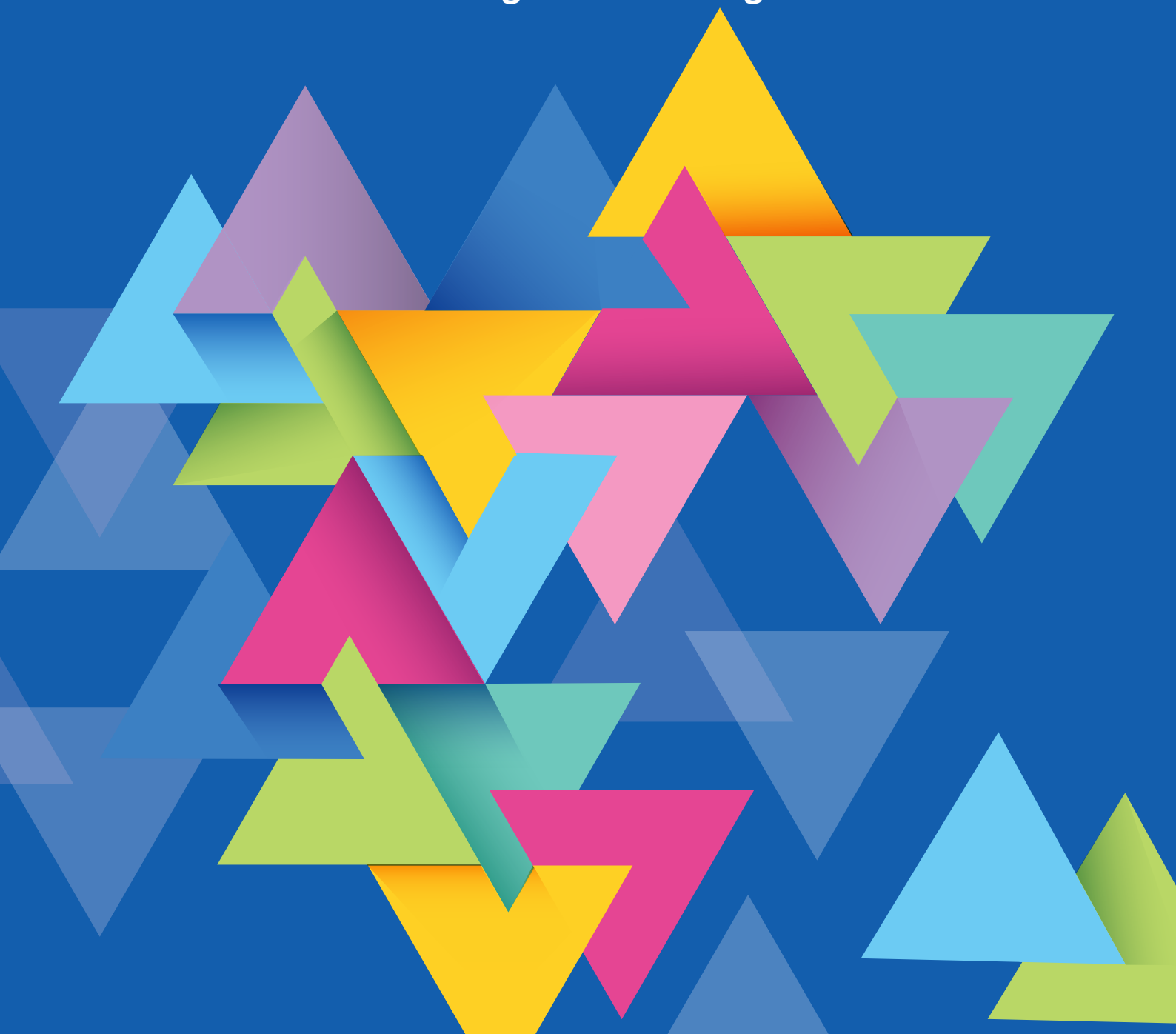


Making Migration and Integration Policies Future Ready

Ministerial Meeting on Migration and Integration
17 January 2020, Paris

Ministerial Statement and Orientations for Future
Work of the OECD on Migration and Integration



Ministerial Statement

1. We, the OECD Ministers and Representatives responsible for Migration and Integration Policy, together with the European Union and our counterparts from Brazil, the People's Republic of China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Romania and South Africa, met in Paris on 17 January 2020, under the chairmanship of Switzerland, represented by the Federal Councillor Ms. Karin Keller-Sutter, Head of the Federal Department of Justice and Police. The Vice-Chairs were the Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Teodoro Ribera and the Spanish Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, Mr. José Luis Escrivá.
2. A High-Level Policy Forum preceded the Ministerial. The Council of Europe, the European Commission, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Business at OECD (BIAC) and the Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC) participated in the High-Level Policy Forum and the Ministerial meeting. Other Representatives from civil society organisations and sub-national governments also participated in the High-Level Policy Forum. We welcome OECD collaboration with other international organisations and non-state actors, as appropriate, to help advance understanding of how to build effective and comprehensive migration and integration policies.
3. Migration and integration are amongst the most complex and sensitive issues in today's public debate. The share of immigrants in the world population increased from 2.8% to 3.5 % between 2000 and 2019. Today, 12% of the OECD population is foreign born and more than 5 million people immigrate permanently and via official channels to our countries every year. At the same time, a similar number of people migrate temporarily every year to OECD countries for study or work. People migrate for different, complex and sometimes mixed reasons (e.g. environmental, political, social and economic).
4. Underlining that key policy levers are in hands of national States, as well as in some cases subnational authorities, and that in the European Union some areas in the field of migration are under shared competence, we convened to discuss how governments are identifying and implementing migration and integration policies that enhance future prosperity, growth, and social cohesion. We noted some opportunities and challenges faced by our countries, societies, citizens, economies and migrants themselves.
5. Among these challenges is creating or maintaining a comprehensive and balanced approach to migration. This includes border management enforcement and international protection, combatting trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, provision of official channels in accordance with national laws, regulations and priorities, including labour markets needs as well as effective return and reintegration policies. Such an approach also includes measures to address the root causes of forced displacement and co-operation between origin, transit and destination countries. We encourage countries' engagement on migration, return and integration management.
6. Successful integration into labour markets, and host communities, including through language training, is a condition for having possible positive impacts of migration. Whole-of-society approaches that coordinate and engage across levels of government, social partners, private sector, academia and civil society can help. Sound migration management and effective integration policies, for both men and women, are important to achieving relevant internationally agreed frameworks.
7. International dialogue and cooperation help to make migration and integration policies future-ready. We aim to draw from good practices, at all policy levels, and continue the fruitful exchanges among us. We acknowledge the importance of evidence-based dialogue for the formulation and implementation of migration and integration policies. We welcome OECD work in providing sound and timely statistics on migration and integration. We also welcome the International Forum on Migration Statistics co-organised by the OECD with IOM and UNDESA and the forthcoming UN World Data Forum, which intend to promote the improvement and the use of comparable migration statistics. Similarly, we welcome the OECD work to facilitate sharing of good practices also through its NETCOM network.
8. We agree that through its high-quality data collection, analytical, and communications capabilities, the OECD plays a key role in informing the formulation and implementation of migration policies consistent with national laws. Accompanying this statement, we provide recommended general orientations for upcoming OECD work programmes that we believe will provide us with highly relevant information for our efforts to enhance future readiness of migration and integration policies.



Annex: Orientations for Future Work of the OECD on Migration and Integration

1. We, the OECD Ministers in charge of migration and integration policies invite the OECD Employment Labour and Social Affairs Committee (ELSAC) and its Working Party on Migration to monitor and assess emerging migration trends and provide evidence-based analysis, information and tools on the economic, social and labour market impacts of migration. Subject to available resources and in line with the OECD's customary budgetary and approval processes, this would entail the following:
 - Enhance its current Continuous Reporting Systems on Migration to improve information on flows and policies and to better identify emerging migration trends and challenges and their potential impacts;
 - Provide an analysis of the economic, social and labour market impacts of migration on the domestic workforce and society, at national, regional and local levels, taking into account contextual and historical factors in order to draw lessons for better policies in the future;
 - Analyse the entire migration continuum, covering drivers and intentions, preparation and realisation as well as long-term stay and return and reintegration, including for emigration from OECD countries. Study its long-term effect on the economy, labour markets and society of countries of origin and on international development;
 - Promote the exchange of good practices for communication on migration and integration across countries, but also sub-levels of national government and involving key stakeholders;
 - Improve coverage and analysis of relevant migration trends and policies and their labour market impact on G20 countries or other relevant regions.
2. In OECD countries, the speed, way, and degree to which immigrants and their children are integrating in society vary. This may require reviewing and adapting policies to support their integration. Recognising that integration for both men and women has multiple dimensions, we invite the OECD Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee and its Working Party on Migration to provide relevant and evidence-based recommendations on the integration of migrants, subject to available resources and in line with the OECD's customary budgetary and approval processes:
 - Promote exchange of experiences and good practices on integration of persons with the right to stay and its multiple dimensions, including learning of host-country language, taking into account local impact and long-term and short-term labour market needs. Assess experiences on the (re)integration of migrants in their country's labour market upon return. Assess non-economic aspects of integration, including social integration and the drivers of successful integration pathways;
 - Identify, in collaboration with other relevant OECD Committees, general policy principles of good practices on integration and flexible approaches for policymakers to consider, taking into account their own national contexts and priorities;
 - Enhance the dialogue with a wide spectrum of key stakeholders, including private sector and trade unions, civil society, academia and local authorities, to provide evidence based discussion on integration issues;
 - Promote good practices for fostering co-ordination and coherence of immigration and integration policies.
3. Migration management is undergoing important transformations. New technology, for example can change the way public services and oversight are managed and delivered. Similarly, changing skills needs may require adapting migration management tools to facilitate matching. We invite the OECD Employment, Labour and Social Affairs Committee and its Working Party on Migration to reinforce its work in collaboration with other OECD Committees and relevant International Organisations in the following areas, conditional on resource availability and in line with the OECD's customary budgetary and approval processes:
 - Promote the exchange of good practices in the ethical use of new technologies in the area of migration management;
 - Explore the potential of skills mobility partnerships as an innovative labour migration management instrument.