

are to meet the objectives of Agenda 2063 and the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development as well as the data requirements,” he said.

The two-day event at the OECD Conference Centre in Paris consisted of five plenary sessions and close to 40 parallel sessions.

“More and more, we are finding that without access to reliable, comprehensive and global data, managing migration policy becomes a game of blind man’s bluff. As we prepare to meet at this forum, we need to consider migration’s human faces, of course. But we have to always keep in mind that we can’t begin to put smiles on those faces until we first grapple with the data,” IOM director general, William Lacy Swing, said ahead of the Forum.

Global initiatives

Topics discussed included improving the production of migration data, global initiatives on migration, public opinion and migration, data innovation and big data and capacity building.

The Forum brought together experts and policy makers interested in migration measurement issues; explored innovative ways to measure population mobility across countries as well as economic and social immigrant integration; and helped create synergies between different actors and perspectives, with representatives from 'origin', 'transit' and 'host' countries of migrants.

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