



## Global Compact for Migration Objective 16

Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion<sup>1</sup>

“ Governmental and non-governmental partners should work together to ... establish information management systems for human trafficking case data. In addition, the barriers to, and costs of, data and information sharing should be reduced in order to strengthen the evidence base for counter-trafficking.<sup>2</sup> ”

### Objective 16 takeaways

- MGI countries are more likely to allow international students to work while studying than to have a scheme that allows them to work after graduation.
- Provisions for allowing international students to work during study are more likely to be found in countries that have different types of visas to attract different labour skills.
- Countries that conduct formal assessments to monitor the labour market demand for immigrants are more likely to have schemes for allowing international students to work after graduation.

In 18 per cent of MGI countries, the national migration strategy addresses migrant integration.<sup>3</sup> Moreover, equal access to university education for all international students is guaranteed in 27 per cent of MGI countries, while in 60 per cent of them, international students are charged higher fees than nationals. Even though 31 per cent of the countries allow international students to work during their study, only 13 per cent have a scheme for allowing them to work in the country after graduation. Figure 2 shows the regional distribution of “yes” answers to these questions.

Figure 1. MGI questions on inclusion and social cohesion: global distribution of answers (yes/partially/no)

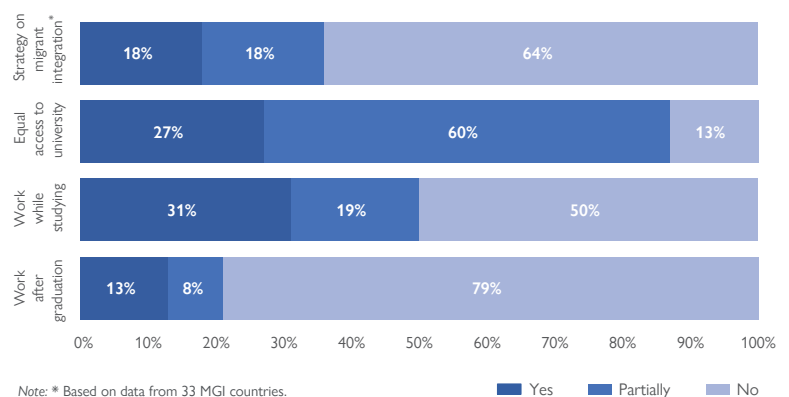
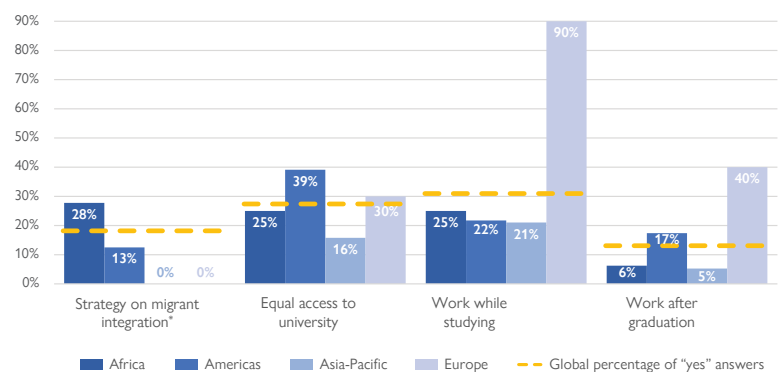


Figure 2. MGI questions on inclusion and social cohesion: regional distribution of “yes” answers



<sup>1</sup> This bulletin is part of the publication *MGI Data Bulletins on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration*, which offers insights from MGI data for each of the 23 Global Compact for Migration objectives. Unless otherwise specified, data is based on 84 MGI countries.

<sup>2</sup> IOM, Integration and social cohesion: Key elements for reaping the benefits of migration, Global Compact Thematic Paper: Integration and Social Cohesion. Available at [www.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbd486/files/our\\_work/ODG/GCM/IOM-Thematic-Paper-Integration-and-Social-Cohesion.pdf](http://www.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbd486/files/our_work/ODG/GCM/IOM-Thematic-Paper-Integration-and-Social-Cohesion.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> Overall, 38 per cent of MGI countries have a national migration strategy defined in a programmatic document. The question of whether the strategy addresses migrant integration was added in a later MGI phase, hence data are only available for 33 countries. Migrant integration involves all categories of migrants and is the two-way process of mutual adaptation between migrants and the societies in which they live, whereby migrants are incorporated into the social, economic, cultural and political life of the receiving community. (IOM, 2019b)

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Figure 3 shows that almost half (48%) of the countries that have different types of visas to attract specific labour skills allow international students to work during the course of study, in contrast with 23 per cent of other countries.

One third of the countries that conduct formal assessments to monitor the labour market demand for immigrants (e.g. shortage occupation lists) have developed schemes for allowing international students to work after graduation. This share is more than three times higher than for countries that conduct semi-formal assessments that are implemented on an ad hoc basis or those that do not conduct an assessment at all (Figure 4).

Figure 3. Percentage of countries allowing international students to work during study, by having different types of visas to attract specific labour skills

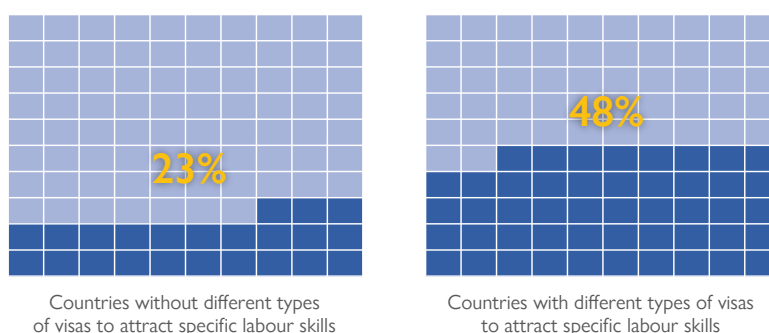
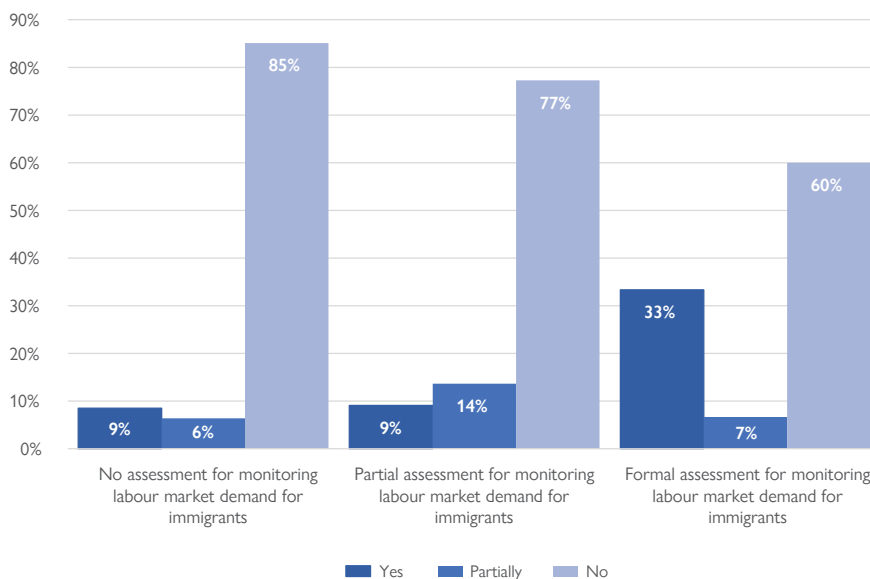


Figure 4. Percentage of countries with schemes for allowing international students to work after graduation, by type of assessment to monitor the labour demand for immigrants



**MGI data insight**

A total of 41 per cent of countries that provide social protection to all migrants include provisions that allow international students to work during the course of study, in contrast to 7 per cent of those that do not provide social protection to all migrants.

Source: Own calculations using MGI data.

## Selected example from MGI data: Germany

According to the Residence Act (AufenthG), section 20,\* in order to look for a job for which their training qualifies them, foreigners are granted a temporary residence permit for up to 18 months. This is if they have successfully completed a course of study in Germany as part of a stay under the conditions defined in sections 16b or 16c of the Act.

\* Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Bundesministerium der Justiz und für Verbraucherschutz), Resident Act in the version promulgated on 25 February 2008 (Federal Law Gazette I, p. 162), most recently amended by Article 4b of the Act of 17 February 2020 (Federal Law Gazette I, p. 166). Available at [www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch\\_aufenthg/englisch\\_aufenthg.html](http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html).