Areas of focus include:

- Counter-trafficking;
- Enhancement of inter-governmental dialogue and cooperation;
- Labour migration;
- Migration and development;
- Migration, environment and climate change;
- Migration health;
- Border management;
- Policy and legal framework development;
- Research and assessment;
- Assisted Voluntary Return and Re-integration (AVRR) on an exceptional basis, for projects focusing on government capacity building activities.

Since 2001, the IOM Development Fund has served as a unique global resource for eligible Member States with developing economies and has helped offer rapid and flexible responses to important migration challenges.

Joint government - IOM Development Fund initiatives have successfully addressed the needs of Member States in various areas of migration management by providing ‘seed funding’ for innovative projects.

The IOM Development Fund was established in 2001 with an initial allocation of USD 1.4 million. By 2017 this figure grew to USD 8.2 million thanks to the support of Member States and successful project outcomes. It is hoped the Fund will reach a USD 20 million target.
How to Apply

Project proposals may be submitted by eligible Member States directly to the IOM Development Fund for consideration.

Step 1
✓ Identify an eligible thematic area where IOM’s technical expertise can be used to improve the migration management of your government through capacity building.

Step 2
✓ Approach your local IOM Office (or the Fund directly) and discuss the viability of your project idea.

Step 3
✓ If your project idea is considered viable by the Fund management, the local IOM office can begin putting together a project proposal with you.
✓ Projects must be presented using the IOM Development Fund template, and include complete budgets.
✓ Projects should also receive endorsement from the relevant Regional IOM Office (RO).

Step 4
✓ Your project proposal must be supported by a written endorsement and request for IOM Development Fund funding by your capital.
✓ You must assign a focal point for the project prior to implementation.

Step 5
✓ Once the complete and RO endorsed project proposal is submitted, it will be evaluated by the Fund. If approved, your government will benefit from the Fund’s support!