# INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

# International Migration

- ✓ International migration (can be immigration and emigration) : movement of people across national borders
- ✓ Immigration: movement into a country
- ✓ Emigration: movement out of country
- ✓ Duration: short-term (at least 3 months but less than a year) or long-term migration (at least 1 year)
- ✓ Purpose: employment, family reunification, study, asylum

# Some concepts

- ✓ An immigrant of a country:
  - ✓ entering the country by crossing the border
  - ✓ not a usual resident of the country when entering
  - ✓ staying or intending to stay in the country for at least one year.
- ✓ An emigrant of a country:
  - ✓ leaving the country by crossing the border
  - ✓ being a usual resident of the country
  - ✓ staying or intend to stay in another country or abroad for at least one year.

# Migration flows and stock

- ✓ Migrants Flows: number of people that cross an international border during a period (year)
- ✓ Migrants Stocks: number of foreign-born or foreign citizens at a moment in time

# What data are needed to answer the questions?

| | Policy questions | Data required |
|---|---|---|
| Immigrants | - Who are the immigrants?<br>- Where are they from?<br>- How long are they in the country? | Sex, age, country of origin, duration of stay in the country |
| | - What is the skill level of immigrants? | Educational attainment |
| | - Are immigrants employed/unemployed?<br>- What type of jobs? | Labour force status<br>Occupation (ISCO)<br>Economic sectors (ISIC)<br>Status in employment (ICSE) |
| Emigrants | - Who are the emigrants?<br>- At what age do people emigrate?<br>- When did they leave the country?<br>- What is their skill level when they left the country? | Sex, age, country of destination, year of departure, educational attainment at departure |

# Countries census and migration

| Country | Census years | Information asked on census | | | | Returned migrants | Socio-economic conditions |
|---------|-------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Country of birth | Country of citizenship | Year/period of arrival | Emigration | | |
| Bangladesh | 2011 | Yes | | | Yes | | Yes |
| India | 2011 | Yes | | | | | Yes |
| Indonesia | 2010 | Yes | Yes | | | Yes | Yes |
| Nepal | 2011 | Yes | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| Pakistan | No census in 2010 round | | | | | | |
| Philippines | 2010 | | Yes | | Yes | | Yes |
| Sri Lanka | 2012 | Yes | | | Yes | | Yes |
| Thailand | 2010 | Yes | Yes | | | | Yes |

Source: United Nations Statistics Division

# Analysis of International Migration

- ✓ Levels, trends, characteristics
- ✓ Key variables:
  - ✓ Legal status
  - ✓ Country of origin: identify 5 most common origin
  - ✓ Country of destination: identify 5 most common destination
  - ✓ Reason for migrating
  - ✓ Duration of stay
  - ✓ Period of arrival

# Analysis of International Migration

- ✓ Use info on country of citizenship, country of birth and country of previous residence
- ✓ Make cross tabulation of the above information by disagregating them by age and sex
- ✓ Analyze reason for migration by determining push and pull factor
    - ✓ Push factors: economic, environmental, political, conflict, lack of employment
    - ✓ Pull factors: education, diffrential in salaries, better opportunities

# Identifying migrants for what?

✓ Population estimates & projections

Population in 2015

+ births in 2015

- deaths in 2015

+ net international migration in 2015

= Population in 2016

# Identifying migrants for what?

- ✓ How many foreigners are coming to the country each year?
  - ✓ From which country? Age? Education level?
  - ✓ They are coming for what reason(s)? (Study? Work?)
  - ✓ Is the labour market ready for the immigrants?

- ✓ How many citizens are emigrating each year?

- ✓ How many emigrated citizens are moving back to the country each year?

# Stocks of international migrants

- ✓ Stock of immigrants

- ✓ Stock of emigrants

- ✓ Stock of foreign-born

- ✓ Stock of foreigners

- ✓ Stock of returned migrants (citizens)

# Capturing international migration data in Population Census

- ✓ **<u>Advantages:</u>**

  - ✓ Capturing the small proportion of migrants
  - ✓ Limited questions → more comparable data across countries
  - ✓ Large number of social-economic characteristics compared to administrative sources
  - ✓ Small areas estimates

- ✓ **<u>Limitations:</u>**

  - ✓ Infrequent
  - ✓ Not into causes/consequences because of limited questions
  - ✓ Unreliable data on emigration (rely on proxy respondent)

✓ Household sample surveys

✓ Specialised survey on international migration

✓ Integrating migration questions in a multi-purpose survey (Labour Force Survey, DHS, National Socio-economic Survey, etc.)

# Household sample surveys

✓ **<u>Advantages:</u>**

✓Many informations can be gathered, causes and consequences (e.g., employment conditions of labour migrants)

✓Able to add more questions to identify migrant groups

✓ **<u>Limitations:</u>**

✓Sample size!

✓Expensive (especially for specific migration survey)

# Administrative sources

- ✓ Registers (population register, register of foreigners, register of asylum seekers)

- ✓ Issuance of residence permits/work permits
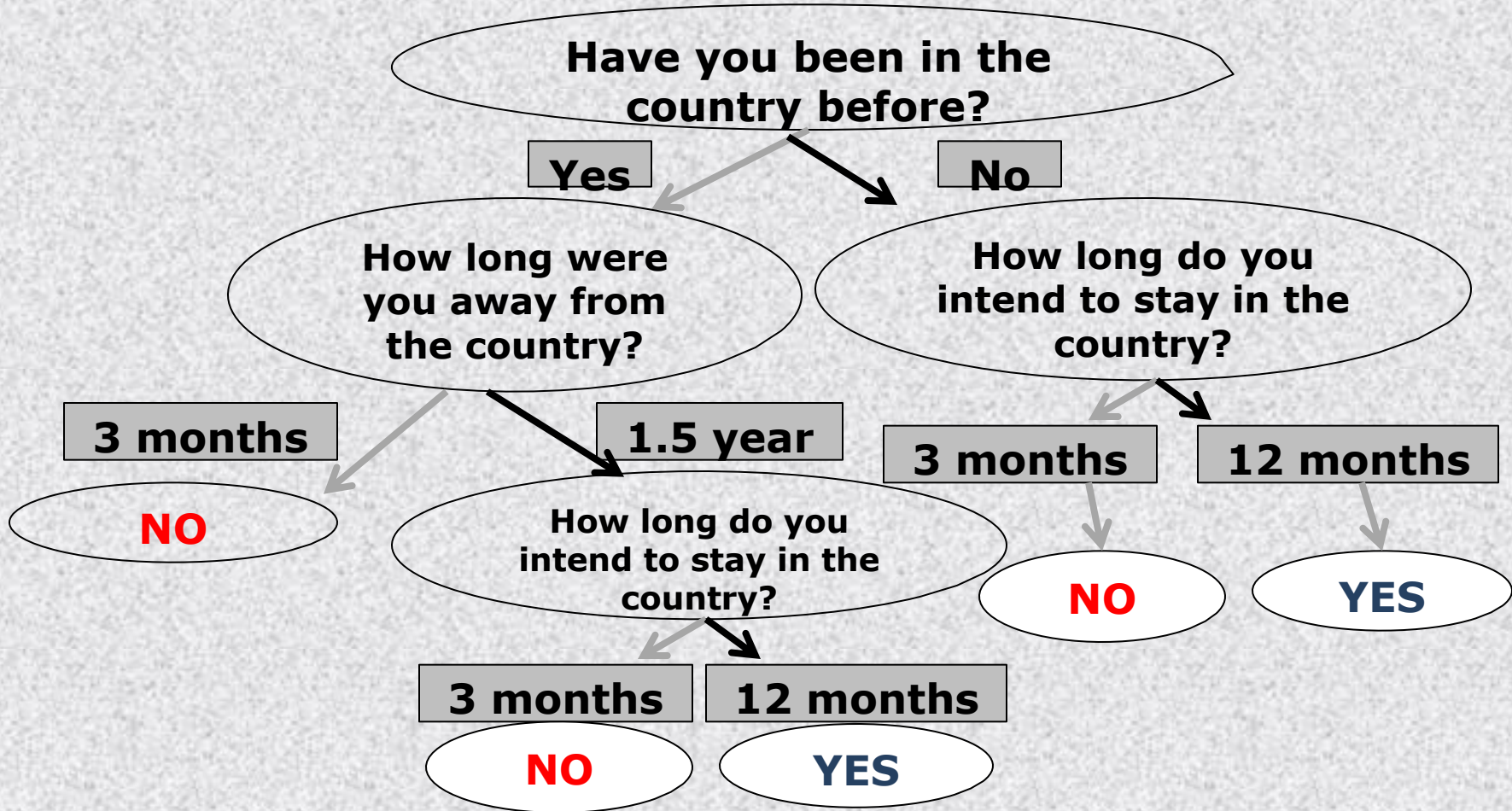
- ✓ Register at consulates abroad

# Administrative sources

- ✓ Counting of people

- ✓ Coverage issue – rules for registration not strictly followed

- ✓ Set up for administrative rather than statistical purposes

- ✓ All information is valuable – piece information together

# Other data sources

❑ Border collection (arriving/departure cards)

❑ Border surveys
o Sampling among passengers arriving/departing at different location and time
o Asking questions to find "migrants" (duration, country of residence, purpose)
o Interviewers following a passenger and asking questions
o Expensive

# Identifying immigrants at the border

# A few points about country experience/challenges

✓ Almost all countries collecting basic information on international migration through population censuses (e.g., country of birth, citizenship and emigration)

✓ Specialized migration surveys are being carried out

✓ Migration module is incorporated in many national multi-purpose surveys

✓ Administrative procedure is in place in almost all countries, although there are not uniformly

# A few points about country experience/challenges

✓ **<u>Challenges:</u>**

✓Linkage between collection of information and statistics is missing

✓Many publish the volume of arrivals/departures, not directly relevant for international migration

✓Census/survey data: not a priority for compilation, takes a long time before data are made available; or data on migration are not analysed