MIGRATION DATA PRODUCTION IN SOMALIA

A Desk Review

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT

This report is intended to provide an overview of existing migration-relevant data produced by the Government of Somalia and the existing legal framework. It also provides a brief overview of migration trends and available statistics, and the related challenges for migration governance in Somalia. The report is based on a secondary data review of relevant literature and data and is intended to complement the assessment and Somalia migration data production mapping report.

METHODOLOGY

This paper is based on secondary data review of institutional documents, relevant literature, acts and working papers drafted by international organizations engaged in Somalia and government ministries, departments and agencies.

Produced for IOM and The Somalia National Bureau of Statistics by Dr. Rachel Beach

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AU   African Union

AU-HoAI   African Union Horn of Africa Initiative

API   Application programming interface

BRA   Banadir Regional Administration

BLMA   Bilateral labour migration agreements

CRVS   Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

EGRIS   Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics

EU   European Union

FGoS   Federal Government of Somalia

GDP   Gross domestic product

HH   Household

IND   Immigration & Naturalization Directorate

ICT   Information and communications technology

IGAD   Intergovernmental Authority on Development

IDMC   Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

IDP   Internally displaced person

ILO   International Labour Organization

IOM   International Organization for Migration

KCTF   Kampala Convention Task Force

KILM   Key indicators of the labour market

KII   Key informant interview

KSA   Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

LFS   Labour force surveys

LMIS   Labour Migration Information System

MPFA	Migration Policy Framework for Africa
MDAs	Ministries, departments, and agencies
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoIFAR	Ministry of Interior, Federalism Affairs and Reconciliation
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MoPIED	Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development
NCRI	National Commission for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
UN OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PM	Prime Minister
PPS	Probability proportional to size
PRMN	Protection & Return Monitoring Network
REC	Regional Economic Community
RMPF	Regional Migration Policy Framework
SNBS	Somalia National Bureau of Statistics
TWG	Technical working group
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN DESA	United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs
WB	World Bank

A DESK REVIEW OF MIGRATION DATA PRODUCTION IN SOMALIA

MIGRATION TRENDS IN SOMALIA

For three decades, Somalia has struggled with political insecurity and inter-clan conflict, which has stimulated extensive (and often irregular) migratory movements. The violent extremist group Al-Shabab has terrorized the population with sustained insurgency since the collapse of Siad Barre's regime in 1991, and political tensions further heightened due to presidential and parliamentary elections that took place in 2021 and 2022, motivating frequent and repeated internal displacement, significant rural–urban migration movements, and emigration. The population's suffering has been exacerbated by frequent, repeated, and sustained internal displacements due to natural disasters (e.g., cycles of droughts and flooding), which are further intensified by climatic changes, famine, desert locust infestations, tropical cyclones, weak rule of law and land tenure insecurity, and extremely high levels of unemployment, particularly among its youth (IOM, 2021; ILO, 2020; UN OCHA, 2021). Drought alone threatens to displace one million Somalis in 2022 (IOM, 2022). More than half the population – and more than three-quarters of rural populations, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and nomadic populations – live in poverty, and many are highly dependent on remittances (UN OCHA, 2021; World Bank, 2021, 2019). Overall, Somalia faces one of the highest levels of internal displacement in the world (UN OCHA, 2021).

Somalia is also a country of transit as well as a host country for migrants and refugees in the Horn of Africa, with predominantly Ethiopian and Yemeni refugees fleeing conflict and instability in neighbouring countries, for example, Somali and Ethiopian migrant labourers transiting to and (often involuntarily) returning from Saudi Arabia; as well as migrants transiting through Somalia along the Eastern Corridor heading to the Arabian Peninsula, while Djibouti's borders were more patrolled and crossed less frequently during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic (IOM, 2021).

Somalia also has sizeable and thriving emigrant populations clustered around the world, such as in Sweden and the United States, whose remittances have contributed a quarter of Somalia's gross domestic product (GDP) in recent years (ILO, 2021; World Bank, 2021). However, Somalia also faces significant levels of forcible returns of its citizens, with many Somalis who find themselves stranded and who ultimately face statelessness. The issue of statelessness is a complicated one in Somalia, where "citizenship is granted through blood lineage,"[1] regardless of documentation. However, the Ministry of Interior, Federalism Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) has rolled out the *National Action Plan to End Statelessness in Somalia 2021 – 2024,*[2] which identifies the following key concerns: As there is currently no standardized national identification system[3] in the country (besides passports for those who possess them), determining the status of and tracking Somali migrants – whether diaspora, refugees, returnees or internally displaced persons – becomes especially challenging given the lack of proper identification (IOM, 2021; MoIFAR, 2021).

Presenting additional challenges for producing migration data, the region of Somaliland operates as an autonomous government for all intents and purposes (with the administrative regions of Awdal, Woqooyi, Galbeed, Togdheer, Sanaag, and Sool having been proclaimed as an independent republic in 1991 by northern clans), rendering the collection of comprehensive data on migrants (e.g., through censuses, surveys, and migration reception and response centres) for the entire Somalian territory rarely possible or reliable.

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1   Comments from the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED) following the validation workshop held in Nairobi in September 2022.

2   MoIFAR (2021). *National Action Plan to End Statelessness in Somalia 2021 - 2024*. Ministry of Interior, Federal Affair and Reconciliation. Draft released in 2021, see: http://citizenshiprightsafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/SOM-National-Action-Plan-to-End-Statelessness-2021-2024.pdf'.

3   Comments from MoPIED following the validation workshop held in Nairobi in September 2022: "The government has a valid Passport and ID that comes with it. There is a process of improving the national ID system in the country."

Finally, Somalia is also home to a sizeable nomadic population, comprising an estimated three-fifths of the population according to some sources (e.g., Janzen, 2022), with pastoralists frequently moving across international boundaries between southern Somalia, Kenya, and Ethiopia (World Bank, 2019).

MIGRATION MONITORING INITIATIVES IN THE REGION

Many recent initiatives have been launched in the region in the interest of monitoring and addressing the needs of migrants in general and challenges related to irregular migration. The African Union (AU) Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA), established in 2006, makes specific references to migration data collection and analysis, as well as an exchange of data at the regional level (AU, 2018). On the continent, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) was the first Regional Economic Community (REC) to agree on a common policy framework for migration and displacement, informed by the MPFA, to guide regional priorities in migration management programmes (IGAD, 2012; Nistri and Najma, 2021). This Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF) makes specific references to migration data collection and analysis, as well as to exchange of data at the regional level. In 2015, IGAD launched an Action Plan on Migration to operationalize the RMPF, with one strategic priority focused on capacity building – by means of building national data systems on migration in the region – to ensure that the formulation of policies and actions is evidence based (IGAD, 2014). Further reference to the importance of capacity building interventions to address mixed migration and improve information and statistics about migration is mentioned in the regional strategy (IGAD, 2016). In August 2019, IGAD, jointly with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the AU, organized a high-level regional workshop on migration data harmonization in Kampala, Uganda. IGAD Member States recognized

that existing migration data is fragmented across many government agencies and is rarely collected for statistical purposes. This critical understanding led to the commitment to establish a regional technical working group (TWG) to facilitate harmonization, comparability, and accessibility of migration data.

Identifying and addressing the particular needs of vulnerable migrants in Somalia will require reliable, timely data to inform appropriate responses and public service provision. The African Union Horn of Africa Initiative (AU-HoAI, known as the Khartoum Process) on human trafficking and smuggling of migrants was established in 2015 to address increasing trends in irregular migration in the region (which typically involve the "core countries" of Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia. Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan) and launched a data collection exercise to monitor and track irregular migration and associated protection risks across Member States.[4] This work builds on the European Union (EU)-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative established in 2014 between countries of origin, transit, and destination to monitor irregular migration, including the smuggling and trafficking of human beings on migration routes between the Horn of Africa and the European Union.[5] This effort aims to contribute to the production of the Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Statistics Report in the Horn of Africa. In February 2020, IGAD Member States endorsed the AU Protocol on Free Movement of Persons[6] in the region but have not operationalized it, which will require a significant number of disaggregated statistics to effectively facilitate better social and economic integration of migrants and their families. A key aim of this work is to build a common understanding of the causes, consequences, and patterns and to predict future trends of irregular migration in the region. In order to understand these trends and the drivers behind such phenomena, timely data is essential. As these regional governance frameworks are refined, data on irregular migrant flows and labour migration statistics will require specific attention (Nistri and Najma, 2021). Data collection on irregular migration

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4   For more about the Khartoum Process, see: www.khartoumprocess.net/about/au-horn-of-africa-initiative. The AU-HoAI partners with Libya, Tunisia, Norway, Italy, Malta, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, as well as IOs such as IOM, UNHCR, IGAD and other RECs, Interpol, UNODC, and the League of Arab States in this work.

5   See also the EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiatives (Khartoum Process), www.iom.int/eu-horn-africa-migration-route-initiative-khartoum-process.

6   African Union Protocol on Free Movement of Persons, https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36403-treaty-protocol_on_free_movement_of_persons_in_africa_e.pdf.

stocks, especially migrant flows, is inherently difficult due to the nature of these movements and lack of adequate tools to capture them.

The many complex, diverse, ever-evolving, and pressing challenges of migration governance in Somalia, together with economic, development, and social opportunities that are presented by closer linkages of the country with its diaspora, all demand data and an evidence base for action. At present, however, the country is highly dependent on data and indicators generated by United Nations (UN) agencies such as IOM and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

MIGRATION STATISTICS FOR SOMALIA

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) provides statistics for international migrants, collates data from other sources such as UNHCR, and produces migrant stock country profiles. (A migrant, as defined by IOM, is defined as "a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international boarder, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons", which would include internal forced movements.[7]) The most recent profile for Somalia, from 2020, estimates that international migrants[8] comprise only 0.4% of the total population (58.6 thousand individuals) (UNDESA, 2020). Refugee populations in Somalia in 2022 were estimated at 33.3 thousand, comprising more than half of the country's international migrant population. By contrast, as of mid-year 2020, Somalia's estimated emigrant population was estimated at two million, (with a net migration estimate of -200,000), while the country's total population was estimated at 15.9 million (UN DESA, 2020, 2019). By comparison, the total number of Somalian refugees abroad, by

the end of 2022, was estimated at 856 thousand (UNHCR, 2022). Remittances transferred to the country from the Somali diaspora (USD 1.74 billion) were estimated at 20.6% of GDP for 2022 (World Bank/KNOMAD, 2022).

The IDP Working Group (IDPWG) is a taskforce of the Information Management and Assessment Working Group (IMAWG). The group, which consists of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), Protection & Return Monitoring Network (PRMN), UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster, REACH Initiative and IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix, is primarily tasked with providing updated estimated figures on IDP stocks for operational planning and humanitarian response. In 2020, the IDPWG estimated the stock of internally displaced persons (IDPs) due to conflict, violence, and natural disasters (floods, droughts) in Somalia at 2.968 million. SNBS did not validated the IDP figure produced by the IDP Working Group (IDPWG) and has recommended to carry out an IDP census count to obtain a national estimate figure for IDPs in Somalia. A lower statistical figure for IDPs was reported by the SNBS at 1,106,751 in their *2020 Somalia Facts & Figures* report. The difference between the IDPWG figure and the less recent SNBS figure highlights the tension Somalia currently faces between the need to produce official statistics that can inform evidence-based policy making, and the current internal displacement ecosystem that relies mainly on UN and international and national non-governmental actors' estimates on stocks and flows, which were designed for operational purposes.

The current set-up utilized by humanitarian data providers often relies on key informants and estimates due to persistent insecurity and constrained resources, which limit the accessibility and feasibility to conduct more comprehensive surveys. Probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling – generally a best practice for the production of statistics – is often not

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7   There is no internationally accepted definition of a migrant. As of 2019, IOM has approved the following *definition for a migrant* to be used externally and internally: "An umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the common lay understanding of *a person who moves* away from his or her place of usual residence, whether *within a country* or *across an international boarder, temporarily or permanently,* and for a *variety of reasons.* The term includes a number of *well-defined legal categories of people,* such as migrant workers; persons whose particular types of movements are legally defined, such as smuggled workers; *as well as those whose status or means of movement are not specifically defined under international law,* such as international students."

8   The UN DESA definition of an international migrant is, "The midyear (1 July) estimate of the number of people living in a country or area other than that in which they were born. Where the number of foreign-born was not available, the estimate refers to the number of people living in a country other than that of their citizenship."

feasible in Somalia due to insecurity and inaccessibility of many areas of the country at present. As such, operational estimates are often the most reliable data sources available in the context of Somalia, and must often substitute for more comprehensive, best practice methods in the production of official statistics. Therefore, estimates produced for operational and programming purposes require a process of official endorsement by the government.

The IDMC, which compiles migration data from UN agencies and NGOs, also produced an operational estimate of 1.0437 million new displacements due to disaster[9] in 2020, due in part to locusts and flooding, as well as movements to avoid IDP site crowding in light of the COVID-19 pandemic; and 293,000 new displacements[10] due to conflict and violence (2021), largely related to attacks by Al-Shabab to thwart elections as well as their efforts to expand their territorial control (IDMC, 2022). In 2020, the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) provided a statistic of 3.2 million for the country's nomadic population (SNBS, 2020). A summary of available migration statistics and operational estimates can also be found on the IOM Migration Data Portal.[11]

For more disaggregated migration data, a 2016 United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) mobility report based on a 2013 population estimation survey[12] – which is now a decade outdated – includes sections on immigration, emigration, internal migration and movements of nomadic populations (UNFPA, 2016). In 2013, almost 60,000 persons immigrated to Somalia, coming predominantly from Libya (around 25%), Kenya (18.8%), and Egypt (11.6%). A slight majority of these migrants were male, predominantly young (0-14), and more than two-thirds had received no formal education. In the same year, an estimated 40,000 Somalis (largely coming from urban centres in four regions of Banadir, Woqooyi Galbeed, Lower Juba, and Mudug) emigrated to other

countries – representing a sizeable portion of the 190,745 Somali diaspora reported for 2013. Lower Juba exhibited the highest rate of emigration, with 6.2% of its population now living abroad. According to the 2016 UNFPA report, the Somali diaspora predominantly migrated to four countries: the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA, 14.6%), the United States (13.1%), the United Kingdom (10.5%), and Kenya (8.6%). Moreover, as of 2013, more than 16% of Somalia's population had migrated internally and half of these were inhabiting camps of IDPs, 40% of which were situated in urban areas. Displacement and internal migration were predominantly motivated by drought and insecurity, and most had no intention of moving from their current residence (including those living in IDP camps). Nomads, by contrast, tend to move about largely within their districts of origin. In 2017, the World Bank conducted a survey and published a related report, which also includes a number of indicators related to IDPs and nomadic populations (in 2017), highlighting high levels of poverty and economic vulnerability among these groups. However, updated, disaggregated statistics for key migrant populations are largely lacking, and key indicators, such as the disaggregation of migrant workers by economic activities, occupation, education, skills, and employment status are largely incomplete. Data on migrant flows are generally not available.

In a country facing significant issues related to many vulnerable migrant groups, it is critical that the Federal Government of Somalia (FGoS) develop a plan for the sustainable, government-owned, and managed production of migration data. The production of such data would support both evidence-based migration policy and public services and programming to support vulnerable migrant groups and host communities, as well as to capitalize on and engage with the Somali diaspora to promote the country's development, political stability, and economic welfare.

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9   This figure was obtained from OCHA and PRMN. It is based on the sum of displacements recorded through various assessments. IDMC conducted an additional analysis of the PRMN dataset to determine the exact triggers of displacements and remove movements that do not fall under the definition of forced displacement.

10   This figure was obtained from PRMN produced by UNHCR and NRC. PRMN is a platform for identifying and reporting on displacements in Somalia as well as protection incidents triggering such movements. The figure is also based on IDMC's analysis and verification of the PRMN data to determine the exact triggers of displacements and remove movements that do not fall under the definition of forced displacement.

11   IOM, Migration Data Portal, Somalia. See: www.migrationdataportal.org/international-data?i=stock_abs_origin&t=2020&cm49=706.

12   In 2013, a large-scale household sample survey was conducted to estimate the Somali population, with support from UNFPA, in lieu of a census, given the political instability in the country. The one and only officially validated census for Somalia was produced in 1975. The results and findings from a second census, conducted in 1986/1987 were not validated and officially published. The *Population Estimation Survey,* referred to as the "PESS" and published in 2014, is recognized as the official basis for current population estimates (UNFPA, 2016).

ASSESSMENT OF THE EXISTING LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

Existing Laws

Statistical Act

The Somali Statistical Act was signed into law as the National Statistics Law No. (24) in February of 2020. Regulations related to this act are currently being drafted and are under review. The act, which also served to establish the SNBS as an independent institution, has also provided the legal basis for the coordination of the national statistical system – including the collection, collation, and use of administrative records for the purpose of producing statistics, which is critical as it offers the SNBS the prerogative to collect pertinent data from ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs).

The law also outlines treatment of data, including in relation to dissemination and confidentiality. Any document, information, or record provided to the Bureau or any other body authorized by the SNBS Board to undertake statistical or spatial data collection, or obtained from administrative records which relates to individuals, households, government bodies, undertakings, or any other organization may not be: a) disclosed to a third party or b) admitted as evidence in legal proceedings[13] or disclosed to a government body for non-statistical purposes.

This law also prohibits the dissemination of records in a manner that permits the identification of an individual, family, or organization without the consent of the concerned. The exceptions here include data that are already published or available on a database to the public or for whose publication or dissemination, the individual, household, undertaking, or organization gave written permission. Employees performing duties referred to under this law are required to take an oath of secrecy and all producers and custodians of statistics must formulate an access to information policy setting out methods and procedures used to compile and produce statistics, an inventory of the statistics available, and other matters as may be prescribed.

The law also provides for the release of micro-level data to researchers for further analysis, with appropriate safeguards approved by the Director of the Bureau for the protection of confidentiality, but this does not provide for collation and use of data for programming and government service provision purposes. Nor does it outline specific information policies and data safeguarding protocols, which will be essential for each of these uses. Each of these elements will be critical to address if the Government of Somalia is interested in working to produce migration-relevant data.

National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Policy

The existing registration system for Somalia is outdated and few records exist. The Somali Health and Demographic Survey of 2020 found that less than 1% of Somali children possess a birth certificate, which has contributed to the issue of statelessness prevalent among Somalis.

The Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) policy includes the design and development of an automated system for electronic capture, processing, storage, and retrieval of CRVS information, including exploring the use of mobile services to capture vital events. The policy underscores the need to provide birth registrations for all children born in Somalia, including those of non-nationals, asylum seekers, refugees, and stateless children – which shall be granted free and universal. Moreover, it includes the obligations of relevant state parties to support the provision of assistance to restore and re-establish identity for those who have been deprived of elements of their identity.

The CRVS policy, moreover, outlines the responsibility of MDAs in relation to this process, including designating the Ministry of Interior, Federalism Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) as the national registration and identification agency, designating the Immigration & Naturalization Directorate (IND) to enforce requirements for providing civil registration certificates to grant travel documents, and specifying the responsibilities of SNBS, including the co-production of an annual vital statistics report,

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13   …except for purposes of an outright confession in an ongoing criminal proceeding as per this Law.

undertaking data quality assurance activities, and estimating and monitoring registration completeness.

The establishment of a technical working group (TWG) on CRVS, chaired by MoIFAR, and a related steering committee, was outlined in the policy to support the implementation of the below processes, as a precursor to a CRVS authority which is intended to be established by law.

Somalia Data Protection Law

The president promulgates the data protection law after it has been drafted by the Ministry of Communications and Technology and the parliament has approved it. The protection and secure processing of personal data of Federal Republic of Somalia citizens and residents is the main goal of this law. According to Article 14, personal data must be processed fairly and transparently. The data controller is prohibited from processing personal data or allowing it to be processed unless the data subject has given their consent and has not withdrawn it for the specific purpose or purposes for which it will be processed, or the processing is necessary taking into account the circumstances listed in Article 14. Article 16 further describes how to handle personal data pertaining to children or those without legal ability. Personal data transfers to parties outside the country are prohibited under Chapter 5 of this law unless specific requirements listed in Article 30 have been satisfied to ensure a sufficient degree of protection.

The new data protection law establishes the Somali Data Protection Authority, which has the ability to amend the law and recommend provisions specifically related to immigration.

National Diaspora Policy

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MoFAIC) has successfully completed the Somali National Diaspora Policy (SNDP) and the cabinet approved it in April 2023. The development of the national diaspora policy is a process by which the MoFAIC aims to provide a solid and coherent national diaspora engagement framework to govern diaspora engagement, with the intent to facilitate the Somali diaspora's contribution to the medium- and long-term sustainable development of Somalia. The Department

of Diaspora Affairs (DODA) is empowered by the new policy to mobilise and unify diaspora networks and communicate with Somali embassies to support stranded citizens and ensure safe returns.

Once this policy is successfully implemented, it will offer the possibility to gather and analyse data about Somalis living in the diaspora and those who returned to their country of origin, which is essential to enhance Somalia's immigration statistics.

Immigration and Citizenship Law

The Somali Parliament passed the Immigration and Citizenship Law in March 2023, and the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia then signed it. The Immigration and Citizenship Agency (ICA), once a directorate in the Ministry of Internal Security, is now an independent agency for migration and citizenship in Somalia as a result of this law. The new law specifies the objectives and responsibilities of the agency, which include all immigration-related services, control and security at all entrances to the country, as well as the first registration of refugees or asylum seekers who enter the nation.

Other relevant laws and legal framework

The 2017 Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and Reintegration in Somalia (commonly referred to as the "Nairobi Declaration") includes the accompanying Nairobi Comprehensive Plan of Action for Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees. The FGoS Law No. 2 of 2016 established the National Commission for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (NCRI), which is now the key government agency mandated to support and address issues related to refugees and IDPs in Somalia. A few other policies and guidelines inform the protocols related to migration governance in Somalia, including the 2019 National Eviction Guidelines and the 2019 National Policy on Refugee-Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons, both adopted by the Federal Republic of Somalia. Finally, the 2018 Somali Registration and Identification Policy takes the first important step towards establishing a national identification system, which will be critical for better management and tracking of Somali migrants abroad and internally.

Laws currently under development

A number of laws are currently being developed that offer an opportunity to enhance the legal framework and lay the groundwork and pre-conditions essential for the standardization, harmonization, collection, use, and management of migration-specific data. These are outlined below and include the Data Protection Act, the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Law, the IDPs Act, and the Refugees Act.

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Law

Secondly, the Ministry of the Interior and others have been engaged in the development of a Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Act. If it passes, the act will outline the mandates and roles in a new national identification system between MoIFAR, SBNS, the Banadir Regional Administration (BRA – Banadir is the region within which Mogadishu is located) who support civil registration in urban Mogadishu, and other Ministry of Interior (MOI) state registration agencies that each handle registration within the current fragmented system, which exhibits little cohesion or coordination. A new National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Policy has been developed but it is unclear how this policy relates to the new act that is being drafted. The existing policy, which was established in January 2021, is intended to complement the Somali Registration and Identification policy approved by the Council of Ministers in November 2018 (which provides guidance on the administration of registration and public identification with modern technologies). The Max Planck Foundation for International Rule of Law has advised on a "draft zero" for the act, but this version is more academic in nature, intending to present best practices and lay out the many possibilities in terms of avenues and approaches for the management of civil registration.[14]

Refugees Act

The Refugee Act is in the draft stage awaiting approval by the Federal Parliament of Somalia. Once the Refugee Act is passed and signed into law, a refugee determination committee will be established to determine eligibility as a refugee. The draft Refugees Act reviewed for the purposes of this analysis includes the designation of MoIFAR as the government institution charged with issuing regulations and carrying into effect the provisions of this act.

RELEVANT REPORTS AND ONGOING ASSESSMENTS ON MIGRATION DATA

IOM Labour Governance and Data Assessment

IOM has recently produced a draft zero for Somalia as part of a gap and needs assessment to enhance regional capacities on data collection, analysis, and data sharing to support labour migration governance, in particular on returning migrant workers and members of their family.[15] This assessment has provided a wealth of information on migration data mapping in Somalia, in particular related to labour migration, but also to the wider migration-relevant data produced by the FGoS. These reports are intended to be complementary, while this report is slightly more updated in terms of data sources as some government institutional arrangements have revolved since the drafting of the report.[16] The assessment includes a blueprint for a Labour Migration Information System (LMIS), which is directly included in the annex of this report. It proposes a blueprint for a modularised system, which would allow for it to evolve and be scaled over time, with the ability to integrate additional modules as needed.

Within the blueprint, two sets of modules are proposed: one for the overall LMIS and another for a blueprint to operationalize a database of returning migrants and members of their family. The LMIS modules include socio-demographic, education, labour migration, key indicators of the labour market (KILM), and employment and opportunities, while the proposed returnees database modules include immigration entries; diaspora remittances and bilateral labour migration agreements (BLMA) databases; a national qualification repository; the

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14 KII, MoIFAR, February 24, 2022.

15 Drafted by Pacifique Karinda and Brian Kiberu, Consultants.

16 For instance, Immigration and Naturalization Directorate (IND) sits under the Ministry of Internal Security, while in the LMIS report, some data produced by IND appears to be attributed to the Ministry of Interior, Federalism Affairs, and Reconciliation (MoIFAR).

IOM return and reintegration database; labour force surveys (LFS), household (HH) surveys, and traceability studies; and reintegration program databases. For the LFS, HH, and traceability studies, it is noted that the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) or the institution managing the LMIS would need to negotiate with SNBS to provide this kind of information for disaggregated analysis purposes.

The LMIS blueprint is divided into a set of functional units that can be integrated into a larger application and includes graphical representation of the data warehouse and API[17] integrations, as well as of the information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and ICT equipment needed for such a system. This proposed blueprint can serve as a model for the type of system that could be established at SNBS for an overall migration data warehouse and information system.

In addition, there are a few other assessments related to this report that are expected to be carried out in the coming months. These include the expectation of an assessment, by the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS)[18] in collaboration with Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS), on statistics related to IDPs and an assessment by IGAD (in relation to the Regional Migration Data Technical Working Group's workstream) also drawing from the same toolkit assessment, in the interest of gaining a comparable baseline on the status of migration data production in Member States. Both of these assessment efforts are being closely coordinated with this current assessment and workstream.

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17   Application programming interface, a software intermediary that allows two applications to talk to each other.

18   See "Written Submission for the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement from the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics", www.un.org/internal-displacement-panel/sites/www.un.org.internal-displacement-panel/files/egris_submission_to_hlp_final.pdf.

# ANNEX: BLUEPRINT FOR A LABOUR MIGRATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM[19]

The system, also known as the Integrated Labour Market Information System, is composed of the following main components:

- **Data sources in different formats:** Operational systems, SPSS, SQL, ERP, CRM, flat files and spreadsheets

- **Data Extract,** Transformation and Loading into LMIS data warehouse

- Analysis, forecasting and data-based recommendations

- **Supporting components:** institution framework, regulatory framework, standards and LMIS unit

Data sources are categorised into two main sources:

- **Labour supply:** all data related to socio-demographic, education, labour force, National Qualification and diaspora database

- **Labour demand:** all data related to vacancies, business registry, business tax-based registry, and establishment census

Figure 1. LMIS blueprint
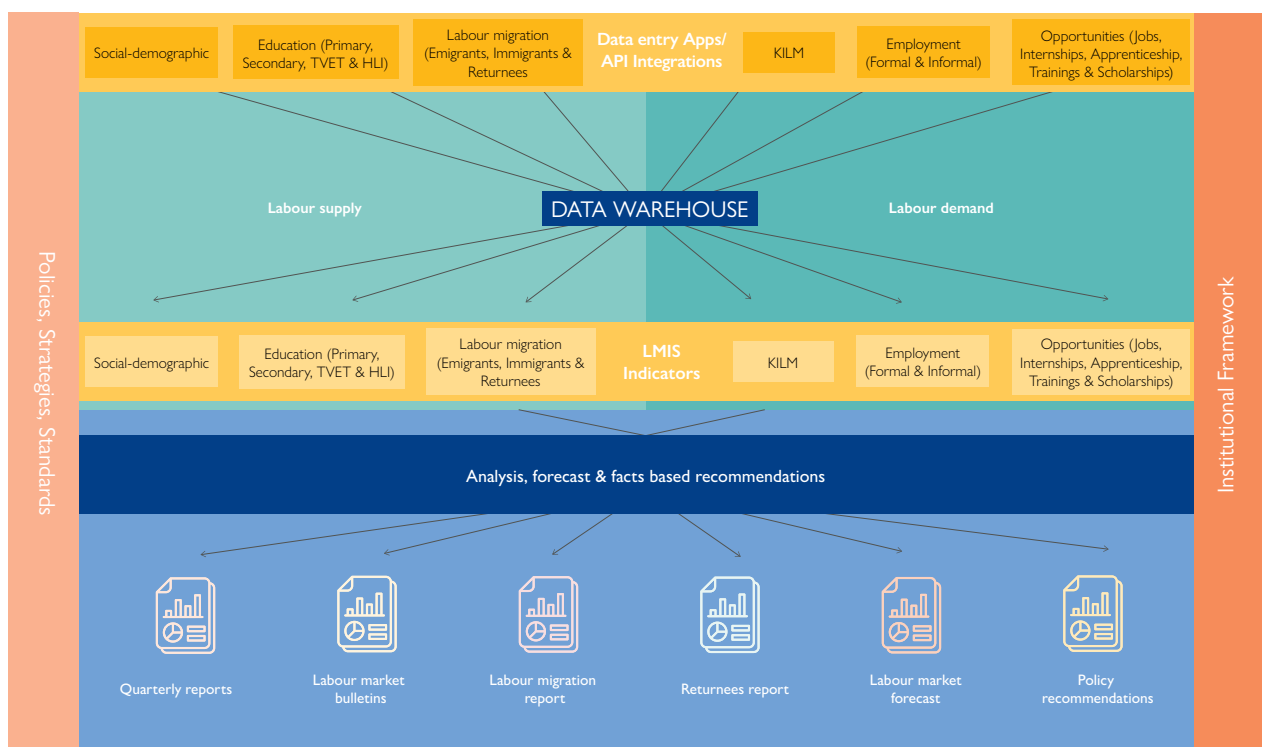
The proposed LMIS blueprint is a modularised system to cater to the system's growth. A modular system is a system that is divided into a set of functional units that can be integrated into a larger application. Each module encapsulates a portion of the application's overall functionality and will represent a set of related concerns. It will include a collection of related components, such as application features, including user interface, extract, transform and load (ETL) processes and business logic, or pieces of the application infrastructure, such as application-level services for logging or authenticating users.

Modules are independent of one another but can communicate in a loosely coupled fashion. These modules communicate with each other and with back-end systems such as database servers and web services. Application services integrate the various components within each of the different modules and handle the communication with the user. The user will see an integrated view that looks like a single application.

The data will come in different forms and formats; therefore, there will be a need to ETL processes. These processes involve data validation, data cleaning, data transforming to fit the required standards, data aggregation to calculate indicators, and data loading in a well-structured data warehouse. The system will have the following modules to start, but it will grow over time depending on the needs of the country:

• **Socio-demographic module:** socio-demographic data describes the characteristics of the population such as size, age, gender, growth, distribution, and health. This information serves as a baseline for analysing the labour market in any country. The sources of data for this information are population census and household surveys.

• **Education module:** the quality of the population of any country is defined by its educated population. This module will contain data on primary, secondary, technical and vocational training (TVET) and higher learning institutions (HLI). The source of this data comes mostly from the databases of the Ministry of Education and the national qualification repositories.

• **Labour migration module:** this module will cater to all data on emigrants, immigrants, returning migrant workers, and members of their families.

• **KILM module:** the KILM is a collection of 20 key indicators of the labour market covering employment and other variables relating to employment (status; economic activity; occupation; hours of work etc.); employment in the informal economy; unemployment and the characteristics of the unemployed; underemployment; education; wages and compensation costs; labour productivity; and working poverty. Taken together, the KILM indicators provide a strong basis for assessing and addressing key questions related to productive employment and decent work. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is the main data source for the 20 KILM.

• **Employment module:** the ability of any economy to create employment is defined by the employment by population ratio, and this module will try to track the opportunities created by the market. The main source for this information is the LFS, National Social Security Fund, taxation database and surveys on employment in the informant sector.

• **Opportunities module:** jobs, internships, apprenticeships, training, and scholarships are the key main sources of opportunities for job seekers and students. This module will track these opportunities in the local market and overseas. The source of this data will be local or overseas private recruitment agencies, training centres and HLIs.

Blueprint to operationalise database of returning migrants and members of their family

In the 21st century, information is becoming more valuable and increasingly sought by countries to develop their economies. In this regard, the Government of the Republic of Somalia is trying to leverage the power of business intelligence to guide and support decision-making in returning migrant workers and members of their families. The diagram below presents the different components of the system. The database will be one of the modules of LMIS to ensure it is fully integrated into the national labour market governance. The database will be composed of the following main components:

• Data sources in different formats: Operational systems, SPSS, SQL, ERP, CRM, flat files and spreadsheets

• Data extract, transformation and loading into the data warehouse

• Analysis, forecasting and data-based recommendations

• Supporting components: institution framework, regulatory framework, standards and supporting team

Figure 2. Blueprint for returnees database
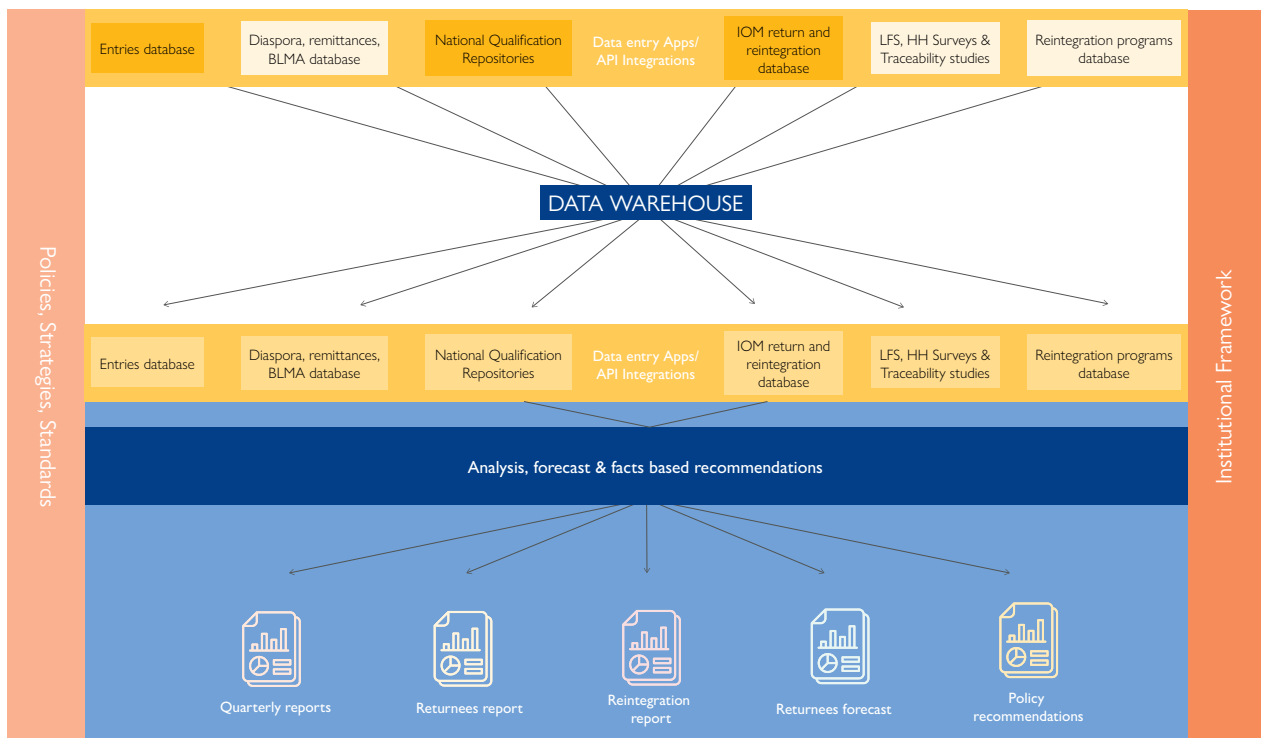
The system will have the following modules to start, but it will grow over time depending on the needs of the country:

• **Entries module:** The Office of Immigration Services collects information on Somalis and foreign nationals entering the country through land, airport and seaports. They will negotiate to access some of this data for analytical purposes.

• **Diaspora, remittances and BLMA databases:** If these databases do not exist, they will need to support respective institutions to develop the database and integrate them with this module of LMIS on returning migrant workers.

• **National qualification repository:** Students going to study abroad are required to find equivalence in their countries if they return home. This database is a great source of returning migrants that needs to be tapped into to analyse and improve reintegration programmes.
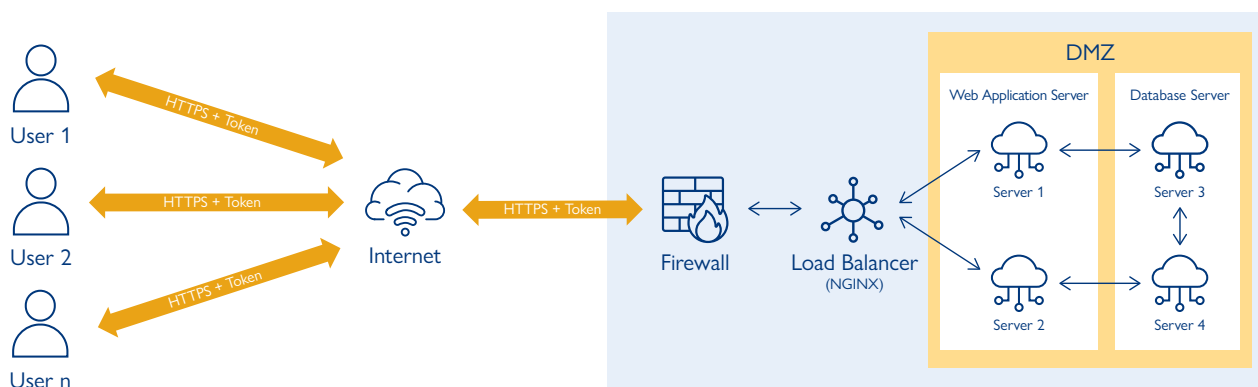
- **IOM return and reintegration database:** IOM support migrants stranded abroad and who would wish to voluntary go back to their countries of origin. This database can facilitate knowing returning migrant workers if the right variables are integrated into the system.

- **LFS, HH surveys and traceability studies:** Labour Force Survey, household surveys traceability studies are the great source of labour supply in countries where they have conducted these surveys and studies. In these studies, questions are asked about where someone was in the reference week. They will be a need to negotiate with the statistical Bureau to provide this kind of information for analysis purposes.

- **Reintegration program databases:** Countries implement reintegration programs in different forms and target different population categories. There will be a need to tap into these databases, especially under BLMA, to inform analysis on returning migrant workers.

Operationalization requirements

Requirements to operationalize the database

For the system to operate properly, it needs an IT infrastructure capable runoff running all the processes of the system. Below is the list of the main infrastructure that needs to be put in place by the country:

Figure 3. ICT infrastructure topology

List of equipment and software

ITEM		QUANTITY
IT equipment		
1.	Computer Server	5
2.	Firewall	1
3.	Flat screen	1
4.	Server cabinet and accessories	1
5.	Network cabinet and accessories	1
6.	Switch	2
7.	Wireless Access Point	2
8.	Network accessories (Network cables, RJ45, extensions, etc.)	-
9.	Supply and installation of a Three Phases Compensated Voltage Stabilizer in line with the UPS	1
10.	Supply and installation of a UPS 20KVA	1
Software		
11.	Ubuntu Operating System	-
12.	Web server: Apache HTTP Server	-
13.	Database server: Maria DB	-
14.	Mail server	-
15.	SSL Certificate	-
20.	SPSS 22.0	-
21.	STATA 14.0	-
22.	Server room preparations, construction and accessories	-
23.	Air Conditioners with its accessories	2
24.	Heat Detectors	8
25.	Flood Detectors	8
26.	Supply of fireproof double doors and installation	1
27.	Door Access Control System	1
28.	Door Push to Exit Button	1
29.	CCTV IP Security Cameras and accessories	6
Server Room		
30.	Preparation of server room (4m x 4m room)	1

Security requirements

Database security best practices that can help keep databases safe from attackers are:

- Separate database servers and web servers

- Use web application and database firewalls

- Secure database user access

- Regularly update your operating system and patches

- Audit and continuously monitor database activity

- Test your database security

- Anonymize, encrypt data and backups

Data protection and confidentiality

Data protection and confidentiality consists of protecting data against unintentional, unlawful, or unauthorized access, disclosure, or theft. Most countries have developed data protection laws and the proper follow up of the laws in the design of the database should be applied.

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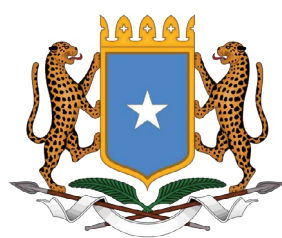   See: http://popstats.unhcr.org.

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