

How can media strengthen its migration reporting capacity?

The suggestions below come from the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD):

https://www.icmpd.org/fileadmin/2017/Media_Migration_17_country_chapters.pdf

- Appoint specialist migration correspondents in all newsrooms.
- Improve the conditions of journalists and media workers, including freelance staff.
- Provide resources for research and in-depth journalism to report on the complexities of migration.
- Promote national media partnerships for coverage of migration.
- Prepare and circulate glossaries and handbooks on migration reporting for newsrooms and journalists working across all media platforms. Make them available in real time in languages used by the media and have them updated regularly.
- Encourage the appointment of people with experience of working on migration issues or journalists who are migrants or come from migrant families to work in media.
- Promote media action to give more voice to migrant communities through support for media initiatives targeting migrants and refugees (settled communities and new arrivals) including radio programmes in appropriate languages; blogs, columns and articles by migrant commentators.
- Strengthen the capacity of public service media to report on migration particularly by providing special news and information resources for displaced people from war-zones to help them keep in touch with their home communities.
- Establish regular and continual media monitoring and reporting on how media cover migration.
- Encourage newsrooms to move beyond coverage of the migration “crisis” and move into coverage of issues of integration that will assist normalisation of migrants in the public sphere.