



# IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND

DEVELOPING CAPACITIES IN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER





# NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL



Since 2001, the IOM Development Fund has been a unique source of funding for developing Member States to strengthen their migration management capacity. With a track record of more than 700 projects implemented across 119 countries worldwide, the Fund is successfully addressing the complexities and opportunities driven by migration. When reflecting on the history of the IOM Development Fund, two essential characteristics stand out as a testament of its value and impact.

Providing seed funding for innovative projects, the Fund also aims to foster the involvement and ownership by the governments and other relevant stakeholders. Initial endeavours are therefore strengthened, paving the way towards sustainable national development. Secondly, the essence of the Fund relies on enhancing government capacities, which in turn serve as a foundation for effective migration management. Over the past 17 years, and in countless occasions, the Fund has been the catalyst for successful long-term sustainable initiatives.

Looking back on the achievements of the IOM Development Fund, I am confident that it will contribute to address the increasing migration challenges faced by Member States and, above all, migrants.

The Spring 2018 Newsletter features 11 recent projects, which were developed and implemented in close collaboration with Member States, local partners and migrant communities. They address a wide array of objectives that range from measuring migration governance in the Dominican Republic to assisting the Government of Uganda with the establishment of a new Immigration Training Academy.

Front page caption: In response to the increasing impact of climate change in Mongolia, the project, *Climate Change and Disaster-Related Migration*, aims to provide technical assistance to tackle environmental-related challenges.

All photos : © 2018 International Organization for Migration (IOM). All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher.

# CONTENT

---

## FEATURED ARTICLE

Supporting Mongolia's Response to Climate Change and Disaster-Related Rural Migration	4
---	---

## AFRICA

Guinea is our Future: Guineans Abroad Gathered for the First Diaspora Forum	6
The Government of Rwanda in Partnership with IOM to Achieve its Vision 2020	8
Uganda's First Immigration Training Academy Takes Off	10

HOW TO APPLY TO THE FUND	12
IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATIONS	14

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Today, Joyfulness Surrounds Me, My Family and My Culture	16
Measuring Migration Governance in the Dominican Republic	18
Strengthening the Government of Nicaragua's Institutional Capacity to Promote the Rights of Irregular Migrants in Transit	20
Improving and Mainstreaming Legal Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants in Brazil	22

## ASIA AND OCEANIA

Building a Brighter Bangladesh through Skills Development	24
Community Health and Mobility in the Pacific	26

## EUROPE

Changing the Return and Reintegration (AVRR) Landscape in the Western Balkans	28
---	----

PRIMA	32
-------	----

## FEATURED ARTICLE

Agriculture is a key sector of Mongolia's economy and accounts for almost 30 per cent of jobs. Rural life in Mongolia is dependent on the environment. Whilst herders are experienced in traditional ways of overcoming natural hardships, Mongolia's climate has begun to change in recent decades, bringing desertification, drought and reduced productivity of traditional pasture lands.

“ Climate change now threatens the traditional way of herding. In 2015-2016, a severe *dzud* winter storm destroyed almost 80 per cent of Mongolia's wheat crop and fodder, affecting 41 per cent of Mongolia's rural herder population. ”

Badral Tuvshin,  
Head of the Mongolian National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)



Herders need to travel further distances due to natural hazards.

“ The rising incidences of severe droughts and *dzuds* are forcing herders to either travel further distances to find pasture or move to urban centres. ”

In response to the increasing impact of climate change in Mongolia, a project supported by the IOM Development Fund, aims to use IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) tool – normally used for fast-paced emergency situations – to monitor population movements caused by slow onset disasters and climate change.



The 18-month project aims to build the Mongolian Government's National Emergency Management Agency's (NEMA) capacity to track climate change and disaster-related migration, to enable an improved and better coordinated response.

More specifically, it is expected that the project will contribute to strengthen migration governance in Mongolia by teaching government officials to use DTM, and by building the wealth of evidence-based data on current migration flows that can be used to improve response planning. The project also aims to produce an agreed upon Plan of Action to further strengthen coordination efforts and encourage the use of evidence in decision-making.

“

**This project is assisting the Government to collect evidence and data on current migration flows and needs at *soum* (district) level, which will serve as the basis for a Plan of Action to address climate change and disaster-related migration in Mongolia.**

”

**Pär Liljert,**

Former Chief of Mission and Special Envoy of the Director General to China and Mongolia

The project also seeks to address existing data gaps and challenges. Whilst Mongolia has a good registry system in general, accurate monitoring of people's movement in the world's most sparsely populated country is difficult. Recently, during field testing of DTM by a joint team of IOM and NEMA, one local district officer said:

“

**We found DTM to be a useful tool not only for disaster preparedness planning but it will have positive impacts on rural development actions too: for example when there is a big seasonal movement of workers, students and others in the rural areas of Mongolia.**

”

The project was co-financed by the Australian Volunteers International programme.



Droughts and *dzud* are affecting local communities and compel them to move to find more favourable weather conditions.

## AFRICA

## GUINEA IS OUR FUTURE: GUINEANS ABROAD GATHERED FOR THE FIRST DIASPORA FORUM

With three to five million people around the world, the Guinean diaspora contributes significantly to the home population's socioeconomic development through remittances and skills transfers. According to the World Bank, in 2016, USD 98 million were sent back to Guinea from abroad, which amounts to 1.4 per cent of the GDP.

“

I always follow the trends in my country via the media and through my trips back home. Two years ago, I realized that the country was developing itself and going through a process of transformation which I wanted to contribute to.

”

Emma Camara, is a young Guinean woman who moved to France at the age of five and recently returned to her country of origin to start a business. (Watch an interview of Emma at: <https://www.facebook.com/OIMGuinee/videos/2102478349985617/>).

Through the project “Supporting the Government of Guinea in Mobilizing its Diaspora” funded by the IOM Development Fund, IOM Guinea helped the Guinean Government strengthen linkages with its diaspora.

IOM Guinea organized the first diaspora forum in the country and set up a website to publicize skills transfers opportunities, list public and private services available to potential investors and entrepreneurs, as well as inform diaspora members about the socioeconomic opportunities and needs in Guinea.



Emma Camara, a young French-Guinean entrepreneur at the First Diaspora Forum.





Example of diaspora collaboration: Ahmed, a Somali medical nurse, grew up in Finland and is now in Somaliland to provide medical aid to Bali Hiile village.

The diaspora forum held on 24 and 25 January 2018 in Conakry gathered entrepreneurs, private investors, Guineans abroad and government representatives to exchange views on the needs and challenges faced by the Guinean diaspora and to find pathways to further involve the diaspora in the economic development of the country.

“

**This forum provided us with a better understanding of the importance of the contributions of Guineans abroad. The Guinean diaspora should be involved in the implementation of Guinea's National Economic and Social Development Plan.**

”

**Mamadi Youla,**  
Prime Minister and Head of the Government of  
Guinea

Fatou Diallo Ndiaye, IOM Guinea Chief of Mission, also called on the diaspora to become more active in teaching others about the risks of irregular migration and to invest in areas of origin mostly affected by the migration of young Guineans, focusing on the nexus between migration and development.

The first diaspora forum was attended by more than 500 participants, some of whom were back in their native Guinea after living abroad for ten years. The website will be launched in September 2018.



The First Diaspora Forum held on 24 and 25 January 2018 in Conakry, Guinea.

## THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH IOM TO ACHIEVE ITS VISION 2020

With a densely packed population of 11.9 million (World Bank, 2016), Rwanda has made significant economic and structural reforms to sustain its economic growth over the last decade.

Part and parcel of these efforts is the country's establishment of long-term development goals, enumerated in its Vision 2020: an ambitious strategy that seeks to transform the country from a low-income, agriculture-based economy to a knowledge-based, service-oriented middle-income economy by the year 2020.

Echoing the ethos of said strategy, and thanks to the IOM Development Fund, IOM is partnering with the Government of Rwanda to develop the country's first Migration Profile.

The Migration Profile will include a set of practical recommendations for collecting, analyzing and disseminating migration-related data; as a result, it will aid the Government in mainstreaming migration into its national development planning. In conjunction with this, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) will also be developed to enhance data-collection processes among participating government agencies.

With the launch of the Migration Profile project on 16 January, the Director General of Immigration and Emigration (DGIE), Anaclet Kalibata, spoke about the project's merits:

“

**This Migration Profile will play a vital role in mainstreaming migration issues into Rwanda's national policies and programmes. This process will enhance collaboration and ownership among all the key players.**

”

### Launch of the Migration Profile Project

Director General of Immigration and Emigration spoke towards the projects merits for mainstreaming migration in Rwanda.

29 January 2016

### Validation Meeting for the Steering Committee

Inception report was accepted and migration governance report was reviewed. DGIE expressed stronger ownership and support.

18 March 2016

### Technical Working Group Retreat

Held for members to gain a better understanding of the migration profiling concept and to identify key players.

**Rwanda  
VISION 2020**

### Migration Profile Contribution

It will present a view of migration outside of and in Rwanda, and will help establish means of overcoming challenges for the overall prosperity of the country



On 29 January, a Technical Working Group retreat was held for members to gain a better understanding of the migration profiling concept — identifying key players in migration management.

More broadly, the retreat was an opportunity for 15 participants to network and foster social cohesion as a team. After the retreat, participants expressed their understanding of the Migration Profile concept and a desire to support and embrace this process.

On 18 March, a validation meeting for the Steering Committee was convened. During the meeting, the inception report was accepted and the draft migration governance report and tools for data collection were reviewed.

Chaired by the DGIE, an emphasis on stronger ownership and support of this initiative was expressed at the meeting. In effect, this emphasis complements IOM's continuous efforts to support and maintain strong relationships with the DGIE and other stakeholders to guarantee ownership of the process for the sake of sustainability.

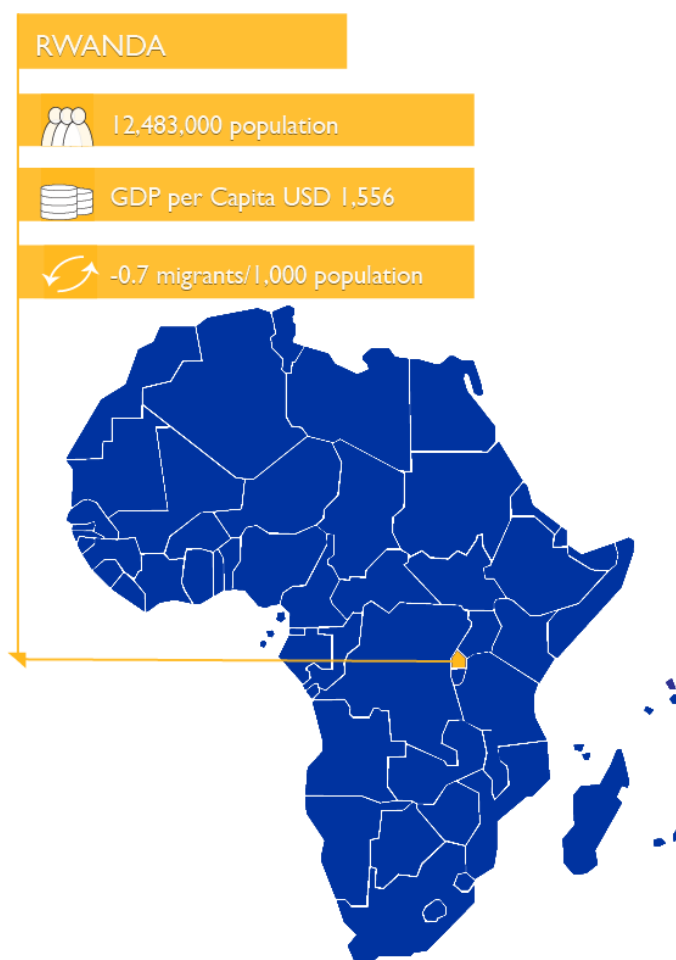
“

**IOM Rwanda continues to build and strengthen working relationships with the DGIE to ensure that the migration profiling process is fully owned by the government and to ensure the sustainability of the project.**

”

**Helene Fors,**  
Chief of Mission, IOM Rwanda

In summary, the migration profile will present a view of the migration situation within and outside Rwanda and outline the challenges related to the way migration statistics are produced. What is more, it will pave the way to overcome such challenges, contributing to the overall prosperity of Rwanda as outlined in the language of its Vision 2020.



Net migration rate for 2015-2020 and GDP per capita are derived from IOM facts and figures:

<https://www.iom.int/countries/rwanda>

Population current as of June 2018 courtesy of UN Population Division metrics.

## UGANDA'S FIRST IMMIGRATION TRAINING ACADEMY TAKES OFF

Uganda's porous borders make it challenging for the Government to stem transnational organized crime, including migrant smuggling and human trafficking. Bordered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania – capacity-building initiatives targeted to Uganda's immigration officers are paramount.

The IOM Development Fund has assisted the Government of Uganda with the development of an institutional strategy which champions a newly established Immigration Training Academy. The fund has also supported the revision of the immigration officers' training curriculum, which incorporates international best practices that are inclusive of gender and mobility issues.

In November 2017, the training academy hosted its first major activity – a residential retreat for senior officials from the Ministry of Internal Affairs – which delved into the operational requirements of the Immigration Training Academy.



Senior officials during the strategy retreat at the academy, November 2017.

“

The fact that we are all here today is a sign of IOM's commitment to supporting the academy to take off.

”

**Benson Mutambi,**  
Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs



Immigration officers mount a parade for the launch of the Academy, April 2017.





Officials attending the retreat at the academy, November 2017.

“

This academy will play a central role in achieving the vision of the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control.

”

**Benson Mutambi**

A soon-to-be approved strategy has also been developed to further support the operationalization of the academy and increase its visibility.

In May 2018, a consultant supported the development of a new training curriculum. The academy's currently offers a three-month inter-agency induction course for various security cadres, including immigration officers.



Launch of the Academy, April 2017.

# HOW TO APPLY TO THE FUND

Project proposals may be submitted by eligible Member States directly to the IOM Development Fund for consideration, including via Permanent Missions in Geneva. Projects may also be presented on behalf of Member States by IOM Offices, or by the relevant department at IOM Headquarters. All projects are referred to the participating IOM Office(s) for coordination and support.

**Are you an IOM Development Fund-eligible Member State?**  
**If so, you can apply for funding as follows:**

## STEP 1

Identify an eligible thematic area where IOM's technical expertise can be used to build your government's capacity to more effectively manage migration. Refer to the Fund's website to help you with the application process: <https://developmentfund.iom.int/how-apply>

## STEP 2

Approach your local IOM Office or the Fund directly to discuss the viability of your project idea.

If your project idea is considered viable by the Fund management, you can begin putting together a project proposal.

## STEP 3

You can work closely with your local IOM Office, or IOM Headquarters to shape and finalize the document and the project design. It is not necessary for eligible Member States to create the project document by themselves.

Projects must be presented in the IOM Development Fund template with complete budgets, wherein the combined total of staff and office costs should not be more than 30 per cent of the total budget. Consistent with the IOM Project Handbook, projects should also receive endorsement from the relevant Regional IOM Office (RO). In addition, projects may be reviewed and endorsed by the relevant department at IOM Headquarters before final consideration by the Fund's management team.

## STEP 4

Your project proposal, including those submitted through your Permanent Mission in Geneva, must be supported by a written endorsement and request for IOM Development Fund funding by your capital. This endorsement should take the form of a letter from the cooperating arm of the government, addressed to the IOM Development Fund or the Chief of Mission of the local IOM Office, citing the specific project and making specific reference to the IOM Development Fund. You must assign a focal point for the project prior to implementation.

## STEP 5

Once you have submitted the complete (RO endorsed) project proposal and supporting letters, that's it! Your proposal will be evaluated by the Fund, a recommendation will be made to the Director General and, if approved, your government will benefit from IOM Development Fund support!



# SUPPORTING THE FUND



The IOM Development Fund was established in 2001 with an initial allocation of USD 1.4 million. The Fund has grown to USD 9.5 million in 2018 thanks to successful project outcomes and the generous support of Member States.

To date, the Fund has been supported through operational support income as well as Member State donations specifically earmarked for the programme. The vast majority of funding received goes to project implementation, while programme management and administration account for less than seven per cent of total expenditures.

Recent expansion of IOM membership has resulted in a remarkable increase in demand from eligible Member States for assistance in developing migration management capacity. Currently, this demand strongly exceeds IOM donors' contributions. The IOM Development Fund is dedicated to bridging this funding gap in order to respond to the many deserving requests by Member States.

- Member States can support the Fund through annual earmarked contributions.
- Private organizations and foundations can support the Fund through single donations or annual contributions.
- Individuals can contribute to the Fund online via the "Donate Now" menu on the website's home page.
- In-kind donations are also welcome and their scope can be discussed with the Fund management.

## WE APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST IN THE IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND

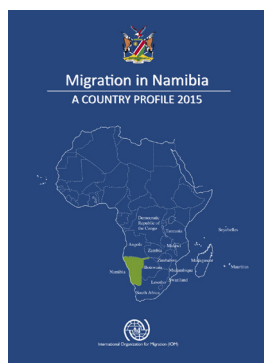
## IOM COULD NOT CONTINUE ITS WORK WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT

Member States that have supported the IOM Development Fund to date are:

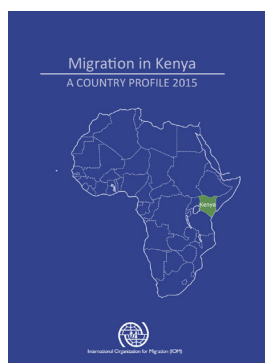
	Australia		Japan
	Morocco		Sweden
	Spain		Austria
	Italy		Hungary
	Belgium		United States of America

# IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND PUBLICATIONS

## Migration Profiles



**Migration Profile  
Namibia 2015**



**Migration Profile  
Kenya 2015**



**Migration Profile  
Micronesia 2015**



**Migration Profile  
Afghanistan 2014**

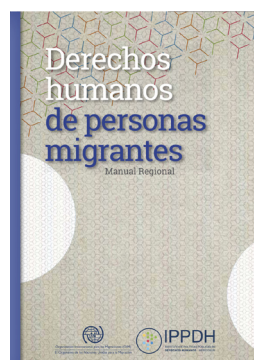
## Training Manuals



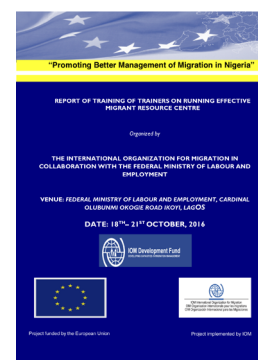
**Manual to Support  
Victims of Trafficking in  
Colombia  
2016**



**Free Movement of  
Persons in the Common  
Market for Eastern and  
Southern Africa  
2017**



**Derechos humanos de  
personas migrantes  
Manual Regional  
2017**

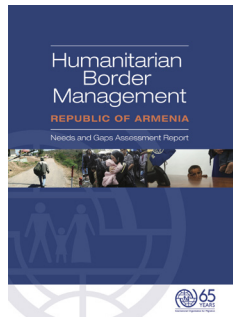


**Promoting Better  
Management of  
Migration in Nigeria  
2016**

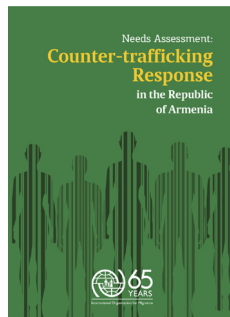
## Needs Assessments



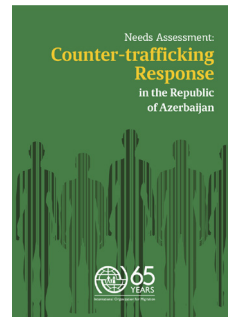
**Etat des lieux sur la  
traite des personnes à  
Madagascar  
2015**



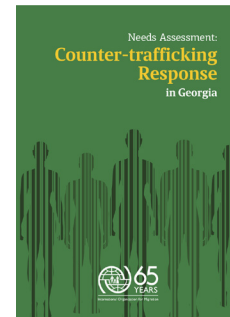
**Humanitarian Border  
Management  
Republic of Armenia  
2016**



**Counter-trafficking  
Response in the Republic  
of Armenia  
2016**



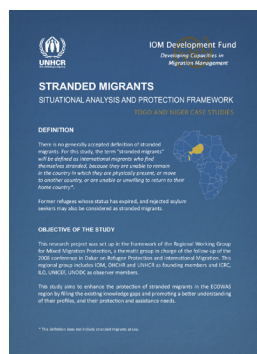
**Counter-trafficking  
Response in the Republic  
of Azerbaijan  
2016**



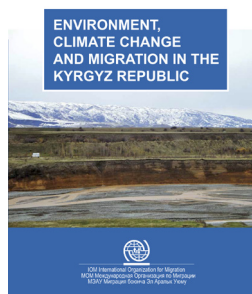
**Counter-trafficking  
Response in Georgia  
2016**



## Research Reports and Studies



**Stranded Migrants  
Situational Analysis and  
Protection Framework  
Togo and Niger  
2013**

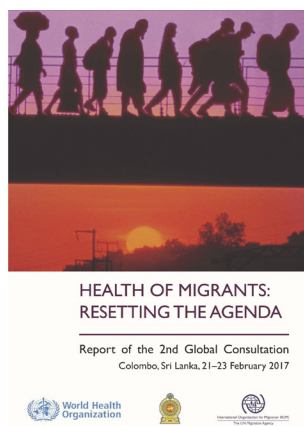


**Environment, Climate  
Change and Migration in  
the Kyrgyz Republic  
2016**

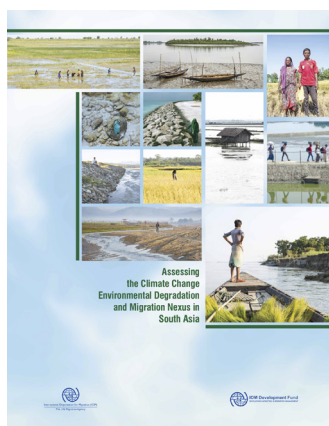


**Un regard vers le Sud,  
Profil des migrants et  
impact des migrations  
sur le développement  
humain au Cameroun  
2013**

## Other Reports



**Assessing the Climate Change  
Environmental Degradation and  
Migration Nexus in South Asia  
2016**



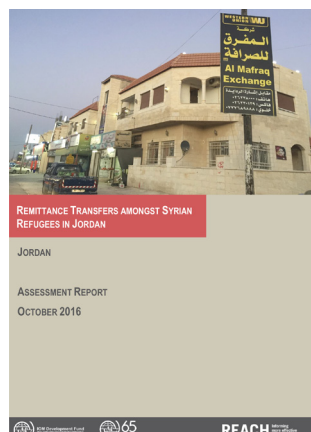
**Health of Migrants: Resetting  
the Agenda  
Sri Lanka  
2017**



**Maximizing the Development  
Impact of Migration in Nepal  
Comprehensive Market Study  
2017**



**Community Based Tribal Conflict  
Mitigation and Peace Building  
for Development Planning  
Papua New Guinea  
2017**



**Remittances Transfers amongst  
Syrian Refugees in Jordan  
2016**



**Guía diagnóstica de migración  
humana por cambio climático  
2015**

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### TODAY, JOYFULNESS SURROUNDS ME, MY FAMILY AND MY CULTURE

In 2015, the economic crisis stemming from the closure of the Venezuelan border hit the Province of Norte de Santander, Colombia. It considerably affected trade flows, employment opportunities and community-based revenue.

According to the National Department of Statistics (DANE), in 2017, 40 per cent of the population in Norte de Santander lived under the poverty line, while 11 per cent lived in extreme poverty. In urban areas, the percentage of those living in extreme poverty is 22 per cent, while in rural areas, mainly in the Catatumbo region, it reaches 58.9 per cent. As far as how this translates to gender-specific opportunities, in 2017 there was a clear gap between the male unemployment rate of 9.6 per cent and the female unemployment rate of 15.3 per cent.

Ana Rosa is one such individual who has not been spared from the 2015 crisis. Her father died as a result of the armed conflict, prompting her to flee from her hometown, Convención, to El Carmen, where she found herself in a precarious, economic situation.



Ana Rosa Pacheco in front of the irrigation system.

“

Before, I could hardly grow any crops. When the weather was hot and dry, I produced even less as plants got sad. Today, joyfulness surrounds me, my family and my culture.

”

Ana Rosa Pacheco,  
Project beneficiary

She is the one of the many beneficiaries of the project entitled, *Institutional Capacity-building with a Gender Perspective, to Manage Irregular Migration between Colombia and Venezuela*.

The project was implemented in 2017, coordinated with the Colombian Government and thanks to funding support from the IOM Development Fund. Since then, it has benefited displaced persons and returned migrants from Colombia and other host communities. The project has worked towards:

“

...Enhancing the socioeconomic conditions of the targeted population and the capacities of local authorities in providing adequate guidance to the migrant population, with a particular emphasis on women.

Ana Durán,  
Chief of Mission, IOM Colombia

”







Beneficiaries building filters for the irrigation systems.

More specifically, the partnerships established with national and local entities have fostered the expansion of cacao and coffee cultures in six municipalities in the northeast Province of Norte de Santander, bordering the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Ana Rosa now grows cacao beans on a farm located in El Carmen, one of the municipalities of the Catatumbo region.

Thanks to the IOM Development Fund project, Ana Rosa successfully set up an irrigation system that enabled her to harvest up to three sacks of cacao every few months, instead of her usual half a sack. With each sack weighing up to 60 kilos, her harvest was augmented from 30 to 180 kilos.

Within the framework of this project, IOM also endeavors to discuss gender concepts during workshops and identify actions that aim to enhance the participation of women within their social structure, in order to promote the economic autonomy of women and foster greater gender equality. Although most farmers in the region are men, 30 per cent of producers who benefitted from this initiative were women. Training on migration-related issues, including basic notions of migration and assistance to migrants, was also provided to 30 officials from the local authorities.

“

Thanks to this project, the coffee and cacao bean production in the municipalities at the Venezuelan border has considerably increased, positioning Catatumbo as an attractive region for agriculture while promoting environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

”

**Juan Carlos Cortes,**  
Secretary for Borders and International Cooperation  
of the Norte de Santander Governor's Office.

In the medium term, the project will further support 309 producers and their families while strengthening the capacities of the local authorities. This will enhance the integration mechanisms available to Colombian returnees and facilitate greater social cohesion among communities.

“

I dream of living in peace, I dream of feeling that it was worth the effort, that I set a good example for my children – especially for my daughter. I dream of a larger and more productive crop harvest. I am not going to give up. The project has changed my day-to-day life.

”

**Ana Rosa Pacheco**



Strengthening social cohesion and enhancing agricultural practices.

## MEASURING MIGRATION GOVERNANCE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



Haitian migrant families living in the Dominican Republic voluntarily return to their country of origin.

Migration has been a fundamental part of Caribbean life for centuries. The Dominican Republic, in the heart of the Caribbean Sea, has historically hosted migrants from all continents while also having a large diaspora.

On its small shared island, the Dominican Republic faces climate change challenges, hosts half a million migrants (many from Haiti) and receives seven million tourists per year. Close to twenty per cent of its total population is living abroad. Under these circumstances, managing migration can be quite a challenge.

By approving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the UN embarked on a collective journey, pledging that no one will be left behind.

To fully achieve this, it is important to recognize that migration is a cross-cutting phenomenon that affects and is affected by all areas of governance and is therefore relevant for all SDGs.

Thus, it is important to consider the needs of migrants and the effects of migration in all development efforts to be able to tap into the development potential of migration and contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

IOM has been supporting many of its government partners to this end, including the Government of the Dominican Republic to define and measure its migration governance efforts within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



An IOM Development Fund project has brought together 22 agencies of the Government of the Dominican Republic to participate in the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI)<sup>1</sup> process, led by the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Economy, and Planning and Development, together with the National Bureau of Statistics and the National Institute of Migration.

The MGI is a tool that helps governments to assess the comprehensiveness of their migration policies and identify gaps and priorities to build institutional capacity and programmes on migration.

“

These agencies will assess their institutional capacity to manage human mobility by applying the MGI. Some of the indicators used are related to human trafficking, regular migration, access to rights of labour migrants, and the decrease in the cost of receiving and sending remittances.

”

**Jorge Baca,**  
Chief of Mission, IOM Dominican Republic

Also within the framework of this project, a National Action Plan on Migration is being developed. This plan defines migration indicators that the Dominican Republic's 2030 Agenda will embrace as a priority. These indicators will serve as the first-steps towards measuring migration governance at the national level.



Vice-minister Marjorie Espinosa hosts a workshop on the Migration Governance Indicator at the Dominican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2017.

1 <https://gmdac.iom.int/migration-governance-indicators>

## STRENGTHENING THE GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA'S INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF IRREGULAR MIGRANTS IN TRANSIT



Workshop on migration governance with migration officials from El Guasaule border post.

Given its geographical location, Nicaragua is increasingly becoming a country of transit for thousands of migrants originating from the Caribbean, Africa and Asia, en route to the north of the continent.

In order to strengthen Nicaraguan authorities' capacity to enhance the management of its migration flows and uphold the rights of migrants, the IOM Development Fund provided support to the Government of Nicaragua through a 12-month project which completed in August 2017.

Support included training for 285 officers of the Nicaraguan Immigration and Naturalization Directorate (DGME, its acronym in Spanish).

The aim of the workshops was to enhance staff knowledge of migration management and migrant assistance, with a human-rights based approach and a focus on the protection of migrants in vulnerable situations. They were targeted at staff members working at the border posts (in Peñas Blancas, San Carlos, El Espino, Guasaule) and at headquarters.

The project also provided the Nicaraguan School for Migration with equipment for the identification of fraudulent documents (digital microscopes, scanners, UV lamps and magnifying glasses).



Technical manuals and computers were provided to support their capacity to more effectively address the smuggling of migrants.

Support from the IOM Development Fund also allowed for the refurbishment and expansion of the DGME's Migrant Assistance Centre, located in Managua. The capacity of the centre was increased from 70 to 118 migrants, and facilities were equipped to adequately address gender issues and respond to the needs of migrants in vulnerable situations.

“

The Government of Nicaragua is focused on improving its capacity to adequately manage the increased number of migrants transiting through Nicaragua, many of whom are in vulnerable situations. Thanks to the IOM Development Fund, we were able to support this priority and provide the tools that will allow the Nicaraguan authorities to better protect and assist migrants in need.

”

**Paola Zepeda,**  
Head of Office, IOM Nicaragua

According to Commander Wilfredo Moncada, the Director of the DGME:

“

These actions will ease the administrative procedures and facilitate the management of migration flows. The IOM is enhancing the capacity of the government officials and what is important is that we put this knowledge into practice to make sure that the assistance and protection provided to victims of trafficking is optimum.

”



From left to right, Commander Wilfredo Moncada, Ernesto Moncada and Paola Zepeda – restitution of specialized equipment for the identification of fraudulent documents.



Refurbishment and expansion of the DGME's Migrant Assistance Centre, located in Managua.

## IMPROVING AND MAINSTREAMING LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO VULNERABLE MIGRANTS IN BRAZIL

Human rights are not reserved for a particular citizenry, they are an entitlement for all human beings – migrants included. Regrettably, a gap between these universal rights and their implementation persists. The right to justice is part and parcel of this gap and proves crucial for migrants. The more precarious the situation is for migrants, the more fundamental their access to justice becomes.

Against this contextual backdrop, the IOM and the Office of the Federal Public Attorney (FPA) in Brazil – whose objective is to provide migrants with legal assistance – joined forces through an IOM Development Fund project to strengthen the FPA's operational capacity.

As Brazil becomes increasingly attractive to migrants, following the trend of the last decade, the number of migrants in vulnerable situations seeking assistance from the FPA has also increased. In 2015, the FPA assisted 4,887 migrants; two years later, the total increased to 7,311. Yet, the FPA continues its mission of increasing migrants' access to legal assistance:

“

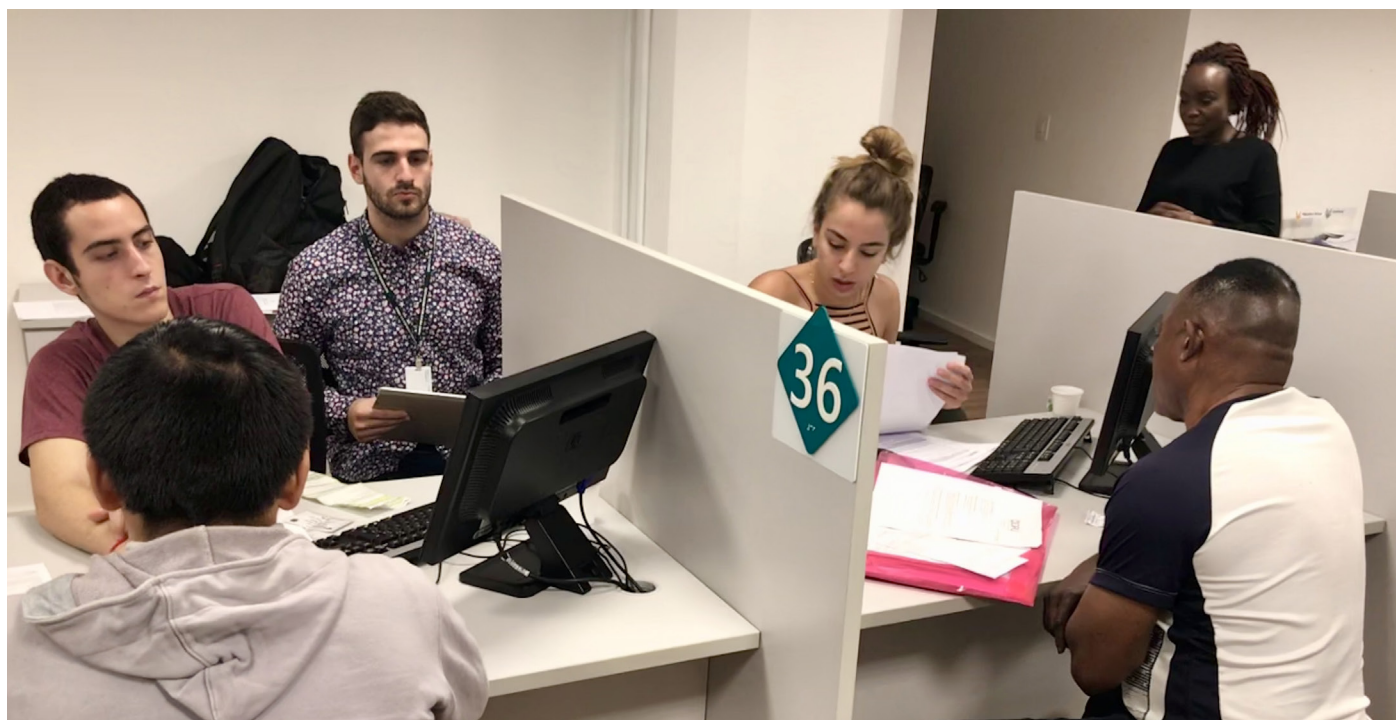
We are approaching a time when we expect the issue of migrant vulnerability to be a global concern.

”

**Carlos Paz,**  
Federal Public Attorney General

Although present in all regions of the country, the FPA encounters an uneven number of requests for its services across its offices. For example, São Paulo's office assisted 2,205 migrants in 2017 (30 per cent of the national total), while the FPA's office in Brasília assisted 818. In Belo Horizonte and Recife, however, the FPA assisted 45 and 58 migrants respectively.

Larger offices which experience a greater volume of requests have been able to create specialized units to assist migrants; at the same time, smaller offices around the country have contended with limited resources to deal with their own requests.



Migrants receiving legal assistance at the Federal Public Attorney's Office in São Paulo, May 2018.



“

**This project supports the Federal Public Attorneys' Office in mainstreaming the knowledge and capacity they build all around the country, leveraging IOM's expertise in international law to assist migrants who find themselves in vulnerable situations.**

”

**Stéphane Rostiaux,**  
Chief of Mission, IOM Brazil

To bolster the legal assistance system in place for migrants, IOM has been mapping FPA workflows in São Paulo since January 2018. This has resulted in a handbook with a step-by-step approach to requests for assistance filed by migrants.

Such requests include residence permit procedures, appeals against expulsions, family reunification demands and procedures for acquisition of nationality, among others. Ultimately, the handbook will be shared with all FPA offices, providing basic but meaningful guidance in addition to a toolkit for legal assistance to migrants.

Another aspect of the project is the training of trainers (ToT). The handbook and the toolkit will accompany a ToT at the FPA headquarters in Brasília, where IOM will contribute to their capacity to enforce international migration law and Brazilian migration law.

Finally, a joint effort between IOM and the Higher Institute of the FPA (Escola Superior da Defensoria Pública da União) – the unit in charge of training FPA staff – will facilitate the production of an online training course, entitled “Introduction to International Migration.”

Scheduled to start in September 2018, the training course is anticipated to reach 200 FPA staff and technicians all over the country, disseminating key concepts to personnel who are in charge of first approaching the migrants and clerking for federal attorneys.

In taking stock of the FPA's good practices and directly engaging participants in 10 states throughout Brazil's five geographical regions, the project will ensure that all FPA offices have access to the basic guidance on legal assistance to migrants; advance key high-level personnel capacity; and mainstream migration knowledge for technicians and staff.

On the value of the IOM and FPA partnership, Fernando Mauro Barbosa de Oliveira Junior, Director of the Higher Institute of the Office of the Federal Public Attorney, stated:

“

**At this time of significant migratory movements and financial crisis, the partnership between IOM and FPA is fundamental to strengthen the public policies for the promotion of human rights.**

”

This innovative project and its outcomes will be of particular interest, inasmuch as the spotlight shines on migrants' access to justice — indeed, this year will host a report from the ONHCR Special Rapporteur on the rights of migrants specifically on this.



IOM and FPA discussing the launch of the project, Brasília, September 2017.

## ASIA AND OCEANIA

### BUILDING A BRIGHTER BANGLADESH THROUGH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

With a population of 165 million, Bangladesh ranks fifth in the world among migrant sending countries, with over 7.5 million migrants residing overseas. Currently the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and South-East Asia receive 90 per cent of this total workforce, with the majority working in the domestic and construction sectors.



Returnees participating in a skills development training.

Bangladesh is keen to explore new markets and decent employment opportunities for its citizens. Currently, 44 per cent of Bangladeshi migrants are classified as 'less skilled' while another 16 per cent are classified as 'semi-skilled'<sup>1</sup>. This lands them in low-paying jobs, and leaves them vulnerable to work place abuse and exploitation.

As such, "up-skilling" of the labour force is of critical importance to migrants as it will help them obtain decent work and wages, in turn increasing the likelihood of increased financial and non-financial remittances to their communities, more added value for employers and growth for both sending and destination governments; it's a "win" for everyone involved.

Acknowledging the critical need for effective up-skilling of its labour force, the Government of Bangladesh has taken significant steps to reform the country's skills development system. These include the establishment of a National Skills Development Council (NSDC) and National Skills Development Policy (NSDP) in 2011, which includes comprehensive provisions on Skills Development for Overseas Employment.

At the Government's request, IOM Bangladesh contributed to strengthening the capacity of public agencies and relevant stakeholders to implement the National Skills Development policy, in particular its provisions on overseas employment. With support from the IOM Development Fund, and together with the host Government, IOM Bangladesh initiated its first ever project on skills development for migration titled, *Enhanced Skills Development and Qualification Recognition of Labour Migrants from Bangladesh*.



National certification of skilled returnee migrants as Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) trainers and assessors.

The core objective of this project is to improve migration outcomes through more effective skills development for overseas employment. The project has commissioned two studies: the first assessed the country's capacity to support skills development and key reforms recommended in the NSDP. The second assessed labour market demand in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This was followed by a government visit to Saudi Arabia to meet with officials from relevant state authorities.

1 BMET Statistics.



Based on these two studies, the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) of the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment (MOEWOE), developed an action plan to guide their skills development and migration management activities over the next five years. This action plan includes steps to ensure worker safety and welfare, enhance overseas employment opportunities and raise the level of skills among migrant workers.

“

**The Action Plan for Skills Development and Migration Management will complement BMET's relentless efforts to improve skills upgrading and skills recognition initiatives to meet the demands of the international labour market.**

”

**Salim Reza,**  
Director General, Bureau of Manpower,  
Employment and Training

This project also supported the Government in setting up a Skills for Migration Forum to facilitate stakeholder cooperation. A partnership with the Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) led to the training and certification of twelve skilled returnee migrants as Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) trainers and assessors. Many of them are now working as BTEB assessors in addition to their regular jobs and some have joined technical training institutes to serve as trainers.

This project inter alia directly contributes to the advancement of several targets of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, including: Target 4.4: By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship; Target 8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment, and 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

Moreover, the project also enabled the Government of Bangladesh in the Colombo Process Thematic Area Working Group (TAWG) on Skills and Qualification Recognition to showcase its experience, concrete initiatives, and research with other Member States.

“

**Migration is an important driver of the nation's growth. We need to ensure that our policies and practices serve to empower our migrants to harness the benefits of migration. IOM will support the Government of Bangladesh to create opportunities for migrants to improve their skills and certification so they may live a dignified life abroad.**

”

**Mr Abdusattor Esoev,**  
Deputy Chief of Mission, IOM Bangladesh



“

**After completing a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, I left the country to work in the construction sector in Dubai and Qatar. Upon returning to Bangladesh, I got a job at KIOSK Consultants and Construction as Deputy General Manager which earned me a good amount but I wanted to do something more to help my country. I took the training to become a trainer and assessor for the BTEB with support from IOM. On off days, I now support BTEB as an assessor and I feel proud to serve the nation by helping build a skilled generation.**

”

**Mohammad Harun-Or-Rashid,**  
Skilled returnee migrant

## COMMUNITY HEALTH AND MOBILITY IN THE PACIFIC

Women in the Melanesian countries of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu are hardworking, resourceful, creative and resilient. However, they also face the highest rates of violence in the world (double the global average) and the lowest rates of political representation.<sup>1</sup>

The economies of Melanesia are resource rich; they attract business investment and create labour opportunities. However, the natural resource industries such as logging, fishing, mining and tourism, along with the migrant flows that they generate, may have negative impacts on public health and social dynamics in host communities if not managed properly.

Initial evidence shows that communities dealing with migration management difficulties, such as those located near ports, logging and mining sites, or tourism hubs, face particular challenges in relation to community health and violence against women and girls. Despite frequent anecdotal reports, there isn't sufficient data available that specifically addresses the nexus between gender, mobility and health in the Pacific.

Thanks to support from the IOM Development Fund, research will be conducted in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to help fill the knowledge gaps related to the mobility dimensions of community health, with a focus on the key priority areas of violence against women and girls, sexual and reproductive health and communicable disease. This will be achieved through case studies in the four project countries and the dissemination of the research findings.

The research will start in June 2018 in the Solomon Islands in partnership with the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs (MWYCF).

“

**The MWYCF is fully supportive of the research. The research findings will inform and guide the ministry in its future activities, policy and planning.**

”

Cedric Alependava,  
Permanent Secretary to the MWYCF



Islanders bid farewell to IOM staff as they leave the Carteret Islands.

<sup>1</sup> Barbara and Baker, 2016. Improving the Electoral Chances of Pacific Women.





Stakeholders in Honiara brainstorm the intersection of gender, mobility and community health.

“

The IOM Development Fund is a unique global mechanism, which supports developing Member States and Member States in transition in their efforts to strengthen their migration management capacity, and as such is an important resource for addressing the migration challenges in the Pacific.

”

**Stephen Rogers,**  
Acting Chief of Mission IOM Australia and  
Coordinator for the Pacific

Research results will also inform the development of a Gender, Mobility and Community Health handbook designed for the Pacific context. The training manual will be initially piloted in a complementary IOM project to be delivered in the Solomon Islands as part of a European Commission funded project titled, *Solomon Islands: Protection of Women and Children, Particularly Girls, in Migration-Affected Communities*. The handbook will be informed by the IOM's Action Oriented Training Manual on Gender, Migration and HIV .

The Gender, Mobility and Community Health curriculum will be designed so that it can be used both as a Training of the Trainer (ToT) tool and as a practical tool for facilitators to use in different settings. It will enable service providers to understand the broad overlap between gender, mobility and community health, while also addressing specific issues such as trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, violence against women and girls in migration-affected communities, and the impact of mobility dynamics on sexual and reproductive health.



Women posing on a coastal area, Papua New Guinea.

## EUROPE

### CHANGING THE RETURN AND REINTEGRATION LANDSCAPE IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

The process of establishing national migration management systems in the Western Balkans has been immensely affected by the large and sudden inflow of migrants to the region since 2015. Though IOM provided immediate humanitarian assistance, it was also called upon to assist the governments in setting up protection and assistance mechanisms, including those specific to the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) of migrants who are unable or unwilling to remain in their host country and wish to return to their homes.

Not dissimilar to the case of other countries in the Western Balkans, Serbia has faced increased extra-regional migration flows. A portion of the migrants who found themselves in Serbia no longer wish or are no longer able to continue their migration journey onward and would rather prefer to return to their home countries. Yet, until recently, the region did not have a mechanism to support voluntary returns and reintegration, either institutionally or operationally.

**“In 2015, when the migration crisis peaked, we started to receive growing requests from migrants to assist them in returning home. Due to a changing situation at home, family issues, altered plans, and new perspectives, some migrants felt it was time to go back home. At that time, we did not have any resources to help them return, nor did we have a procedure to follow; we only had a nascent normative framework which was yet to be operationalized.”**

**Svetlana Velimirovic,**  
Deputy Commissioner of the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees and Migration



Culturally sensitive AVRR counselling, December 2017, Vranje, Serbia.

“

**With support from the IOM Development Fund, we started working on the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to support migrants wishing to return home.**

**This guides our coordination with other service providers (governmental and non-governmental) to ensure migrants' needs are met and their protection needs are duly addressed. When finalized mid this year, the SOPs for voluntary return and reintegration will be an integral part of our country's migration management framework, fully owned and regulated by the Government of the Republic of Serbia.**

”

**Svetlana Velimirovic**



Migrants attending AVRR session in the Reception centre of Obrenovac.



In addition to this work in Serbia, IOM also works with governments and practitioners in other Western Balkans countries to develop similar operational frameworks and procedures.

“

IOM is pleased to have been an instrumental partner of the Government of the Republic of Serbia on this matter. The government has demonstrated yet again leadership and commitment in ensuring migrants' rights are duly ensured when they decide to end their migratory journey.

”

**Donatella Bradic,**  
Regional Project Manager, IOM Serbia

The development of this mechanism not only contributes to a more robust migration governance by the Government of the Republic of Serbia, it is also a step in the direction of meeting the Sustainable Development Goals.



Migrant assisted with voluntary return at the Belgrade Airport.



AVRR session taking place in the Reception center of Bujanovac.

## Notes





# PRIMA Project Information and Management Application

PRIMA is a Project Information and Management Application that captures and stores key IOM Development Fund project data and documents throughout the project life cycle in order to facilitate project monitoring and reporting; facilitate the project workflow and approval process involving relevant stakeholders from Country Offices, the Regional Offices, the Administrative Centres and Headquarters; and enhance access to data and reports on specific projects and information on the IOM Development Fund.

By the end of 2017, all IOM Development Fund projects, including recent concept notes and project proposals, had been migrated into PRIMA – a total of 684 entries. In total, 105 IOM offices (including Regional Offices) use PRIMA to develop and review these initiatives.

With the development of the "PRIMA for All" system in parallel with the operationalization of PRIMA for the IOM Development Fund, the IOM Development Fund Unit has been able to share the lessons learned from its roll-out of the system, feed its requirements into the Organization-wide system and assist with the testing of that system.

PRIMA is proving to be very beneficial for reporting purposes, for reminding project managers of deadlines to be met and for keeping track of project implementation.

It is also useful for staff members who are new to an office and who need to quickly access all relevant documentation and the latest updates on the status of a project.

Similarly, Regional Offices can monitor the implementation of activities through PRIMA in preparation for on-site evaluations, without the need to request relevant documentation by email.

Updates on the development and roll out of the PRIMA system were provided in previous reports submitted to the Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance.

We will continue to keep you updated on the progress of PRIMA. Should you have any questions, please email:

[PRIMAHelpdesk@iom.int](mailto:PRIMAHelpdesk@iom.int).

The IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND supports developing Member States in the development and implementation of joint government–IOM projects to address particular areas of migration management. Since its inception in 2001, the Fund has supported over 700 projects in various areas of IOM activity and has benefited over 120 Member States.



International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
The UN Migration Agency

17, route des Morillons, 1211 Geneva 19, Switzerland  
Tel. + 41 22 717 91 11 • Fax: + 41 22 798 61 50 • E-mail: [iomdevelopmentfund@iom.int](mailto:iomdevelopmentfund@iom.int)