



IOM International Organization for Migration

Essentials of Migration Management

A Guide for Policy Makers and Practitioners

Volume Two



Essentials of Migration Management
Volume Two: Developing Migration Policy

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental body, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

The opinions and analyses expressed in this book do not necessarily reflect the views and official policies of the International Organization for Migration or its Member States.

Unless otherwise stated, the book does not refer to events occurring after 1 July 2004.

Publisher: International Organization for Migration

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ISBN 978-92-9068-214-1

ISBN 978-92-9068-216-5 (Volume 2)

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Essentials of Migration Management for Policy Makers and Practitioners is produced by IOM's Migration Policy and Research Department (MPR), Staff Development and Learning (SDL) and Migration Management Services (MMS).

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Essentials of Migration Management

Volume Two: Developing Migration Policy

Introduction

The second volume of *Essentials of Migration Management: A Guide for Policy Makers and Practitioners* presents the key elements needed to develop and implement a comprehensive policy framework for migration management. The migration process involves complex relationships between the migrant, the country of destination, and the country of origin. Migration is linked to policy in many areas, including the economic, social, labour, health, cultural, and security domains.

The conceptual model for migration management provided in Section 1.2 outlines the four main pillars, or areas, of migration management: migration and development, facilitating migration, regulating migration, and forced migration. Volume Two discusses the elements of a policy framework for these four areas, as well as the many sectors cutting across the four pillars. Considering interrelationships in framing the essential components of a comprehensive national migration policy is an important step in developing a strategy to manage migratory flows.

Developing migration policy is not an easy or straightforward matter. While migration has emerged as a significant area of public policy in its own right, it is still heavily interdependent with other areas of public policy. Effective national migration policy is challenged to find and maintain a balance among measures that address various migration-related issues without achieving the goals of one sphere at the expense of neglecting the goals of another.

A country that has a clear migration policy and well-defined admission categories is in a better position to avoid migration-related problems. For example, a policy that organizes the selection of the types of migrants needed by a country helps to ensure that the migrants quickly become satisfactorily settled in their new surroundings and it soon becomes evident that these migrants make significant contributions to the nation through their skills and talent. The native-born citizens will more easily accept them, and successful integration is facilitated.

The management of migration in many countries has been handicapped by the failure of their governments to establish a clearly defined migration policy that sets out in legislation the rules and regulations governing the major elements critical to the migration process. Most countries have become countries of immigration, transit, and emigration. As such, they will need to establish a realistic migration policy grounded in sensible migration legislation, which will not only determine who is admitted, but that will support migrants and develop programmes with other countries that manage labour, remittances, migrant health, and returns.

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