



IOM Development Fund
DEVELOPING CAPACITIES IN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC:

Seed Funding and Project Activity from 2013 – 2017

A Comprehensive Review

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
OBJECTIVE	4
METHODOLOGY	4
Parameters.....	4
Research Gathering	4
Analysis	4
LIMITATIONS	5
ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL OVERVIEW	6
A UNIQUE MIGRATION PROFILE	6
IDF PROJECT SYNTHESIS.....	8
2013 – 2017 ACTIVITY.....	8
GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE	10
Country Level.....	11
Regional Level	12
DIRECT BENEFICIARIES REACHED.....	13
THEMATIC AREA COVERAGE.....	14
PROJECT ANALYSIS BY THEMATIC AREA.....	16
LABOUR MIGRATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (LMHD)	16
Regional Trends.....	16
IDF Activity	16
Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects).....	17
Common Challenges.....	19
MIGRATION HEALTH DIVISION (MHD)	19
Regional Trends.....	19
IDF Activity	19
Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects).....	20
Common Challenges.....	21
DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS AND EMERGENCIES (DOE)	21
PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE DIVISION (PRD),	21
TRANSITION AND RECOVERY DIVISION (TRD) and	21
LAND PROPERTY AND REPARATIONS (LPR)	21
Regional Trends.....	21

IDF Activity	21
Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects).....	22
Common Challenges.....	23
MIGRATION RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION (MRD)	23
IDF Activity	23
Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects).....	24
Common Challenges.....	24
MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE DIVISION (MECC)	25
Regional Trends.....	25
IDF Activity	25
Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects).....	25
Common Challenges.....	25
IMMIGRATION AND BORDER MANAGEMENT DIVISION (IBM).....	26
IDF Activity	26
Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects).....	26
Challenges	26
MIGRANT PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE DIVISION	26
IDF Activity	26
Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects).....	26
Challenges	26
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS (ICP)	26
IDF Activity	26
LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	28
KEY TAKEAWAYS.....	28
Operational.....	28
Sustainability	29
Thematic	29
Gender	30
INTEGRATING ASIA-PACIFIC COUNTRIES INTO THE GLOBAL POLICY REGIME OF MIGRATION	30
ANNEX.....	32
Referenced Annexes.....	32
Additional Documents	32

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OBJECTIVE

As trends in global migration continue to pose significant challenges and opportunities for governments and migrants alike, entities such as the IOM Development Fund (IDF) are integral in providing baseline support for states to develop their institutional, operational, and political capacities for effective management of human flows. By adopting a regional scope to analyze migration phenomena and responses from the international community, practitioners have the potential to obtain tremendous insights into the context specific realities of particular states, societies, and areas of the world. In turn, these insights can help inform future activities to ensure that policies and projects are designed and implemented in a way that best improves the circumstances of those institutions they are intended to help, and ultimately, migrants themselves.

By conducting an analysis of the broader migration trends in the Asia-Pacific, while simultaneously reviewing ongoing and completed projects that have been funded through the IDF, a weighted evaluation can assess funding productivity and highlight best practices and notable successes of these projects. Importantly, this review will also identify challenges, shortcomings and risks pertaining to project design and implementation in the region so that they can be mitigated against in future activities.

METHODOLOGY

Parameters

This review provides an analysis of IDF funded projects that are monitored under the jurisdiction of the Regional Office (RO) of Bangkok, Thailand. This RO's coverage includes the countries that reside in East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific - all of which belong to the Asia-Pacific. For sake of consistency, depth and breadth, projects spanning multiple thematic areas that were funded between the years of 2013 and 2017 have been considered for this review – amounting to 44 projects in total.

Research Gathering

The research conducted for this analysis was both quantitative and qualitative in nature, and it was gathered via two avenues. The first was a mapping exercise that collected project data from project summaries, interim reports, final reports, among other reporting materials which synthesized variables such as funding level, project duration, thematic area, desired outcomes, challenges, and extent of revisions. (See Annex 1)

The second was an interview process in which six Regional Technical Specialists (RTSs) were nominated to participate. The RTSs were selected based on the most pertinent thematic areas that were identified in the region and which ones had the most project activity. The attached document in Annex 2 provides the sample list of interview questions that were used to frame the qualitative discussions with these focal points.

Analysis

Due to the varying levels of project completion, the extent to which certain data points have been reported also varied. For example, projects that have not produced an interim report have yet to describe any challenges they may have faced in the first stages of the project. For this reason, some findings and conclusions were formed under one or more of the following 3 tiers:

1. Completed Projects

2. Projects in Progress (with at least one available interim report)
3. Projects in Progress (with no finalized interim reports)

After providing a wholistic overview of project activity in the Asia-Pacific by employing strategies of data visualization, the bulk of the analysis is organized by thematic area under the corresponding divisions and departments:

1. Labour Migration and Human Development Division (LMHD)
2. Migration Health Division (MHD)
3. Department of Operations and Emergencies (DOE)
 - Preparedness and Response Division (PRD)
 - Transition and Recovery Division (TRD)
 - Land Property and Reparations (LPR)
4. Migration Research and Publications Division (MRD)
5. Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC)
6. Immigration and Border Management Division (IBM)
7. Migrant Protection and Assistance Division (MPA)
8. Other: Department of International Cooperation and Partnerships (ICP)

LIMITATIONS

Several limitations of this review need to be noted for consideration, one of which is the inherent difficulty of gathering accurate data from standardized reports that may be - in some ways - insufficient in capturing the nuances of every project. This risk of inaccuracy or oversimplification was mitigated against by considering statements from RTSs in conjunction with the mapping exercise.

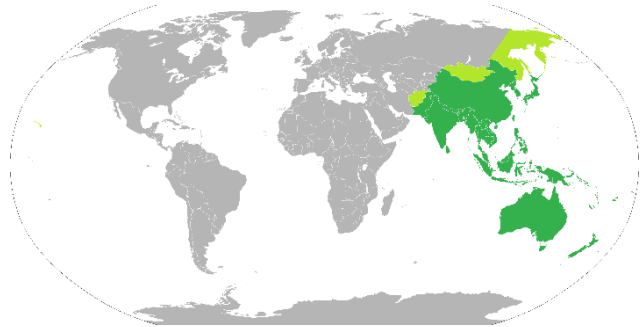
Another limitation is the difficulty in operationalizing qualitative variables, especially with a sample size of 44 projects. Thus, qualitative categories such as challenges, objectives and evaluations were not coded, but rather discussed thematically.

Also, due to logistical constraints, desynchronized schedules, two of the six RTSs were not interviewed, however one did provide written answers to the sample interview questions.

ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL OVERVIEW

A UNIQUE MIGRATION PROFILE

Home to more than 60% of the earth's human population and composed of over 70 countries and areas, the Asia-Pacific region is one that serves as both a fascinating and sometimes difficult area for socio-economic analysis, policy development, and regional coordination. A vast array of complex political, economic, cultural, and environmental challenges, coupled with the sheer quantity, proximity and density of populations in the region, have contributed to an especially unique migration profile of the Asia-Pacific. As a result, management of migration in the region is inherently vital, and it is essential that the international community is responsive to the needs of states and regional bodies to help strengthen their institutional capacities. Delivery of resources and expertise with context specific programming can strengthen this region's migration management system so that states can sustainably cope with and benefit from the high volume of migration that takes place within and between these countries.



The Population Division at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs has gathered significant global data on human migration flows, including those in Asia and Oceania. They reported that the total number of immigrants to Asia in 2017 was just under 80 million, whereas emigration from Asia totaled over 105 million migrants.¹ Interestingly however, the continent of Asia has the highest amount of migration internally between countries than any other, with a total of over 63 million migrants reported in 2017.² Conversely, the Pacific has a higher rate of immigration than emigration, receiving nearly 8.5 million migrants and having almost 2 million migrants exit the region in 2017.³ Furthermore, migration demographics of Asia show that they have the lowest number of female migrants at 42.4%, whereas about half of the Pacific's migrants are female.⁴

The majority of this migration in the Asia-Pacific is comprised of low-skilled labour migration where single workers undertake temporary labour contracts in neighbouring states – usually with the goal of providing remittances to their host communities.⁵ Though a large portion of this migration is facilitated and regulated by national governments and then carried out by private recruitment and employment agencies, flows of irregular labour migration are also considerably prominent in the Asia-Pacific.⁶ Other drivers of migration in the Asia-Pacific region are economic, demographic, political, and environmental in nature, and shortcomings in the operations of formal channels cause many to migrate by informal and irregular means.

¹ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: Population Division, "Monitoring Global Population Trends: International Migrant Stock 2017," accessed 15 June 2018. <http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/data/estimates2/estimatesgraphs.shtml?0g0>

² Ibid

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid

⁵ United Nations Economic and Social Council, "Trends and drivers of international migration in Asia and the Pacific," 30 August 2017. http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/GCMPREP_1E.pdf

⁶ Ibid

These types of migration flows that result from a lack of institutional capacity can inadvertently spur staggering consequences - a phenomenon that the Asia-Pacific is not immune to. Many migration pathways in the region encompass mixed flows involving smuggled migrants, trafficked persons, and refugees, asylum seekers and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). These forms of migration are in part a result of the highly restrictive Asian model of migration, where governments frequently curtail entry severely, discourage permanent settlement, and keep citizenship far out of reach.⁷ Migration in the Asian-Pacific is also highly gendered, where women facing greater restrictions on migration that are intended to protect them (such as age requirements), often find themselves using informal channels which actually increases their vulnerability.

All of these forms and facets of the migration landscape in the Asia-Pacific are only exacerbated by the increases in disasters and environmental degradation that have been exacerbated by climate change. Different sub-regions of the Asia-Pacific vary in the degrees to which they are impacted by the onset of climate change, however, the nexus between migration and climatic events in this region is one that is prominent. Whether these climatic events take the form of slow-onset processes or sudden-onset natural disasters, migration, displacement and planned relocation are increasingly seen as choices or last resorts for communities at risk and governments in the Asia-Pacific region.

⁷ The Economist, "Migration and Labour Shortages in Asian Countries," 11 February 2017.
<https://www.economist.com/asia/2017/02/11/asias-looming-labour-shortage>

IDF PROJECT SYNTHESIS

Given the multifaceted and unique migration profile of the Asia-Pacific and increased awareness of migration related issues among national and regional institutions, the IDF has consistently increased its assistance to the region in the form of capacity-building projects.

2013 – 2017 ACTIVITY

IDF funding in the Asia-Pacific has steadily increased over the course of the past five years. Where other regions have fluctuated in the level of funding received and the number of projects activated year to year, the Asia-Pacific has experienced an average growth in funds of 20.4% each year since 2013. As a result, the IDF has effectively doubled its capital investment in the region from USD \$1,111,089 in 2013 to USD \$2,239,897 in 2017 - making it the second most IDF funded region behind Africa. Though there was a slight dip in funding between the years 2015 and 2016, any possible losses of opportunity were compensated for a much greater amount provided in 2017.

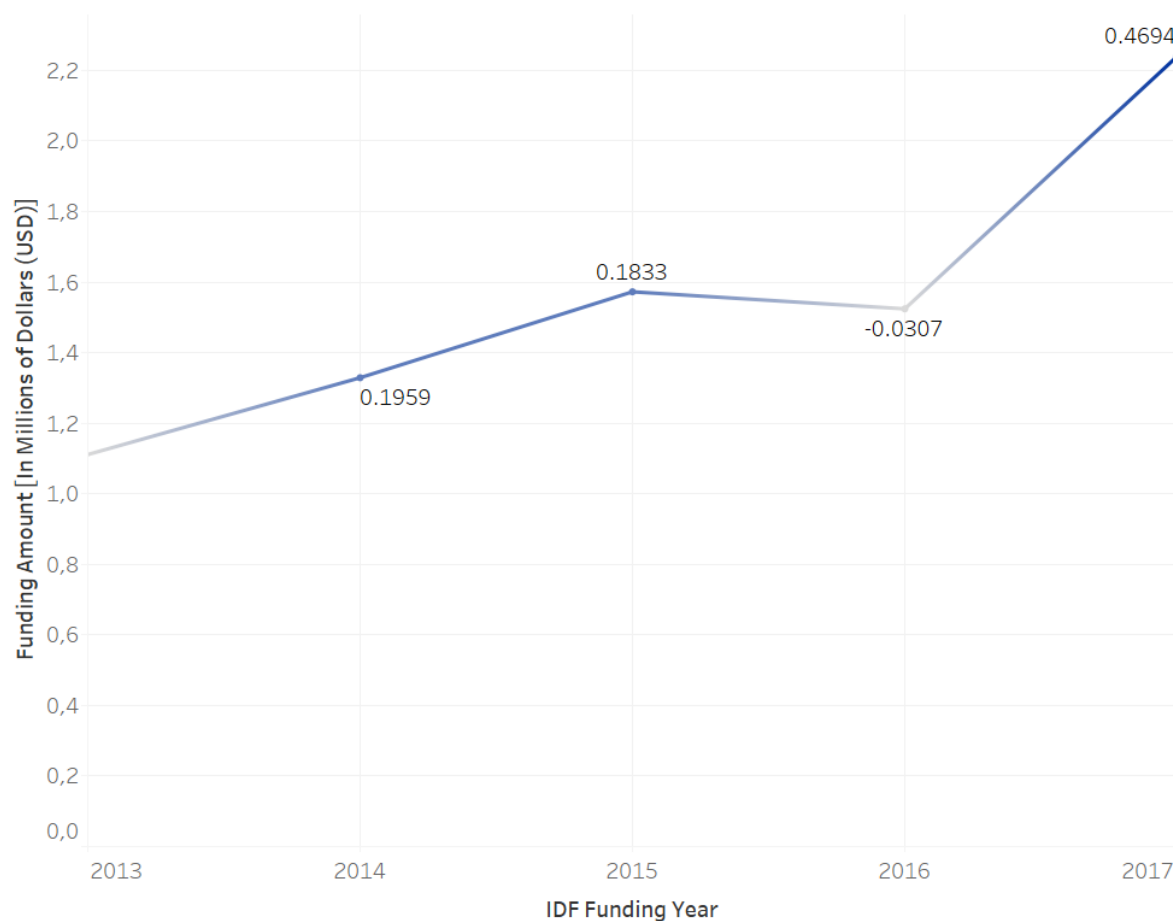
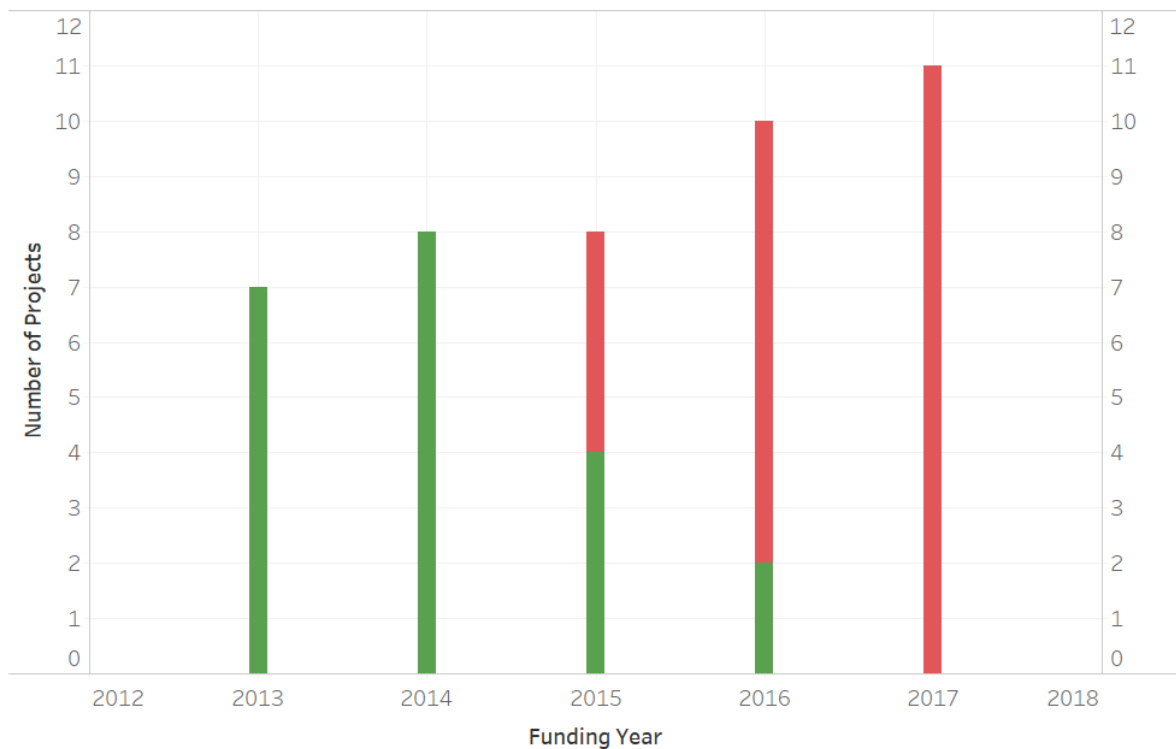


Figure 1 – Amount of funding provided by each funding year (with percentage growth rates labeled)

Not surprisingly, project activation by funding year has also steadily increased. Between 2013 and 2017, 44 projects have been launched, 10 of which are regional and 34 that are implemented at the country level. Figure 2 provides a visual representation of the status of these projects based on their funding year. As can be inferred, there are still four active projects that were approved and funded in 2015, eight projects from 2016, and all projects that were funded in 2017 are still in progress.

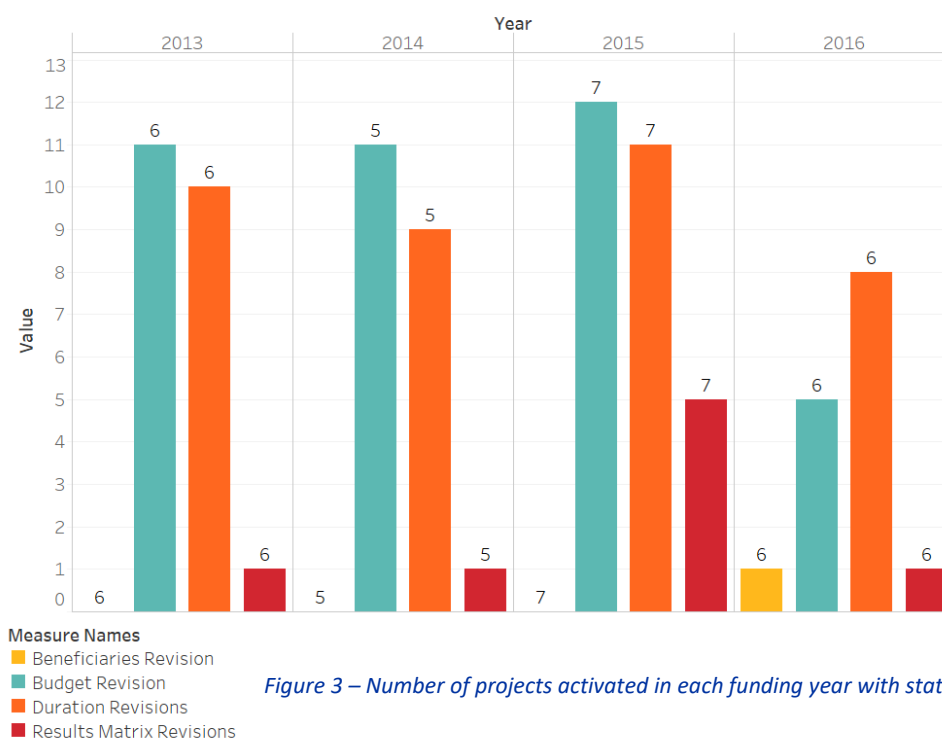


Measure Names

- Completed Projects
- Incomplete Projects

Figure 2 – Number of projects activated in each funding year with status

The project summaries of the 21 completed projects tell us that the average project duration in the region is just over 28 months and nearly two revisions occur for each project on average (1.76). Moreover, merely six of these completed projects finished within their originally specified time frame. This report will later discuss the challenges that arise in project implementation that cause revisions to take place.



Measure Names

- Beneficiaries Revision
- Budget Revision
- Duration Revisions
- Results Matrix Revisions

Figure 3 – Number of projects activated in each funding year with status

Figure 3 above provides a breakdown of revision types by project funding year with a text indicator of the number of projects considered. This tells us that budget revisions appear to be the most common amongst IDF projects, except for projects funded in the year 2016.

It is also interesting that when comparing Figures 1 and 2, even though only one more project was funded in 2017 than 2016, there is a disproportionate jump in the funding amount between those years. This is easily explained by the fact that the average budget per project jumped from USD \$152,000 USD in 2016 to USD \$203,000 in 2017.

The spending efficiency of these projects is also something to consider when evaluating funding quantities. One indicator is the percentage of funds that contribute directly to project activities, outputs and outcomes, which excludes administrative overhead costs. Out of the total budgets of all completed projects for the five funding years (USD \$3,252,833), only USD \$962, 642 (or 29.6 %) of those funds were put towards staff and office costs. This is compliant with the 30% cap that IDF maintains to ensure effective spending.

Another indicator of spending efficiency is the extent to which projects have used all of their funding that has been allocated by the IDF. Out of the completed projects between 2013 and 2017 (21 projects), USD \$215,973, was not utilized (from 14 projects) and thus, sent back to IDF. Figure 4 below shows the ranges of underspending, and the number of projects under each surplus level.

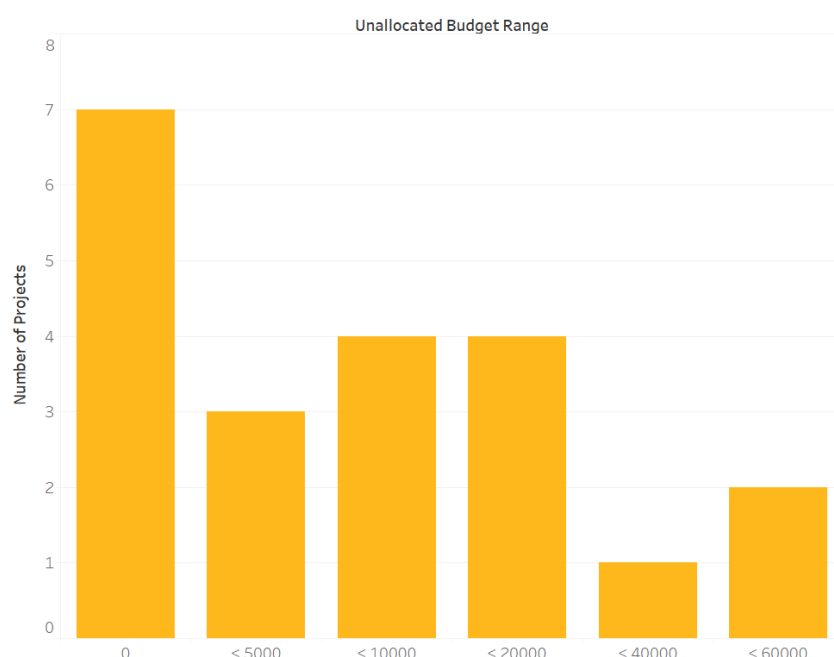


Figure 4 – Number of projects categorized under each range of unspent project budget

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

In the years relevant for this review, IDF has launched country and regional level projects that have reached 23 countries in both Asia and Oceania. The following subsections and diagrams show the breakdowns of IDF funding by number of projects and dollar amount. These variables are separated into country specific projects and regional projects.

Country Level

Country level programming allows the IDF to be dynamic, context based and targeted as projects specifically address the needs and wants of government institutions that appeal to it for funding. In the past five funding years, IDF has carried out country specific programming in 18 Asia-Pacific states as mapped in Figure 5 and listed below in Figure 6. Though these projects are specific and targeted at government direct beneficiaries within the benefiting IOM Member States, lessons learned from these projects and the institutional capacities that they build have the potential to spur spillover effects that may lead to broader domestic and regional strength.



Figure 5 - Map of funding allocated through country level projects

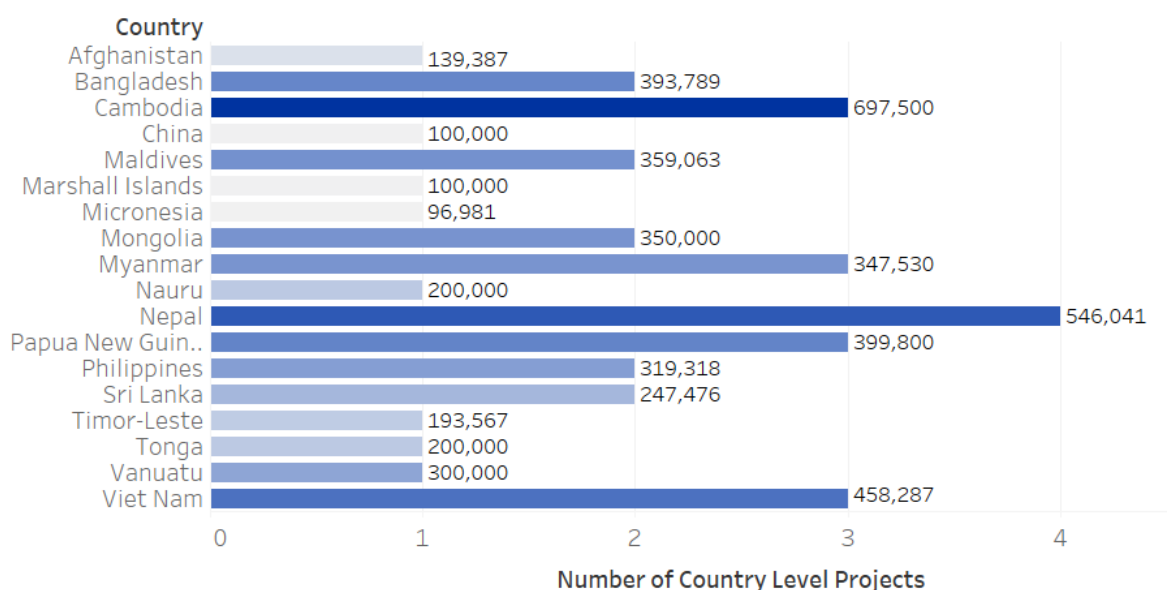


Figure 6 – Number of projects per benefiting member state with total funds received under country level projects

As observed in both figures, the top receivers of country level capacity-building projects and seed funding in the past five funding periods are the countries of Nepal, Cambodia, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, and Myanmar. The lowest states in this category are those that have only launched one country level project in the last five years, which include Afghanistan, China, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu. As will be explored later in the report however, quantity of projects and size of budgets does not necessarily indicate a marker of success. Nevertheless, it has been observed that outcomes and outputs are made more sustainable with the issuance of multiple grants and implementation of multiple projects.

Regional Level

Projects that involve the cooperation of more than one country and projects that are targeted at strengthening regional networks and institutions are essential for the promotion of knowledge sharing, standard setting, and policy coordination between states. Given that the majority of Asia-Pacific migration takes place internal to the region and the existence of other previously mentioned realities that feed into its unique migration profile, it is important for projectization to support the curation of regional solutions that address the greatest common challenges that countries and migrants are facing.

IDF's regional programming in the Asia-Pacific is rather strong and has increased proportional to its overall activity in the region. The IDF has begun to prioritize regional projects in tandem with the trends of collaboration between Asia-Pacific countries – especially in the most recent funding year. Five out of the 10 regional projects over the past five years were launched in 2017 and over half of the funds allocated to the region this year were put towards regional projects (USD \$1,250,000).

Figures 7 and 8 provide a visual representation of the quantity of regional projects and funds that have been allocated to each country. In the funding years between 2013 and 2017, 10 regional projects have or will reach 16 benefiting Member States. Two of these 10 projects were designed for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), whereas the other 8 were funded with a more concentrated focus on select Member States.

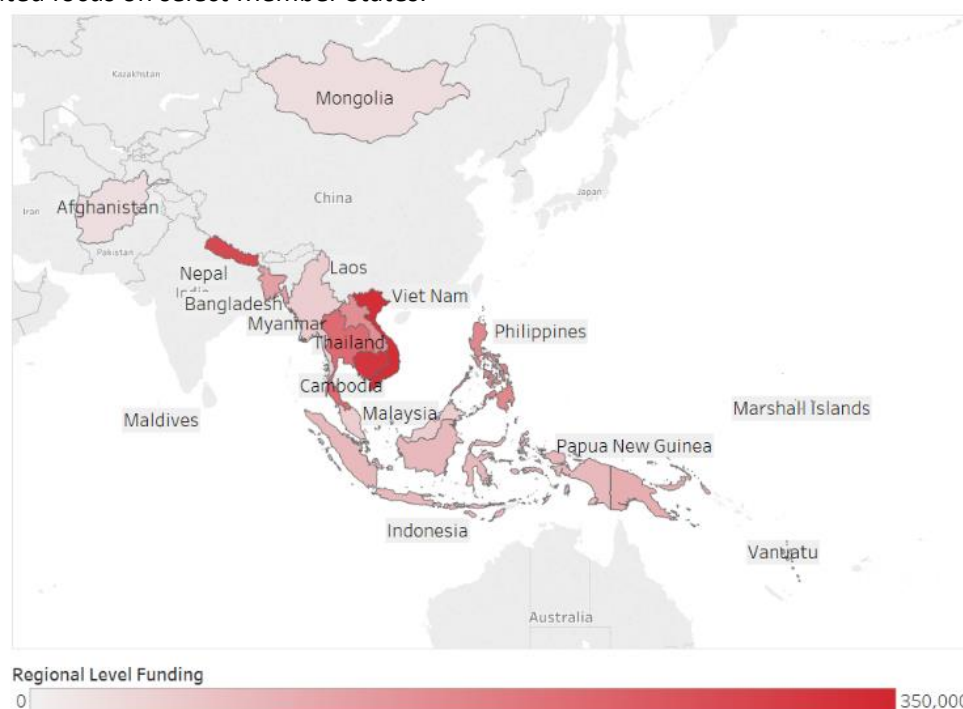


Figure 7 - Map of funding allocated through regional level projects

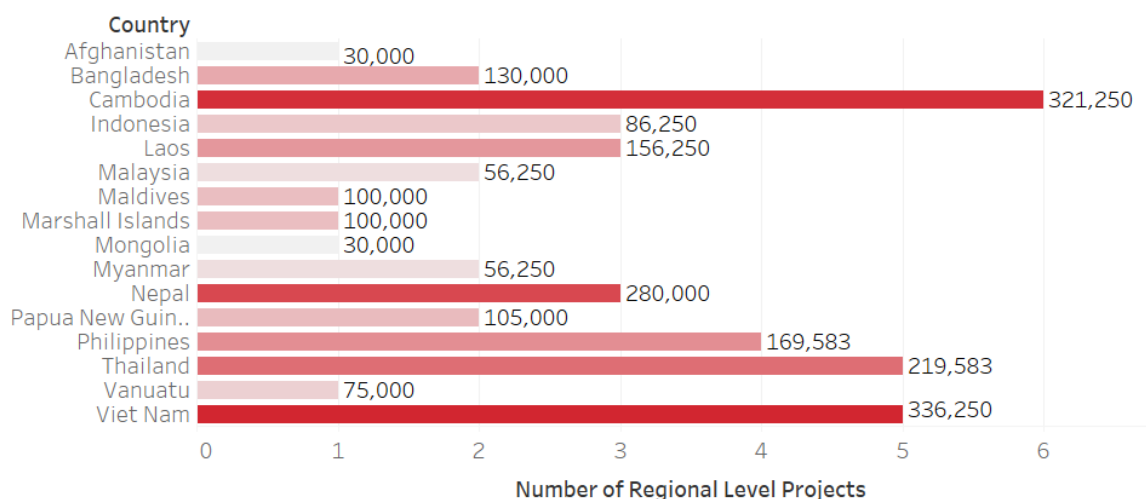
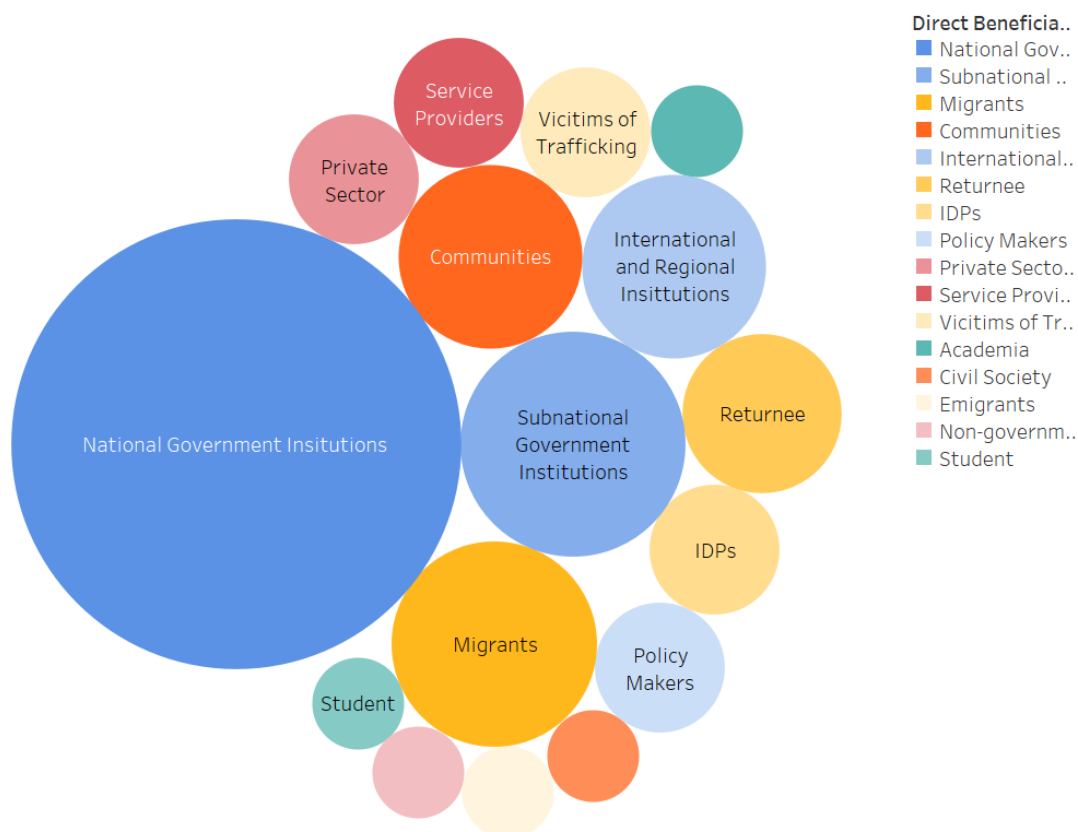


Figure 8 – Number of projects per benefiting member state with total funds received under regional level projects

In these figures, the budgets of each regional project were divided by the number of benefiting Member States that they aimed to reach. Cambodia and Viet Nam appear to be most included in regional project activity, benefiting directly from six and five projects respectively and each receiving proportional funds of over USD \$300,000 each. It is worth noting that a few countries such as Thailand that have been substantially included in regional projects launched by the IDF, have not received any seed funding for a country level project in the past 5 years. The sustainability and longevity of these regional projects will be discussed further in the sections that correspond to their thematic area.

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES REACHED



The types of direct beneficiaries that are reached by IDF projects in the Asia-Pacific are also worthwhile to highlight. This diagram visualizes proportionally how many projects reach each beneficiary type. Easily observed here, National Government Institutions are overwhelmingly most often the target beneficiaries of IDF projects, followed by Subnational Government Institutions, Migrants, Communities and International and Regional Institutions. Additionally, a project will reach three different beneficiary types on average.

THEMATIC AREA COVERAGE

The below charts categorize IDF project coverage in the Asia-Pacific by project code and thematic area. For the purposes of this report, thematic areas were coded as divisions and departments as to establish a regional focal point to conduct interviews and to best link IDF activity to the migration realities of the region.

Projects by Code

Proj. Code	
LM	13
MA	8
PR	7
CS	4
CT	3
CE	2
DP	2
FM	1
NC	1
PO	1
RP	1
TC	1

Projects by Thematic Area

Thematic Area	
LMHD	16
MHD	8
MRD	5
TRD	4
MECC	3
MPA	3
PRD	2
IBM	1
ICP	1
LPR	1

As is fitting with the broader trends in the Asia-Pacific, most IDF funded projects fall under the thematic area of Labour Migration and Human Development. Other thematic areas, such as Migration and Health, Migration, Environment and Climate Change and those that fall under the Department of Operations and Emergencies (DOE) are also adequately funded - but perhaps with some shortcomings.

The next section of this report will dive deep into the project specifics under each thematic area to highlight the linkages between key thematic trends in the region and IDF funding activity. From this

analysis, lessons learned from notable projects, practices that promote sustainability, and notable challenges will be drawn from to inform recommendations to the IDF and its collaborators on future project design and implementation. This section will synthesize data obtained from the mapping exercise and the statements from interviews with the relevant Regional Technical Specialists.

PROJECT ANALYSIS BY THEMATIC AREA

LABOUR MIGRATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (LMHD)

Regional Trends

The nexus between development and migration is one that is especially prominent in the Asia-Pacific, especially when migrants are increasingly motivated by economic opportunities abroad in neighbouring states. 16 IDF projects have helped to build the capacities of states and regional institutions to manage migration in the context of labour mobility and human development.

A number of trends are emerging within the LMHD thematic area in the Asia-Pacific. After conducting an information interview with the LMHD RTS, it was made clear that the protection of migrant workers throughout the labour migration cycle has become an omnipresent agenda item for state and non-state actors. Promotion of ethical recruitment and labour supply chain management, rights-based pre-departure, post-arrival orientation and awareness raising campaigns related to safe migration are among the many types of activities that are geared towards ensuring the safety and dignity of labour migrants.

There has also been a push to improve labour migration governance, where the mainstreaming of migration into national and subnational policies is beginning to take place at an increasing rate. These national improvements contribute to a broader regional and multilateral process of promoting policy coherence and improving migration governance. Regional policy initiatives such as the Regional Consultative Process on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for countries of origin in Asia (Colombo Process), Abu Dhabi Dialogue, Bali Process Strategy for Collaboration, and the increased interest from the ASEAN, accumulate to form a hopeful landscape for labour migration management in the Asia-Pacific.

Other trends include the increased importance of community development, specifically through diaspora engagement and investment, skills development, financial literacy and remittances management, promoting migrant entrepreneurship, and return of qualified nationalism. There have also been trends in dialogue concerning labour migration as a possible climate change adaptation strategy.

IDF Activity

Country Level Projects

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2013	LM.0234	Myanmar	Enhancing Institutional Capacities of the Government of Myanmar on Increased Protection of Myanmar Migrant Workers
2014	LM.0253	Timor-Leste	The Road to ASEAN: Strengthening Labour Migration management in Timor-Leste
2014	LM.0254	Cambodia	Building the Capacity of Cambodia to Manage Outward Migration (BECOME)
2014	CE.0263	Papua New Guinea	Building Capacity of Papua New Guinean Government to Respond to Climate Change and Engage in Grassroots Structures in Development Planning for the
2014	FM.0408	Marshall Islands	Promoting Safe Migration and Integration Through the Establishment of A Migrant Resource Center in the Marshall Islands
2015	LM.0290	Bangladesh	Enhanced Skills Development and Qualification Recognition of Labour Migrants from Bangladesh
2015	LM.0285	Myanmar	Supporting Myanmar's Migration Management in the Context of Nation Reforms and Regional Transition
2016	LM.0309	Bangladesh	Technical Support to the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET) on Overseas Market Information and to Bangladeshi Migrant Workers on 'Recognition of Prior Learning'
2016	LM.0310	Philippines	Enhancing the Reintegration Programme for Overseas Filipino Workers (ERPO) in Line with the Migration and Development, and Crisis Management Frameworks in the Philippines
2017	LM.0327	Tonga	Capacity-Building for Migration and Sustainable Development in Toga

2017	LM.0321	Nepal	Increasing the Capacity of migrant Resource Centres (MRCS) in Nepal to Foster Safe, Humane and Orderly Migration
2017	CE.0392	Afghanistan	Undertaking a Mapping Exercise and Qualitative Needs Assessment to Support the National Diaspora Policy of Afghanistan

Regional Level Projects

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2013	LM.0232	ASEAN (Member States)	Supporting ASEAN in Moving Towards Increased Mobility of Skilled Labour
2016	LM.0301	ASEAN: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam	Strengthening Capacity on Skills Recognition, Recruitment, and Labour Migration Information in Support of ASEAN Integration
2017	LM.0334	Viet Nam, Nepal	Enhancing Industry Capacity to Implement Ethical Recruitment Models in Vietnam and Nepal to Protect Migrant Workers in South Korean Businesses' Supply Chains
2017	LM.0326	Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu	Pacific Adaptation through Labour Mobility in the Low-Lying Atoll States of Kiribati, Marshall Islands, and Tuvalu

The above IDF funded projects of the LMHD have fit in well with the broader trends in the Asia-Pacific labour migration landscape. The respective RTS had expressed that these projects had positive impacts in many ways including sustaining the relationship with the governments they benefit, spurring seed funding for other opportunities (such as the IOM Corporate Responsibility in Eliminating Slavery and Trafficking initiative which now has a total of 11 projects with employers and has curated USD 9.6 million), and has created evidence-based and in-road avenues for new engagement.

Also, since the development phase of these projects, the majority normally reference SDGs and the IOM mandate, but also contribute to the SDGs – especially goal 8 which pertains to decent work and economic growth. For example, projects related to the recognition of prior learning (Bangladesh Project on Enhanced Skills Development), align perfectly with the IOM mandate on social and economic development.

Speaking to the range of coverage, there has been significant overlap with the regional coverage of these projects as well, which is believed to maximize the lasting potential of projects. Since 2013, Bangladesh and Myanmar have each received seed funding for two labour migration projects. Also, the regional projects (especially those targeted at the ASEAN), are essential for establishing a consensus of policy practice concerning labour migration and human development.

Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects)

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Highlights from Evaluation
2013	LM.0234	Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit of Myanmar officials led by Deputy Minister to Malaysia and Thailand helped promote the bilateral cooperation with the governments of key destination countries and better the understanding of the situation of migrants working there. This had a large impact on policy formulation and development and promoted IOMs institutional capacity in different levels of government. - The support by this project has short term impacts on policy decision in migration management by demonstrating commitment and political will from highest policy makers to make the migration management orderly, humane and demonstrated its meaningful partnership with

			IOM by reaching out to migrants in crisis and extending Migration Resource Centres (MRCs) to other states and regions.
2014	LM.0253	Timor-Leste	- Discussions are initiated on introducing a regulation for private recruitment agencies, developing a specific national law on migrant workers, and strengthening a data management system concerning incoming and outgoing migrant workers.
2014	LM.0254	Cambodia	- Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT) and private recruitment agencies (PRAs) actively contributed to the development of self-monitoring and evaluation checklist for PRAs and participated in an inspection process. - Key government and development institutions were trained on safe migration, enabling them to pass on the knowledge to their colleagues and beneficiaries at the ground. - Technical Working Group was established as a result of collaborative effort among IOM, MoLVT and PRAs, showing strengthened institutional capacity for the MoLVT in the field of labour inspection. - The BECOME project made very good progress and excellent achievements on capacity building for key government officials and relevant stakeholders in the field of labour migration management. The project beneficiaries ranging from Senior Government officials, PRA representatives, migrants and people at local communities realized the importance of the procedure, regulation, and process concerning safe migration and ethical recruitment.
2014	CE.0263	Papua New Guinea	- Significant change is evident at the personal level with individuals within the various socio-economic groups actively participating in identifying issues of interest within their community and seeking solutions and ways to address such concerns. This sense of empowerment resulted in the increased involvement and participation of passive and non-dominant sectors of the community in pursuing development for their community. - Relational change is evident through improved dialogue among and between socio-economic groups, which promotes an all-inclusive development planning by bringing into the discussion previously marginalized vulnerable groups. - Structural change in terms of institutional collaboration was evident through the increased involvement and sensitization of current institutional approaches in addressing the situation of climate change-affected communities. - Change in underlying cultural factors in terms of change of mind set is evident, with a sense of awareness among the people regarding the need for change and an increased responsibility of driving their own development without depending on external intervention. - One of the chief advantages of CBP as a methodology is that it is entirely driven by beneficiaries, at the individual, household, and community levels.
2014	FM.0408	Marshall Islands	- Further development is required for specific training in counselling to support the direct assistance and protection to victims of trafficking stranded migrants, as well as migrants facing sexual and gender based violence. - To ensure that effective and relevant IEC materials are available to Marshallese migrants in the future, networks between potential service providers and local stakeholders need strengthening. - Owing to ongoing drought response activities, the timeliness of translating and printing the Pre-Departure Orientation Curriculum as well as Information, Education and Communication materials on counter-human trafficking had to be postponed. - The continued development and sharing of Information, Education and Communication materials on safe migration as well as basic counselling support to migrants facing specific vulnerabilities envisioned within the design of the project have a high probability to be sustained.
2013	LM.0232	Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Member States)	- The collaborative means by which this research has been conducted has enhanced the richness, range and usefulness of the data collected, as well as further strengthening the levels of trust and collaboration between IOM and ASEAN Member States. - Information on labour market conditions, qualifications frameworks and employment opportunities are more easily accessible. - Strengthening of existing mechanisms that promote comparability and recognition of workers' skills and qualifications. - Feasibility and potential ways forward in creating a concrete information sharing mechanism on labour migration. - Multi-stakeholder coordination is enhanced, including in the policy development and consultation process.

Though only six out of 16 of the LMHD projects have been completed, the sheer quantity of projects and overlap between their benefiting Member States and issuance consecutive projects contributes to sustained policy momentum in the broader region.

Most notable here is project LM.0232, funded in 2013, and targeted at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. This project is responsive and supporting of one of the major trends in labour migration management, that is the increased interest of the ASEAN in migration governance. The creation of an information sharing mechanism and an enhancement in the way labour migration and economic data is utilized has provided observable, long lasting, and sustainable benefits for the region and has magnified the importance of collaboration for mutual benefit. The IDF has since launched an additional follow-up project in 2016, targeted again at ASEAN Member States (project code LM.0301), that aims to strengthen capacity on skills recognition, recruitment, and labour migration information.

Common Challenges

- Unexpected changes in IOM and government staff;
- Constraints on both financial and human resources;
- Quality of outputs in reports and publications;
- Government restrictions on project activities;
- Competing values and ideas between states at the regional project level;
- Reluctance of labour receiving countries towards liberalization of their policies;
- Resistance from senior levels to set up robust monitoring of private recruitment agencies beyond the basic reporting requirements;
- Extreme weather conditions or possibility of natural disaster;
- Other delays in implementation due to unforeseen circumstances.

MIGRATION HEALTH DIVISION (MHD)

Regional Trends

In the past years, there has been an increasing recognition of the importance of migrant inclusive programming within the Migration and Health Division in the Asia-Pacific. More attention has been given to the monitoring of disease patterns, and specifically, malaria work in the region has uncovered that migrant and mobile populations are presenting themselves as the highest risk for contracting and spreading the disease. The Global Fund has launched a regional malaria grant in response to its prominence in the region. Also, two funding windows for tuberculosis have also opened up in the region.

There have also been government success stories with regards to migration health policy. Sri Lanka, Philippines, and Thailand are said to be champions of health-related migration management processes. These three countries, along with Australia, Brazil, Costa Rica, East Timor, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Indonesia, Maldives, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, Switzerland, and Zimbabwe were signatories to “Columbo Statement” (See Annex 3), at the High-Level meeting of the 2nd Global Consultation on Migrant Health on 23 February 2017. This broad support for acknowledging and pledging to address the externalities associated with the migration and health nexus indicate its growing importance.

IDF Activity

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2014	MA.0318	Viet Nam	Responding to Migrants' Vulnerability to Malaria and understanding the Migration and Epidemiology of Artemisinin-Resistant Malaria in Binh Phuoc Province Viet Nam
2015	MA.0348	Sri Lanka	Promoting and Integrating Inclusive and Migrant Friendly Health Assessment Services in the National Health System of Sri Lanka
2016	MA.0373	Sri Lanka	Technical Support to Global Consultation on Migrant Health - Sri Lanka

2016	MA.0372	Myanmar	Establishing a Migration Health Unit Within the Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) in Myanmar
2016	MA.1147	Nepal	Strengthening Government Capacity in the Development and Implementation of the National Strategic Action Plan on Migration Health in Nepal
2017	MA.0407	Cambodia	Migration and its Impact on Cambodian Children and Families
2017	MA.0406	Solomon Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea	Community Health and Mobility in the Pacific
2017	MA.0415	Cambodia, Thailand, Philippines	Supporting National Level Migration Health Coordination Mechanisms in Asia

The above projects illustrate that IDF has responded to the trends in migration and health in the Asia-Pacific with substantial project programming. Though MHD IDF funded projects span less countries than those of LMHD, they have still contributed significantly to sustainable regional and domestic policy curation.

Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects)

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Highlights from Evaluations
2015	MA.0348	Sri Lanka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The seed funding was successful as the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) Ministry of Health (MoH) is committed to use its funding to integrate the national guideline and the Monitoring and Evaluation framework through their routine registration process of the health assessment providers (HAPs). Further this framework has been integrated into the MoH strategic plan for MOH staff training. However, it has not yet been confirmed that MoH has received the funding required for an inbound health assessment facility. - The project achievements created a ripple effect in advocating for migrant friendly health assessment services both within the region and globally. The empirical evidence gathered through the four -country rapid assessment revealed the major gaps in HAP protocols on TB, HIV, Communicable Diseases and Mental Health and called for further discussion and coordinated action.
2016	MA.0373	Sri Lanka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2nd Global Consultation on Migration was successful in bringing together international experts, scholars, practitioners and policy makers to identify the priority areas in migration health. The joint agreement on the Colombo Statement was a remarkable achievement. This will be used to facilitate a continuation of the political dialogue for the advancement of migrant health in upcoming regional and global forums. - Further, possible inclusion of the 24 elements of health within global compact on refugees and migrants is a major impact. Coordinated recommendations are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Future research and evidence sharing mechanism will be streamlined through the mechanism identified through the discussions held at the global consultation. 2. 2010 Madrid 'Operational Framework' will be enhanced with a progress-monitoring framework identified at this consultation. 3. Implementation of WHA resolutions, SDGs, UNGA Global Compacts for migrants and refugees, and other relevant instruments will be aligned through the common roadmap of engagement identified through the Colombo Statement.

The completed IDF projects launched in Sri Lanka listed above have reportedly provided catalytic funding to support the development of policy and lead to broader regional impact. Support for research by these projects has contributed to a global consultation, where Sri Lanka's first inground health assessment guidelines with high level buy in and a nationally led process helped inform the 2nd Global Consultation on Migration that they hosted in 2017.

These projects have proven to be the most successful under this thematic area, however, the incomplete projects listed further above have still made contributions to addressing the trends in migration and health. Both the projects launched in 2016 in Myanmar and Nepal take on a similar form, where they are aimed at establishing migration and health policies within the respective administrations of health. Both have established a policy, unit, or task within the government structure, however, ongoing sustainability is yet to be seen. Conversely, the malaria project in Viet Nam has taken the form of a one-off research activity that has not necessarily led to new activities for the IOM.

Other projects that are currently ongoing are still waiting to be reported on so as to realize their achievements. It is however, highly beneficial for regional coordination and collaboration that the two projects launched in 2017 are regional level and spanning eight-Member States in total.

Common Challenges

- Changes in government staff and political factors;
- Constraints on time allocated for projects;
- Difficulty categorizing migrants and developing situational analyses;
- Challenges obtaining government authorization letters;
- Longstanding underinvestment in health systems creating a fragile landscape;
- Limited capacity of country offices and national staff (technical capacity);
- Limited budgets and staffing costs provided by governments and the IDF;
- Stringent IDF standards rules, short proposals, reporting process is not demanded;
- Logistical challenges, such as report dissemination.

DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS AND EMERGENCIES (DOE)

PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE DIVISION (PRD),

TRANSITION AND RECOVERY DIVISION (TRD) and

LAND PROPERTY AND REPARATIONS (LPR)

Regional Trends

The thematic area under the Department of Operations and Emergencies has experienced significant developments in recent years in the Asia Pacific region. The dialogue surrounding operations and emergencies is one that takes on a humanitarian lens where projects are designed at managing displacement arising from natural disasters, but also displacement that is conflict induced. The governance surrounding this policy area has gained traction within the ASEAN. The ASEAN has outlined in their 2030 Agenda three pillars on social, economic, and cultural prevention of displacement and has established an MOU from ASEAN country if migrants are displaced and caught in countries outside of the ASEAN. Furthermore, for the first time ever a legally binding instrument has been established that constantly requests policies of governments and interoperability between countries.

There has also been an increase in disaster management work in countries like Indonesia that is contributing to the broader policy body in the area of migration caused by displacement. The DOE RTS has made clear that in the case of displacement, the response phase may be less important for IDF but the root causes are important to target as well as a need across the countries for working policies for states and regional institutions to address solutions for displaced persons.

IDF Activity

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2013	DP.0968	Philippines	Capacity-Building on Crisis Management and Assistance to Migrant Nationals
2014	RP.0066	Nepal	Technical Assistance to Ministry of peace and Reconstruction to Ensure Effective Access of Conflict Affected Persons to Victims Assistance Processes in Nepal
2015	CS.0743	Papua New Guinea	Community Based Tribal Conflict Migration an Peacebuilding in Enga and Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea (Phase 1)
2016	DP.1596	Viet Nam	Strengthening the Government of Viet Nam's Approach to Consular Crisis Management
2016	CS.0837	Vanuatu	Development of a National Framework for Durable Solutions in Vanuatu
2016	CS.0852	Nauru	Capacity-Building for Successful Integration of Refugees in Nauru

2016	CS.0820	Papua New Guinea	Community Based Tribal Conflict Migration and Peacebuilding in Enga and Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea (Phase 2)
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IDF has launched a considerable amount of capacity building projects that fall under the Department of Operations and Emergencies within the parameters of this review. 2016 was the most active year for project activation, with three of these new projects being geared towards Oceania. This is a direct response to the increased intensity and climatic related events in the area. Of these projects is a two-phased project aimed at addressing migration induced by tribal conflict in Papua New Guinea – an initiative that is perhaps more promising for sustainable results.

It must be noted that climate change and disaster risk reduction (for hazards) are often very closely interlinked and mainstreamed. Many Governments link Climate and Environment in the same ministry, and even their disaster offices, and at the community level, all hazards, whether climate change related or not, are considered one and the same. This leads to a close working relationship and support between the DOE and MECC areas of work.

Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects)

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Highlights from Evaluations
2013	DP.0968	Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through Migration Crisis Operations Manual (MCOM) and Assessment Workbook as well as CMAN E-Learning Tool, the Government of Philippines now has additional supplemental tools/references in support of its crisis management operations. - Increased awareness and accessibility through thematic classroom training sessions that taught prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and cases management
2014	RP.0066	Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project developed a centralized database for conflict affected persons (CAPs) assistance programs. - A Reparations Quality Assessment Report was drafted, which helped inform trainings that enhanced the capacity of the Government of Nepal (GoN). - The report also revealed flaws in the current and previous reparation programmes, thus giving the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction the information needed to improve the services of CAPs. - During the development of the centralized database, consultations were held with other relevant UN agencies including UN Women, UN Population Fund, UN Resident Coordinator Office, and UN Development Programme in addition to regular email exchanges.
2016	CS.0837	Vanuatu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The policy development process itself influenced the government department and other stakeholders through engagement in the process. There was an improved understanding on rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and obligation of government and its partner's, including the UN, NGOs and private sector. - Following the submission of the draft Displacement Policy on 31 July the National Advisory Board (NAB) endorsed the draft Displacement Policy on 15 September. Two weeks later on 26 September the Manaro volcano on Ambae island reached Level 3 and eruptions threatened the lives of the inhabitants. The GoV declared a state of emergency and evacuation of the 11,000 islanders to nearby islands started. - Two key documents formulated by IOM became the lifeline for Vanuatu. These were the mass evacuation in natural disasters (MEND) guide for volcanic eruption on Ambae island and the draft Displacement Policy. International support was based on the policy directions of the draft Displacement Policy (DP). It was noted however that without the Cabinet formally approving the draft DP the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) and Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation were given the go ahead by the GoV to implement both documents to facilitate the evacuation, relocation, temporary stay and even repatriation as official GoV policy. - The tracking of displaced families and individuals using IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) not only provided the GoV with real time and accurate data on number, location and needs of each person but also opened the opportunity for a national identity card system which is now being adopted also by the GoV. - The national identity card system is feeding from the DTM data and IOM is working jointly with the NDMO and the Civil Status Office who is the custodian of this data.

- It is pleasing to report that the implementation of these documents saved lives and as a consequence further strengthened the relationship between the GoV and IOM.

With the above summarized project evaluations, it is clear that the completed projects in the Philippines and Vanuatu had positive impacts for the government institutions they targeted. The extent to which these contributions by IDF spill-over and are sustainable for greater regional stability in DOE is not well highlighted within the project evaluations however.

The project in the Philippines has been criticized for not leading to sustainable long-term impact due to a lack of project ownership by government officials and the time distance since its inception. Though materials have been assembled and disseminated (i.e. e-learning tools, training manuals, and awareness materials), it is unknown today whether or not their use has persisted over the years. Though the Papua New Guinea project is still ongoing, it has been successful in that it set a standard for IOM to assist with government conflict and peacebuilding. Furthermore, prior to IDF's involvement in Papua New Guinea there was strangely no UN national conflict analysis or conflict sensitivity projects.

Vanuatu's project (CS.0837) has been noted as a staple of great success. The project was adequately supported by the government, and coordination problems were fewer given the size of its ministries. As outlined in the above chart, this project produced two documents that served as "a lifeline for Vanuatu" (the MEND guide for volcanic eruption on Ambae Island and the draft Displacement Policy). Vanuatu serves as a wonderful example for how important lessons can be learned from even the smallest states facing the direst situations.

Common Challenges

- Constraints on financial, human, and time resources (i.e. changes in IOM staff);
- Identifying appropriate focal points and fostering dialogue;
- Lack of government support and ownership of IDF projects;
- Trouble establishing a consensus amongst government officials;
- Complex government procedures for approval;
- Tensions in target communities;
- Climatic weather events and physical and geographic conditions of target areas;
- Funding structure lacks flexibility.

MIGRATION RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION (MRD)

IDF Activity

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2013	PR.0136	Federated States of Micronesia	A Migration Profile of the Federated States of Micronesia: A Tool for Strategic Policy Development

2013	PR.0125	Viet Nam	Promoting Development -Friendly Migration Policies in Viet Nam Through Enhancing the Evidence Base for Policy
2015	PR.0164	Nepal	Research and Policy Dialogue Initiative on Migration and Development in Nepal
2015	PR.0176	Maldives	Migration Profile for the Republic of Maldives
2017	PR.0220	Thailand, Cambodia	Assessing Potential Changes in the Migration Patterns of Cambodian Migrants and their Impacts on Thailand and Cambodia

The MRD has initiated the above projects of which three have been completed. Three of these projects involve the assembling of migration profiles (a research and policy report that intends to strengthen ties between government agencies and provide recommendations based on countries unique contexts.) As the mandate of IOM stipulates the necessity of evidence based policy formation and adequacy of data collection, the MRD's activity in the Asia-Pacific is of great value to the countries they target. The joint project between Thailand and Cambodia that was funded in 2017 will be instrumental in fostering intergovernmental cooperation, but will also set an example of bilateral cooperation for others in the region to follow.

Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects)

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2013	PR.0136	Micronesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Mainstreaming Migration project has achieved mixed results that are described below. - Preparation of the Migration Profile (MP) for Micronesia has been achieved and inputs from project partners were factored in. - At all instances of the MP Government Secretaries assigned staff to attend training workshops on their behalf without follow-up. - Project stakeholders got a better understanding of capacity building needs and priorities in relation to migration and steps have been taken to tackle policy and data gaps - Groundwork for mainstreaming was laid, leading to great engagement of key stakeholders across sectors and a greater urgency towards mainstreaming migration into development.
2013	PR.0125	Viet Nam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased wider attention to international migration issues at different levels of the government as expressed through discussions and viewpoints. - Relevant ministries escaped their policy silo's and actively participated in establishing an interagency advisory panel and set its mandate. - The re-establishment of an advisory panel was an important recognition of the need for such mechanism in migration management and was imperative in outlining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' role in the area. - The other important feature of the project is that the incorporation of the international migration database into the CD's portal has ensured a possibility for sustainable maintenance and regular updates by the department - although there is no government budget and the department has to rely on its own resources.
2015	PR.0164	Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The GoN has indicated its interest in establishing an inter-ministerial structure to coordinate activities to mainstream migration into public policies in order to maximize the migration and development benefits for Nepal - The project created momentum and brought together a number of actors to form a UN Working Group on Remittances for the first time in Nepal, which will help with evidence based policy making and programs on migration and development.

Common Challenges

- Discrepancies in technical capacities of project partners;
- Research projects like Migration Profiles (MPs) are rather expensive;
- Limited availability of disaggregated data and flawed data systems of benefiting Member States;
- Reproducibility and expiration of (MPs);
- Challenges towards visibility given the limited number of migration profiles published;
- Fieldwork impeded by political unrest;
- Limits on technical expertise to conduct research.

MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE DIVISION (MECC)

Regional Trends

As indicated in the “Asia-Pacific Regional Overview” section, the Asia-Pacific is home to the world’s largest population of roughly 60% of the total global human population and is very susceptible to natural disasters. Furthermore, 80% of the internal displacement in the world occurs in the Asia-Pacific, a term that only slightly decreased last year because of the increase in natural disaster occurrence in the Americas. The degree to which countries are impacted by natural disasters and slow onset of climate change differs, with countries of Oceania being much more susceptible.

IDF Activity

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2013	PR.0127	Cambodia	Assessing Vulnerabilities and Responsibilities and Responses to Environmental Changes in Cambodia
2014	PR.0144	Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal	Assessing the Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Migration Nexus in South Asia
2015	PR.0164	Nepal	Research and Policy Dialogue Initiative on Migration and Development in Nepal
2016	CS.0837	Vanuatu	Development of a National Framework for Durable Solutions in Vanuatu

A large part of MECC’s operations, especially in the Asia-Pacific, are concerned with the collection of data and conducting of research to better understand the nexus between climate change and migration. Though displacement data in the context of sudden-onset disasters exists, it is challenging to quantify the impact of slow onset events.

Due to the infancy of MECC as an IOM division, and only having had assigned a project code since 2016 many of its activities were often done in collaboration with other divisions and departments. Considered also a cross-cutting issue, it is often a secondary code for relevant projects. Thus, IDF funded projects pertaining to Migration and Climate Change are in many cases MRD and DOE projects. For this reason, the RTS for MECC was able to comment substantially on many of the projects in these areas.

Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects)

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Highlights of Evaluation
2013	PR.0127	Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A positive change in the language adopted by the project partners has been noted – at the forefront of those the Ministry of Environment and the National Committee for Disaster Management.- The availability of the country report is expected to ease communication and demonstrate the institutional capacity of the mission to perform activities in relation to climate change adaptation, environment and migration.

It has been reported that MECC projects funded by IDF has significantly contributed to the gathering of data internally and externally and has subsequently led to greater awareness of the thematic area. Specifically, the project in Nepal listed under IDF activity had gained so much momentum that it actually led to a climate change and strategy paper. Unfortunately, the project was unable to receive follow-up funding which stagnated its progress.

Common Challenges

- Sustainability in project design;
- Climate change as an inaccessible and highly technical policy area.

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER MANAGEMENT DIVISION (IBM)

IDF Activity

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2014	TC.0789	Mongolia	Supporting the Government of Mongolia to Improve Migration Management Through Migration Management Policy and Training of border Officials

Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects)

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Highlights from Evaluation
2014	TC.0789	Mongolia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dramatic increases in internal and international migration present challenges including unsafe migration, fraud, border inspection avoidance, visa violations, and increase in human trafficking - New migration entity has increased responsibilities and some 600 former border guards have been moved under its control. - The technical training, workshops and policy seminars for Immigration of Mongolia and the Government of Mongolia have strengthened its capacity to make required institutional changes and strengthen knowledge and skills on international migration law, management of returns and enhancing bilateral cooperation to combat human trafficking.

Challenges

- Limited number of translators with knowledge on specific technical terminologies;
- Challenge in coordinating with governments due to shifting mandates and turnover.

MIGRANT PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE DIVISION

IDF Activity

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2013	CT.0701	Maldives	Capacity Development in Migration management in the Maldives
2015	CT.0921	Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos	Upholding the Rights of Migrant Workers in Special Economic Zones by Ensuring Supply Chains Are Exploitation Free: Countries
2015	CT.0944	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, Nepal	6Degree: Sustainable Scaling Program to Support Survivors of Human Trafficking in Asia

Evaluation and Sustainability (Completed Projects)

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2013	CT.0701	Maldives	- One of the first projects in the Maldives - raised the profile of the IOMs work and built relationships with partners.

Challenges

- Acquiring resources to follow through with government commitments;
- Estimating adequate training session timelines for maximum effectiveness and efficiency;
- Due to staff turnover there was a delay in implementing project activities

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS (ICP)

IDF Activity

Funding Year	Project Code	Country	Project Name
2017	PO.0105	China	Supporting China's Engagement in the Global Migration Debate

This project is one that symbolizes a diplomatic effort to engage with China, and helping them join the conversation on the Global Compact on Migration (GCM). Given the lack of previous IDF funding provided for China to put towards capacity building, this project represents a notable and targeted effort by the IDF to help (perhaps) the greatest regional power of the Asia-Pacific to stake a claim in migration related issues.

LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Many of the challenges associated with project design and implementation overlap across the different thematic areas of the Asia-Pacific and are also similar to other regions of the world. By evaluating the 44 projects that have been launched in the Asia-Pacific between 2013 and 2017, and consulting with Regional Technical Specialists, a number of lessons have been learned that can inform recommendations in order to ensure that IDF funds are best spent, and projects have long lasting impact.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Operational

- For projects to be considered “effective”, their progress made needs to be measured against accurate baseline data. Thus, IDF should continue to support sufficient gathering of data, pre-project reporting assessments, and data and knowledge sharing mechanisms for data to be complete and widely accessible.
 - Problems associated with collecting accurate baseline data include the low capacity of project staff or consultants that can lead to the failure to produce publishable work and hence, a waste of time and resources.
 - Therefore, in order for data collection and reporting to be successful, IOM needs to consider the abilities in both quantitative and qualitative research of its future staff, and in particular, when assigning a consultant to capacity-building projects.
 - IOM can also do more work to build its own capacity by promoting the hiring of external consultants and think tanks and having more opportunities with projects to have staff together to meet and have technical networking sessions.
- Ongoing challenges pertaining to the reporting process, specifically capturing the qualitative impact of a projects capacity-building projects through the current evaluation process and outcomes and outputs schema.
 - There is a constant balance that must be maintained between establishing an accurate reporting process and allowing for the nuances of every project to be captured.
 - For this reason, it is recommended that whenever possible, ex-post evaluations not only follow a format that holds the project’s activities accountable to the determined outcomes and outputs, but also narrative statements are taken and synthesized from those involved in project implementation whenever possible.
 - From conducting this review, it has been learned that structured reports are not always as sufficient in capturing the successes and challenges of a project as personal statements can be.
- It is recommended that implementing missions aim to address the number one challenge that impedes project implementation: government approval often delays many projects when partner ministries are experiencing structural and staff changes.
 - Projects have often reported that “unforeseen” government turnover or election cycles can lead to “unexpected” delays and budget extensions.
 - In order to mitigate against this occurrence however, the IDF should demand more of project developers and project managers in the risks section of their respective tasks in the workflow. Though certain things are difficult to predict, if potential risks are foreseen and then the likelihood of them taking place (i.e. government turnover

- or election cycles) are linked to potential challenges, then the IDF would have the potential to see the likelihood that a revision or project extension would take place.
- Given that most IDF projects are targeted at emerging or developing countries, reporting processes and standards should be designed so that they more responsiveness to government's needs and challenges. This would help maximize potential positive spillover effects that can be felt by each project, and would make it easier and more attractive for countries who wish to implement capacity building projects.
 - There are often times where countries are excluded from IDF funding under certain projects on the basis of IOM membership when it would be beneficial to both the original benefiting member state and the states that are a part of their migration profile.
 - i. Flexibility in this area could potentially foster a larger higher degree of positive spillover effected in the region.
 - By not simply 'adhering to standards' but to aim to support governments and reach maximum impact, the IDF can position itself as a more dynamic IOM institution.
 - Projects need to be sufficiently budgeted for staff with adequate management of technical staff being an absolute priority.
 - Tying into the operational side of IDF projects, whilst trying to be dynamic, IDF must also ensure that projects have realistic goals that can be achieved with the resources that are present.

Sustainability

- Promote the issuance of multiple projects that are able to build off of one another domestically but also regionally.
 - Projects are often inspired by or are a follow up to other previous IDF activity.
 - By encouraging spillover effects of each project that is funded, successes in one country can lead to some in others.
 - Also, the IDF should encourage communication between their projects in order to collectively overcome challenges and borrow knowledge from each other.
- Promoting ownership within target governments and establish strong focal points that can be capitalized on in the future.
 - Often times, projects may not lead to a sustainable impact because of a lack of government support or little will of government officials to carry on the lessons learned.
 - To increase the longevity of projects, it is fundamental that there be a strong sense of government ownership of the project or that it is cultivated through other IDF activities.
- Inclusion of the voices of migrants through enhanced coordination with Civil Society Organizations as to ensure that their livelihoods are best protected.
 - The analysis of beneficiaries revealed that IDF's top beneficiaries are national and sub-national government institutions. Though as a capacity building fund, this is inherently unavoidable, it is important for IDF to make sure that whenever possible or where projects have significant direct implications for migrants, that they are consulted and ensured of their protection.

Thematic

- Continue to transition between research and assessment to on the ground policy work and projectization that reaches more beneficiaries.

- The MECC division has suggested in funding research and policy projects, it may be useful to also consider an operational component to implement recommendations from the studies conducted. Funding community based climate change adaptation activities and disaster risk reduction activities helps support government buy-in.
- In the area of labour migration specifically, more attention needs to be given towards the dialogue channels between business and government. Inclusion of the private sector is lacking heavily in some cases and is detrimental to projects that would benefit immensely from coordinating with and consulting private sector actors. (i.e. skills recognition programmes)

Gender

As we learned in the Asia-Pacific Regional Overview section, migration in the Asia-Pacific is highly engendered due to the unequal policies that govern human mobility between males and females. Despite this reality, IDF project reporting and design in the region has disproportionally addressed or mentioned these inequalities.

For this reason, it is recommended that future reporting always disaggregates beneficiaries by gender and that more projects are designed to address the fact that women are disproportionally left vulnerable when compared to their male counterparts.

INTEGRATING ASIA-PACIFIC COUNTRIES INTO THE GLOBAL POLICY REGIME OF MIGRATION

Given these recommendations that have been developed through intensive project analysis, it has been noted that IDF has continuously made significant strides towards strengthening the abilities of Asia-Pacific states to cope with their specific migration realities. It is crucial however, that whilst IDF funding continues to help states build their capacities, that they remain self-critical as to improve their operations and maintain a high degree of efficiency and effectiveness. By considering the outlined recommendations, and acknowledging the ever-present challenges that these states at the project design and implementation stages, IDF can build upon its current reputation and continue to foster noteworthy success stories.

Looking forward, IDF should also consider its potential role as an intermediary between Asia-Pacific countries and the emerging global policy regime for migration. As the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) continues its formation in the wake of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), countries of the Asia-Pacific and elsewhere are at a critical point in their development trajectory and have an opportunity to better engage with regional and international policy bodies. While projects should continue to be specifically targeted at building institutional capacities of states in the thematic areas that are most pertinent to them, there is a possibility for the IDF to integrate its project design with the goals of the emerging GCM more broadly. Upon its adoption at the United Nations General Assembly, IDF will have a tremendous ability to help states meet the standards of the GCM, and comply with its binding and non-binding principles.

*“Migration in the Asia-Pacific is
not always a sign of vulnerability,
but rather an indication of
resilience”*

ANNEX

Referenced Annexes

- [Annex 1: Excel Mapping Exercise](#)
- [Annex 2: Interview Proposal](#)
- [Annex 3: Colombo Statement: High Level Meeting of the Global Consultation on Migration Health](#)

Additional Documents

- [Operationalized Data for Figures](#)
- [Revision Data Operationalization](#)
- [Data Visualization Project \(Tableau File\)](#)
- Interview notes (Available Upon Request)
- Project Final Reports and Evaluations (Available Upon Request)