

IOM MOVEMENTS



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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

Publisher: International Organization for Migration

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This publication has been issued without formal editing by IOM.

Cover photo: Migrants headed for the Gambian capital Banjul at Misrata International Airport after IOM's Voluntary

Humanitarian Return flights resumed from Libya. © IOM 2021

Required citation: International Organization for Migration, 2022. IOM Movements. IOM, Geneva.

ISBN 978-92-9268-466-2 (PDF)

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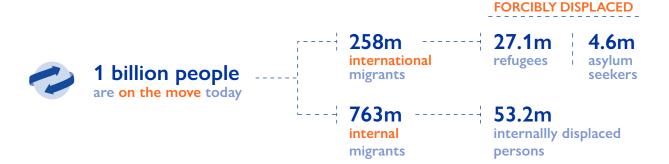
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INTRODUCTION



More people are on the move today than at any other time in recorded history. Coming out to one billion people, the number of migrants across the globe comprises a seventh of humanity.

A variety of elements contribute to the movement of people on such a large scale. The forces driving migration are many and include climate change, natural and human-caused catastrophes, conflicts, the demographic trends of an ageing and industrialized population, exponentially rising youth unemployment in the developing world and widening North—South social and economic disparities.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, promote international cooperation on migration issues, assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced persons.

According to Article 1 of IOM's Constitution,¹ "[t]he purposes and functions of the Organization [are]:

- a. to make arrangements for the organized transfer of migrants, for whom existing facilities are inadequate or who would not otherwise be able to move without special assistance, to countries offering opportunities for orderly migration;
- b. to concern itself with the organized transfer of refugees, displaced persons and other individuals in need of international migration services for whom arrangements may be made between the Organization and the States concerned, including those States undertaking to receive them:
- c. to provide, at the request of and in agreement with the States concerned, migration services such as recruitment, selection, processing, language training, orientation activities, medical

- examination, placement, activities facilitating reception and integration, advisory services on migration questions, and other assistance as is in accord with the aims of the Organization;
- **d.** to provide similar services as requested by States, or in cooperation with other interested international organizations, for voluntary return migration, including voluntary repatriation."

The safe and dignified movement of migrants requires a comprehensive, rights-based and humane approach — one which recognizes the interdependencies of travel, health and the potential for integration as key components of the movement process. These essential elements of IOM's movement operations benefit both the migrants and the States undertaking the responsibility of receiving them. IOM believes that this holds true, regardless of the type of programme, the destination country or the profiles of the persons being assisted.

"Migrant"

IOM defines a migrant as any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his or her habitual place of residence, regardless of (1) the person's legal status; (2) whether the movement is voluntary or involuntary; (3) what the causes for the movement are; or (4) what the length of the stay is. IOM concerns itself with migrants and migration-related issues and, in agreement with relevant States, with migrants who are in need of international migration services. For the purpose of this document, IOM refers to beneficiaries of IOM movement operations as migrants.



Migrants headed for the Gambian capital Banjul prepare to board a plane at Misrata International Airport after IOM's Voluntary Humanitarian Return flights resumed from Libya. © IOM 2021

COVID-19-related immobility has become the "great disrupter" of migration.

COVID-19 has been the most severe pandemic in a century, with its combination of high transmission, virus strains and the severity of the disease forcing policymakers into previously uncharted territory.

While the main focus has necessarily been on responding to the global health crisis (e.g. virus testing, disease treatment, and vaccination development and programming), part of the response has involved drastic changes to freedom of movement of people all around the world, which in turn has massively impacted human mobility globally.

Governments around the world implemented various measures to limit the spread of the virus, and a range of restrictions were introduced from early 2020, evolving over time.

New data sets emerged to track policy responses globally, such as the University of Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker, which has recorded a wide range of government responses globally, such as

"stay-at-home" measures, workplace closures, school closures, restrictions on gatherings, restrictions on internal movements within a country, and international travel control measures.

Overall, COVID-19 travel restriction measures — both internal and international — were quickly put in place by the vast majority of countries around the world, with the peak occurring in late March to early April 2020.

Some countries stopped all entry of foreign citizens, some banned citizens of specific countries, while even further, some countries completely closed borders to stop departure and entry of all people, including their own citizens. Quarantine measures were also introduced by some countries, requiring passengers entering a country to be quarantined in isolation for a minimum period (typically 10 to 14 days) immediately upon arrival.

Source: IOM World Migration Report 2022.

THE IOM MOVEMENT MANDATE

Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Migration agency, is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society.

IOM works with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the well-being and human rights of migrants. IOM's holistic and multisectoral approach to the mobility dimensions of crises is firmly established in its Constitution, various Resolutions adopted by its governing bodies, and other strategic documents, such as the IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) and the Migration Governance Framework.

Whether to mitigate the consequences of forced displacement or maximize the benefits of planned migration, IOM's movement operations continue to grow in complexity and scope. Similar to numerous international and non-governmental organizations, the International Organization for Migration currently has 174 Member States in addition to a further 8 States holding observer status. Over 17,000 IOM staff work in more than 500 offices worldwide to assist displaced, migrant and affected communities and States.

At its very core, IOM is an organization grounded in the movement of people. Through 70 years of field experience, IOM has identified best practices from millions of migrant movements around the globe, informing the development of the Organization's many movement protocols. Every day, IOM teams are assisting migrants movements and communities and States; whether migrants are moving due to humanitarian evacuation or in search of a pathway to opportunity, IOM movement operation staff tailor movement assistance to meet the needs of the individual and the relevant stakeholders in the particular departure and receiving community or State.

THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION



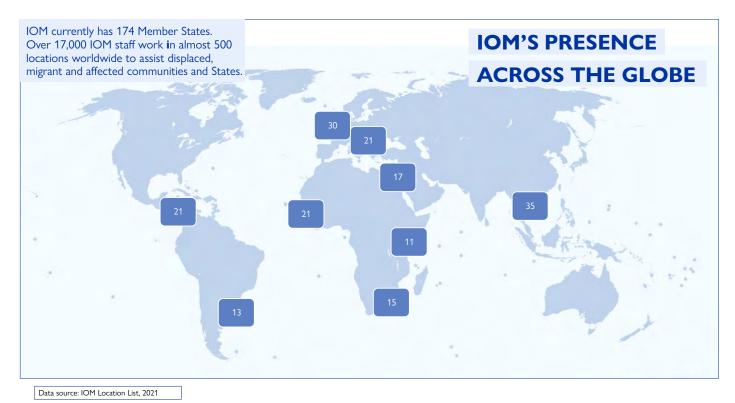
 Enhanced International Commitment to Safe Migration

States recently renewed their commitment to refugee resettlement and other safe and legal pathways at the United Nations Summit

for Refugees and Migrants on 19 September 2016. The New York Declaration committed signatory States to strengthening and enhancing mechanisms to protect people on the move. It also led to the creation of two international agreements to be adopted in December 2018: the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

The Global Compact for Migration is the first intergovernmentally negotiated agreement, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, covering all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. It is designed to: support international cooperation on the governance of international migration; provide a comprehensive menu of options for States from which they can select policy options to address some of the most pressing issues around international migration; and give States the space and flexibility to pursue implementation based on their own migration realities and capacities. IOM movement operations support Objective 5 of the Global Compact for Migration on "Enhancing the availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration" as well as Objective 23 on "Strengthened international cooperation and global partnership for safe, orderly and regular migration."





Note: this map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

MIGRATION IN THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In 2015, States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with the objective of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and promoting sustainable development. IOM supports the following Sustainable Development Goals. Of most relevance to this document, goal 10.7 focuses on reducing inequalities by "facilitating orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies."



IOM'S EVOLUTION

IOM, or as it was first known, the Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe (PICMME), was born in 1951 out of the chaos and displacement of Western Europe following the Second World War.

Mandated to help European governments to identify resettlement countries for the estimated 11 million people uprooted by the war, it arranged transport for nearly a million migrants during the 1950s.

A succession of name changes – from PICMME to the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) in 1952, the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM) in 1980 and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in 1989 – reflects the Organization's transition from an organization with a single mandate to the United Nations Migration agency: dedicated to working with governments and civil society to advance the understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

THE MOVEMENT RESPONSE

The International Organization for Migration has an active role in assisting the movement of migrants around the globe. In 2021, IOM missions in 168 countries were involved in conducting international movement operations for 118,268 persons. Requirements for each type of movement vary depending on the specific vulnerability of the migrant and the agreements and operational protocols of the sending and receiving communities and countries.

The most comprehensive and established of IOM movements is the provision of assistance to refugees who are resettling in third countries. Refugee resettlement movements necessitate extensive preparation, complex coordination, documentation and travel across international borders, requiring adherence to global and national protocols. Thanks to IOM's demonstrated capacity to resettle refugees, the Organization's ability to support dignified movements has expanded. More recent programmes, such as the Voluntary Humanitarian Returns (VHR) mechanism in Yemen and Libya, require a variety of resources and capacities. These include complex logistics, a network of staff in departure, transit and receiving countries, and international air travel expertise to negotiate charter flights and landing agreements.

While some movements are unique and executed based on the needs of the individual, others are undertaken at scale and over multiple years in a variety of challenging environments. Individuals and families are assisted by IOM to return to their homes, relocate to safety, reunite with family members and migrate towards new opportunities. Though the following categorizations of IOM movements are not exhaustive, they provide an overview, capturing the broader thematic areas of movement operations.

RESPONDING TO MIGRATION CRISIS

The IOM MCOF is an analytical and planning framework used to formulate the way in which the Organization supports States and partners to better prepare for, respond to and recover from migration crises. Utilizing a migration crisis approach means viewing crises through a migration lens in order to draw attention to aspects of the crisis that may sometimes remain invisible. This approach is applicable to a wide range of contexts: the situation of international migrants caught in crisis in their destination countries, the needs of displaced populations in urban areas, the heightened risk of human trafficking among populations affected by a crisis or the emerging issues of environmental migration.

IOM teams are innovative and deploy appropriate movement solutions to relocate crisis-affected migrants to safe areas so that they may access services, opportunities and safety. In both natural disasters and in conflict, IOM teams work with partners and



89.3 million people

people are forcibly displaced

The magnitude is beyond anything the international community has had to collectively respond to before. This is compounded by an average of 25 million disaster displacements that occur every year. Migrants and displaced persons can be among the most vulnerable populations in crisis contexts, and are too often left out of the planning and development initiatives necessary to reduce their exposure to risk, to lessen their vulnerability, and put them in charge of determining their needs and finding their own solutions.

governments to ensure that movements take into consideration the vulnerabilities of particular groups and individuals in order to reduce risks before, during and after travel. These movements are often undertaken rapidly and in complex and insecure operating environments.

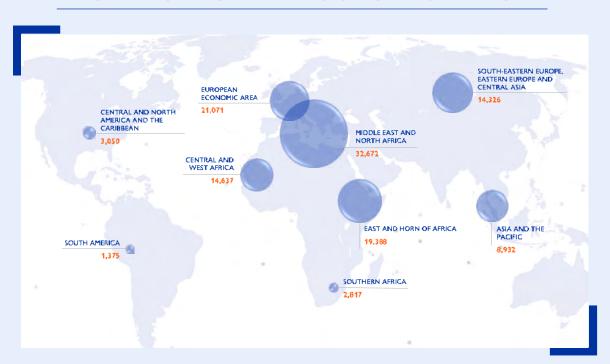
While IOM supports individual migrants caught in crisis, it is the Organization's ability to undertake large-scale, rapid movements that is recognized as an added value in humanitarian and crisis situations. Large-scale IOM relocation movements by buses, barges, trucks and boats are standard. In recent years, for example, IOM has maintained fleets to ensure that crisis-affected migrants are moved to safety in Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Libya and South Sudan.

In addition, to help ensure that migrants' lives are not disrupted by mobility constraints, IOM provides movement support on a daily basis to support migrants in accessing health, education, livelihoods and other essential services. In Türkiye, for example, IOM provided safe daily transportation to 20,000 Syrian refugee children so that they could attend primary and secondary schools.

2021 OVERALL MOVEMENT OVERVIEW

IOM supported 168 countries in conducting international movement operations for 118,268 people.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE BY REGION OF DESTINATION



NUMBER OF PEOPLE BY REGION OF DEPARTURE



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VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION AND VOLUNTARY RETURN

► International Humanitarian Evacuations

IOM provides support to its Member States through the implementation of international humanitarian evacuations as a life-saving measure for migrants caught in armed conflicts and crises, as well as migrants who are being targeted or are at risk of being targeted by harm and violence.

International humanitarian evacuations are the responsibility of the States whose nationals abroad are in danger and the States who are hosting the endangered populations. Humanitarian and intergovernmental organizations like IOM support States in this last resort and extreme protective measure. More specifically, in the absence of other effective means of protecting migrants in situ, IOM's involvement in international humanitarian evacuations is aimed at protecting migrants caught in an armed conflict and relocating them to another country.

While there are a variety of reasons for migrants to be caught in crisis, it is often migrant labourers working overseas that require evacuation upon the onset of a new emergency. An example would be the 2006 evacuation of migrants from Lebanon. In coordination with the Government of Lebanon and the Governments of Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire,

Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Iraq, Madagascar, Mali, Nepal, Paraguay, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Senegal, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Viet Nam, IOM was able to provide rapid evacuation assistance by road to Damascus and then onward international flights to the migrants' home countries.



IOM supported stranded Sudanese migrants by organizing the charter flight from Beirut, Lebanon to Khartoum, the Sudan. © IOM 2020

Voluntary Repatriation

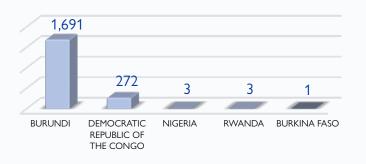
International movements of refugees are mainly in support of United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) repatriation activities as a durable solution for refugees in accordance with protection concerns and procedures, and to vulnerable persons of concern, inclusive of VHR cases, and refugee evacuation which consider the specific status of returnees. In 2021, IOM has repatriated a total of 1,974 beneficiaries from the top two departure countries of the United Republic of Tanzania and South Africa.

IOM defines voluntary repatriation as "return to the country of origin" based on the refugees' free and informed decision. IOM provides tailored assistance to identified vulnerable persons such as women and girls, ensuring that their specific needs are recognized and taken into account.

In the context of the repatriation of Burundian refugees from camps within the United Republic of Tanzania, some the beneficiaries were women who have been victims of genderbased violence (GBV). The medical needs of female survivors of GBV were considered during pre-migration health activities and they would continue to receive specific assistance during their journey. Upon arrival at the transit centre in Burundi, all medical cases were referred for follow-up treatment with partner organizations. Survivors of GBV were also informed of the *Note: this map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this availability of service providers, including psychosocial support.



Top 5 destination countries*



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► Voluntary Humanitarian Return

IOM assists migrants' returns from Libya and Yemen to their countries of origin through the VHR mechanism. Voluntary, as these returns are arranged at the express request of the individual returning, and humanitarian, as this assistance represents a life-saving option for many migrants who live in particularly deplorable conditions.

All migrants who benefit from voluntary humanitarian return have been individually counselled and assisted to ensure that the decision to return is informed and reflects their desires and specific needs. In particular, during counselling activity and irrespective of whether the migrant wants to file an asylum claim or not, IOM makes an initial assessment of any risks of ill-treatment, persecution or other human rights violations that the migrant may suffer in the case of return to the country of origin. Every migrant assisted with the voluntary humanitarian return is screened against a specific set of criteria. These include medical fitness and available documentation to travel, as well as specific vulnerability criteria that might designate some migrant's cases as higher priority than others.

Prior to departure, the migrants underwent pre-embarkation checks, including COVID-19 testing, and IOM provided them with pre-departure transportation assistance, counselling services, protection screening and personal protective equipment (PPE) before travelling.



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IOM teams on the ground, supported by air movement specialists at IOM Headquarters, must often make challenging transportation arrangements. For example, in order to return migrants from Yemen and Libya, these personnel often rely on charter flights and sea movements through transit countries.

THIRD-COUNTRY SOLUTIONS

► Refugee Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission

Providing essential support to States resettling refugees and other humanitarian entrants is a fundamental purpose of the Organization and among its longest ongoing activities. Ranging along the resettlement continuum from identification to integration, IOM provides comprehensive resettlement activities which broadly fall under four areas: case management, health assessments and related assistance, movement management and operations, and addressing pre-departure and post-arrival integration. IOM works closely with governments, the UNHCR, non-governmental organizations and other partners such as the airlines to enable solutions for refugees and migrants.

Another cross-cutting area of cooperation is the facilitation and logistical support provided by IOM throughout the resettlement process to various missions and Member State visits. The logistical support extended by IOM varies from assisting with internal and domestic transportation from far-flung or difficult-to-reach areas, to accommodating refugees during missions, providing interpreters, assisting with document verification and composition, managing schedules to attend necessary appointments during the resettlement process as well as arranging and informing refugees of their travel itineraries.

While refugee resettlement operations are not new, the contexts in which they occur are becoming increasingly intricate. IOM faces daunting security, logistical and other challenges as the trend shifts from large, homogenous refugee groups hailing from stable, well-established locations to caseloads from more diverse, remote and sometimes dangerous contexts.

In recent years, new countries have provided support in accepting refugees for resettlement. The Sustainable Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Initiative (CRISP), led by UNHCR and IOM, has been developed to build the resettlement capacity and technical expertise of these States. The CRISP (formerly referred to as the Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism, or ERCM) has provided support to the countries of Argentina, Brazil and Chile to strengthen their resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes, linking to other relevant initiatives such as private sponsorship as a means of ensuring sustainability of these programmes and optimizing integration outcomes.

SUSTAINABLE RESETTLEMENT AND COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS INITIATIVE (CRISP)

UNHCR and IOM jointly launched the Sustainable Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Initiative (CRISP) in 2019 to provide capacity-and systems-building to States with resettlement and complementary pathway programmes in varying forms of development – new, emerging and established. The CRISP aims to support States and key stakeholders to grow resettlement programmes and advance complementary pathways through the provision of targeted capacity-building in partnership with relevant actors, to achieve quality, scalable and sustainable programmes.

This initiative is a direct outcome of recommendations made by resettlement States and key stakeholders during the Three-Year Strategy (2019–2021) on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways consultation process. Strengthening the capabilities of communities and individuals, institutions and infrastructure is a critical element to achieve the goals of the Three-Year Strategy.

The first two years of the CRISP's implementation were marked by challenges and constraints linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite these challenges, several important activities were carried out in 2021, notably:

- The analytical framework for the evaluation of the Three-Year Strategy and CRISP was developed.
- The CRISP was presented at the virtual ATCR-WGR in 2021.
- Updates on the CRISP were presented at the first High-Level Officials Meeting during the Spotlight Session on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways and the Three-Year Strategy.

- The CRISP Training Package was piloted for authorities in Ireland.
- Two CRISP Newsletters on a biannual basis in English, Spanish and Portuguese were released.
- CRISP Website received over 7,750 views.
- Regional Workshop on Good Practices in Resettlement and Complementary Pathways was held virtually.
- The Swedish Migration Agency delivered a training for Argentine,
 Brazilian and Uruguayan officials on use of virtual interviews.
- IOM's Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Manual for the Care of the Migrant and Refugee Population in Argentina (in Spanish) was launched.
- 90 Afghans were assisted under the humanitarian visa programme to Brazil.
- Seven refugees were resettled to Argentina and Uruguay.

CRISP Newsletters

UNHCR and IOM have continued to release CRISP Newsletters on a biannual basis in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Three Newsletters (Issue 1, Issue 2, Issue 3) have been released thus far and are distributed to donors, all key stakeholders, as well as being featured on the CRISP website and the Global Compact on Refugees platform. The Newsletters highlight all the key activities undertaken by UNHCR, IOM and partners within the framework of the CRISP.



In 2021, there were 97 refugee arrivals supported by the CRISP. In Argentina, four Eritrean refugees were resettled on emergency grounds in July 2021. In August 2021, one Venezuelan refugee was resettled from Trinidad and Tobago on urgent grounds to Uruguay. He was reunited with two family members shortly after. Between October and December 2021, 90 persons accepted under the humanitarian visa scheme for Afghans travelled from Pakistan to Brazil. IOM provided support with the airline tickets, embarkation, transit, arrival assistance and with admission procedures. Pre-Embarkation Checks (PECs), polio and measles, mumps and rubella vaccines, and COVID-19 tests were also provided. Photo: Arrival of Afghans to the Guarulhos Airport in Brazil, © IOM 2021/Periandro MORAIS



The CRISP website aims to support stakeholders through provision of trainings and other tools; creation of a network for partners; enable relevant resettlement and complementary pathways actors to request technical support; and provide statistical data on resettlement in new and emerging countries.

The CRISP website is available at: https://resettle.org



IOM facilitated the resettlement of 120 refugees from the Sudan and the Central African Republic to France. The refugees left N'Djamena, Chad on a chartered flight. Many had spent more than ten years in Chad, awaiting a chance to be resettled and restart their lives. All COVID-19 sanitary protocols were adhered to during the resettlement operation (including PCR-testing to COVID-19 prior departure). In addition to COVID-19 screening, the refugees were screened for medical conditions and received in-depth pre-departure orientation to ensure their integration in their new society goes as smoothly as possible. © IOM 2020

EU Relocation

In the context of the European Union (EU), relocation is the transfer of people seeking international protection from one EU Member State to another EU Member or Associated State where their asylum application will be examined once the relocation has taken place. Relocation is an expression of internal EU solidarity and responsibility sharing, particularly with those countries at the external borders of the European Union that are most affected by rapid increases in the arrival of people seeking international protection.

Since 2015 until the end of 2020, IOM provided pre-departure and movement assistance to 42,725 persons in need of international protection, of which, 34,694 persons were relocated from Italy and Greece to 25 EU Member and Associated States through the 2015–2018 EU-wide emergency relocation scheme. After the end of the EU scheme, some EU Member and Associated States have continued to contribute towards enhanced solidarity within the EU, on a voluntary and ad hoc basis, through the relocation of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection, including unaccompanied migrant children.

IOM continues providing relocation support through the implementation of pre-migration health activities, pre-departure orientation sessions and movement management (as well as accommodation support in Greece). IOM coordinates regional relocation projects, namely, RELITA (Italy), REMA (Malta) and Voluntary Relocation from Greece, supported by the European Commission emergency funding (EMAS), allowing for more harmonized procedures in the European Economic Area (EEA). Other relocation projects are funded by EU Member States. Throughout the programmes, IOM works closely with involved governments and other partners such as UNHCR, UNICEF and the European Union Asylum Agency (EUAA), to facilitate the relocation of beneficiaries.

Complementary Pathways

There are currently more than 89.3 million people forcibly displaced in the world due to persecution, conflict, violence, or

human rights violations.² The overwhelming scale and complex nature of global displacement has renewed the debate on enhancing access to refuge that is safe, regular and sustainable. While refugee resettlement remains both a vital protection tool and a durable solution, there is a widening gap between the gravely inadequate number of resettlement places available and the growing number of refugees and other vulnerable persons of concern in desperate need of a third-country solution. Therefore, complementary pathways serve to increase the range of safe and legal means to achieving a third-country solution for those in need of international protection.3 Several States are interested in or currently employ the use of complementary pathways through humanitarian admission programmes, humanitarian visas, community-based private sponsorship, academic scholarship and labour mobility schemes.⁴ The development of these avenues helps to provide legal alternatives to perilous and irregular secondary movements by land and sea, which are currently affecting several countries around the Mediterranean as well as other locations in Africa. Asia and the Americas.

Other Protection Pathways

IOM defines protection pathways as "pathways for admission to third countries which may provide opportunities for protection and solutions." Programmes of this nature can be established to protect family members of already resettled refugees, dissuading them from seeking life-threatening journeys and protecting them from misinformation and exploitation. For example, the IOM Family Assistance Programme (FAP) was funded by the German Federal Foreign Office to facilitate the reunification of vulnerable migrants with a family member with protection status in Germany as they fled protracted conflict areas. In practice, families that have been separated face many obstacles in the reunification process, leading to prolonged separation, negatively affecting the ability of resettled refugees to integrate and thrive. The obstacles that families face include restrictive eligibility criteria, onerous financial and evidentiary requirements, lack of information and support, and logistical obstacles. Resettlement countries should therefore make more effective use of programmes and instruments that facilitate family reunification.

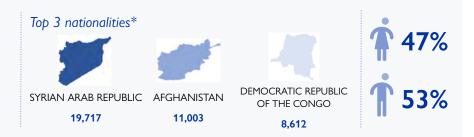
RESETTLEMENT, HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION, EU RELOCATION AND OTHER PATHWAYS FIGURES

During 2021, IOM supported over 27 countries to conduct resettlement, humanitarian admissions, EU relocation and other pathways for a total of 64,406 refugees and other vulnerable persons, with significant operations out of Afghanistan, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Myanmar, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The top three resettlement countries were the United States of America, Canada and Germany.

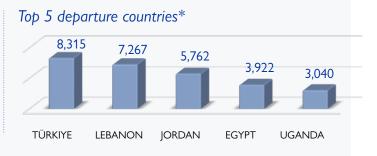
Of the above-mentioned total beneficiaries, 3,063 individuals in need of international protection were relocated from Greece, Italy and Malta to 14 destination countries in the EEA (a majority of whom were moved via charter). Moreover, of the above-mentioned total, RMM arranged 134 charter flights for 13,974 refugees and other humanitarian entrants to final destinations in Australia, Canada, Germany, Sweden and the United States of America.

64,406

persons of which 3,063 individuals were relocated from Greece, Italy and Malta to 14 destination countries in the EEA.







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VARIOUS MECHANISMS TO ASSIST MIGRANTS IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE MOVEMENT SUPPORT

► Rapid Response Transportation Fund (RRTF)

The RRTF facilitates joint refugee movement operations between IOM and UNHCR. Building upon the Memorandum of Understanding between IOM and UNHCR of 15 May 1997, the RRTF was established as General Bulletin 1277 in December of 2000 to facilitate joint operations between the two organizations (IOM and UNHCR). It specifically lays out each organization's responsibilities in the provision of transportation assistance. Over the years, the Fund has enabled IOM to respond rapidly and efficiently to emergency humanitarian transportation requirements in close collaboration with UNHCR. The Fund may be drawn on particularly in emergencies where it is established that there is a clear need for immediate assessment and transportation expenditure prior to receipt of external funding. The Fund is financed by voluntary contributions.

Humanitarian Assistance to Stranded Migrants (HASM)

HASM provides assistance to stranded migrants regardless of their status, whether they are regular or irregular migrants, whose travel was interrupted by unpredictable circumstances and made them extremely vulnerable. During 2020, HASM assisted in total 157 individuals.

► Global Assistance Fund (GAF)

The GAF is an emergency mechanism designed to provide comprehensive support to migrants in vulnerable situations globally, especially to those who were trafficked. This support includes immediate protection and personalized assistance to victims of trafficking, unaccompanied or separated migrant children, migrants subject to or at risk of exploitation, abuse and violence and migrants in extreme psychological and physical distress.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO STRANDED MIGRANTS (HASM)

MECHANISM OVERVIEW 2021

Every year and all over the world, thousands of migrants suddenly find themselves stranded in transit or in hosting destinations with no means of returning home. How and why the individuals or families become stranded may be due to a single or combination of factors: lost or stolen identity documents, financial destitution, accidents or bad health, physical or psychological abuse, broken promises of family members or exploitative employers, rejected asylum claims or changed political or security circumstances where they are or to where they were headed.

Often not fitting into traditional classifications of migration crisis or other humanitarian assistance-bound groups, many of these individuals or families are not eligible for assistance under any known programme. However, the conditions they are facing may be dire; they are legally unprotected and vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, poverty or other harmful situations. Regardless of how they became stranded or of their migration status, many are in urgent need of immediate humanitarian assistance either to return home or to move to a destination where their status and circumstances are assured. These men, women and children, although representing only a fraction of the broader phenomenon of stranded migrants, need help.

IOM through its Humanitarian Assistance to Stranded Migrants (HASM) mechanism assists hundreds of the most destitute and vulnerable stranded migrants each year. It is the only mechanism of its kind and provides protection for those falling outside of the criteria of other assistance and protection programmes.

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

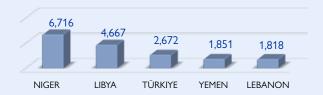
The cases of stranded migrants are brought to the attention of IOM field offices or Headquarters by governments, embassies/consulates, NGOs, international organizations or local civil society entities. UNHCR cases however should be referred back to UNHCR for return assistance.

In order to qualify for HASM assistance, the migrant(s) must exhibit an urgent humanitarian need (and that delayed assistance would cause great suffering), have a confirmed desire to move and must demonstrate that they have pursued but have been unable to obtain funding from any other source (i.e. own finances, family, embassy/consulate, NGO, religious charity, UN agency or other IOM programme). According to programme guidelines, former prisoners are not eligible for HASM. Only those migrants that were in jail for having overstayed their visas/permitted visiting time for reasons beyond their control can still be eligible taking into consideration all the circumstances of their life story on case-by-case bases.

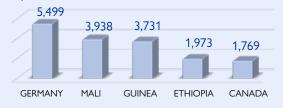
The IOM field office considers and verifies to the extent possible a number of criteria for each application, including the humanitarian and urgent need (e.g. destitution, endangerment, medical emergency) as well as vulnerability of the stranded individual, family or group; knowledge of medical issues; confirmation of identities and issuance of travel documents;

186 persons were assisted through HASM in 2021

Top 5 departure countries



Top 5 destination countries



voluntariness of the movement; that the migrant's situation will be improved by the movement; and, as needed, that the migrant has a support network in their place of destination to help them, such as a guardian for an unaccompanied minor or a medical caretaker for those in need. The field office submits requests to the IOM Movement Operations Headquarters (MOH) Unit within the Resettlement and Movement Management (RMM) Division of the Department of Operations and Emergencies (DOE), with a cost estimate of the requested/proposed assistance for the final decision on the established criteria and feasibility of the assistance.

The delivery of assistance to stranded migrants then involves coordination and logistical administration between and among IOM field offices and headquarters from the point of application through to safe arrival at the final destination. In the case that migrants have lost their travel documents, the IOM country mission facilitates the issuance of appropriate travel documents. For unaccompanied minors, migrants with specific health requirements or for another determined reason, the IOM will provide an escort to accompany the migrant during their travel.

IN-COUNTRY MOVEMENTS

Domestic Movements

IOM undertakes movement operations to assist migrants in need and when a specific request for assistance is made by a government. This may include the host government, the government of the migrant's country of origin or the government of a transit country. IOM ensures that potential beneficiaries, whether in country or across border, receive movement assistance based on informed consent and that their participation in these operations is voluntary.

For movements take place within a single country (e.g. internally displaced persons (IDPs) relocations, evacuations within the country, transport assistance to stranded returnees), the need can be identified in coordination with government partners, the relevant inter-sector or cluster groups and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

Once the beneficiary caseload has been identified (e.g. IDPs, refugee and migrants), IOM determines the best mode of transportation based on operational exigencies in the local context and available avenues of transport which may include connectivity options by air, ground or water. In many cases, a combination of different modes of transportation is needed.

Domestic Relocation

The domestic transfer of persons or domestic relocation in the context of humanitarian emergencies can be considered as an internal humanitarian evacuation mechanism where IOM manages activities attached to mass influx people fleeing conflict, war, natural and/or human-caused disasters. In this context, IOM organizes large-scale movements of civilians to locations within the same country where they can be more effectively assisted and protected.

The movement of a large group of people (refugees, internally displaced persons, etc.) into a geographical area and environment which is neither their area of origin nor their habitual residence cannot be considered as a return movement since the destination of the movement is different from the place of origin of the person in question.

For IOM, in-country relocations for the purpose of resettlement assistance may include logistical support for interviews, cultural orientation, visa, and medical processing under relevant resettlement projects requiring these activities (in-country movements under relocation of Venezuelan nationals in Brazil, relocation of refugees for pre-departure resettlement activities).



Relocation process of Venezuelans from Boa Vista, Brazil to other Brazilian cities. © IOM 2018

RELOCATION OF VENEZUELAN NATIONALS IN BRAZIL

Since February 2020, when the Government of Brazil declared a national health emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM has strengthened its efforts and is one of the main organizations supporting the Federal Government to relocate Venezuelans living in Brazil. Protocols were also updated with the pandemic advent to enhance the security of beneficiaries. In 2020, IOM was responsible for the relocation of 6,730 Venezuelan nationals in Brazil.



Relocation strategy in Brazil supported by IOM offers dignity and hope to thousands of Venezuelans. © IOM 2018/2020

Under the relocation process "Operation Welcome" (or in Portuguese, Operação Acolhida) more than 50,000 Venezuelans have been relocated since 2018 through a federal government strategy to reduce the pressure on vulnerable border communities where Venezuelans arrive, and foster integration by helping refugees and migrants find new socioeconomic opportunities in other cities. Of those, 12,000 persons have been relocated via commercial flights, with tickets purchased by IOM with financial support from the United States Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM). Among those who have been relocated, 47 per cent are women and girls and 37 per cent are minors. The vast majority, 88 per cent, travelled as a family unit.

There are four modalities of relocation: (a) institutional, from one shelter in bordering cities in the north of Brazil to other centres throughout the country; (b) family reunification; (c) social reunion; and (d) employment, in which beneficiaries are selected to a job placement prior to the relocation. So far, the social reunion has been the most flexible and used modality within the relocation strategy (41% of the beneficiaries). Approximately 260,000 Venezuelan refugees and migrants are currently living in Brazil, according to government statistics.

IOM SUPPORTS NATIONWIDE RELOCATION STRATEGY OF VULNERABLE VENEZUELANS IN BRAZIL







IOM/UNHCR: Relocations in Brazil Offer Dignity and Hope to Thousands of Venezuelans. Read the article here.

ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

Migration is often perceived as a one-way journey, starting from one's homeland and ending in a new country of destination. However, the reality can be far more complex. Some migrants feel the need to return home at a certain point, triggered by a desire to reunite with family, changed conditions in either their host countries or countries of origin, a lack of legal status and work opportunities or rejected asylum claims. Since 1979, IOM has been implementing assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) programmes worldwide, assisting more than 1.5 million migrants.

AVRR is an indispensable part of a comprehensive approach to migration management. Beneficiaries may include stranded migrants in host or transit countries, irregular and regular

migrants, asylum seekers who decide not to pursue their claims or whom are found not to be in need of international protection, and migrants in vulnerable situations, such as victims of human trafficking, unaccompanied and separated children, elderly migrants or those with health-related needs.

The successful implementation of AVRR programmes requires the cooperation and participation of a broad range of actors, including the migrants themselves, civil society, and host, transit and origin country governments. The partnerships shared between IOM and a diverse range of national and international stakeholders are essential for the effective implementation of AVRR, from the pre-departure through the post-arrival stages.

RETURN AND REINTEGRATION IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

While return and reintegration assistance have not been suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, counselling, information provision, and direct return and reintegration support have been impacted. Delivering direct assistance became particularly challenging, as caseworkers were unable to meet beneficiaries in person. For the same reason, reintegration activities for returnees also slowed down. In response to the complex challenge of organizing voluntary returns during the pandemic, and to support country offices in addressing these challenges effectively, the COVID-19 Return Task Force was established at IOM Headquarters to ensure a coherent approach and leverage expertise available under the various IOM thematic units.

COVID-19 RETURN TASK FORCE

The Task Force was comprised of the Migrant Protection and Assistance (MPA) Division, the Resettlement and Movement Management (RMM) Division, Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), and the Migration Health Division (MHD). MPA provided institutional guidance to ensure returns supported by the Task Force were safe, dignified and voluntary. It also asserted that the vulnerabilities and protection needs of returning migrants were adequately addressed. RMM took the lead in movement management and operations and in evaluating flight transport options and logistical arrangements under the epidemiological restrictions. Importantly, RMM managed charter flights globally in support to stranded migrants' return. DTM collected and analysed relevant data both on requests that reach the Task Force as well as the broader themes of stranded migrants and returns in the COVID-19 context. MHD led the incorporation of adequate migration health measures to the returns supported by the Task Force. Thanks to Task Force support, 1,060 migrants (56% female and 44% male) have been supported worldwide to return home in a safe and dignified manner, through commercial and organized charters.



IOM, with the authorities in Sana'a, Yemen, and the Government of Ethiopia, successfully transported stranded migrants in Ethiopia on first VHR flight from Yemen since the start of COVID-19 pandemic. In coordination with the Ethiopian Government, IOM supports the Government-run COVID-19 quarantine facility set up to accommodate the returnees in Addis Ababa and provides cash assistance, essential items and onward transportation assistance to home communities. IOM also supports family tracing and the reunification of unaccompanied migrant children. © IOM 2021



The Challenges of Migrants' Voluntary Return in the Face of a Pandemic.

Read the article here.

THE MOVEMENT CONTINUUM

Movement operations are complex and can be resource intensive, involving the synchronized actions of many partners within and outside the State. Close and regular consultation with concerned parties and strong, informed partnerships are crucial to meet migrants' needs and efficiently address the movement challenge.

IOM views movement as a continuum and occurring across multiple dimensions: it begins before migrants set foot in the receiving country and can extend well beyond the initial stages of arrival. Linking various integration stages through alignment of activities and improved coordination between pre-departure and post-arrival support facilitates trust and long-term (re)integration outcomes. (Re)integration policies are more effective when they take a "whole-of-community" approach and there is a clear understanding of expectations and obligations from all involved — that is, the migrants and the receiving society, including authorities at the community, regional and national levels.

IOM's centralized standard movement procedures are based on extensive operational experience. In order to safely transport millions of migrants, IOM relies on an interconnected network of staff across the globe through its offices, sub-offices and partners to address migrant vulnerability and protection needs at every stage of travel.

Owing to its large presence worldwide, IOM can provide departure, transit and arrival assistance on six continents, in all major airports and across most IOM migrant destinations. Due to established partnerships and the scale of global operations, IOM movements are cost-effective and efficiently executed. IOM movement experts at Headquarters work closely with teams on the ground to carry out complicated air, ground and sea movements. MiMOSA, IOM's global web-based database, captures migrant biodata and movement in real time to ensure that all partners and stakeholders have uninterrupted access to departure and arrival details, as well as updates regarding conditions of travel.

Every migrant story is unique, comprised of varied reasons for migration and methods of movement. IOM movements are divided into three broad phases: Pre-departure, Travel, and Arrival. These phases are adapted to the needs of the individual, the particular programme and urgency of the movement.



"(Re)integration"

IOM acknowledges that there are fundamental differences between integration, when a migrant is arriving to an unknown community or country, and reintegration, wherein a migrant is returning to her or his country or community of origin. For the sake of this document, we refer to (re)integration as the period post arrival when an individual has migrated to a particular community, whether the motivation for migration was resettlement, relocation, return or opportunity.



PHASE I PRE-DEPARTURE

All IOM assisted movements require careful coordination to ensure that migrant travel and (re)integration are successful. Preparing migrants and receiving communities prior to travel is the most vital step in the movement continuum, as tailored programming reduces stress during the journey and prepares the migrant to meet potential challenges and opportunities upon arrival and during the (re)integration stage.

Pre-departure awareness-raising, outreach and orientation goes far beyond simply sharing information about the receiving country; it prepares migrants by helping them to develop the skills and attitudes they will need in order to succeed in their new environment. It also addresses the psychosocial well-being of migrants, taking into account the social, anthropological, cultural and psychological aspects of resettlement and (re)integration. Orientation must address the real concerns of participants and emphasize cultural adaptation, intergenerational communication, gender roles, changing family dynamics and other challenges.

IOM teams around the globe are skilled in providing individual case management to migrants seeking solutions for return and (re)integration, as well as for those resettling or following other complementary pathways through third country solutions. Caseworkers assess migrant vulnerability in order to address their specific protection and assistance needs, which may include shelter,

safety and security, family tracing, assessment and reunification, AVRR or third-country solutions. Collecting detailed biographical information, caseworkers join forces with relevant partners and stakeholders to ensure migrant and refugee travel is as seamless as possible; when planning for movement and (re)integration, they make sure to address and take into consideration the individual's protection.

Logistically, many activities must take place prior to travel. For refugee resettlement and AVRR movements, paperwork and agreements must be signed between the sending and receiving countries. In many cases, extensive exit procedures are undertaken, including but not limited to satisfying exit permit interviews and issuance, surrendering refugee ration cards, producing travel documents, and securing transit visa waivers for IOM passengers who cannot fly directly from their departure country to their point of entry.



The IOM movement operations team in Rwanda assists with the process of preparing and transporting refugees accepted for resettlement abroad. © IOM 2020

Admissions documentation must also be completed according to the protocol of the receiving country. This can include the issuance of visas, immigration and customs paperwork, as well as the clearance of security checks and other country-specific vetting protocols. IOM assists migrants through the facilitation of these processes, with teams that are skilled at capturing biographic information, undertaking identity verification, preparing case files and working with sending and receiving governments to process paperwork. Additionally, IOM provides movement and transit accommodation for migrants required to attend interviews, migration health assessments, trainings and other activities related to departure.

Large-scale movement operations, as seen in established refugee resettlement programmes, often require IOM to build and manage screening/processing centres, transit facilities and migration health assessment centres (MHACs) in order to ensure that migrants' safety, health and dignity, as well as public health and safety, are preserved before, during and after travel. IOM teams work with States and local administrations to safeguard transit locations and points of entry, in addition to maintaining and enhancing transportation infrastructure, such as rehabilitation of airstrips where necessary.

International air movements wherein migrants travel for a durable solution, such as refugee resettlement, are complicated, requiring the synchronization of a variety of factors within a very short time frame prior to departure. For example, refugee resettlement to the United States requires that IOM coordinates with partners to ensure that the case composition is updated and adjudicated, migration health assessments are valid, individual security checks are up-to-date, exit documentation is in place and the receiving agencies have prepared homes and reception for the newly arriving refugees. Once all aspects for departure are in line, there is normally a very small window of time in which the migrant's casework is valid and the agencies in the United States are prepared to receive them. IOM works very closely with partners to ensure that migrants safely depart and arrive within this time frame, usually amounting to two to four weeks.

Pre-departure activities may include:

- Logistical support for selections missions including specialized movement operations for both visiting missions and the migrants themselves;
- Case management and counselling;
- Pre-migration health activities (including migration health assessments, pre-departure medical procedures, preventive and curative care, counselling and health education);
- Pre-departure orientation;
- Outreach and awareness-raising;
- Family tracing for reunification;

- Recording biographical data and biometrics of beneficiaries in IOM's proprietary tools;
- Ensuring travel documentation is secured and accurate prior to travel:
 - Exit permits
 - Identity verification
 - Travel documents
 - Visa waivers for transit airports
 - Visas or entry permits
 - Entry documentation
 - Preparation of travel loans
- Arranging and booking of IOM flights, which may include provisions for charter movements, international air and surface travel;
- Arranging for operational or medical escorts for vulnerable migrants. In addition to medical escorts, IOM passengers with significant medical conditions may need special arrangements, such as stretchers or supplemental oxygen, or other specialized mobility assistance. Pre-migration health activities ensure that all necessary provisions are identified and arranged in advance to avoid any complications during travel and arrival;
- Pre-embarkation session focused on departure, transit and arrival procedures;
- Providing pre-embarkation checks 72 to 24 hours prior to departure to ensure fitness to travel;
- Interfacing with IOM staff, authorities and the local community at the point of entry and arrival to ensure reception formalities and enhanced assistance for vulnerable migrants, such as unaccompanied minors, are secure.



Pre-departure orientation for beneficiaries to be resettled. © IOM 2020



Syrian refugees underwent a PCR test for COVID-19 with IOM staff three days ahead of their scheduled resettlement flight to Europe. During the COVID-19, IOM has adapted operations and safety procedures to ensure that all refugees are screened for COVID-19 prior to their flight and can quarantine in hotels with their families as their await results before travelling. © IOM 2020

IOM PRE-MIGRATION HEALTH ACTIVITIES

IOM pre-migration health activities (PMHA) in the context of refugee resettlement constitute one of the Organization's most established activities, in practice since 1951. Refugees are a vulnerable population with health profiles that vary according to displacement experience, pre-existing health conditions and epidemiological profiles, among other factors. PMHA entail an array of procedures undertaken in the context of regular international migration that aim to achieve at least one of the following objectives: to identify health conditions of public health importance (both communicable and non-communicable) in relation to destination country legislation and the International Health Regulations (IHR); provide continuity of care, linking the pre-departure, travel and post-arrival phases; establish fitness to travel to another country; improve the health of migrants before departure to another country through the provision of preventive or curative care; and minimize or mitigate public health risks related to mobility. The scope and requirements are dependent on the receiving country protocol and the epidemiological profile of the country of origin but are all based on the principle that the migration process should not endanger the health of migrants or host communities.

Pre-migration health activities are provided at IOM MHACs, through mobile IOM medical teams in remote locations or at partner facilities. Pre-migration health activities may involve several phases, including the initial migration health assessment (MHA), usually undertaken three to six months before departure or as close as a few weeks prior; pre-departure evaluations (PDE) undertaken one to three weeks before

departure and pre-embarkation checks (PEC) taking place one to three days prior to departure; travel; and post-arrival care. There may also be an interim period before departure to allow for interventions such as the management of conditions detected and stabilization care.

Pre-migration health activities may include some or all of the following components: medical history-taking, physical examination, mental health evaluation, pre- and post-test counselling, radiological and laboratory investigations, vaccinations, specialist referrals, health education, treatment or referral for treatment for certain conditions (including pre-travel hospital stabilization), and pre-embarkation checks. Individuals in need of health-related travel assistance (such as wheelchairs, supplemental oxygen or medical escorts) during transportation are identified at the time of the migration health assessment to ensure that appropriate arrangements can be made. Medical information is confidentially shared with the receiving country's health authorities prior to the refugees' arrival in order to enable proper reception preparations and ensure that the continuum of care is maintained.

Pre-migration health activities for refugees admitted for resettlement to third countries are carried out at the request of resettlement countries such as Argentina, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, among others.



International air movements require both close coordination in house and strong partnerships within the travel industry. IOM has a long-standing relationship with all major airline alliances with which the Organization has negotiated agreements.

In order to respond promptly and effectively to the mobility dimensions of humanitarian crises at the request of States or regular programmes such as AVRR and resettlement, IOM also maintains strong relationships with air and sea charter brokers.

IOM-facilitated movements normally take place by scheduled commercial air service. However, in large-scale operations or in remote locations, tailor-made travel arrangements are required and air charter operations will be secured. IOM international air movement experts maintain a range of prenegotiated agreements with commercial carriers globally providing for preferential availability to seats and fares as well as a pool of vetted charter carriers that meet international safety criteria and operate in fragile contexts. This unique relationship with the airlines, coupled with IOM's larger humanitarian imperative, ensures that IOM is able to respond quickly to emerging crises as well as to secure cost-effective travel for migrant passengers.

To move migrants away from direct crisis, large-scale surface movements are undertaken for emergency operations around the globe. Movements of migrants and their belongings by road, rail and ship are not uncommon and require that IOM negotiates agreements with regional transportation companies, maintains extensive fleets of cars/trucks and ensures the availability of support while travelling and in transit. In some circumstances, multiple forms of transportation may be organized in very difficult and potentially dangerous locations, such as by air or land bridge. For example, IOM moves vulnerable migrants in Yemen by boat to Djibouti for onward air and bus travel to return to their home country. In other scenarios, such as the case of Syrians moving to Lebanon, refugees may travel outside of their country of origin by land bridges to a country where diplomatic relations exist for onward air travel to the resettlement State.

Long-standing relationships with both international air providers and airport authorities around the world uniquely place IOM to respond to issues that may arise during travel. Both at airport transit points and during flights, passengers are observed by non-clinical officers for visible distress or acute need that would potentially require a more comprehensive assessment or health intervention by a medical officer. IOM staff and partners also check IOM passengers to ensure that they are comfortable and informed of the next steps.

IOM proprietary real-time information management, monitoring of migrant movements, and established communication protocols ensure that passengers under IOM auspices travel safely. These tools enable all partners to stay informed of migrant progression from take-off to arrival.

Travel and transit activities may include

- Provision of transportation commercial movements on planes, ships, buses, trains or chartered movements of the same;
- Handing over of sensitive documentation to enable international departure, travel and arrival;
- Orientation at departure, transit and arrival points;
- Point of travel observation (PTO) by non-clinical officers aiming to recognize travellers who are visibly unwell and potentially require a more comprehensive assessment or health intervention by a medical officer;
- Provision of operational and medical escorts;
- For surface movements assessing surface conditions and security to assign appropriate movement type;
- Working with partners to ensure security arrangements are in place for safe passage (convoys, armed escorts);
- Real-time tracking of movements from departure, in travel, transit and at arrival through MiMOSA;
- Last-minute change of itineraries at departure and in transit;
- Luggage and household supply movements;
- Weighing, tagging and searching of luggage to ensure compliance with movement carrier and arrival guidelines;
- IOM assistance at departure airports and communities identity verification, immigration and customs formalities and check-in where applicable;
- Accommodation and catering arrangements for migrants in transit;
- Liaison with airlines, partners and relevant stakeholders to ensure timely and safe passage.





Migrants prepared to board on a charter flight from Mitiga airport in Tripoli, Libya to Lagos, Nigeria. © IOM 2020

VOLUNTARY HUMANITARIAN RETURN FROM LIBYA

JAN - DEC 2021

IOM assists migrants' returns from Libya to their countries of origin through the VHR mechanism.

All migrants who benefit from voluntary humanitarian return have been individually counselled and assisted to ensure that the decision to return is informed and reflects their desires and specific needs. In particular, during counselling activity and irrespective of whether the migrant wants to file an asylum claim or not, IOM makes an initial assessment of any risks of ill-treatment, persecution or other human rights violations that the migrant may suffer in the case of return to the country of origin.

In order to return migrants from Libya, IOM teams must often make challenging transportation arrangements and rely on charter flights and sea movements to transit countries.

Since 2015, the total number of people assisted through the VHR programme reached to over 50,000 returnees to 44 countries.



Sudanese nationals returned from Libya through a charter flight. All the returnees were negative for COVID-19, following the PCR tests conducted in Libya. © IOM 2021

4,667

individuals were assisted to return home from Libya



IOM Resumes Voluntary Humanitarian Assistance Flights from Libya After Months of Suspension.

Read the full article here.



IOM teams meet migrants upon international arrival to ensure that immigration and border formalities are undertaken with minimal stress to the passengers. As IOM international movements take into account migrants' specific vulnerabilities as well as the protocols of the sending and receiving State, reception formalities in most significant points of international entry are streamlined.

IOM teams are active in most international airports and have established relationships with airport officials, partners and service providers. This interconnected network helps to ensure that migrant arrivals and departures are as seamless as possible and that IOM teams have maximum access to migrants at every stage of travel.

The health of any migrant travelling under IOM auspices is of extreme importance. IOM teams will have prepared the necessary arrangements and facilities to ensure the continuity of care upon arrival. This may include pre-positioning of medical staff, supplies or other health-related resources at reception or arranging for an IOM medical escort to hand over the migrant to the receiving family member, reception entity or health facility in the final destination. IOM passengers with significant medical conditions may require ambulatory services or immediate hospital admission. IOM health teams have supported medical movements since 1951 and coordinate and plan for all eventualities.

Migration and (re)integration do not end when a migrant arrives to his or her new home or returns to his or her community of origin. IOM works with a network of partners, civil society and governments to aid in successful (re)integration. IOM's extensive (re)integration programming ranges and depends on the type of movement, the length of stay and the needs of the individual migrant.

Arrival and reception activities may include:

- Arrival orientation;
- Point of travel observation by non-clinical officers aiming to recognize travellers who are visibly unwell and potentially require a more comprehensive assessment or health intervention by a medical officer;
- Immigration and customs formalities;
- Accommodation upon arrival;
- Domestic travel to the final destination by ground or air;
- Facilitating and developing access to livelihoods, education and basic services:
- Health, mental health or psychosocial services referral where needed, including handover to health facilities where applicable, in cooperation with NGOs and other actors;
- Provision of post-arrival orientation courses and language classes;
- Labour market inclusion and early job-matching programmes;
- Information seminars for municipalities and other reception actors on refugees' profiles and as a feedback mechanism for the pre-departure orientation;
- Exchange of best practices on housing and education, among others;
- Volunteering schemes to assist with early integration of refugees.

Mobility helps save lives but can also play an important part in resilience-building and the progressive resolution of displacement situations. IOM is increasingly involved in the preparation process of both countries of origin and receiving countries to ensure a continuum of care and services for migrants and enable receiving communities to plan for the integration of newcomers. IOM has developed a range of tools to strengthen the linkage between the pre-departure and post-arrival assistance.

A DAY OF INTERNATIONAL AIR MOVEMENTS

On any given day, IOM staff are moving around a 1,000 migrants by air, with thousands more receiving assistance through ground and sea assistance.

2 DECEMBER 2021





1 day

1,439 people



55 countries of destination



OUR TRAVEL INDUSTRY PARTNERS

The following companies composed of leading global airlines, travel technology and travel management partners have been key partners for many years and their assistance has contributed to helping hundred of thousands of migrants.

Aegean Airlines Air Algerie

Air Canada

Air Charter Service – France

Air Contact Air France Air Libya

Airplus Alitalia

Amadeus

American Airlines Austrian Airlines

Avianca

British Airways Brussels Airlines

Buraq Air Cathay Pacific

China Airlines

Customer Ground Services

Delta Airlines Egypt Air Emirates

Ethiopian Airlines

Etihad

Everest Travel / Deutsche SkyLink Avaiation and Travel

 GmbH

Hunt and Palmer PLC

Iberia

Japan Airlines Kenya Airways

KLM Royal Dutch Airline

Lufthansa Norwegian Air Qantas

Qatar Airways Royal Air Maroc Royal Jordanian



Note: This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

Scandinavian Airlines
Spot Reisen GmbH
Swiss International Airlines
TAP Portugal
Turkish Airlines
Ukraine International Airlines
United Airlines
WestJet Airlines
Yemen Airways



Unaccompanied migrant children were to leave Greece for Portugal through the EU Relocation project. \circledcirc IOM 2021





IOM's web-based movement database, MiMOSA, provides real-time movement information to keep IOM teams informed of migrant's itinerary and emerging needs.



Standard and centralized operating procedures are built on 67 years of best practice and the protocols of sending and receiving States.



IOM's global network of staff and partners ensures that migrants are assisted at every stage of travel.



Actions taken at pre-departure reduce stress during travel and upon arrival.



PRE-DEPARTURE

IDENTIFICATION AND SELECTION

- Outreach and awareness-raising (information sessions, goand-see visits to receiving communities);
- Family tracing for reunification;
- Logistical support for selections missions including specialized movement operations/accommodation for both visiting missions and the migrants themselves.

CASE MANAGEMENT

- · Individual case management and counselling;
- Biographical data collection and biometrics of beneficiaries according to receiving country protocol;
- · Identity verification;
- Administration of travel loans where applicable.

HEALTH

 Pre-migration health activities, including migration health assessments, specialist referrals, preventive and curative care, counselling and health education, pre-departure evaluation and pre-embarkation checks to ensure fitness to travel.

DOCUMENTATION

- Ensuring travel documentation is secured and accurate prior to travel; travel documents, exit permits and visa waivers (for transits) and issuance of visas for arrival;
- Documentation of findings from PMHA and preparation of immigration health forms and documents; confidential transfer of relevant documentation to appropriate immigration or health authorities.

ORIENTATION

- Cultural orientation classes focused on job skills, language, daily life and successful (re)integration;
- Pre-embarkation session focused on departure, transit and arrival procedures.

LOGISTICS

- Assess safety conditions of carriers and geography;
- Preparing for travel inclusive of international air bookings, surface transportation and accommodation;
- Arranging for operational and medical escorts for vulnerable migrants.



TRAVEL

IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS

- Identity verification;
- Transfer of documents to IOM passengers;
- Facilitate departure formalities.

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

- Weighing, tagging and searching of luggage to ensure security and travel compliance;
- · Luggage and household supply movements;
- Check-in, including assuring provisions for vulnerable migrants.

EN ROUTE

- Orientation at departure, transit and arrival points;
- Provision of operational and medical escorts;
- Safe surface passage secured through convoys, armed escorts and other mitigating measures;
- Liaison IOM teams and partners at all points of travel to ensure timely and safe passage;
- Real-time tracking of movements through IOM web-based tools.

TRANSIT

- Assistance from IOM movement and health teams;
- Assessment of fitness for onward travel;
- Accommodation and catering;
- Provision of transit visa waivers.



ARRIVAL

RECEPTION

- · Immigration and customs formalities;
- Retrieval and distribution of luggage;
- Accommodation and catering.

HEALTH

- Provision of specialized health support as necessary;
- Referral to health and other services in cooperation with partners;
- Handover of medically escorted refugees to the appropriate entities.

ORIENTATION

- Arrival orientation;
- Provision of post-arrival orientation courses and language classes.

(RE)INTEGRATION

(Re)integration activities take place post arrival and are specific to the type of movement and the needs to the particular migrant community.

- Facilitating and developing access to livelihoods, education and basic services;
- Information seminars for municipalities and other reception actors on migrant profiles;
- Exchange of best practices on housing, education, and more.

CROSS-CUTTING ELEMENTS OF MOVEMENTS

MIGRATION HEALTH

IOM's pre-migration health activities are recognized as an important tool for individual and public health promotion. Pre-migration health activities promote the health of migrants through preventive and curative health interventions for conditions that, if left untreated, could have a negative impact on the migrant's overall health status and on the public health of receiving communities. Pre-migration health activities conducted to address migrants' health needs early in the process prior to travel can also be cost-effective and can facilitate migrants' integration into the receiving country health system post arrival.

Health-related assistance before, during and after travel is a key requirement to ensuring a safe and dignified journey and maintaining the continuum of care for migrants with medical conditions or other health needs. Referrals for additional investigations or treatment prior to departure, special travel arrangements and

the provision of medical escorts are all important components in mitigating risk during travel. The confidential and timely exchange of medical information over electronic platforms also allows States, health providers and partners to prepare for the arrival of migrants and ensure continuity of care.

Activities such as outbreak surveillance and management, vaccinations and early detection and treatment for both migrant and hosting populations identify and address health needs and avert health-related delays in IOM facilitated migration. Predeparture treatment, vaccinations and other public health interventions are also tailored to meet the needs of migrants and receiving health authorities.



69
IOM migration
health assessment
centres worldwide



480,842migration health
assessments provided in 2020



Refugees (18%)

Immigrants (82%)



In 2021 **200,554** doses of vaccine provided

to approximately **75,532** ·

migrants

on behalf of

receiving countries

Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

MOVEMENT PARTNERSHIPS

All IOM movements are carried out with consultation and approval of relevant partners, stakeholders and in the case of international air travel, at the request and approval of States. Recognizing that movement is a continuum, IOM relies on States, humanitarian partners and other referral networks to assist in a variety of services that comprise its assistance. These range from identifying IOM movement beneficiaries to assisting where necessary during travel and providing support following the arrival of migrants to their receiving countries or communities.

For example, long-standing programmes, such as refugee resettlement, can only be undertaken in agreement with the sending and hosting States, the receiving community and partners, movement operations partners, such as international airlines and airport staff, a variety of service providers and, in most instances, the partnership of UNHCR.

IOM works closely with a network of private service providers, such as airlines and airport staff around the world, to successfully move and assist migrants throughout their journeys. Established public–private relationships are built on mutual gains for both the migrants, who require assistance, and the businesses that serve them. Although IOM ensures active monitoring of all movement-related partners, the Organization dedicates special attention to the airlines that are entrusted with safely moving migrants to their destinations.

IOM movement response is often a single part of a holistic support package provided by the United Nations, non-governmental organizations, civil society and other partners. IOM works closely with local governments, stakeholders and private partners to ensure that migrant's individual goals are supported.

PROTECTION IN MOVEMENTS

Successful movement programmes are people-centred and place protection at the centre of its actions. All IOM movements, whether by road, rail, air or sea are voluntary and must be coordinated with a variety of actors prior to departure and during transit, as well as upon and following arrival. IOM's support to migrants does not end when a plane has landed or a boat has docked. Strong movement programming is designed to support and protect migrants from abuse, neglect, discrimination, and exploitation at every phase to maximize meaningful (re) integration and participation. This means caring for the health and well-being of migrants, arranging for their safe and dignified travel, ensuring that they are well-informed about their journey and have realistic expectations, support and tools upon arrival. IOM teams consult, ensure participation and empower migrants by preparing them for any IOM movement, whether travelling as an individual, family or group, and regardless of the length of travel.

IOM adopts a rights-based approach and seeks to ensure that the migrant's right to protection is upheld and their needs are fulfilled. The Organization is committed to support States, as primary duty bearer, in their responsibility to protect migrants' human rights on their own soil, regardless of their legal status. This commitment extends to displaced persons and affected communities, as well.

The IOM Principles for Humanitarian Action (PHA) reaffirms adherence to humanitarian principles, underpinning IOM's humanitarian response to migration crises. Additionally, the PHA guides IOM's overall response to migration crisis when the Organization is also engaged through non-humanitarian activities, including transit assistance to affected populations and other movement-related responses.

MAINSTREAMING ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS AND PROTECTION

In 2018, RMM prepared guidelines to establish minimum standards governing the mainstreaming of protection in resettlement operations. The Mainstreaming Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations (MAAP) project was initiated in response to the recommendations in these publications, and it developed a set of tools to assist RMM staff in their efforts to operationalize these minimum standards across RMM operations and programming globally. In 2020, RMM completed a first phase of the MAAP Project. The overall objective was to strengthen RMM staff capacity in protection and accountability to affected populations in resettlement and movement management operations as well as to further knowledge management, internal governance, staff development and operational effectiveness. A second phase was launched in 2021, focused on implementing a set of recommendations put forward in a mapping and assessment of Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs) across global resettlement and movement operations in order to strengthen IOM's accountability. This phase sought to operationalize and mainstream IN/285 IOM AAP Framework commitment to establish diverse and contextually appropriate CFMs across RMM operations that not only reinforce IOM's WE ARE ALL IN platform and established reporting systems but also work towards standardizing and strengthening the cycle of beneficiary feedback for improved programme response.

During the project period, RMM collaborates with and leverages the experience of technical experts in the area of Protection, AAP, PSEAH, Gender and Disability Inclusion to facilitate awarenessraising, tool development, and the capacity-building of field staff.

Key Achievements of MAAP so far

- Mapping and assessment exercise on CFMs within RMM operations;
- Set up of a MAAP Task Force dedicated to mainstreaming protection and AAP within RMM covering most regions in which IOM operates;
- Update the existing toolbox by the development of additional tools to support RMM staff to establish effective CFMs;
- Implement effective and formal CFMs in 3 pilot missions, testing and validating the new CFM tools;
- Translation of MAAP tools into French and Spanish to promote broader field implementation;
- Launch of a pilot Community of Practice (CoP) with the aim to advance knowledge sharing and best practices through regular exchanges on protection and AAP between missions. The CoP engages 17 field missions covering the sub-Saharan region on protection and AAP-related matters in a shared space to discuss challenges, best practices and questions they face in mainstreaming protection and AAP on operational levels. The CoP undertakes different activities to

meet the needs of the engaged missions, including meetings on technical topics (including how to ensure a disability inclusive approach) and showcasing where and how MAAP tools are currently being implemented within missions in the region.

MAAP outcomes

- Strengthen staff capacity on protection and AAP to those IOM serves;
- A more standardized approach to operationalizing protection and AAP on mission levels;
- Harness technical expertise and sharing of best practices.

MAAP MOVING FORWARD

MAAP is evolving from a project-based approach to a broader effort supporting implementation of core commitments under the RMM Strategy, RMM MEC Framework, related RMM Objectives and Indicators and Integrity Guidelines. Moving forward, RMM wants to focus on increasing MAAP implementation on field levels, including within emergency contexts. This would support institutional implementation of IN/285 Accountability to Affected Populations Framework as well as the departmental strategic priority 2 aimed to enhance IOM's emergency and protracted crisis responses by delivering on protection-focused and continuum-based approaches and is consistent with the increased use of MAAP tools within emergency contexts.



Brazil receives first Central American refugees under the regional resettlement programme. © IOM 2019

ASSISTANCE TO VULNERABLE MIGRANTS AND COUNTER-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

IOM's Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants (AVM) Unit provides protection and assistance to migrants vulnerable to violence, exploitation, and abuse, including victims of trafficking. IOM's approach to migrant vulnerability is rooted in the belief that the human rights of all persons, including migrants, should be upheld and promoted and that all migrants who are vulnerable, regardless of their membership in any particular category or holding of any particular status, should be afforded the protection and assistance services they require.

We use the definition of migrants in vulnerable situations put forth by the GMG Principles and Practical Guidance on the Protection of the Human Rights of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations: ⁶ "Migrants in vulnerable situations are migrants who are unable effectively to enjoy their human rights, are at increased risk of violations and abuse and who, accordingly, are entitled to call on a duty bearer's heightened duty of care".

IOM launched a new suite of publications to support the identification of vulnerabilities associated with migration and improve the protection and assistance available to migrants. These tools are the first of their kind and will assist policymakers and practitioners by laying out clear operational direction on providing protection and assistance to migrants vulnerable to, or who have been subject to, violence, exploitation and abuse. The IOM Handbook⁷ on Protection and Assistance for Migrants Vulnerable to Violence, Exploitation and Abuse which provides practical guidance for States, the private sector, international organizations and civil society actors on identification, referral, protection and assistance for migrants vulnerable to violence, exploitation and abuse. It also outlines actions that need to be taken to mitigate and reduce their vulnerability. It is applicable in countries of origin, transit and destination.

GENDER IN MOVEMENT

It is recognized that a person's sex, gender, gender identity and sexual orientation shape every stage of the migration experience. Gender influences reasons for migrating, who migrates and to where, how people migrate and the networks they use, opportunities and resources available at destinations, and relations with the country of origin. Risks, vulnerabilities and needs are also shaped in large part by one's gender and vary drastically for different groups.

During migration response, effectively integrating gender into movement operations means understanding how gender affects people's experiences of the crisis, addressing gender-specific

protection and assistance needs, preventing and responding to the emergence of new forms of gender-based violence, building on gender-specific capacities to respond to crises, and understanding often drastic changes in gender roles and relations.

MIGRATION DATA FOR MOVEMENTS AND IOM PROPRIETARY TOOLS

Standard operating procedures, rigorous quality control, security checks, accountability systems and IOM technical tools help to ensure that IOM movements are carried out professionally with the protection of the migrant at their core. Over the past several decades, IOM has developed a variety of mechanisms for collecting and storing migrant information to better inform movements and to prepare States and communities for arriving migrants.

IOM has a centralized team of air travel professionals. Having an in-house travel management facility allows IOM to support missions worldwide and manage flight bookings directly and in an expedited fashion. IOM air travel professionals are able to evaluate different itineraries globally and support any mission worldwide when sourcing travel options on commercial and charter flights. Therefore, IOM is able to identify the best routings for the needs of any particular migrant.

IOM's proprietary Migrant Information Management tool (MiMOSA) which is used by IOM Missions to record biographic and demographic information required to manage process of services for Movement, Medical, Migrant Training activities, Assisted Voluntary Return and Counter Trafficking. The system has rich user interface that enforces adherence to programme business rules with the programme integrity guidelines. It facilitates the generation of required operational, statistical and financial reports required by IOM centrally and in conformity with the expectations of the donor community.

MiMOSA's counter-trafficking module facilitates the management of assistance, voluntary return and reintegration activities for victims of trafficking. The resulting database, which contains data on over 55,000 victims of trafficking and is the largest of its kind, strengthens the research capacity and understandings of the causes, processes, trends and consequences of trafficking.

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) system tracks and monitors displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of migrants' relocations and the evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route. DTM is also used to assist in the profiling of sending and receiving communities in order to better inform and prepare for migrant (re)integration efforts.

RESOURCES

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

The DTM tracks and monitors displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route.

Principles of Humanitarian Action (PHA)

The PHA is a policy that clarifies IOM's humanitarian identity, spells out its role and rules of engagement in humanitarian action, and reaffirms its commitment to the core humanitarian principles.

Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC)

Through a broad and inclusive consultative process, the MICIC Initiative developed Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster. Released in June 2016, these non-binding and voluntary principles, guidelines, and practices identify the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders vis-à-vis migrants in countries in crisis. They provide concrete guidance on how to prepare for and respond to crises in ways that protects and empowers migrants.

Resettlement 2021

Providing essential support to States resettling refugees and other humanitarian entrants is a fundamental purpose of IOM and among its largest ongoing activities. This book outlines and details IOM's global role in the refugee resettlement continuum.

IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF)

The MCOF sets out measures at the individual, community and State levels across 15 sectors of assistance to be undertaken at the request and with the consent of States to prepare for, respond to and recover from different types of crises, including those that have triggered mass movements of internally displaced persons.

UNHCR's Global Trends Report 2021

At the end of 2021, 89.3 million individuals worldwide were forcibly displaced as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order.

IOM Framework for Addressing Internal Displacement

This framework outlines the main tenets of the Organization's response to internal displacement. Aligned with prevailing external normative and legal instruments within the humanitarian architecture and grounded within the Organization's own robust set of dedicated and evolving policies and frameworks, it articulates IOM's ongoing principles, commitments, approach and operational objectives in relation to the changing and dynamic global landscape of internal displacement.

IOM Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF)

The MiGOF establishes a structure in which States and IOM can work together to address migration issues. The framework presents the ideal version of migration governance to which States can aspire and for which IOM can provide support and assistance. It offers a concise view of an ideal approach that allows a State to determine what it might need to govern migration well and in a way that fits its circumstances.

Progressive Resolution to Displacement Situations (PRDS)

This document frames IOM's broad and inclusive approach, which recognizes the increasingly protracted nature of crisis and its associated impacts on displaced populations, as well as on other migrants and affected communities.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Migration in the 2030 Agenda: Sustainable Development Goals as seen through the lens of IOM.

Gender Equilaty Policy

The Gender Equality Policy is designed to formalize and codify IOM's commitment to identifying and addressing the needs of all beneficiaries of IOM projects and services and to ensuring equal opportunity and treatment of all staff members within the Organization.

Please visit the IOM website for more detailed information on all IOM programmes, ethos and overarching frameworks. **www.iom.int**

ACRONYMS

AVRR Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration
CFM Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms

CRISP Sustainable Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Initiative

DTM Displacement Tracking Matrix
EEA Economic European Area

EU European Union
GAF Global Assistance Fund

HASM Humanitarian Assistance to Stranded Migrants
ICEM Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration

ICM Intergovernmental Committee for Migration

IDP Internally Displaced Persons

IOM International Organization for Migration

MAAP Mainstreaming Accountability to Affected Populations and Protection

MCOF Migrant Crisis Operational Framework
MHAC Migration Health Assessment Centre
MICIC Migrants in Countries in Crisis

MiMOSA Migrant Management Operational System Application

PHA Principles of Humanitarian Action

PICMME Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe

RMM Resettlement and Movement Management RRTF Rapid Response Transportation Fund

UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

VHR Voluntary Humanitarian Return

END NOTES

- 1 IOM Constitution, resolution adopted 5 December 1951.
- 2 UNHCR, Global Trends Forced Displacement in 2021, 2022.
- 3 UNHCR definition of complementary pathways from "Solution for Refugees" in the 10 Point Plan in Action (pp. 176, 195).
- 4 European Resettlement Network (ERN), About Complementary Pathways.
- Adapted from Global Compact on Refugees, draft 2 as of 30 April 2018, para. 89, in International Organization for Migration, Glossary on Migration, IML Series No. 34.
- 6 OHCHR/Global Migration Group, Principles and Guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of vulnerable migrants, Geneva 2017.
- 7 IOM Handbook on Protection and Assistance for Migrants Vulnerable to Violence, Exploitation and Abuse, Geneva 2019.



