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How to address irregular migration How to improve the facilitation of regular migration and decent work and

# POLICY AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

The 2030 Agenda enforces the importance of Jamaica's IMD Policy<sup>2</sup> and recognizes migration as a critical development driver which impacts the economic, social and environmental pillars of development. Specifically, migration reference is clearly articulated in target 10.7 under the goal "Reduce inequality in and among countries," (UN, 2015) to "facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies," (Ibid). In a bid to attain target 10.7, integrated and participatory approaches have been utilized with other sustainable development initiatives in which all levels of government and other sectors within and outside of national borders have been engaged, recognizing that the migration related aspects of the 2030 Agenda cannot occur in silos.

the various perspectives are brought to initiation, planning and implementation of various actions to ensure that migration interventions are effective and sustainable. Inclusivity and multi-stakeholder collaborations have allowed implementation beyond the policymaker domain and have facilitated consistent interactions with policy efforts.

Enabling engagements with all levels of government through the NWGIMD and other governance mechanisms has also informed effective sustainable and inclusive strategies being implemented at the national and sub-national levels. This has allowed vertical engagement whereby the sector players have been able to devise actions that may be adapted to particular contexts while encouraging and communicating the importance of migration and development actions at the sub

### PROGRESS ON GCM OBJECTIVES

The table below describes the correlation between Jamaica's Mgration Programmes and the GCM objectives. A breakdown of the GCM objectives can be found in

PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMMES	GCM Objectives
sessions for migrant workers. Project initiatives have been formulated to address issues faced by migrant workers and their families.	
Consultations and Public Awareness – Continued efforts are being made to build public awareness of migration and its importance to migrants and country development. National and sub-national consultations and public awareness sessions have been facilitated around migration and national policies, treaties, conventions, SDGs and the Global Compact for Migration. In 2017, a 12-week radio programme was aired to encourage Jamaicans that the migration pathways being considered were safe. An abbreviated version of the National Migration Policy was also developed and disseminated. Community groups and individuals have also been encouraged to share their views on migration and development via international video competitions and local creative arts competitions that have been sponsored by IOM.	Objectives 3, 8, 17, 21, 23
Mapping of the Diaspora: This project aimed to determine members of the diaspora's skills, knowledge, willingness to contribute to development, and their needs and concerns	Objective 1-3, 16-19 & 23
Diaspora and Remittances – Work has commenced on the review of regulations pertaining to the treatment of remittances in a bid to reduce remittance charges as well to encourage the diversification of the use of remittance from consumption to investments. The Government has also been ensuring that open dialogue remains with the Diaspora and mapping of the diaspora population is being executed to determine profiling, aimed at ensuring product and service reach.	Objective 19 -22

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The NWGIMD, the multi-sectoral body with responsibility for coordinating and providing overall guidance and oversight on matters relating to international migration and development, assists with the continuity of migration initiatives.

Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative, an ongoing project that aims to contribute to strengthening the disaster risk management and preparedness capacity of the Government of Jamaica (GOJ). Jamaica is the third most exposed country in the world to multiple hazards with more than 96 per cent of the country's GDP and population at risk from two or more hazards<sup>4</sup> (World Bank, 2022). Its primary risks are linked to hazards including hurricanes, floods, droughts, earthquakes, storm surges, and landslides. The project is poised to:

- o Deliver an assessment report of the vulnerabilities of migrants in the context of a disaster
- Create and improve relevant communication systems to assist migrants during and after crises, using a gender-sensitive approach
- Sensitize the migrant community in Jamaica through a gender-sensitive, communication campaign in relation to COVID-19
- o Increase the knowledge of the steering committee members on MICIC guidelines, fitting the Jamaican context
- Strengthen the capacity of local government agencies to support and train migrants to assist themselves, their families, and communities during and in the aftermath of a crisis
- Increase the knowledge of Jamaican diplomatic missions overseas, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Consular Department, to assist diaspora members in the instance of a disaster or crisis
- Develop migrant inclusive standard operating procedures (SOPS) for preparedness and response to a crisis, targeted at public and private sector stakeholders

Remittance Initiative - The objective of this initiative is to facilitate the GOJ's efforts to modernize its remittance sector in keeping with global sector advances. Modernization of the remittance sector will drive and contribute to sustainable development. The anticipated impact of the modernization of the sector will be an expansion of inflows, changes in utilization patterns, volume, formal channels and regulations.

Diaspora Mapping - This project will produce a design for the Diaspora Registration Platform (DRP) as well as the Diaspora Portal (the Portal). It will:

- o Detail the functional requirements of the system, including a list of the data elements to be captured for individuals and businesses, and the reporting requirements of the system.
- o Produce a design for, and define the contents of, the Portal. This will include specifications of the graphic design, functional requirements, data sources, and updating and data maintenance procedures for keeping the Portal up to date and relevant to members of the Diaspora. The designs for the DRP and the Portal will include technical specifications regarding the programming langua d.3()31(la)4(p)-TUE



# Critical difficulties envisioned or encountered in reaching GCM objectives

Although there is an existing institutional and legal framework, there remains the need for reform; resourcing of the existing legislative framework to support the intermediate results and broad actions of policies; updating laws with regard to fines and custodial sentences as well as cultural and technological changes; and reviewing the mandates of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) in line with the goals under the priority areas.

There is an urgent need not just for policy coherence, but for an effective institutional framework to facilitate these changes. There exist, policies and sector plans that are facilitative and promote growth in the country, at the same time as there are austerity measures and restrictive taxation policies. There must be an agreement in these areas from a policy perspective and a common vision if they are to be effective when initiatives and projects are being

may impact negatively on the successful implementation of the policy. Similarly, traditional allies are now undergoing an economic recession. Therefore,





## **APPENDICES**

### Appendix 1

#### OBJECTIVES FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

- 1. Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence -based policies
- 2. Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin
- 3. Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
- 4. Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
- 5. Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
- 6. Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
- 7. 7

#### Appendix 2

#### SUMMARY REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON MIGRATION

Strategies, policies, programmes and actions Jamaica have implemented since December 10, 2018, to advance the GCM objectives include:

Promoting fact-based and data-driven migration discourse, policy and planning Objectives 1, 3, 17 and 23 of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

All four (4) objectives are critical to national development, as Jamaica strives towards mainstreaming migration into national development strategies and plans. A 2018 Migration country profile was completed with the assistance of IOM and efforts are ongoing with the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) to develop a migration database that would allow for the collection and utilization of

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) has just completed its assessment and reporting on the progress made in adhering to the statutes of the convention on human rights. In 2019 an assessment of the regulatory framework was undertaken to look at ways in which to monitor the international labour recruitment process. The assessment was critical, especially from a humanitarian standpoint, as additional measures are needed to promote circular migration, combat TIP, reduce the exploitation of migrants, and promote public order, safety and security in the countries of origin, transit and destination.

Ministry of Finance and Planning – financial inclusion strategy

Ministry of Education - working on improving and diversifying modalities to improve educational services, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic

Ministry of Local Government – working with communities to increase disaster preparedness and physical planning of communities

Outcomes of actions taken, successful measures, best practices and lessons learned in implementing these objectives.

Migration, as a theme, is being added to the discourse at the sub-national level as local sustainable development goals are being achieved. The scope of pre-departurecal sustainable development

Coordination continues to be of paramount importance in the reintegration of forced returnees and the involvement of civil society organizations in the process has significantly helped to settle forced returnees in their respective communities. The identification of TIP at the community level serves to significantly aid the fight against TIP and smuggling and the work with school-age population and vulnerable groups are important to reduce

Facilitating regular migration and decent work, and enhancing the positive development effects of human mobility

Objectives 5, 6, 18, 19, 20 and 23 of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration Strategies, policies, programmes and actions that Jamaica has implemented since the adoption of the Global Compact include:

In 2019 an assessment by the Ministry of Labour embarked on an ongoing project aimed at digitizing and modernising the application through to approval processes for work permit approval. As a part of this project, there are efforts to integrate linkages with the Labour Market Information Systems. The MLSS is working with private recruiters to improve standards and practices pertaining to ethical recruitment. Efforts have also been made to increase employers' site visits and inspections.

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