The European Commission’s science and knowledge service

Joint Research Centre
Recent migration data and dynamics through the Mediterranean Sea

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Improving Migration Data

Data needs

Policy questions

DATA GAPS

I – Improvement existing data,
II – Existing inaccessible data &
III – Innovative sources

POLICY QUESTIONS

DATA NEEDS

• Policy DGs, Services and EU Agencies dialogue
• EU Policy on Migration Data
• International partnerships and fora

EXISTING DATA LANDSCAPE

- Migration data catalogue
- Dynamic Data Hub

Data services & refined policy questions

MS data exploration, improving data collection/dissemination & Big Data 4 Migration
The Dynamic Data Hub

50+ datasets collected by EU Institutions, Agencies and MSs, and international organisations worldwide

To help policy makers, researchers and stakeholders to analyse data

Cross-domain data on stocks, flows, children in migration, forced displacement, demographic and socio-economic indicators

the Dynamic Data Hub will be enriched with more sets of data...

Outline

• The main Mediterranean Sea routes
• Legal Migration
• On African Migration
• Labour migration and economic cycles
• Data innovation
• Conclusions
The main Mediterranean Sea routes

Irregular Border Crossing (IBC) by sea following the Central, Western and Eastern Mediterranean routes

Source: IBCs data, Frontex
The Central Mediterranean Route

Arab Spring (Tunisia)

Peak of Syrian refugees crossing the Central Mediterranean

All nationalities

Nigeria as 1st IBCs nationality in 2016
Residence permits in Europe

Residence permits by reason

Work residence permits by duration
How the flows have changed

Work/family/edu first permits in Italy issued to people from Senegal versus Central Mediterranean Route arrivals

Legal channels have reduced, whereas irregular migration and refugee flows have increased in the last years.
Labour migration and economic cycles

Spain: how migration might follow boom (construction sector) & bust economic (2007) cycles

Sources:
- immigration, OECD
- unemployment, World Bank

• African migration has so far grown in line with overall population growth. The share of Africans living abroad similar to the 1960s

• More than one in two African migrants moved to another African country, while the other moved mostly to Europe, Western Asia or North America.

• Several different regional patterns

• Not possible to predict the extent to which increasing migratory flows will take place within Africa or to Europe, Middle East, Gulf States
Big Data for Migration Alliance - BD4M

KCMD – GMDAC joint initiative

Launch Big Data for Migration Alliance
BD4M – Brussels, 25-June 2018

https://bluehub.jrc.ec.europa.eu/bigdata4migration/

Review latest applications of big data and alternative data sources to support migration policymaking, suggesting pragmatic follow-up steps to expand use of such data sources

BD4M Alliance goals

- Awareness raising and knowledge sharing
- Capacity building
- Policy oriented research
Air passenger traffic data for migration

International air passenger data to study the relation between international mobility and migration as reported by official statistics
Conclusions

• Migration data provides key information to better understand migration trends and impact of EU initiatives on migration in the Mediterranean

• African migration has grown in line with overall population growth. Nevertheless, work/family/education channels reduced while irregular arrivals & asylum applications increased from Africa to Europe

• Data innovation as step forward to tackle gaps and migration policy questions
Any questions?
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