



International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
The UN Migration Agency

## Use of Migration Governance Indicators assessments in Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)

### *Guidance note*

This guidance note provides information on how to use the MGI results in Voluntary National Reviews for Country Offices that have previously participated in the MGI. It should be used to complement IOM's internal guidance note on *Supporting UN Member States in the preparation of Voluntary National Reviews for the 2020 High-level Political Forum*, which provides background information on what the HLPF is, what the VNRs are, why they are important, and how IOM can contribute to them.

### MGI and the SDGs

The MGI was developed as a direct response to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which calls on governments to “facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies” (SDG 10.7). The MGI was designed to help governments understand what well-managed policies might mean in practice.

While SDG 10.7 sets a specific target to make migration safer, more orderly and more regular, this target should also be considered in relation to all other migration-related aspects of the SDGs. For instance, governments wishing to develop well-managed migration policies would have to consider the links between migration and development in a number of contexts, such as whether and to what extent: migrants are included in their health policies (SDG 3); migrants are included in their education systems (SDG 4); gender considerations are included in migration policies (SDG 5); or migration and displacement are included in disaster risk reduction strategies, amongst other linkages.

The relationship between the MGI and the SDGs is therefore twofold: (a) the MGI is a tool that can help countries assess their progress on SDG target 10.7 and (b) it can help assess whether countries are also meeting other goals across the SDGs, such as access to education, universal healthcare, peace and security, etc.

### How to use the MGI

As each VNR can differ depending on the capacity and priorities of the Member State concerned, IOM country offices will need to work closely with their government and UN counterparts to identify the best entry points and most appropriate form of input to the VNR process. Nevertheless, there may be several ways to utilize the MGI in the context of VNRs, for example as a tool to:

- I. Set a baseline, identify gaps, and track progress on migration-related targets of the SDGs, and link it with the GCM follow-up and review.



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- II. Present the good practices highlighted in the MGI report for any section reviewing the progress on SDG target 10.7 or other migration-related SDGs (e.g. universal health coverage for migrants could be reported under goal 3).
- III. Present the actions that have been taken or planned to address the gaps and challenges highlighted in the MGI report. If the country has conducted follow-up assessments,<sup>1</sup> it can use this updated report to showcase progress.
- IV. Present the MGI gaps for which the country would need support in terms of finance, capacity-building, technology, and partnerships.

This information can be organized in various ways:

- a. The information stemming from the MGI may be utilized to complement various sections in the VNR (e.g., information on health, labour migration, governance, etc.)
- b. A paragraph discussing the country's participation in the MGI could be included in any section on SDG 10.
- c. Highlights from the MGI publication could be used as an annex to the full VNR report, and referenced throughout the narrative section.

For examples of how this has been done in the past, please refer to the following reports:

- Dominican Republic, p. 123  
[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19710INV\\_RD\\_2018\\_V2.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19710INV_RD_2018_V2.pdf)
- Kuwait, p. 64-5 and Annex 9  
[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23384Kuwait\\_VNR\\_FINAL.PDF](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23384Kuwait_VNR_FINAL.PDF)
- Lesotho, p.75-6  
[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23777Lesotho\\_VNR\\_Report\\_2019\\_Final.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23777Lesotho_VNR_Report_2019_Final.pdf)
- Timor Leste, p. 89  
[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23417TimorLeste\\_VNR\\_2019\\_FINAL.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23417TimorLeste_VNR_2019_FINAL.pdf)

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<sup>1</sup> For more information on follow-up assessments, please refer to the guidance note on the subject.