



IOM
UN MIGRATION

IOM
DEVELOPMENT
FUND

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL



Since 2001, the IOM Development Fund has been a unique source of funding for IOM developing Member States. With projects implemented in more than 120 countries worldwide, the Fund is successfully and simultaneously addressing the needs of eligible Member States and migrants alike by providing essential seed funding to strengthen Member States' migration governance capacity. With this seed funding aimed at innovative projects, the Fund has aimed to foster the involvement and ownership by all relevant stakeholders, paving the way towards other programming, strategic priorities and sustainable actions.

The Spring 2020 Newsletter features 10 recent projects developed and implemented in close collaboration with Member States, local partners, and migrant communities. The projects address a wide array of requests that include developing innovative digital fabrication training labs for vulnerable youth in Djibouti, pilot agroecological development programmes for diaspora communities in Morocco, and capacity-building on counter-trafficking for Montenegrin officials, which contributed to the largest trafficking ring bust in the country's recent history.

As the number of requests for funding from eligible Member States continues to increase, I look forward to collaborating with all partners to sustain this funding mechanism and its success. Over the years, the Fund has been the catalyst for successful long-term sustainable initiatives.

I hope that this newsletter will inspire you to learn more about the IOM Development Fund and to further explore the initiatives it supports. More information about the Fund and the projects it has financed can be found on the IOM website at: developmentfund.iom.int

Cover Photo: Gildas Guiella, Co-Founder of Ouagalab, trains two students from the University of Djibouti. You can find out more about this project in our Featured Article, starting on Page 4. © IOM 2019/Natalie OREN

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FEATURED ARTICLE

FAB LAB IN DJIBOUTI OPENS UP DIGITAL WORLD TO YOUTH ON THE MOVE, AND PROVIDES 3D-PRINTED FACE SHIELDS TO HOSPITALS FIGHTING COVID-19

It is a cool day in February. Students move through the airy corridors of the new campus of the University of Djibouti, hurrying to their next class. Doors in all directions lead to classrooms and offices but one opens unexpectedly on a large workshop furnished with whirring machines and computer terminals. This is 'Espace Créatif', a digital fabrication lab or 'fab lab' set up by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Terre des Hommes and the University, with the financial support of the IOM Development Fund. The objective of this space is to offer open access digital tools to vulnerable youth on the move.

Espace Créatif is a unique venture to establish a welcoming, open technology and digital skills training space for youth on the move in Djibouti who do not have access to formal education, are often without legal status and homeless, and are highly vulnerable. The project has established two open, youth-focused fabrication labs located in Djibouti in the capital city at the University of Djibouti and in the port city, Tadjoura. The spaces are designed to provide beginners courses in computer skills and digital fabrication to young people with varying learning needs and provide referrals to supportive opportunities and services.

It is Adnan's first time in a place like this. He is 18 years old from Ethiopia. Adnan is enrolled in an assistance programme led by IOM and Caritas for the many young people like him in Djibouti who do not have a home or family and are without legal status. "It is the first time I have seen a computer," Adnan tells the lab manager, Beyleh Daher.

Adnan is one of 21 young people who comes to the fab lab on a regular basis to learn computer and digital fabrication skills. He is joined by Hamza, 14 years old, also from Ethiopia, who is interested in learning how to operate the computer-assisted machines. "I want to become an engineer, but I have not had any formal education," Hamza says.

The majority of the young people who come from outside the university are boys, aged between 14 and 18 from Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Djibouti, largely representative of the demographic of unaccompanied and separated children, young migrants and refugees assisted by IOM Djibouti. They face acute challenges and require all around support.

To increase the number of young women accessing the fab lab, the team works closely with the university, which has a large number of female and engineering students working with Information and Communications Technology (ICT), and has partnered with Femme TIC Djibouti, an organization championing women's and girls' leadership in the digital sector.

Overseeing the fab lab, manager Beyleh Daher is passionate about contributing to digital development in Djibouti. In his early twenties, Daher studied at the University of Djibouti and graduated from the electrical and renewable energy engineering department. He brings a lot of what he learned to the fab lab, thinking about how to make digital opportunities available to young people facing extreme challenges in his country.



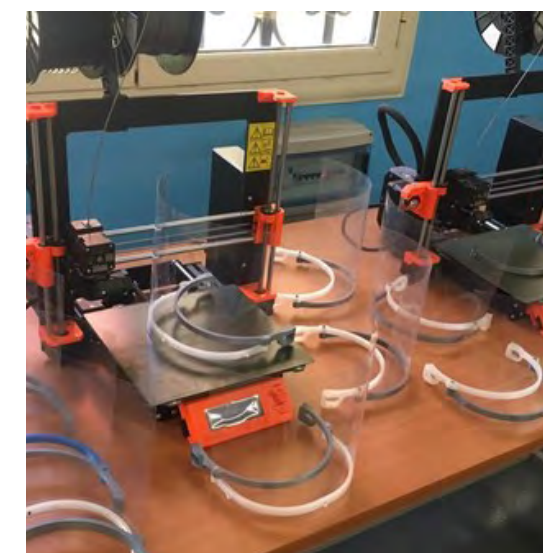
Beyleh Daher, Manager of Espace Créatif, demonstrates fab lab equipment to Moustapha Mohamed Mahamoud, Minister of Education and Professional Training, Djibouti, 2019.

“We're teaching technical skills and know-how depending on everyone's level. We're developing computer and digital fabrication skills, as well as making sure we encourage curiosity and imagination. The young people have made significant progress in the digital sector in the past month. We want to help them to equip themselves well in today's world and have a place where they can create and learn.”

Beyleh Daher,
Manager, Espace Créatif

A true innovator, Daher brings ingenuity to create imaginative activities for vulnerable children and youth on the move, such as basic electronics, 3D printing to recreate everyday objects and laser-cutters to create component parts to build a stool, for example. His philosophy is to inspire through experiential learning, supporting the young people to think differently about the world around them. "Could we design an aeroplane, a car one day?" asks Djalo, aged 15 from Ethiopia.

In addition to offering beginners classes to vulnerable young people, Daher organizes entrepreneurship and advanced digital fabrication training for university students and migrants in Djibouti. With support from IOM, he also works closely with businesses and the technology sector to generate investment and create job and learning opportunities. He is determined to build up a supportive ecosystem to make sure the fab lab is there for the long term.



Protective face-shields for doctors, 3D-printed at the fab lab. Djibouti City, 2020.



Doctors from Hôpital Régional d'Arta in Djibouti wearing 3D-printed face shields made at the fab lab. Djibouti City, 2020.

In addition to offering beginners classes, Daher organizes entrepreneurship and advanced digital fabrication training for university students and migrants. He works with businesses and the technology sector to generate investment and create job opportunities. He is determined to build a supportive ecosystem to ensure the fab lab is there for the long term. It has proven to be a highly versatile space.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the fab lab swiftly made itself indispensable. When a countrywide confinement order was announced in March 2020, halting courses, IOM swiftly responded to the urgent need for critically scarce protective gear. The fab lab was repurposed and is now 3D-printing over 300 protective faceshields for hospitals in Djibouti.

"We could see needs were high and people were at risk. We had these machines sitting there so I thought we must be able to use them to help. It is brilliant to work with doctors and nurses to test a life-saving product we made on a 3D printer," said Daher.

"This shows how creative digital spaces can be put to use for collective good. We offer opportunities to young people who have not had access to formal education, are on the streets and at risk of many dangers, to learn a vocation and find ways to respond to challenges they and others face. We hope to open our doors again soon to support these young people," he added.

AFRICA

DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT IN AGROECOLOGY DEVELOPMENT IN MOROCCO

Morocco has a dynamic diaspora, estimated at 6 million people remitting 7 billion US dollars per year,¹ and has developed a national strategy to foster diaspora engagement. Aligned to this national strategy, the project "Diaspora Engagement in Agroecology Development in Morocco", funded by the IOM Development Fund, aims to contribute to strengthening the role of the Moroccan diaspora and returnees in sustainable and local development, in particular through agroecology.

The project asks the question: What role can the diaspora community play in mitigating the risks and consequences of climate change? This project sheds light on the contribution of the Moroccan diaspora and returnees towards the development of agroecology – considered a pillar of climate change adaptation.

To achieve this goal, the project takes a threefold approach: knowledge production, capacity-building, and advocacy. The project has so far carried out two studies identifying and analysing the factors that encourage the Moroccan diaspora and returnees to invest in the agroecological field.

1. Delegated Ministry of Moroccans Living Abroad (number of diaspora), World Bank (remittance).

What is agroecology?

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, agroecology is the science of applying ecological concepts and principles to manage interactions between plants, animals, humans and the environment for food security and nutrition. Agroecological farming supports the development of best practices, integrated solutions, and techniques which aim to minimize the overall ecological footprint.

Agroecology is also a means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular Goal 2, "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture" and Goal 15, "Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss".



Visit to the Swani Tiqa Farm by team of experts and IOM in July 2019, at the occasion of an interregional expert workshop in order to explore the links between reintegration and climate resilience (in synergy with a regional project on "reintegration and climate resilience" funded by France). Rabat, 2019.



Tomatoes grown as part of the Diaspora Agroecology project, seen at the Swani Tiqa farm. Rabat, 2019.

The studies identified 11 agroecological farmers and analysed their profile and migratory path as well as the economic potential and the social and environmental impacts of their projects. In addition to contributing positively to the environment and to general health and well-being, agroecology is economically viable for farmers and producers. Indeed, the studies found that the monthly income earned by a family of three is around 5,600 Moroccan Dirham per person (twice the legal minimum wage in 2017 in Morocco), and was therefore profitable and a source of job creation.

I started to ask myself questions on my identity and that of my children. We had to decide whether we should live in Italy or Morocco: we decided Morocco. Starting organic farming was a moral and ethical choice; but it is also a promising sector, a niche for the next generation.

Returned Diaspora
Agroecological Entrepreneur

In July 2019, the project contributed to the organization of an interregional expert workshop exploring the links between reintegration and climate resilience, in synergy with a regional project looking at reintegrating migrants using climate sensitive practices, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development of France. As part of the workshop, a field visit to one of the farms identified in the aforementioned study was organized. This study visit confirmed the common dynamics in migration, climate resilience and development shared between the Maghreb and West Africa regions.

What is important is to create jobs for local populations. This kind of project allows them to have a guaranteed and fixed income while preserving the environment, and makes migration a choice, rather than a necessity.

Touriya Tarouj,
Founder, Swani Tiqa, an agroecological farm run by former members of the Moroccan diaspora

In the next stages of the project, a mapping of financial aid, State's subsidies and grants, and other services provided to support farmers' investment will be carried out, as well as training workshops targeted at agroecological farmer-entrepreneurs and relevant public institutions. The project then aims to strengthen the knowledge of institutional stakeholders and potential farmer entrepreneurs on agroecology, by developing training materials that deliver information and preliminary guidance for setting up agroecological projects. Furthermore, outreach efforts and advocacy campaigns will continue to promote and facilitate investments by the Moroccan diaspora in agroecology and build the capacity of key actors, with the goal of addressing the challenges associated with climate change.



Touriya and her farm, Swani Tiqa, in the Shoul valley located about 20 km from Rabat. Morocco, 2019.

This project not only offers an opportunity of reintegration through agroecology, but is also an innovative way to strengthen the role of the Moroccan diaspora in the development of their country of origin and a way to restore agricultural lands.

Ana Fonseca,
Chief of Mission, IOM Morocco

STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES OF BORDER MANAGEMENT FRONT-LINE PERSONNEL IN COMOROS

In the past twenty years, movement of persons and goods has considerably increased under the effects of globalisation. States are confronted with a common challenge: to ensure and facilitate legitimate circulation of persons and goods, while still maintaining a high level of security at their borders.

“Never has migration been a topic as important as it is today. Migration has enabled millions to pursue better and safer lives. However, not all migration occurs in favourable circumstances. The development of transnational organized criminal networks notably poses concrete border management challenges. This project has come at a time that is most opportune, and as the Government of Comoros has made a determined commitment in favour of well managed migration to and from Comoros.”

Mohamed Daoudou,
Minister of the Interior, Comoros

The Comorian Archipelago occupies a critical geostrategic position in the Western Indian Ocean, due to its location to the Northeast of the Mozambique Channel, its cultural tradition and heritage of openness to cultures of the Indian Ocean, East Africa, and the Middle East, and its proximity to other islands of the Western Indian Ocean.

In recent years, the Government of Comoros has made important efforts to strengthen its capacities to manage and control its borders, but has had to contend with material and institutional limitations to do so, notably the absence of a facility for the training of border official personnel and the absence of an induction and on-the-job training tailored to the legal, technical and operational context in Comoros.

In order to address some of these underlying challenges, with the support of the IOM Development Fund and in close coordination with the Comorian Ministry of Interior, IOM is currently implementing the project “Institutional and Operational Capacity-Building for Front-line Border Management Personnel in the Comoros”.



The Comorian island of Anjouan hosts two important international Ports of Entry to Comoros: An international airport (Ouani, pictured here), and the largest Comorian port. Comoros, 2020.



The port of Mutsamudu, as other Comorian ports, occupies a strategic position at the exit of the Mozambique Channel off the eastern coast of Africa. Comoros, 2020.

In the first half of the project, jointly with Comorian stakeholders, IOM conducted a rapid border assessment, which consists of a review of the existing administrative and legislative frameworks in the area of border management, operational practices and workflows, inter-agency coordination, and site observations at international Ports of Entry (PoE).

Following the assessment, IOM and the Ministry of Interior gathered senior officials from all entities involved in border management in Comoros to review findings and to identify priority areas for capacity development and improvement. In parallel, the project supported the construction of a training facility, which includes a meeting room, fully equipped and for a capacity of 20 trainees, five annex office spaces, and a washroom, all of which has been made accessible to persons with disability.



Chief of Mission, IOM Comoros, and Comorian Minister of Interior unveil a commemorative plaque during the handover ceremony of training facilities. Comoros, 2019.

In the second half of the project, based on the areas identified by stakeholders for capacity development, IOM will bring in border management experts and facilitate three capacity-building sessions, focusing on: Integrated Border Management concept and practice; document fraud and document verification; and International Migration Law. The three sessions will be held at the training facility that was handed over to the Ministry in March 2020, enabling a significant reduction of costs by not having to rent external venue such as hotels. Based on the needs and opportunities identified during the sessions, IOM will also procure and hand over border management equipment that can immediately impact the delivery of work responsibilities of border management front-line personnel at PoEs.

It is expected that, through this support, the Government of Comoros will consolidate and strengthen its institutional and operational approach in border management, in line with established international standards.

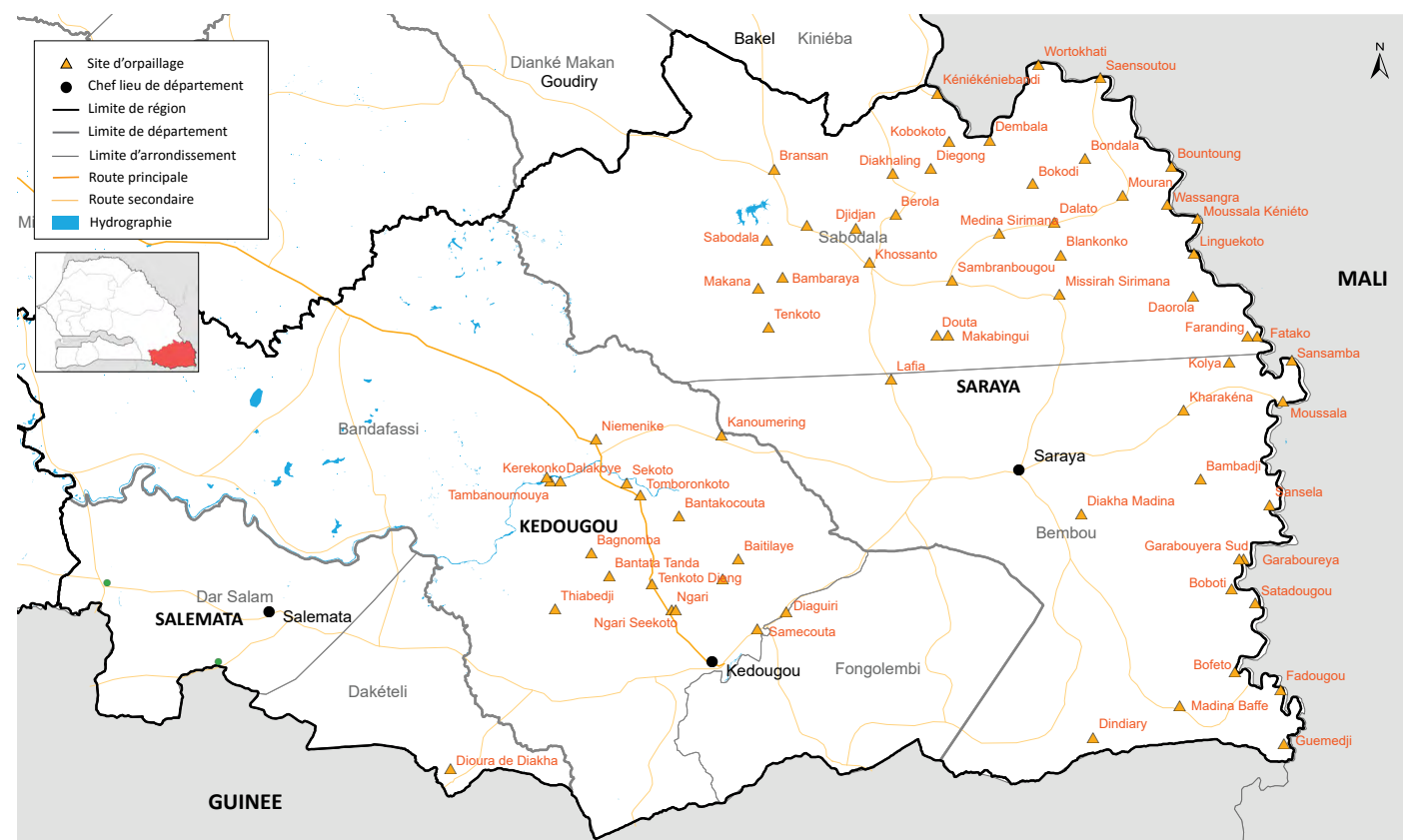
“This funding from the IOM Development Fund enables a narrow and focused intervention to stopgap concrete capacity development and improvement identified. It promotes ownership and responsibility, collaboration and coordination, and sustainability, which are key elements of a border management approach and practice that meets the challenges of contemporary and rapidly evolving international migration dynamics.”

Daniel Silva y Poveda,
Chief of Mission, IOM Madagascar and Comoros



Construction site for the training facilities at the Comorian Ministry of Interior, reaching finalization. Comoros, 2020.

FACILITATING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR MIGRANTS AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN GOLD MINING SITES IN SENEGAL



A map showing the gold mining sites of Southern Senegal. Mining sites are represented by golden triangles, and the country's borders with Guinea and Mali are clear to the South and West. Sites in the Kédougou region are the primary targets of this project.

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

Located in Southern Senegal and bordering Guinea and Mali, the gold-rich region of Kédougou attracts each year hundreds of migrants from neighbouring countries, as well as broader countries of the subregion. According to key actors in the region, migrant populations are more than three times the size of local populations in the villages surrounding the 80+ gold sites.

Whether locals or migrants, people operating in these sites are often in particularly vulnerable situations, due to the precarious working and living conditions and difficulties in accessing health care.

In 2019, the IOM Development Fund provided financial support to the Senegalese Government to build capacity of the health authorities in the Kédougou region and promote access to health care for migrants and vulnerable communities in these mining sites. More particularly, this project will allow the Government to assess its capacities to manage health concerns, including early detection and notification in gold mining areas in the context of COVID-19.

“The overcrowded working conditions in these artisanal gold mining sites contribute to the spread of many diseases such as measles, hepatitis, acute respiratory infections (ARI), and diarrhoea.”

Bakary Doumbia,
Chief of Mission, IOM Senegal



A Ministry of Health representative and the IOM Project Manager visit the Bantaco gold mining site. Kédougou, 2019.



A traditional gold processing station. Moussala, 2019.

A mapping of the main gold mining sites in the country will be conducted, as well as a survey of the profiles, the risks and the vulnerabilities of migrants in the sites. In order to prevent the spread of communicable diseases and strengthen the capacities of health community workers, IOM will also train one hundred health providers on Event-based Surveillance (see box for info), and conduct awareness-raising sessions on health promotion to a varied audience, including migrant associations, community leaders, and other men and women living and working in the gold-mining sites.

To facilitate the implementation of activities, a coordination mechanism was put in place in partnership with the Senegalese Red Cross and in collaboration with the regional and district medical health authorities. This coordination mechanism will contribute to greater ownership from key stakeholders and further enhance the project's sustainability.

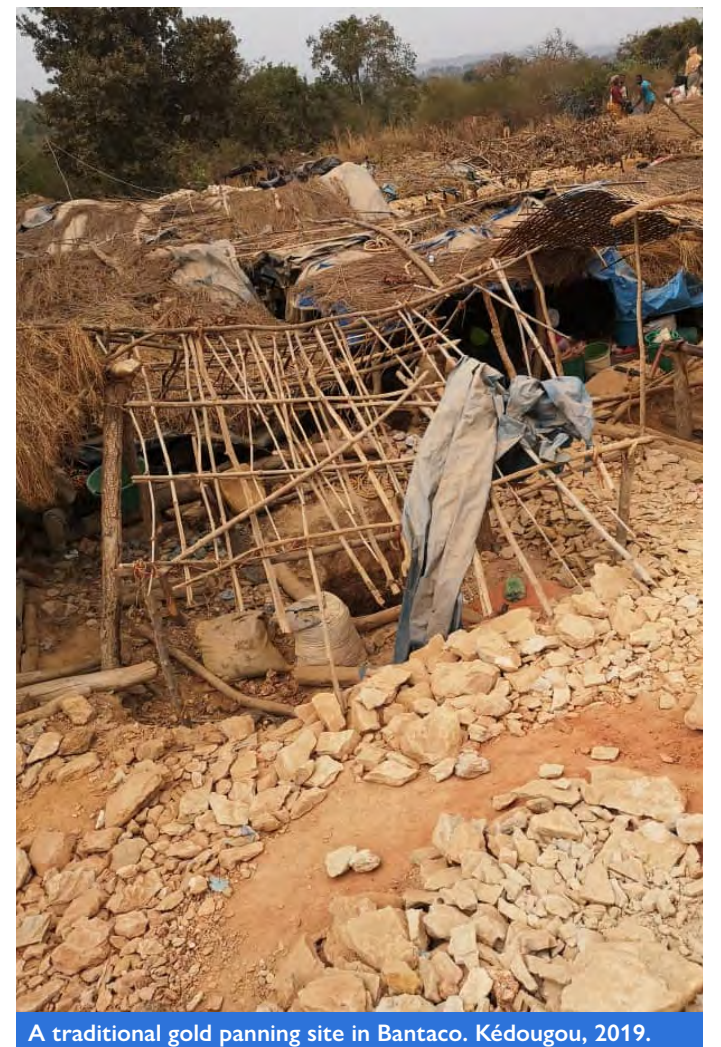


Health post at the Bantaco mining site. Kédougou, 2019.

What is Event-based Surveillance?

As defined by the World Health Organization, “Event-based surveillance (EBS) is the organized and rapid capture of information about events that are a potential risk to public health. This information can be rumours and other ad hoc reports transmitted through formal channels (i.e. established routine reporting systems) and informal channels (i.e. media, health workers and non-governmental organizations' reports)”.

It is considered an essential component of any national surveillance system, alongside Indicator-based Surveillance (IBS), the other primary form of surveillance. While IBS relies on traditional, structured, standardized information, EBS is more informal, grass-roots based, and can detect unexpected outbreaks that may not be caught by standard data and reporting.



A traditional gold panning site in Bantaco. Kédougou, 2019.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

BRAZIL: ENGAGING CITIES IN MIGRATION GOVERNANCE

Brazilian cities have very varied and complex profiles, ranging from one of the biggest cities in the world, São Paulo, with more than 12 million inhabitants, to small towns such as Serra da Saudade, with fewer than 1,000. While some cities have been innovative in their approach to migration and offer a wide range of services to migrants, most cities have limited capacity and do not have dedicated bodies in charge of migration.

Brazil is a federation composed of 5,570 local town and city governments, divided into 26 states and the Distrito Federal (Federal District, where the capital, Brasília, is located). Brazil's Government is divided according to those same three levels: local, state and federal. In certain aspects of governance, the cities and states have the power to create their own laws, provided that these do not conflict with federal legislation. This political set-up makes comprehensive migration governance challenging.

Seeking to foster migration policy dialogue and to support cities of all sizes in sharing and implementing good practices, the Government of Brazil, in coordination with IOM, implemented a project entitled "Enhancing Migration Governance in Brazil", financed through the IOM Development Fund.

“Cities play a key role in migrant integration. The cities are where the majority of migrants live, access services and participate in the economy. This project ensures that cities are mainstreaming migrant integration into their policies, improving the quality of service provisions from the bottom-up.”

Stéphane Rostiaux,
Chief of Mission, IOM Brazil



Local government representatives from different regions in Brazil meet at a workshop in the capital, focused on enhancing local migration governance. Brasília, 21 and 22 February, 2019.

The project relied on the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) tool, previously developed by IOM in 2015 in collaboration with the Economist Intelligence Unit. The MGI are a set of 90 indicators that help countries to assess the comprehensiveness of their migration governance structures. The MGI has been adapted to the local level and piloted in the cities of Accra, Montreal and São Paulo.

The project aimed to:

- (1) Develop a set of 10 groups of indicators on migration governance, built on the MGIs and tailored to the Brazilian context (see box);
- (2) Map good practices and develop learning materials, including an online course on local migration governance; and
- (3) Implement a certification process based on the indicators to accredit relevant local policies and help cities to assess and plan their local migration governance.

Throughout 2019, and after developing the 10 groups of indicators on migration governance, IOM Brazil designed the online training course in partnership with the National School of Public Administration (ENAP), to be delivered to local public authorities.

The course covers ten key policy aspects, of which five are related to institutions and governance, and five are related to migrants' access to rights and services. It builds on the recent engagement of the Brazilian Federal Government and the city of São Paulo in the earlier (MGI) exercise.



Cover art for the 'MigraCidades' online training course.

Brazil's 10 Migration Governance Indicators for City Engagement

1. Institutional governance structure and local strategy
2. Capacity-building of public servants and awareness on migrants' rights
3. Social and cultural participation of migrants
4. Transparency and access to information for migrants
5. Institutional partnerships
6. Access to health
7. Access and integration in education
8. Access to social assistance
9. Access to the labour market
10. Access of migrant victims of gender-based violence to protection services

The online training will open its first class in mid-2020 as part of IOM Brazil's strategy to assist cities in managing migration.

The project's certification process, called "MigraCidades", recognizes local governments' efforts to improve migration governance over time. The certification builds on the content developed by IOM and ENAP and will be issued in partnership with the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS). Through the training and the certification process, the funding received is supporting local governments in Brazil in enhancing their migration policies in a sustainable manner.

“By addressing multiple dimensions of policy planning, the project is developing a transversal approach that goes beyond social assistance, allowing the strengthening of institutional frameworks that advance migrants' access to rights.”

Elias Oliveira,
Municipal Secretary for Social Assistance,
Foz do Iguaçu

ENHANCING THE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF MIGRATION BY MAINSTREAMING HUMAN MOBILITY INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



Haitian border inhabitants cross the border back and forth to enjoy the Dajabon's Binational Market at the northern border between the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Dajabón Province, Dominican Republic, June 2019.

What do a manager of a soft drink industry, a banana farm worker, a college student and a public servant have in common? They all are at the front line of migration. Human mobility is an essential part of the reality of the Dominican Republic and its inhabitants. For some, it means commuting daily across the border to work or recruit other workers; for others, mobility entails seeking opportunities for training or employment, or visiting families across the border. Of course, it's also the reality of a centuries-old relationship with Haiti, the only neighbouring country the Dominican Republic shares a land border with.

With high levels of multidimensional poverty (see box), the border provinces of Montecristi, Dajabon, Santiago Rodríguez, Elias Pina, Independencia and Pedernales are among the least developed in the Dominican Republic. In addition to an already low population density, those areas also suffer from outward migration. Simultaneously, however, the Haitian immigration and the presence of Haitian immigrants in these provinces is proportionally higher than the rest of the country, as export agribusiness in the region requires intensive labour, often done by workers from the neighbouring country. Economic development plans for the region are thus challenging. Moreover, strikingly, the inclusion of human mobility within development planning is absent, despite the complex and critically important dynamics.

What is Multidimensional Poverty?

As described by the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI), a leading institute on the study of Multidimensional Poverty:

"Most countries of the world define poverty as a lack of money. Yet poor people themselves consider their experience of poverty much more broadly.

A person who is poor can suffer from multiple disadvantages at the same time: for example they may have poor health or malnutrition, a lack of clean water or electricity, poor quality of work or little schooling. Focusing on one factor alone, such as income, is not enough to capture the true reality of poverty. Multidimensional poverty measures can be used to create a more comprehensive picture. They reveal who is poor and how they are poor – the range of different disadvantages they experience."

Find out more at ophi.org.uk/research/multidimensional-poverty.

To try and address this issue, the project "Contributing to Mainstreaming Human Mobility in the Economic Development Policies of the Dominican Republic," was funded by the IOM Development Fund. In collaboration with the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, IOM is supporting the review of policies related to the socioeconomic development of border areas to ensure that they are sensitive to human mobility and leverage migrants' potential to contribute to local development processes. This includes the collection of evidence and the participation of all the relevant actors.

The overall objective of the project is to show that with the right policies in place, both inward and outward human mobility in the Dominican Republic can be positive factors towards the achievement of the 2030 National Development Strategy. The project partners with the Border Zone Observatory (OZF, by its acronym in Spanish), which has, since its establishment in 2018, carried out an assessment of the country's borders in view of supporting the design, formulation and evaluation of development policies and plans, and to monitor coordinated actions with Haiti at the border.

As part of this project, IOM and the OZF have been carrying out gender-sensitive and human-rights based studies of the border zone region, and working to develop new plans, strategies, and development policies based on the joint assessments. This has included in-depth, anthropological work, as well as economic assessments, to create the most holistic picture possible.



Group discussion with a range of Civil Society Organizations on Border Zone priorities, conducted during a series of workshops. Bahoruco Province, Dominican Republic, 2019.



Merchants carry produce at the Dajabon Binational Market, at the border between the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Dajabón Province, Dominican Republic, June 2019.

Though implementation is still underway, it is anticipated that the study will inform new, improved strategies and policies that are inclusive of human mobility dynamics, better reflect the unique situation along the border zone and identify new opportunities for sustainable development, improving the quality of life for all people living and working there.

The project stands in line with IOM's approach and *Institutional Strategy on Migration and Sustainable Development* that aims to maximize the potential of migration to achieve sustainable development outcomes for migrants and societies alike, in contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

“

Human mobility in general, and diasporas in particular, often play an important role in the social and economic development of their countries of origin, and the Dominican Republic is no exception in that regard. This territory is a clear example of a country of transit, origin and destination of national and international migrants. Its analysis without the lens of human mobility is not possible. The next steps are to mainstream the human mobility approach to the remittances policy, as the Dominican Republic is a country with 20 per cent of its population abroad.

”

Josué Gastelbondo,
Chief of Mission, IOM Dominican Republic

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?

- 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: developmentfund.iom.int/how-apply
- STEP 2

Approach your local IOM Office or the Fund directly to discuss the viability of your project idea.
- STEP 3

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

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 20 million in 2020 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 goes to project implementation: 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 significantly 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 our website.
- In-kind donations are also welcome and can be discussed with the Fund management.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST IN THE IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND

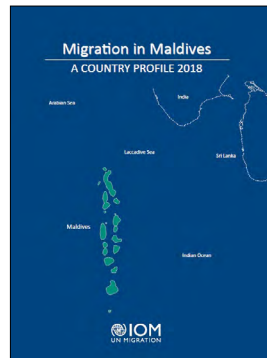
IOM COULD NOT CONTINUE ITS WORK WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT

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

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

IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND PUBLICATIONS

Migration Profiles



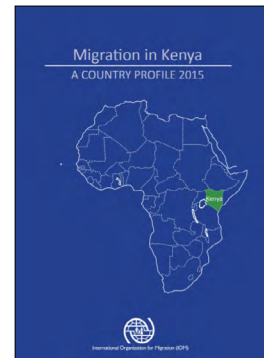
Migration Profile:
Maldives 2018



Migration Profile:
Viet Nam 2016



Migration Profile:
Federated States of
Micronesia 2015

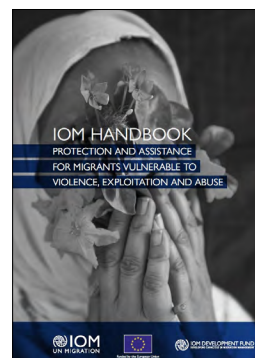


Migration Profile:
Kenya 2015

Training Manuals



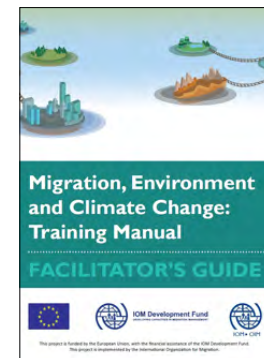
Inserção de migrantes
vulneráveis no mercado
de trabalho brasileiro,
Brazil
2018



Protection and
Assistance for Migrants
Vulnerable to Violence,
Exploitation, and Abuse
2018



Guide pour l'intégration
de la diversité culturelle
dans les pratiques des
entreprises, Maroc
2018

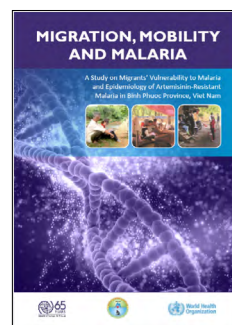


Migration,
Environment, and
Climate Change:
Training Manual
2016

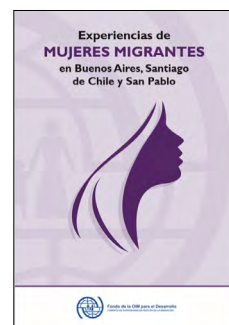
Needs Assessments



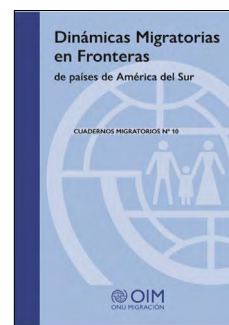
Mobility Monitoring for
Disaster Preparedness
Mongolia
2018



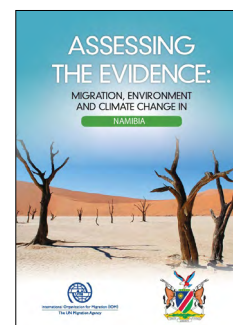
Migration, Mobility and
Malaria
Vietnam
2016



Experiencias de Mujeres
Migrantes
Argentina, Chile, Brazil
2017

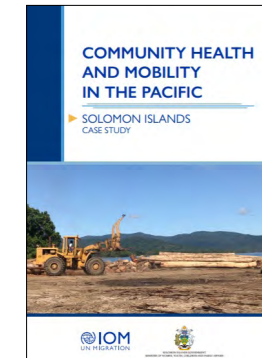


Dinámicas Migratorias
en Fronteras
MERCOSUR Region
2018



Assessing the Evidence,
Migration, Environment
and Climate Change in
Namibia
2018

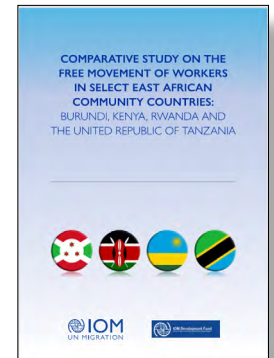
Research Reports and Studies



Community Health and
Mobility in the Pacific:
Solomon Islands
2018



Exploring the Role of
ICTs in Recruitment for
Human Trafficking
2019

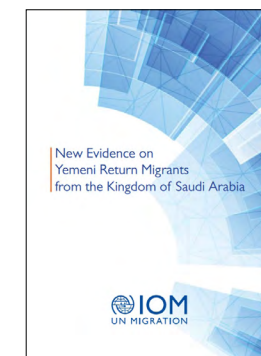


Comparative Study on
the Free Movement of
Workers
2018

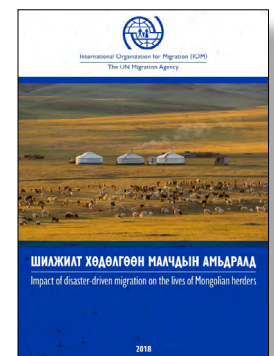
Other Reports



Migration, Environment, and
Climate Change: Regional
Policy Forum
2018



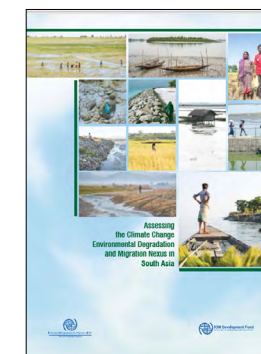
New Evidence on Yemeni
Return Migrants from the
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
2018



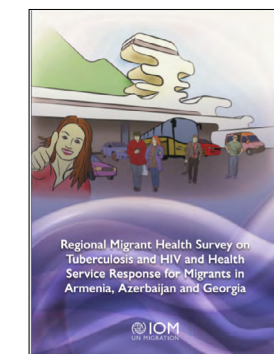
Impact of Disaster-Driven
Migration on the Lives of
Mongolian Herders
2018



Health of Migrants:
Resetting the Agenda
Report of the 2nd Global
Commission in Sri Lanka
2017



Assessing the Climate
Change, Environmental
Degradation, and Migration
Nexus in South Asia
2017



Regional Migrant Health
Survey on Tuberculosis and
HIV and Health Service
Response for Migrants
2019

ASIA AND OCEANIA

EXPLORING THE COST OF DEBT ON BANGLADESHI MIGRANTS



Taslima Begum received reintegration assistance and was able to increase her income and livelihood to pay off her debt after returning from Oman, where she worked as a domestic worker. She stayed 5 years as her contract with a local subagent was said to pay 200 US dollars per month, but actually only paid 95 USD per month. Cumilla District, Bangladesh, 2020.

Many Bangladeshi migrants aspire to move overseas, so they can send money home to support their families. According to the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET), 700,000 registered migrants left the country in search of overseas employment in 2019. Unfortunately, however, the journey across borders often traps migrants in a cycle of debt. For many Bangladeshi migrants, the overseas dream is dashed quickly and, after numerous trips overseas, some are worse off than when they started.

Given these circumstances, and with financial support from the IOM Development Fund, the Government of Bangladesh has been implementing the project, "Debt mediation for returnee migrants" in the Cumilla and Munshiganj districts since April 2019.

Involving Civil Society Organizations (CSO), the project seeks to contribute to improving the reintegration of Bangladeshi migrants and better mediating migrants' debt. In particular, the project aims to sensitize the Government and CSOs on the subject of debt liabilities and highlight debt mediation as one effective alternative for achieving sustainable reintegration. To do so, a research study is being conducted. Findings and recommended measures to improve reintegration programming will be shared with relevant Government officials and CSOs.

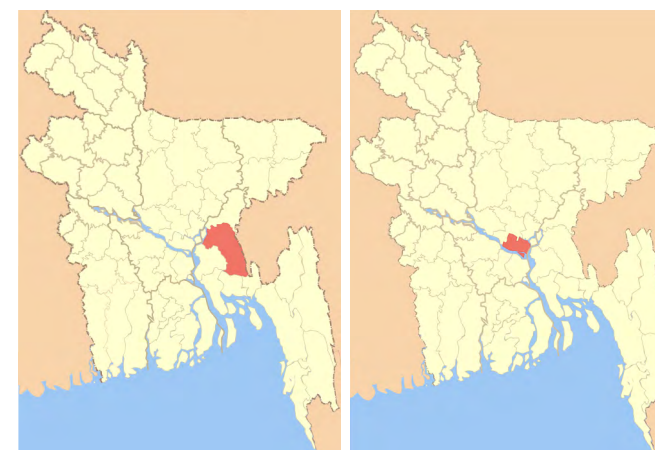
The project will then carry out a pilot debt mediation initiative, contributing to improved loan and repayment systems for returnees. Finally, the project will develop a policy brief on debt mediation on the basis of lessons learned from the pilot activities and undertake a set of advocacy initiatives with relevant

government officials and development partners to effectively address the issue of debt liabilities of returnees, potential migrants and their families.

For migrants like Shahnaj Begum, who travelled to Lebanon to work as a domestic worker, paying off the cost of the journey can take years. This is a problem commonly felt by migrants from South Asian countries, especially Bangladesh, where access to information about where migrants are going is not always transparent, exploitation by agencies and brokers is relatively common, and access to formal loans is difficult to come by. As a consequence, many migrants are reliant on moneylenders and face high interest rates, and there are very few redress mechanisms through the court system.

For Bangladeshi migrants, costs can be up to three times higher than those paid by migrant workers from India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. Higher migration costs increase the debt burden of potential migrants. As determined by the Debt Mediation Study carried out within this project in 2019–2020, the average cost of migration is 315,000 Bangladeshi Taka (approximately 3,720 US dollars). The same survey found that migrants borrow money from moneylenders at an average yearly interest rate of up to 43.4 per cent to pay for the recruitment fees.

IOM works with partners to improve access to information about foreign employers, wage, and work expectations, reducing migrants' exposure to misinformation from Dalals, informal recruitment brokers in Bangladesh. Migrants with access to low-interest loans provided by government-designated banks are less likely to be trapped into a cycle of debt, will have greater disposable income, and will have a greater opportunity to invest their salaries.



Maps of Cumilla District (left) and Munshiganj District (right), the project's pilot districts, within Bangladesh.



Shahnaj Begum, received reintegration assistance and was able to pay off her 2,000 US dollar debt after returning from Lebanon, where she worked as a domestic worker. Cumilla District, Bangladesh, 2020.

Once successfully completed, there is a significant opportunity for the project to be scaled up beyond the pilot districts, as all areas of Bangladesh receive significant numbers of migrant returnees each year. The outcome of the research and initiatives can thus be used sustainably as a base for decision-making long beyond the duration of project implementation.

“The high-interest loans offered by money lenders, trap migrants and their families into a harmful cycle of debt. Migrants need access to information and access to affordable low-interest loans. Vulnerable migrants, in particular, need access to debt mediation assistance and support to reintegrate should they return to Bangladesh. This project will assist migrants to make informed decisions throughout the process.”

Giorgi Gigauri,
Chief of Mission, IOM Bangladesh

PROMOTION OF ETHICAL RECRUITMENT OF MIGRANT WORKERS FROM NEPAL AND VIET NAM IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S BUSINESSES' SUPPLY CHAINS

Migrant workers globally make up approximately 60 per cent of the world's 272 million international migrants and contribute to the growth and development of both countries of destination and origin.¹ In many cases, however, migrant workers suffer from exploitation throughout their migration journey, beginning with unethical recruitment practices.

The 32-month regional project, "Enhancing Industry Capacity to Implement Ethical Recruitment Models in Viet Nam and Nepal to Protect Migrant Workers in the Republic of Korea's Businesses' Supply Chains", launched in November 2017, addresses unethical practices in the recruitment of migrant workers through cooperation and collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders, including employers, business associations, labour recruiters, civil society organizations and government counterparts in Nepal, the Republic of Korea, and Viet Nam.

As of the first quarter of 2020, the project has reached out to nearly 50 multinational enterprises with migrant workers in their supply chains, as well as 50 representatives of business associations and government officials in the Republic of Korea, to

advocate for enhanced protection of migrant workers through ethical recruitment.

In the Republic of Korea, IOM has met with a variety of companies representing industries such as electronics, food, and garment and entered into partnership with an electronics company to help them adopt and implement ethical recruitment practices. Through this partnership, IOM has trained 115 of the company's staff and business partners in two selected countries in Asia and Europe on the incorporation of ethical recruitment and decent work for migrant workers into their management systems.

“

Nepal is in the process of revising bilateral agreements with destination countries in order to implement the *Employer Pays Principle* and minimize the burden on migrant workers.

”

Umesh Dhungana,
Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Labour,
Employment and Social Security of Nepal



Ethical recruitment trainings have been held throughout the project for a number of different stakeholders along the recruitment process, including government officials, workers and labour recruiters. Viet Nam, September 2019.



Roundtable discussion at an ethical recruitment training for labour recruiters. Viet Nam, September 2019.

“

The Republic of Korea is the headquarters of many globally renowned multinationals with a major economic and financial footprint around the world. These enterprises can play an important role in promoting ethical recruitment. This includes promoting the *Employer Pays Principle*, which requires employers to cover all the recruitment fees and related costs of their workers, reducing the risk of both exploitation and heavy indebtedness.

”

Miah Park,
Chief of Mission, IOM Viet Nam

At the same time, the project has engaged with labour recruiters as well as recruitment industry associations in Nepal and Viet Nam, two countries of origin that deploy a large number of migrant workers to the Republic of Korea to promote ethical recruitment standards and practices. Engagement with labour recruiters has been facilitated via industry dialogue, bilateral meetings and multi-stakeholder workshops to promote ethical recruitment and minimize the risk of exploitation, often linked to forced labour.

The project has provided training to 42 recruitment agencies on ethical recruitment, including an introduction to IOM's International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS),² and is further engaging with these agencies to assist them to translate knowledge

into practice, in synergy with other IOM initiatives such as Corporate Responsibility to Eliminate Slavery and Trafficking (CREST)³ and IRIS.

The evidence base strengthened through research has played an important role in guiding the project's engagement with the private sector, including labour recruiters and other project stakeholders. Further work on the dissemination of knowledge products and practical guidance for key stakeholders will continue, together with the development of an exit strategy to ensure project sustainability, until the project ends in June 2020.

“

There is now a growing recognition of ethical recruitment being a vital part of robust migration governance. IOM is working collaboratively with the private sector, civil society, governments and the international community to make recruitment a fair process for workers, recruiters and employers.

”

Lorena Lando,
Chief of Mission, IOM Nepal

1. IOM Global Migration Report, 2020.
2. An IOM global initiative designed to promote ethical international recruitment: <https://iris.iom.int/>.
3. An IOM regional partnership initiative that aims to realize the potential of business to uphold the human and labour rights of migrant workers in their operations and supply chains: <https://crest.iom.int/>.

EUROPE

ENHANCING THE CAPACITIES OF NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN MONTENEGRO TO COUNTER SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS AND TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

With increases in migratory movements in recent years in the Western Balkans, and the emergence of a coastal route through Albania, Montenegro, and Bosnia and Herzegovina towards European countries, the need for enhanced capacities to address trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants became increasingly urgent for the Government of Montenegro.

Given the lack of a coherent framework and adequate response on identification, investigation, and prosecution of trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, the country initially struggled to address the challenges associated with transnational organized crime.

In this context, IOM Montenegro, with financing from the IOM Development Fund, implemented the project "Enhancing counter smuggling and trafficking capacities of national institutions in Montenegro."

Launched in October 2018, the project's rationale was grounded in the need for a consolidated, integrated and coordinated counter-trafficking and counter-smuggling framework. The framework thus created by the project aims to:

1. Increase the overall rates in identification and investigation of trafficking in human being and smuggling of migrants cases;
2. Investigate and prosecute criminal offences with elements of trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, using migrant-centred and gender-sensitive approaches; and,
3. Increase inter-institutional cooperation, skills and knowledge, for both national law enforcement and criminal justice authorities engaged in combating trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants.



National training on Trafficking in Human Beings/Smuggling of Migrants, with representatives of the Criminal Police Sector, Border Police and Prosecution, and IOM. Budva, Montenegro, October 2019.

The project supported the establishment of the Special Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Investigation Unit and engaged the Unit in capacity-building activities, while also providing technical equipment and office furniture. In addition, IOM advocated for the employment of female officers, in order to ensure a gender sensitive approach.

Furthermore, the project organized national training workshops, which were attended by representatives of the Criminal Police Sector (including the Special Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Investigation Unit), Border Police, and Prosecution. The workshops were conducted by a former Deputy Superintendent of the Permanent Anti-Human Smuggling Task Force in the Republic of Serbia, who could share with participants his in-depth knowledge on criminals' modus operandi in the Western Balkan region.

Following the end of the project, the police of Montenegro and Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China launched a joint operation, with the support of Interpol and Europol, to break a human trafficking chain. This joint operation involved the criminal police officers from the Special Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Investigation Unit, who were all trained through this project. 93 Victims of Trafficking were discovered in the operation.

According to the statement issued by the Montenegrin Police Directorate, "This was the largest international human trafficking ring cracked down in the Balkans over the past years".



Montenegrin Police Directorate and Police representatives from Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China in Podgorica, Montenegro, after a successful crackdown on a human trafficking ring. Podgorica, January 2020.



Coverage of the counter-trafficking joint police operation on the front page of a major Montenegrin newspaper in January 2020. The cover reads, "93 people from Taiwan Province of the People's Republic of China were locked in 3 houses in Zabjelu."

Finally, this project witnessed a commitment by the Government of Montenegro in addressing future challenges in trafficking in human beings through the establishment of an inter-institutional coordination team which gathered members from following institutions: Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, the Special Anti-Trafficking Unit, Border Police Sector, National Office in charge of THB and the Ministry of Justice. This team was established using the examples of the Serbian and North Macedonian task force models.

“ The establishment of the Special Anti-Trafficking and Smuggling Investigation Unit provided strong ground for more effective identification and investigation of trafficking and smuggling cases.

Dusica Zivkovic,
Head of Office, IOM Montenegro

ENHANCING TRAVEL FACILITATION AND BORDER SECURITY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS: A REGIONAL COOPERATIVE INITIATIVE

Contemporary international standards require the implementation of Advance Passenger Information (API) systems, but not all countries have been able to develop and put them in place yet. API systems are electronic communications systems that provide passengers' biographical data (e.g. full name, date of birth and nationality), typically obtained from travel documents such as passports, by air carriers to government authorities prior to flight departure or arrival. Alongside Passenger Name Records (PNR), this data can help border control agencies facilitate the movement and control of individual passengers.

Countries in the Western Balkan (WB) region are among those that do not yet have APIs implemented, but have indicated their strong interest in developing national API systems as quickly as possible, to align with international standards. In light of these requests, with financing from the IOM Development Fund, IOM Montenegro launched the regional project "Support to Western Balkan States in Establishing Advance Passenger Information Systems" in December 2017, to enhance travel facilitation and border security in the Western Balkan region.

In order to develop a national API system for the Western Balkan States, it was first necessary to assess if each State was prepared for implementation. This included a thorough review to ensure that each country had solid national legislation that complied with relevant international standards. This included checks on data protection principles, setting out rules on passenger data collection and specifying provisions on the use, transfer and retention of data, as well as that the State had the necessary technical capacity.

A regional workshop on API systems, held in Budva, Montenegro, in February 2018, helped to identify the needs for the legal and technical assessments. The workshop gathered representatives of Border Police, the Information and Technology sector, and Customs, who will all play a role in the implementation of API systems. These officials came from all countries of the region, representing Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and North Macedonia. Support was provided by global experts and representatives of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and IOM.



Advance Passenger Information Systems are being developed at the Podgorica Airport, to align with international standards. Podgorica, Montenegro, 2020.



Panelists at the regional meeting of Western Balkan countries on API/PNR systems. Budva, Montenegro, February 2018.

“Establishing an API system is of crucial importance to Montenegro in the process of joining the European Union.”

Tatjana Drobniak,
Head of Office, System and Technological Affairs,
Information Security and Crypto-Protection
Ministry of Interior of Montenegro

The project then provided legal and technical assessments for each involved country, including comprehensive reports with recommendations, after thorough assessment visits to Belgrade, Sarajevo, Skopje, Podgorica and Tirana. While conducting these technical and legal assessment visits, IOM encouraged cooperation with other agencies that are implementing API/PNR related activities in the WB region, such as OSCE and Frontex, in order to avoid overlap and ensure the success of project activities.

During implementation, in addition to the comprehensive reports, the project also managed to achieve a number of significant outputs, including, for example:

- The introduction of API in the legal framework in Montenegro;
- The development of the final system's blueprint in line with instructions provided by the Ministry of Interior of Montenegro;

- The organization of a national workshop on the PNR system in Montenegro;
- The establishment of an API working group in the Republic of Albania;
- Legislative reform and software development initiated by the Republic of Albania; and
- The establishment of a Working Group for API/PNR in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Given the complexity of API development, and the many steps required in terms of national legislative processes, API implementation has not been fully completed in countries of the region yet. Western Balkan countries now find themselves at various stages in relation to the development of their API system, however all countries are firmly engaged and aim to implement them within the next couple of years. Because of the groundwork put in through this project, they are now in a strong position to do so.

“Through this project IOM successfully involved all relevant institutions in Western Balkan countries in actively working on the establishment of API systems and including API/PNR within their legal frameworks.”

Dusica Zivkovic,
Head of Office, IOM Montenegro

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.

