countries and regions. Mobilizing diasporas to play a larger role in the socio-economic development of their countries of origin is recognized as one such practical solution. The elaboration of specific measures on diaspora engagement, however, is significantly hampered by lack of clarity on which population groups should be included into the very notion of diaspora. This, in its turn, hampers the development of reliable statistics on diaspora population, making the objective of “knowing your diaspora” – one of the initial steps of the diaspora engagement roadmap (IOM and MPI, 2012, 27) – difficult to achieve.

In recent years, an increasing number of countries have started producing stock estimations and describing main characteristics of their diaspora. This has been largely done by applying own emigration data from population censuses or residence registration procedures, with all their

¹ Prepared by M.Manke, Ph.D, Regional Labour Migration and Human Development Specialist, Regional Office of the International Organization for Migration for South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Although the information presented in the paper primarily stems from a special questionnaire disseminated in the region among line ministries and statistical offices, opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the position of IOM, its member states or any governments. Special gratitude is expressed to all the governmental partners who provided their feedback on the matter, as well as to all the IOM colleagues in the country missions who facilitated the process.

limitations²; analyzing information from data gathered by consular authorities abroad; but also more increasingly by utilizing immigration and naturalization statistics from destination countries. An increasing number of countries are piloting special diaspora surveys. The critical assessment of the methodologies for estimating diaspora stocks and describing its characteristics are still scarce, however. More and more countries are interested in learning from the experience of others, raising the need for a common approach, to enable cross-country comparison and development of regional and international policies.

The countries in South-Eastern, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (SEEECA) vary in the experience and practices in diaspora engagement. To identify specific challenges in producing statistical evidence on diaspora in the region, IOM Regional Office for SEEECA conducted a rapid assessment among 14 countries representing each of the sub-regions – South Eastern Europe (5 countries), Eastern Europe and South Caucasus (6 countries), Central Asia (3 countries). The line ministries and statistical offices filled in a special questionnaire on legal, institutional and statistical frameworks for defining and counting diaspora and other population groups residing abroad, and the open sources on information (legislation, statistical office methodology available on-line) were reviewed in parallel. The present paper provides an overview of the main findings of this assessment and suggests practical directions for action, both in the region but also potentially of relevance to other regions, given the approaching Second High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in September 2013.

II. Diaspora definition in South-Eastern, Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Despite the commonly recognized important role of diasporas in development, there is still no agreement among the international community on what the very notion of diaspora should entail, nor how statistical data on diaspora stocks should be collected. Even within the context of the same country, various stakeholders may include different population groups into the definition of their diasporas, as a result of which diaspora stock estimates for the same country may reach quite large variances.

So far, “diaspora” has been described with the help of two criteria: first, *place of residence established in a country different than the country of origin*, and, second, through the criterion of *remaining ties with the origin country*. Though some definitions of diaspora include temporary or circular migrants³, this raises questions within the diaspora engagement context, as temporary or circular migrants, if they keep their main place of residence back at home, cannot be considered as target groups of diaspora engagement actions. A more logical approach, therefore, would be to consider as diaspora only those who establish residence abroad on a *long-term*⁴, or *permanent*, rather than short-term basis. If *place of residence* is quite a common criterion in migration statistics and is often used for generating data on various categories of international migrants, the criterion of “remaining ties with the origin country” is still very vague. In practice, the “ties” have been defined variously, for instance as “strong feeling towards their origin” (EMN, 2012, 50) or *ethnicity* (“people or ethnic population that leave their traditional ethnic homelands, being dispersed throughout other parts of the world” (IOM, 2004, 19)). Statistically, the “ties” can be approximated through a number of characteristics, specifically 1) (former) citizenship, 2) country of birth, 3) ethnicity, 4) former residence, 5) country of parents’ birth, 6) citizenship of parents, or 7) combination of several criteria. This long list of identification criteria used to define diasporas proves the difficulty of agreeing on one common definition which would be applicable to various national context. A further complication is that with the dynamic and rapidly changing character of migration, it becomes more and more difficult to identify population groups who would only fit these criteria in a straight-forward manner,

² Commonly recognized limitations of census data are their infrequency (every ten years), while deregistration data are considered largely incomplete due to lack of motivation for citizens to deregister.

³ IOM 2011, 28.

⁴ Though the UN recommendations on migration statistics define „long-term“ as longer than 12 months, in the context of diaspora no such specification on the exact timeframe has been proposed yet.

as people usually change residence more than once, may belong to several ethnicities, or possess double or triple nationalities.

Diaspora engagement is a relatively new area in the SEECA region, even though most of the countries experienced several “emigration waves” during the 20th century, including dramatic population outflows of the 1990s following political transformations in the former Yugoslavia and Soviet Union. It is only starting from the early 2000s that the SEECA countries started adopting special laws and official policies on engagement with their diasporas or other population groups residing abroad.

Based on the results of the conducted assessment, **3 out of the 14** surveyed countries have adopted either a specific policy (Armenia 2010) or a separate law (Georgia 2012 and Serbia 2009) on **diaspora** engagement; while **further 6 countries** established frameworks for cooperation with **other population groups residing abroad**, including:

- persons “residing abroad” (Azerbaijan, 2002, Ukraine 2004),
- “compatriots” (Russia 1999, Tajikistan 2010) or
- ethnic groups who return back to their country of origin (“oralmans” in Kazakhstan 2011 or “kayrylmans” in Kyrgyzstan 2007).

In addition, almost all of the studied countries use the term “emigrants” either in pure statistical context or also as regulated by law.

Concerning **the legislative and policy framework**, the following interesting insights have been identified:

- 1) the term “diaspora” is not yet institutionalized in the region and is primarily described in a working context: although representatives of 8 countries responded that they used the term in their work, for only 4 countries there is an official definition introduced either in a policy concept or a law,
- 2) at the same time, 11 out of 14 countries have introduced additional special terms describing “other population group residing abroad”, either in their laws (9 countries) or policy concepts (2),
- 3) the term “emigrant” is defined in laws of only 4 countries and appears to be used primarily in the statistical context, with the majority of the statistical offices providing working definitions of “emigrants” or similar terms (e.g. “departing population”) in their methodological notes or on their web-sites.

Table 1 provides the complete overview of the used terms and relevant policy and legislative frameworks in the 14 surveyed countries.

Table 1 Policy and Legislative Framework on Diaspora and Other Population Groups Residing Abroad, SEECA region

Country	Source legal, policy and statistical documents defining the terms		
	Diaspora	Emigrants	Other population groups residing abroad
Albania	Working definition	Law on Albanian citizens migration for employment reasons, 2006 amended in 2011	***
Armenia	Concept for Developing Cooperation between Armenia and Diaspora, 2010	Statistical definition, survey methodology	<i>Compatriots, officially deregistered</i> working definition
Azerbaijan	***	Statistical definition, Azstat web-site	<i>Azerbaijanis residing abroad</i> Law on state policy of engagement with Azerbaijanis residing abroad, 2002

Country	Source legal, policy and statistical documents defining the terms		
	Diaspora	Emigrants	Other population groups residing abroad
B&H	Working definition	Statistical definition	***
Georgia	Law on compatriots residing abroad and diaspora organizations, 2012	Statistical definition, Geostat	<i>Compatriots residing abroad, Georgian origin, ancestry</i> Law on compatriots residing abroad and diaspora organizations, 2012
Kazakhstan	***	Statistical definition, Agency for Statistics	<i>Former compatriots, oralmans</i> Law on migration, 2011 (regulates return of ethnic Kazakhs back to Kazakhstan)
Kyrgyzstan	***	Law on external migration, 2000	<i>Migrant worker, kayrylman</i> Law on state guarantees for the ethnic Kyrgyz returning to the historic motherland, 2007
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Working definition	Statistical definition, State Statistical Office	<i>Expatriate: Law for changing and amending the Law on citizenship, 2004</i> <i>Persons belonging to the Macedonian people: Constitution and Law on Foreign Affairs, 2006</i>
Moldova	***	Law on migration, 2002	<i>Repatriant, citizens departing the country, emigrant worker</i> Law on migration, 2002
Montenegro	Working definition	***	***
Russia	***	Statistical definition, RosStat, "departing population"	<i>Compatriots, compatriots abroad</i> Law on State Policy of the Russian Federation towards Compatriots Abroad, 1999
Serbia	Law on Diaspora and Serbs in the Region, 2009	Forthcoming Law on migration	<i>Serbs in the region</i> Law on Diaspora and Serbs in the region, 2009
Tajikistan	Concept on engagement with foreign compatriots as partners for development	Law on migration, 1999	<i>Compatriots, the Tajiks abroad</i> Concept on engagement with foreign compatriots as partners for development, 2010
Ukraine	***	Statistical definition, State Statistics Committee	<i>Ukrainians abroad</i> Law on legal status of Ukrainians abroad, 2004 as amended in 2012

Source: Answers to the IOM questionnaire, web-sites of statistical offices

Based on the conducted legislative and policy analysis, it is therefore proposed here to differentiate three groups of terms while discussing the possibility of a common framework for diaspora definition and measurement in the context of the SEECA region: i) diasporas, ii) other groups of persons residing abroad, and iii) emigrants.

In addition to studying the official framework, the existing terms and definitions have been analyzed with the purpose of identifying **criteria most frequently used for their description. Error! Reference source not found.** lists the number of countries which use each criterion for defining diaspora, emigrants and other terms in the region. Based on this analysis, the most frequently used criteria for each of the three groups of terms are:

- for *diaspora* - citizenship, place of residence, ethnicity and generation;
- for *emigrants* - change of residence and citizenship,
- for *other population groups residing abroad* - citizenship, place of residence and ethnicity.

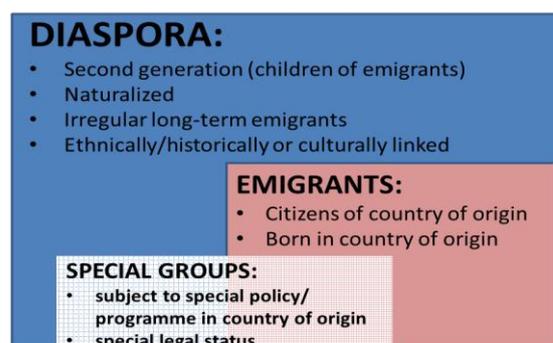
Table 2: Criteria used to define diaspora and other relevant terms in SEECA

Criteria	Terms		
	Diaspora	Emigrant	Other
<i>Total N of countries using the terms</i>	8	11	11
Citizenship	6	3	10
Place of birth	0	1	2
Place of residence	6	2	7
Change of residence	1	7	4
Ethnicity(origin)	3	0	6
Duration of residence	1	2	3
Legal status	2	0	1
Generation (second/third)	3	1	3
Belonging to an organization	1	0	0
Place of employment	1	1	1

From the conducted rapid assessment of the terms used in the SEECA region, one can propose the following conceptual differentiation and linkages between the definitions, which appears to suit all countries in the region:

- 1) the term “diaspora” is the broadest among the three groups of terms which incorporates all other categories of population groups residing abroad (emigrants and other special groups);
- 2) the term “emigrants” includes those persons who are departing/departed from the country of origin. Of relevance to diaspora policies, emigrants with (former) citizenship from country of origin or who were born on its territory are of importance, which excludes foreign emigrants or those who were born in other countries;
- 3) other special terms introduced by countries are primarily used for defining special rights and status identifying them as target groups for active state policies, primarily supporting their permanent relocation to the country of origin but also facilitating other types of contacts (tourism and travel, investment and social benefits).

The three categories and their inter-relationship could be graphically presented in **Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference..**

Figure 1: Inter-relation of three categories of terms related to diaspora in SEECA

III. Methods for diaspora stock estimation and characterization in South-Eastern, Eastern Europe and Central Asia

To implement policies on diaspora engagement, countries may require the collection and processing of several types of data. “Mapping diaspora” with the purpose of “knowing it” usually involves:

- 1) *estimation of total diaspora stocks* in various destination countries, disaggregated by age, sex, duration in migration. The prime objective of having such data would be **identifying main countries of destination** and monitoring evolution of these stocks over time;
- 2) identification of additional *characteristics of diaspora not easily captured through standard statistical tools* (skills, education, interest in return, forms and methods of potential contribution to the country of origin) in order to design **more targeted policies of diaspora mobilization and engagement**.

Diaspora mapping is sometimes also understood as identification of *specific individuals* from diaspora who would be willing to engage in a particular type of activity back at home (e.g. temporary return to share expertise and skills obtained in destination countries; investment into specific projects/objects; expert support to existing networks etc.). Even though there is an increasing need among the governments in the region in setting up special databases which would promote direct links between diasporas and population in the countries of origin, “mapping individual diaspora members” is not a focus of this paper nor was it the subject of the conducted rapid assessment in the region. Therefore, this section primarily looks into the capacities of the surveyed countries in *estimating total stocks* and *describing characteristics* of their diasporas and other population groups residing abroad.

As was already mentioned in the previous section, generation of statistics on diaspora is significantly hampered by the lack of its clear definition and understanding which population groups it incorporates. In fact, very often diaspora has been simply equated with the notion of “emigrants” and, as a result, estimated either through home country’s emigration data, such as deregistration procedures or population census, or via immigration statistics of a particular destination country⁵. Though a starting point, it would be incorrect to base diaspora stock estimation solely on either home country’s emigration data or host country’s immigration data. As was already demonstrated earlier in the paper, diaspora is a much broader notion than the notion of emigrants. In many countries the definition of diaspora also includes additional categories not captured through emigration data, such as immigrants with irregular status, second generation migrants, naturalized former citizens (see **Table 2** with schematic presentation of possible categories included into diaspora definitions in various countries). In addition, what concerns the specific situation in the SEECA region, if taking emigration flow data, most countries do not differentiate data on the basis of citizenship and, therefore, include foreigners into emigrant stock estimations. Foreign emigrants, however, should not be considered as part of diaspora stocks unless they possess other “ties” with the country from which they emigrate.

Table 2: Possible migrant categories to be included into diaspora notion and their data sources

<i>Category</i>	<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Possible Indicators and Sources</i>
Second generation (children of emigrants)	Family ties to emigrants	Relation to a person with migrant background, registration data in destination countries, destination country censuses
Emigrants	Change of residence, citizenship, country of birth	Immigration statistics from destination countries (by country of citizenship, by country of birth) Origin country’s foreign diplomatic representations’ statistics on registered citizens
Former citizens residing abroad	Change of citizenship	Naturalization statistics of destination countries Citizenship denunciation statistics of origin countries

⁵ See, for instance, World Bank 2011 where emigration data is taken as a proxy for diaspora stock data.

Irregular migrants	Legal status	Estimates of irregular residents (by citizenship) In-land apprehension statistics of destination countries Regularization statistics of destination countries (by citizenship)
Foreign citizens with ethnical or other background associated with the origin country	Ethnicity Language Country of birth	Immigration statistics from destination countries (by ethnicity, by country of birth, by language)

Source: M.Manke and T.Mortensen, 2011 edited and reworked

The rapid assessment revealed that the countries in the SEECA Region have considerable difficulties in **estimating and describing their diaspora stocks**. Though some estimates exist, they are usually not broken down into further sub-categories, nor are they traced in a regular manner over time. Most of the existing estimations are considered *working rather than official* and are calculated through combining multiple data sources in an ad hoc manner.

When comparing existing estimations for the three identified migrant categories – diaspora, emigrants and other special categories of population groups residing abroad – **estimations of emigrant stocks** appear to be most developed among the countries in the region. These are calculated primarily on the basis of population census data, but also deregistration data reported to the statistical offices by competent authorities. Only few countries started using destination country statistics to estimate stocks of their emigrants.

Unlike diaspora estimates, emigrant stock data is much more developed in terms of the number of characteristics which it can be described with: primarily *demographic characteristics* (sex, age) but also through such parameters as *country of destination, level of education, marital status, current citizenship, ethnicity and language skills*. Timeliness of the emigrant stock data varies across the countries, but in most cases the most recent data on emigrant stock was associated with the latest census, while for emigration flows, more recent data was available.

Statistical data on the number of persons belonging to the third category under analysis – **other special population groups residing abroad** such as “people residing abroad”, “compatriots” or “ethnic groups returning back to their countries of origin” – are not more developed as compared to statistics on other population groups – diaspora or emigrants. As it was pointed out in the previous section, the policy and legislative frameworks for defining and regulating state actions related to these special populations groups appear to be more developed, as compared to the frameworks governing data collection and statistics generation on diaspora or emigrants. Nevertheless, even if some estimates on the stocks and characteristics exist, they do not become official statistics and usually exist as agency data reflected in competent authorities’ reporting.

To overcome challenges in producing diaspora statistics, primarily its descriptive part, several countries in the region have started **piloting statistical surveys**. Through their non-representative nature, and it is next to impossible to design a representative survey of diaspora given their size and dispersion across the world, surveys of population groups residing abroad cannot be used as tools for estimating total stocks of diaspora but have turned out to be quite valuable for the identification of diaspora prime characteristics. Annex 2 provides an overview of recent specialized surveys conducted in the region, as well as in one destination country, during last five years.

From the methodological point of view, these surveys have used several research methods, often in combination:

- 1) *on-line* surveys which were filled in by diaspora representatives during a definite period of time (Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia),
- 2) *structured personal interviews* conducted among diaspora representatives in destination countries, and

3) *focus group discussions* with experts or migrants themselves, organized either to substantiate survey questionnaires or on their own.

As mentioned in the methodological notes accompanying the survey reports, each of them possessed certain limitations which have to be taken into consideration while interpreting final results. Thus, concerning on-line surveys, the following challenges have been mentioned⁶:

- insufficient outreach to be representative of all diaspora;
- general sample selection problem of online surveys (underrepresentation) and bias towards educated individuals;
- lack of personal interactions to verify accuracy of answers;
- willingness to participate may be proportional to the degree to which the respondent maintains ties with her or his home country. Therefore, results may be slightly biased towards a greater willingness to return and/or contribute than is typical;
- in one survey specifically - cases of selection of several mutually exclusive answers, the scales used were not always completely clear and were open to interpretation; divergent lists of options were presented to the different types of migrants and for the different language options, making direct comparisons of the responses difficult.

At the same time, on-line surveys possess certain advantages which should also be taken into consideration when planning activities for mapping diaspora:

- cost-efficiency;
- possibility to keep the survey open and gather data during an almost indefinite period of time;

possibility to survey a larger number of individuals and outreach to those who may have not been outreached otherwise.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

The rapid assessment of the definitions, sources of data and measurement methods for diaspora, emigrants and other population groups residing abroad in South-Eastern, Eastern Europe and Central Asia resulted in the following findings:

Concerning diaspora definition:

- a) From the policy perspective, it is important to differentiate among the three main notions used in the region of relevance to population groups residing abroad: *diaspora*, which is an overarching and broad category of population residing abroad; *emigrants*, which is primarily used for statistical purposes of describing population which left the country (changed place of residence) and settled down in a certain destination country; and *special groups* of population residing abroad, which the countries grant with certain benefits and a special legal status and prioritize as eligible for participation in separate state programmes, primarily facilitated permanent return.
- b) In some countries of the SEECA region, the differentiation among the three groups of notions might not be straightforward, hence pointing at the need *to develop a common understanding within the country* about the relationship among the various population groups residing abroad. Such a work towards a common understanding at the national level will facilitate the development of a nationally acceptable notion of diaspora and, hence, contribute to the elaboration of effective and targeted state policies on its engagement.
- c) There is a common agreement among the surveyed countries for the need to work towards a common definition of diaspora (see Annex 3), which would:

⁶ See Baird T.E and Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels, 2010, Oruč N. et al. 2011, USAID 2007, IOM 2012a and 2012b.

- “enable a better estimation of diaspora groups and allow for a better comparison between countries”;
 - “facilitate the process of determination of legal status for the population residing abroad and the elaboration of a more concrete policy towards this group”;
 - “define the scope of various population categories covered by this term with the aim to reach consensus among the states and avoid misunderstandings and different applications of this term by the states in various contexts”;
 - “enable more thorough monitoring of migration processes, integration and adaptation”;
 - “contribute to a precise understanding of the term in international treaties” and “promote a multi-lateral development of state institutions and people”.
- d) A clearer and commonly agreed definition of diaspora and its relationship within the identified three categories of terms – diaspora, emigrants and other special population groups residing abroad - would greatly facilitate further in-depth study and recommendations on various tools for estimating each

Concerning diaspora measurement:

- e) To effectively engage with and mobilize diaspora, two types of statistical data become important: first, knowing the size of diaspora, or “diaspora stocks”, to prioritize among destination countries to be targeted by diaspora engagement policies and programmes, and, second, knowing diaspora characteristics, to ensure that the policies and programmes are as geared towards real interests and needs of diaspora as possible.
- f) Though emigrant stock data may be used as one possible proxy for diaspora stock estimation, equating emigration data with diaspora data appears to be limited as it misses a number of categories of population residing abroad which are important in the diaspora engagement context.
- g) Specialized diaspora surveys produce useful and interesting results and serve the purpose of describing specific characteristics of diaspora. More efforts should be spent on refining such survey methodology, identifying way of overcoming possible shortages and maximizing reliability and policy orientation.
- h) There is an apparent need to further explore the notion of diaspora and methods of its estimation and measurement not only in the region but within a broader global context, to enable international compatibility and development of common approaches at regional and global levels.

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Annex 1: Definitions of diaspora and other population groups residing abroad used in the SEECA region

Country	Diaspora		Emigrants		Other terms		
	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria	
Albania	<p>Old Diaspora - all Albanian citizens emigrated before 90's.</p> <p>New Diaspora - Albanian citizens emigrated after early 90's, spent at least one decade in migration, have a regular status of stay in the destination countries.</p>	<p>Citizenship</p> <p>Time of Emigration/ departure from the country</p> <p>Duration in migration</p> <p>Legal status in destination country</p>	<p>1) Emigrant is the person, who is, has been or will be employed or self-employed, in a regular manner, in a profitable activity, nonprofit activity or public activity with or without a time limit, in a state which is different from the one of his/her citizenship</p> <p>2) Albanian citizens residing abroad are assessed within the Census framework</p>	<p>1) Regular status</p> <p>Remuneration activity</p> <p>Place of employment (abroad)</p> <p>Citizenship</p> <p>2) Place of residence</p>			
Armenia	<p>Diaspora is a person of Armenian origin residing outside Armenia and a citizen of another state</p>	<p>Place of residence (abroad)</p> <p>Origin</p> <p>Citizenship</p>	<p>Migrant Located in a Foreign Country, Emigrant - a person who was residing in a foreign country during the period of the survey for three and more months</p>	<p>Place of residence (abroad)</p> <p>Duration of residence abroad</p>	<p>of</p> <p>of</p>	<p>1) Compatriots are citizens residing abroad</p> <p>2) Officially deregistered from databases of the passport departments of the Police</p>	<p>1) Citizenship</p> <p>Place of residence (abroad)</p> <p>2) Fact of deregistration</p>
Azerbaijan			<p>Emigrants - is the number of those obtained permission to leave the country for constant residence (including foreign citizens constantly staying in the country, as well as those without citizenship)</p>	<p>Permitted departure</p> <p>Reason for departure</p>		<p>Azerbaijanis residing abroad applies to 1) citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan and their children; 2) former citizens of the Azerbaijan SSR and their children; and 3) those who do not belong to the above-mentioned categories, but believe themselves and their children to be Azerbaijani in terms of ethnic, language, cultural or historical relationship.</p>	<p>Citizenship</p> <p>Place of residence (abroad)</p>
B&H	<p>Diaspora includes not only first generations but also second and third generations.</p>	<p>Generation</p>	<p>1) Emigrants born in B&H</p> <p>2) Emigrants holding only B&H citizenship</p> <p>3) Emigrants from B&H and their descendants (2nd and 3d generations)</p>	<p>Place of birth</p> <p>Citizenship</p> <p>Generation</p>			

Country	Diaspora		Emigrants		Other terms	
	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria
Georgia	<p>Diaspora - the totality of compatriots residing abroad</p> <p>Diaspora organization – an association created according to the legislation of the country of residence for the purpose of popularization Georgian culture, Georgian state language and traditions, connecting diasporas and cooperation with Georgia in cultural, scientific- technical, sport and other fields</p>	<p>Place of residence (abroad)</p> <p>Establishment of organization</p>	<p>Emigrant - a person who left his/her native country for a foreign one on a permanent or a temporary basis and whose absence in Georgia lasts for more than 12 months.</p>	<p>Emigration/departure from the country</p> <p>Duration of migration</p>	<p>Compatriot residing abroad - Georgian citizen, who resides in another country for a long period of time, or a citizen of foreign country, who has Georgian origin and/or whose native language belongs to the Georgian-Caucasian language group</p> <p>Georgian origin – refers to the person, who or whose ancestor belongs to any ethnic group living on Georgian territory and who recognizes Georgia as the country of his/her origin</p> <p>Ancestry - an ascending branch of a person’s fifth generation</p>	<p>1) Citizenship</p> <p>Place of residence (abroad)</p> <p>Duration of residence abroad</p> <p>Origin</p> <p>Language family</p> <p>2) Ethnicity</p> <p>Place of residence</p> <p>Recognition of Georgia as country of origin</p> <p>Generation line</p>
Kazakhstan			<p>Migration of population - movement of people (migrants) across borders of certain regions related to change of place of residence.</p>	<p>Change of place of residence</p>	<p>Former compatriot - a person who was born or who was before a citizen of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic and the Republic of Kazakhstan and the resident abroad.</p> <p>Oralmans - foreigners or stateless persons of the Kazakh ethnicity who permanently resided outside the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the moment of its independence on 16 December 1991 and who arrived to Kazakhstan with the purpose of permanent residence.</p>	<p>1) Place of birth</p> <p>Past citizenship</p> <p>Place of residence (abroad)</p> <p>2) Citizenship before migration</p> <p>Residence abroad at certain period of time</p> <p>Purpose for migration</p>
Kyrgyzstan			<p>Emigrant - citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic leaving the country with the purpose of permanent residence on the territory of another state.</p>	<p>Emigration/departure from the country</p> <p>Purpose of migration (permanent residence abroad)</p>	<p>1) Migrant-worker - a person with regular legal status and employed in a state which is not his/her state of citizenship.</p> <p>2) Kayrylman - an ethnic Kyrgyz who is a foreign citizen or a stateless person and who is voluntarily returning to the historic motherland, having received the kayrylman status.</p> <p>Kayrylman status is a temporary legal status until acquisition of the citizenship of the Kyrgyz Republic.</p>	<p>1) Legal status</p> <p>Place of employment</p> <p>Citizenship</p> <p>2) Citizenship</p> <p>Ethnicity</p> <p>Change of place of residence (back to Kyrgyzstan)</p> <p>Legal status</p>

Country	Diaspora		Emigrants		Other terms	
	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Diaspora - concept that involves the Macedonian National Minority (MNM), and emigrants (former nationals), as well as all nationals of the country staying and working abroad regardless of the duration of their stay, and ethnic Macedonians that have never had Macedonian nationality.	Ethnicity Emigration Citizenship Place of residence/work (abroad)	Emigrant - a person that performs an act of emigration. Emigration - an action by which a person, who previously lived on the territory of a certain country, ceases to have a place of living in that specific country and establishes his/her place of living in another country	Termination of place of residence in one country and establishment in another	Expatriate - a citizen who has emigrated from the country to another state, exclusive of his mother country, regardless of the sex, race, color of the skin, national and social origin, political and religious belief, property and social status. A key criterion for a person to be considered as an expatriate is: the person has left the country as its citizen, which means that later the person has lost the citizenship, and the person went to another country, other than the country of domicile Persons belonging to the Macedonian people in the countries of the near and extended neighborhood of the country	1) Citizenship/fact of loss Emigration/departure to another country 2) Ethnicity
Moldova			Emigrant - a citizen of the Republic of Moldova who leaves its territory with the purpose of permanent or temporary residence on the territory of another state	Citizenship Emigration/departure Purpose of migration (permanent or temporary residence abroad)	1) Repatriant is a citizen of the Republic of Moldova and/or a person born on its territory and his/her descendants, as well as a person who used to permanently reside in the Republic of Moldova for at least ten years and is entitled to move back to the Republic of Moldova for permanent residence in accordance with the law. 2) Citizens of the Republic of Moldova leaving the country with the purpose of permanent residence abroad/permanently residing abroad 3) Emigrant worker - Citizen of the Republic of Moldova with permanent residence on the territory of the Republic of Moldova who have left willingly to another country with the aim to engage in temporary work	1) Citizenship Place of birth Generation Past place of residence Duration of residence Change of residence 2) Citizenship Emigration/departure and its purpose 3) Citizenship Place of residence Emigration/departure Purpose of emigration (work

Country	Diaspora		Emigrants		Other terms	
	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria
Montenegro	Diaspora - includes many population groups, from old diaspora communities in the region and the Americas through second or third generation of descendants of all kind of economic emigrants after WW2 to the recent emigration which is still holding the citizenship (MNE passport)	Place of current residence Generation Citizenship	N/A			
Russia					<p>1) Compatriots are persons born and currently residing (or residing in the past) in one state and characterized by common language, history, cultural heritage, traditions and customs, as well as descendants of these persons along the direct descending line.</p> <p>2) Compatriots abroad are citizens of the Russian Federation (RF) permanently residing outside the territory of the RF.</p> <p>3) Compatriots are also persons and their descendants residing outside the territory of the Russian Federation and belonging to the peoples who historically resided on the territory of the Russian Federation, as well as those who voluntarily opted for maintaining spiritual, cultural and legal ties with the Russian Federation whose relatives along the ascending direct line resided on the territory of the Russian Federation, including persons with USSR citizenship, residing in the states which comprised the USSR and obtained citizenship of these states or became stateless; emigrants from the Russian state, Russian Republic, Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, USSR and Russian Federation who possessed a relevant citizenship and acquired citizenship of a foreign state</p>	<p>1-3) Citizenship Past citizenship Place of residence Voluntary choice Generation</p> <p>4) Place of residence</p>

Country	Diaspora		Emigrants		Other terms	
	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria	Definition	Criteria
					or became stateless. 4) "Departed" citizens - those who deregistered at the place of their residence on the territory of the Russian Federation.	
Serbia	Diaspora is defined to include citizens of the Republic of Serbia living abroad and persons of Serbian ethnicity who emigrated from the Republic of Serbia and the region, and their descendants	Citizenship Place of residence (abroad) Ethnicity Emigration from Serbia and the region Generation	Not yet defined in national legislation	Definition in line with the EU Directive 862/2007	“Serbs in the Region - persons of Serbian ethnicity that live in the Republic of Slovenia, the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, the Republic of Macedonia, Romania, the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Hungary”.	Ethnicity Place of residence (the region)
Tajikistan	Diasporas - communities of the Tajik residing in foreign countries who received foreign citizenship and have all rights and duties of these countries.	Ethnicity Place of residence (abroad) Citizenship/loss Legal status	Emigrants – persons engaged in emigration. Emigration – permanent or temporary departure of persons from the Republic of Tajikistan to another country.	Change of place of residence	1) Compatriots - citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan residing and working abroad but are not members of diasporas. 2) The Tajik abroad - the Tajik who are historical residents of other countries	1) Citizenship Place of residence/work (abroad) Membership in diaspora 2) Ethnicity Duration of residence abroad
Ukraine			N/A		Ukrainian abroad - is a person who is a citizen of another state or a stateless person, and who also has a Ukrainian ethnic origin or is by origin from Ukraine. A person has a Ukrainian ethnic origin when he/she or his/her ancestry belongs to the Ukrainian nation and he/she recognizes Ukraine as a homeland of his/her ethnic origin.	Citizenship Ethnicity Origin Recognition of Ukraine as homeland of ethnic origin

Annex 2: Diaspora surveys conducted in the SEECA and of relevance to SEECA countries in 2007-2012

Country	Instrument	Year	Prepared by	Format	Dissemination	Duration	Sample	Target groups	Additional tools
Armenia	Tourism market research on the Armenian-American diaspora community	2007	USAID	Quantitative telephone survey, no incentive		January 2007, 16 minute interview	600	Armenian-American in 5 USA states	N/A
Bosnia and Herzegovina	To BiH or not to BiH? A report on the return of young Diaspora to the BiH labour market	2010-2011	Within the MDG funded Youth Employability and Retention Programme	On-line	Link disseminated across diaspora organizations	December 2010 through mid-January 2011	874 (full survey), 1.545 (question on intentions to return)	Returnees, persons in diaspora, re-emigrants	N/A
Moldova	Moldovans in Russia: Socio-economic profile and policy challenges	2012		Personal interviews	N/A		1) 394 in Russia, 2) 302 in Moldova	1) citizens of Moldova who work or were looking for work in Russia or worked previously 2) members of migrant households	In-depth half-formal interviews with experts in focus groups: 7 in Russia and 10 in Moldova. 5 focus group interviews with circular migrants in Russia
Serbia	The Serbian Diaspora and Youth: Cross-Border Ties and Opportunities for Development	2010	Statistical Office with IOM technical support, within the MDG funded Programme Youth Employment and Migration	On-line	Mass media in destination countries, targeted based on largest stocks of Serbian diaspora	December 2009	1182	General population with focus on youth (15-30 years of age)	Identification of prime destination countries was done following bi-lateral requests to destination country stat. offices for data on the number of Serbian residents
Tajikistan	Tajik labour migrant diaspora communities in the Russian Federation	2012	IOM	16 focus group discussions	N/A	N/A	132	5 categories of migrant workers including former migrants	N/A

Annex 3. Need for a common international definition of diaspora

Country	Need for a common definition of the term "diaspora": agree/disagree, comments	
Albania	Yes	A unified definition would enable a better estimation of diaspora groups and would also allow for a comparison between countries. This is the opinion of all respondents of this questionnaire.
Armenia	Yes	Armenian diaspora reside in many countries. Diaspora representatives, as a rule, are citizens of another state who have no legal ties with their country of origin. Migrants (compatriots) are citizens - or former citizens - of Armenia
Azerbaijan	Yes	Development of a common term can facilitate the process of determination of legal status for the population residing abroad and for the elaboration of a more concrete policy towards this population group
B&H	N/A	N/A
Georgia	N/A	N/A
Kazakhstan	N/A	N/A
Kyrgyzstan	Yes	Existing definitions may suffice already. Diaspora is a stable community of individuals of common ethnic or national origin, residing outside the country of origin, united in consolidated and stable ethnic groups in destination countries, possessing social mechanisms for maintaining and developing its identity and commonality. Sociology: Encyclopedia. A.A. Gritzianov, et. al, 2003.
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Yes	We agree that there is a need to develop a common acceptable definition of "Diaspora" which would define the scope of the various population categories covered with this term with an aim to reach consensus among the states and to avoid the misunderstandings and different application of this term by the states in various contexts. There is a need to make a clear distinction between the terms "Diaspora", "expatriates", and "national minorities" (source: Agency for Emigration)
Moldova	Yes	1) As an example, the Moldovan diaspora unites not only those Moldovans who now possess citizenship of country of destination, but also migrant workers - citizens of the Republic of Moldova, which is not considered diaspora in classical sense. 2) It is important for the term "diaspora" to be explained in relationship to other terms, such as emigrants, compatriots, citizenship who left the country with the purpose of residing abroad. This would enable more thorough monitoring of migration processes, integration and adaptation 3) It is considered important to develop an internationally accepted definition of diaspora in order to contribute to a precise understanding of the term in international treaties, to efficiently monitor the citizens of a given state, to maintain their links with the homeland and promote a multi-lateral development of state institutions and people.
Montenegro	Yes	Although all existing terms are well known the usage of different terms from country to country often creates confusion. International standardization of the definition for diaspora is a priority matter. A unified internationally acceptable definition certainly will be helpful in all aspects.
Russia	N/A	N/A

Serbia	Yes	In order to have remotely uniform system for developing set of policy measures aiming to facilitate diaspora, internationally accepted definition of diaspora would be of great advantage, such as for example the working definition of diaspora of GFMD
Tajikistan	Yes	Definitely there is a need to develop a common approach in defining the status of compatriots and diaspora (ethnic community). The connection with the country of origin motivates migrants to contribute to the development of their country of origin.
Ukraine	Yes	This is necessary for estimation and comparison across countries.
