

High-level Seminar on population census and migration statistics in the CIS countries

Methodological approaches to the measurement of migration in Ukraine

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The Republic of Ukraine is at the same time a country of origin, transit and destination, as well as the donor of the labor force.

The increasing volume of migration flows and their directions pose challenges to the statistics on the data sources, improvements of data collection technology, development and dissemination of information on migration, its quality improvement.

Migration statistics is one of the most challenging and difficult types of collecting information on the population. Informational support system for the migration processes in Ukraine includes official statistics and special sample surveys.

The official migration statistics derives information from three main sources: administrative records, population census and population sample surveys. Each of them has its advantages and disadvantages.

Administrative records. The state statistics bodies on a regular basis receive individual data on persons registered and deregistered. This allows to keep a record of the physical movement of the population for statistical purposes, especially for on-line calculations of the size of the country and territorial units' population, in the inter-censal period, as well as to fix the permanent migration of the population, its scope and the main flow directions.

The population census is the main source of data on migration. The value of this information is that it allows getting detailed demographic, socio-economic and geographic characteristics of the population and migration processes. The census provides complete coverage of immigrants, including persons not registered by state bodies who are staying in the country at the time of census conduct. The census data provide detailed characteristics of internal migration at the level of small areas.

Sample surveys of households, which are held in Ukraine, is an important source of data, allowing a more detailed study of migration issues, particularly related to the departure of citizens abroad.

In 2008 the State Statistics Service of Ukraine with technical support, rendered by the International Organization for Migration, the World Bank and the «Open Ukraine» fund held the first overall sample survey on foreign labor migration. The methodology and organization of the survey were based on the statistical methods used to conduct random surveys of labor and living

conditions of households. The survey program was developed with the participation of international and national experts, using other countries' experience.

In 2012, with the technical support of the UN International Labor Organization the second survey on labor migration was conducted, which created a platform for introduction of such surveys into regular statistical practice.

In the future, Ukraine plans to create an integrated informational (automated) system for recording and analysis of migration flows.