Central America, North America and the Caribbean
The International Organization for Migration and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees launched “The ball has no flags” (El Balón no tiene banderas) initiative, which focused on promoting the well-being of children and youth in communities in Peru with high concentrations of refugees and migrants. © IOM 2019/Karla CERVANTE

Belize
Costa Rica
Dominican Republic
El Salvador
Guatemala
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Jamaica
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
United States of America
Regional Office San Jose

Migration Governance Framework principles and objectives

Principle 1: Adhering to international standards and fulfilling migrants’ rights

In 2020, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) will focus on the promotion of the ratification and full application of the nine core human rights instruments and the Inter-American regional human rights instruments. IOM will support governments in the modernization of their national and regional migration-related legislation, in order to facilitate channels for regular migration, as well as prevent and effectively combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking, while providing protection and assistance to victims of these crimes.

To further strengthen the capacities of government officials, IOM will continue developing courses and materials for the E-campus platform. E-campus is a free and virtual space with courses and training materials on migration for government officials, members of civil society, students, academics and the public in general. Currently, there are more than 20 courses in Spanish, English and French available on the E-Campus platform.
IOM will work closely with the Forum of Presidents of Parliaments in Central America and the Caribbean Basin (Foro de Presidentes de Poderes legislativos de Centroamérica y la Cuenca del Caribe or FOPREL) in the development and implementation of the draft framework law on migration in Central America.

IOM will also continue strengthening the establishment and consolidation of inter-institutional and inter-sectoral mechanisms and platforms for the protection and assistance to vulnerable migrants, as well as the development of ad hoc protocols, guidelines and programmes to protect most vulnerable migrants. IOM will focus on joint advocacy and sensitization activities through a communicating-with-communities approach. In partnership with UN agencies and civil society organizations (CSOs), IOM will focus on preventing racism, xenophobia and discrimination throughout the region with heightened focus on countries of transit.

To strengthen the prevention and combat of abusive and illegal recruitment of migrants in countries of origin, as well as prevent forced labour and child labour in countries of destination, particularly within the sectors of agriculture and domestic service, IOM will continue supporting binational coordination on labour migration management and the roll-out of the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS).

**Principle 2: Using evidence and whole-of-government approaches**

IOM will actively promote and support governments’ capacities to disaggregate available socioeconomic data by nationality, age and gender, as well as produce data on internal migration and displacement, cross-border migration, diasporas, labour market needs, urban migration, temporary migration and the positive contribution of migrants to national and local economies. In addition, IOM will strengthen its partnerships with civil society, particularly with entities who have a solid presence in the field. Through these partnerships, IOM aims to improve visibility on the Cuban, Haitian and Venezuelan extracontinental migration flows in the region.

IOM will reinforce the sensitization and training of counterparts on migration-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. While actively promoting the full participation and awareness of the countries of the region on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development principle of “leaving no one behind”, IOM will strengthen countries’ capacities to mainstream migration into national development plans and into development policies. To this end, IOM will promote the creation of national SDGs’ indicators, as well as the development of capacities, tools and methodologies to adequately monitor them through forums, such as the Caribbean Migration Consultations (CMC) and Regional Conference on Migration (RCM).
To improve the understanding of the complex dynamics surrounding free mobility in the Caribbean region, IOM will establish a network on data and partner with representatives from academia, government and regional organizations (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) and Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)) to offer an overview of the functions and status of implementation of the free mobility regimes of CSME and the OECS.

IOM will actively promote and support countries of origin, particularly those in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean to produce comprehensive reintegration policies for returnees, as well as develop inter-sectorial responses to address mobility due to climate change.

Finally, IOM will also support policy coherence in the area of migration, environment and climate change (MECC) by promoting a stronger integration of human mobility in climate change policies and strategies through a stronger engagement with environment, climate change and disaster risk reduction departments in target countries.

**Principle 3: Developing strong partnerships**

RCM – the regional consultative process on migration (RCP) for North America, Central America and the Dominican Republic – has recently gone through a revision process with the objective of having a more results-oriented approach to address high-priority migration issues affecting the region. Key elements proposed for the new RCM are as follows: (a) a new charter defining the broad areas of work; (b) a three-year strategic plan; and (c) results-oriented working groups. IOM will continue to support the RCM and its member States in the implementation of these new elements.

IOM will also continue supporting the consolidation of the CMC – the RCP on migration for the Caribbean – promoting the sustainability and ownership of the process by the Caribbean stakeholders. IOM will keep strengthening the work of the specialized networks of the CMC and the consolidation of the Caribbean Platform for Migration Governance, which allows migration specialists and decision makers to network and serve as a hub to exchange new ideas and best practices with the aim of contributing to the improvement of migration governance in the region.

Finally, IOM will continue strengthening the coordination and cooperation between the RCPs of the region, including the RCM with the South American Conference on Migration, as well as the provision of support to relevant inter-institutional coordination mechanisms in the region, such as the Organization of American States’ Commission on Migration and Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana.
(SICA, Central American Integration System). IOM will actively participate and support regional migration and development initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Development Plan for Mexico and Central America, the SICA’s Comprehensive Action Plan to Address to Migration (PAIM-SICA for its acronym in Spanish), and SICA’s Development Plan for Central America.

IOM will continue promoting the involvement of a variety of stakeholders in migration governance initiatives, particularly local and municipal authorities and the private sector, as well as other UN agencies and international organizations, CSOs and academia. These partnerships will focus on promoting effective socioeconomic reintegration of returnees, protection and assistance to victims of human trafficking, productive use of remittances by migrants’ family members and scholarships for migrant children.

The Regional Office will also lead the activation of a Regional UN Migration Network for Central America and Mexico. The Regional UN Migration Network will be a coordination mechanism that includes ECLAC, UNICEF, the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Resident Coordinators of the four countries and IOM as the coordinator. The network will seek to ensure the coherent implementation of the multiple initiatives taking place in the region.

**Objective 1: Advancing the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society**

To reduce the drivers of forced migration and its negative consequences on communities of origin, transit and destination, IOM will further develop community stabilization initiatives in communities most affected by the lack of economic opportunities and those with high emigration rates. IOM will implement projects aimed at identifying and addressing the most important socioeconomic drivers of migration in these communities, including climate change and environmental degradation.

IOM will continue to conduct and update assessments on migration governance capacities in the region, using the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) as the basis to measure and review the implementation of migration-related SDGs. IOM will support the development of platforms aimed at better monitoring and evaluating SDGs’ implementation at the country and regional levels. Finally, IOM will continue to actively advocate for migration to be mainstreamed in regional and national policies and in programmes aimed at achieving the SDGs and strengthen the capacities of the inter-institutional mechanisms responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.
IOM will continue to work closely with counter-trafficking partners at the national level, supporting actions to improve legislative frameworks, implementing national referral systems and building the capacity to respond and prevent human trafficking. IOM will also continue to assist victims of trafficking and other migrants in situations of vulnerability through programmes and global humanitarian assistance funds. At the regional level, IOM will continue to support the work of regional networks focused on counter-trafficking, including the Regional Conference on Migration, the Caribbean Migration Consultations (CMC) Counter-Trafficking Network and the Regional Coalition against Trafficking and Smuggling.

IOM will continue to support countries within the region to effectively reintegrate returned migrants by strengthening reception capacities, as well as their capacities to socioeconomically and psychosocially reintegrate migrants. To this end, IOM will focus on countries with complex migratory flows and the highest number of returnees and provide assistance to the most vulnerable returnees, especially children and women. IOM’s efforts will focus particularly on disseminating and strengthening its information hubs (ventanillas únicas in Spanish) to assist migrants, especially Venezuelans, Cubans, Haitians and migrants from Africa.

IOM will also continue engaging with regional partners to address the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on local communities in the region and their importance as drivers of migration and displacement. Both in the Caribbean and Central America, IOM will look at building synergies to enhance climate resilience and improve local capacities in managing environmental migration.

**Objective 2: Addressing the mobility dimensions of crises**

The increasing intensity and frequency with which disasters are being experienced in the region, in particular in the Caribbean, demonstrates the critical need that countries of the region have to enhance their disaster risk management strategies and policies. Disasters in the region have exacerbated the vulnerability of the population exposed to these hazards, particularly in countries with small territories, and also have resulted in higher emigration, in particular, of the highly skilled population and also the high mobility within the region (tourists, students and workers). This has been the case in many countries of the region and particularly in the Caribbean. IOM will continue promoting innovative and long-term solutions, such as reconstruction of better infrastructure that can withstand hazards, investment in risk reduction, development of contingency plans and identification and creation of channels to arrange urgent contingency financing and sensibilization of the related institutions and regional bodies on integration of migrants in the preparedness and response plans to the crisis or emergencies.
Following the passage of Hurricane Maria in September 2017, IOM’s presence in Dominica increased considerably and has now transitioned from emergency assistance to a permanent presence with development-focused initiatives. In 2020, IOM will further strengthen its presence in Dominica to serve as a hub for the wider Eastern Caribbean region, particularly to disseminate and exchange best practices regarding disaster response and preparedness.

In Central America, a combination of slow- and sudden-onset disasters have contributed to shaping human mobility, particularly in the Central American Dry Corridor, which extends from North-West Costa Rica along the Pacific coast to Guatemala, where drought conditions have been aggravated by the El Niño phenomenon. The relationship between climate change, droughts and limited agricultural output has been discussed in recent months in light of migration movements to the United States of America. IOM aims to work with regional partners to better understand these trends and build government capacities to address the impact of climate change on human mobility.

To enhance governments’ capacities to prepare and respond to mass migration flows associated to human-induced or climate change-related migration crisis, IOM will also develop technological solutions to allow officials practice real-life scenarios in simulated settings. The learning software will simulate migration crisis in a fictional country, and users will be required to manage these flows; the focus is not the disaster or the cause of the migration crisis, but the response given. These virtual tools will also serve to raise governments’ awareness about the importance of adequately preparing themselves to respond to these crises through adequate policies.

Objective 3: Migration should take place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner

IOM will support governments in improving their capacity to develop and promote regular migration options and making information on access to labour markets easily available. IOM will establish alliances with labour migrants’ employers and labour unions to promote regular migration and decent labour for all migrants, particularly in those countries in which they face more vulnerabilities associated to their migratory status.

IOM will continue providing extensive cooperation to regional organizations and RCPs to strengthen the capacities of countries to prevent, investigate, prosecute and penalize trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, as well as strengthen protection and assistance mechanisms for victims of trafficking. Priority will be given to the support provided for the implementation of the RCM’s Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Migrant Smuggling, for which elaboration, IOM already provided cooperation.
IOM will continue strengthening the technical capacities to respond to migrants’ health needs. This will enable the inclusion of migrants’ physical and mental health throughout the migratory process, including pre-departure, travel and transit, destination and integration, and return while also bringing all the other aspects of migration into public health perspective.

IOM will continue promoting the use of MigApp to disseminate useful and reliable information for migrants to help them make informed decisions, as well as have access to protection and assistance services in their communities of origin, transit, destination and return.

IOM will work closely with countries of origin and destination to facilitate safe and dignified returns and readmissions, as well as sustainable reintegration. IOM in the region will continue sensitizing governments on the right to family unity and will strengthen governments’ capacities in developing ad hoc procedures to recognize the family reunification principle as part of their migration management policies. Besides, IOM will continue providing cooperation for the development of adequate best interest of the child assessments across the region and particularly in countries of transit and destination.

**Belize**

Belize is a country of origin, destination, transit and return migration. In order to assist the Government to better manage migration, IOM has been working in partnership with government authorities and civil society to build and strengthen the capacity of government officials in managing the borders, labour migration and migration management. The work of IOM in Belize aims to effectively respond to the migration governance needs of the country as well as migrants’ needs, in line with IOM’s principle of promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. For 2020, these are the main areas of priority of work:

- Provide support to the development of a migration and development policy for Belize. This policy document aims to improve the capacity of governmental authorities in managing the current migration-related challenges and opportunities. It will allow for the inclusion of relevant migration factors into development planning, including the potential positive socioeconomic contributions of immigrants and migrants abroad towards national development.

- Partner with the Ministry of Labour to support the elaboration of a temporary labour migrants programme for the agriculture sector, thus reinforcing labour migration initiatives in Belize.
- Provide technical support to develop and update the climate change policy of Belize to include a new chapter on MECC.

Costa Rica

Costa Rica’s unemployment has risen to over 16 per cent in 2019 and immigration has increases from Central and South American countries, as well as African and South Asian countries. Trafficking and smuggling networks have also become stronger and linked across continents. Despite these challenges, there are clear indicators that migration can support economic growth and well-being. IOM in Costa Rica also aims to address the mobility dimension of the crises in Nicaragua and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Priorities for IOM’s work in Costa Rica are consequently the following:

- Strengthen the labour migration management system, particularly for agricultural workers, to reduce the existing delays, costs and associated risks and productivity loss. IOM has already identified the priority needs, working with labour and migration authorities, as well as the major producers/exporters of pineapple, banana and coffee. This effort leverages the successful Municipal Migration Centres that IOM has established in key municipalities to foster regularization through cooperation between municipal and migration authorities. The private partnership also leverages IOM’s successful Corporate Responsibility in Eliminating Slavery and Trafficking (CREST) initiative and Business, Migration and Prosperity Programme (EMPRO, by its initials in Spanish), to help employers eliminate the risk of trafficking and exploitation in their companies and supply chains.

- Establish a small business loan guarantee structure and business cluster creation mechanism for migrant-run businesses and Costa Rican businesses that employ a significant percentage of migrants. Many business loan models have failed because they did not create value added linkages between companies, which also generate supply contracts that can serve as collateral to reduce the risk of loans. This model has been approved by Costa Rican banks and has the strong interest of migrant associations and businesses, as well as Costa Rican businesses. It will promote much-needed economic growth and job creation, reduce migrants’ reliance on the informal sector and secure sustainable socioeconomic integration.

- Significantly increase the number of successful prosecutions of traffickers and migrant smugglers, as well as asset confiscation and coordination with other countries in coordinated simultaneous arrests and prosecutions to dismantle these transnational organized crime networks.
networks. IOM is already working with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and INTERPOL to support the relevant authorities. IOM aims to conduct community stabilization activities that incorporate a strong job and income generation element in neighbourhoods in San Jose and vulnerable municipalities. This has already begun on a small scale and is crucial to helping authorities create a whole-of-government response to preventing a migration crisis.

**Dominican Republic**

IOM in the Dominican Republic will implement technical cooperation projects and activities in 2020. Priority actions include the following:

- Support the Government in the implementation of the Plan for Strengthening the Governance of Labour Migration.

- Strengthen the Government’s engagement with the Dominican diaspora. Specifically, linking the diaspora to national development by establishing an international guarantee fund that would promote Dominicans living abroad supports access to credits for investment in Dominican Republic.

- Conduct border management, conflict control and prevention activities at the Dominican/Haitian border. IOM aims to strengthen border control in coordination with the respective governmental agencies through the implementation of the Prevention, Assistance, Inter-Institutional Coordination, Training and Advocacy programme. Furthermore, IOM aims to carry out conflict prevention and mediation activities with local civil society actors, governments and national entities.

- Support the Government, specifically the Special Prosecutor’s Office against Trafficking and Trafficking of Migrants (PETT) and the Ministry of Women combat human trafficking. This includes support to strengthen policies and procedures in facilitating the identification, referral, and protection and assistance to victims of trafficking. IOM aims to also strengthen socioeconomic reintegration programmes, as well as family reunifications.

- In close partnership with the Government, conduct studies on the role of human mobility in the Dominican Republic, national and migrant flows and their relation to border development. IOM aims to support the Government establish migration policies that respond to the trends and demands of border development.
- Provide comprehensive assistance and integration to Venezuelan migrants in the Dominican Republic. IOM will conduct economic and cultural integration activities, as well as provide health and documentation assistance.

**El Salvador**

IOM in El Salvador will expand its capacity-building initiatives with local and national governments and civil society partners, as well as provide direct assistance to migrants and communities to address the following priorities in 2020:

- Considering the scale of forced returns of migrants to El Salvador, IOM will continue to address the challenges related to sustainable reintegration at the national and local levels. IOM will build upon ongoing efforts with the Government and civil society stakeholders, including local governments, to ensure returnees can successfully reintegrate economically and socially. IOM will also strengthen its outreach to the private sector and diaspora networks to leverage their support for reintegration efforts.
- Tackle the most prevalent drivers of irregular migration that include violence, limited economic opportunities and climate change. IOM will strengthen violence prevention efforts (specifically those that address gang desistance, gender-based violence and femicide). In addition, IOM will continue working to improve economic opportunities for targeted populations, including women and youth through training, entrepreneurship and other livelihood methods. Enhancing climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction is also an important goal, especially considering the region’s propensity for natural disasters and the links between climate change, natural disasters and forced migration.

- Provide technical assistance to support migration legislation and policies, particularly the ongoing efforts to disseminate and train government personnel on the 2019 Special Law on Migration and Foreigners.

- Continue to produce and analyse migration data to support advocacy, policy and programming related to return migration flows, remittances, drivers of irregular migration and other emerging migration issues.

Guatemala

IOM in Guatemala will expand its capacity-building initiatives to address the following priorities in 2020:

- Due to the increase in Guatemalan returns in 2019, IOM will continue to support the Government in strengthening its reintegration capabilities by improving its reception centres and offering information on available assistance programmes.

- In accordance with the new laws, assist the Government to improve and develop new procedures and protocols for effective migration management.

- Establish an information system and returnee database to gain reliable data on migratory trends and returns in Guatemala. Specifically, the returnee database would capture education, skills and job experience information to effectively support job placement.

- Support the Government in establishing temporary work programmes for citizens to temperately work abroad.

- IOM also plans to support the Government to create remittances programmes, seeking synergies with the private sector and financial systems to facilitate the inclusion of remittances in savings accounts. IOM will also continue to seek to strengthen alliances with other United Nations agencies. Climate change is another issue that IOM will address.
to strengthen the country’s actions, especially for the population living in the Dry Corridor.

- Continue to support the Migration Authority and the new Guatemalan Institute of Migration to transition to the new migration law, Código de Migración, which improves the conditions of Guatemalans abroad and the migrant population travelling through or living in Guatemala.

- IOM in the Northern Triangle has become an important source of migratory information. Therefore, IOM will continue to build information systems and strengthen existing data to generate evidence.

**Guyana**

The Regional Coordination Office for the Caribbean will continue to support governments in the Caribbean to increase their capacity to manage migration more effectively through the collection of migration-related data, as well as capacity-building for government officials and CSOs to develop more evidence base policies and respond to migrants’ need for assistance. In keeping with the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF) principles, IOM has prioritized the following:

- Establish a Guyana migration profile and capacity-building trainings for government officials and partners to collect, analyse and report on migration data and for the development policies to ensure that migration takes place in more orderly, humane and safe manner.

- In coordination with government partners, develop an evidence-based migration policy to support the establishment of systems and processes in regulating migration to and from Suriname.

- Address the migrants’ health needs in the logging and mining sectors of Guyana, thus aiming to reduce HIV and malaria by promoting good health practices and prevention methods.

- Establish a national migration task force to respond to migration challenges.

- Reach out to the St. Kitts and Nevis diaspora in North America and the Caribbean to identify their skills, experiences and interests in contributing to the development of the country.

- Conduct an assessment of the migratory needs and gaps in the Caribbean to subsequently establish an informed regional migration policy.

- Respond to the socioeconomic needs of vulnerable Venezuelan migrants in Aruba, Curacao and Guyana through the establishment of community base initiatives, such as farming and fishing, set-up of small businesses and provision of shelter and access to food and non-food items (NFIs).
- Collect and analyse migration data through IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix in sharing information to strengthen the response to Venezuelan migrants.
- Promote acceptance and inclusion of Venezuelan migrants through media campaigns and sensitization workshops with service providers and host community members.

**Haiti**

IOM Haiti will continue to support the Government in its immediate and long-term migration-related challenges by enhancing the capacity of national institutions to better manage the country’s borders and regional migration dynamics and supporting public sector and civil society actors in reducing forced movement and the vulnerability of migrants. The specific priorities for 2020 will include the following:

- Technical assistance on migration management, border management and immigration and visa support through its visa application centres (VACs). IOM will continue to support the establishment of an integrated border management (IBM) system in Haiti, strengthening the human and technical capacity of Border Police through the provision of specialized IBM trainings, the provision of specific equipment and the fostering of an interregional dialogue on migration issues. In 2020, IOM will work towards the set-up of two additional Border Police bases, expanding Border Police presence to all Haiti’s four official border crossing points. IOM Haiti will also continue to operate dedicated VACs to Brazil and Chile to facilitate orderly migration management. IOM will reinforce and provide operational support to the National Migration Office and Haiti Coast Guard for the reception of returning migrants and deportees, as well as their reintegration and will work to address the irregular migration flows from the Haitian northern coast.

- Protection and resilience-building mechanisms for vulnerable migrants, including counter-trafficking and anti-smuggling activities. IOM will provide protection for the most vulnerable populations of migrants and enhance the response in the fight against human trafficking, including through the detection of smuggled migrants and trafficked persons along the border areas. As such, IOM will: (a) support the development of tools and mechanisms to guide safer migration processes, taking into account the different migratory patterns; (b) support the protection needs of children, particularly those separated as a result of deportation; (c) uphold the human security of women and youth in border departments; (d) ensure the safe and timely referral of vulnerable cases;
and (e) ensure that irregular and vulnerable returning migrants receive life-saving emergency protection assistance.

- Disaster risk reduction activities, including training and technical assistance for national counterparts, as well as preparation and response to natural disasters through “build back safer” and evacuation management. IOM will continue to ensure the warehousing management of the emergency NFI stockpile for 10,000 households, prepositioned in 4 warehouse locations. IOM will provide capacity-building trainings to key national and humanitarian actors and support the rehabilitation of public buildings used as priority evacuation shelters during potential disaster. IOM will also contribute to the Government’s efforts in reducing the impact of disasters on the most vulnerable populations by strengthening disaster preparedness and response capacity in the Sud, Sud-Est, Grand’Anse and Nippes departments of Haiti. IOM will be conducting assessments, repairs and upgrades of evacuation centres, while also engaging the communities and local authorities in evacuation planning and preparedness.

IOM has been promoting the Building Back Safer principles, as well as monitoring and coordinating all repair and reconstruction activities in the departments affected by Hurricane Matthew. © IOM 2018
- Mainstreaming migration into the development agenda through policies and legislation. The Haitian migratory legal framework and its overarching migration policy need substantial revision in order to respond to the present challenges of migratory dynamics and facilitate orderly and dignified migration. In 2020, IOM will provide operational and technical support to the Government in updating its migration policy, enhancing regional dialogue on migration and improving its governance of migration through the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration. IOM will also engage the Haitian diaspora to promote the national development of Haiti.

**Honduras**

IOM in Honduras will expand its capacity-building initiatives among local and central governments and civil society partners, as well as direct assistance for migrants and communities to address the following priorities in 2020:

- IOM will continue to address the challenges related to sustainable reintegration at the national and local levels. IOM will build upon ongoing efforts with diverse government and civil society stakeholders, including local governments, private sector and diaspora to ensure returnees can successfully reintegrate economically and socially. Therefore, IOM will continue strengthening government capacities through the establishment of four Municipal Units for Returnees (UMARs), a mechanism from which the reintegration process will include case management of returnees’ cases at the local level.

- IOM will address the most prevalent drivers of irregular migration. These efforts will include improving citizen security and economic opportunities, as well as enhancing climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction initiatives (linkages between climate change, natural disasters and forced migration).

- IOM will continue to provide technical assistance to support migration legislation and policies, particularly the ongoing efforts to develop the migratory policy in the country and establish a reintegration programme.

- IOM in Honduras will continue to produce and analyse migration data to support advocacy, policy and programming related to return migration flows, remittances, drivers of irregular migration and other emerging migration issues. A call centre and a migration observatory at the National Institute of Migration will be supported with the main objective of producing/analysing relevant data related to mixed migration flows.
Jamaica

Throughout 2020, IOM Jamaica will seek to implement several initiatives to counter trafficking in persons and support the Government in operationalizing the National Policy and Plan of Action on International Migration and Development. The mission’s activities will be aligned with the SDGs and IOM’s MiGOF principles and objectives. IOM Jamaica’s priorities for 2020 include the following:

- Participate in the Government-led National Working Group on International Migration and Development, which is comprised of various government entities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international organizations. IOM seeks to further its efforts in supporting the Government implement components of its Strategic Implementation Plan for Jamaica’s National Policy on Migration and Development through targeted activities focused on channelling the diaspora’s economic resources towards national development, labour migration such as promoting ethical recruitment, and strengthening support provided to children left behind as a result of migration.

- Conclude the national prevalence study on child trafficking in Jamaica to support the realization of the objectives under the Child Protection Compact Partnership between the governments of the United States and Jamaica. IOM seeks to also conduct counter-human trafficking capacity-building activities with NGOs and key government stakeholders including social workers, judiciary and law enforcement officers. Additionally, IOM aims to train relevant stakeholders in effectively designing and implementing communication for development campaigns to counter trafficking. Furthermore, IOM seeks to pilot a human trafficking awareness campaign for children and parents/guardians.

- IOM will continue to provide administrative services in the operation of the United Kingdom Visas and Immigration VAC in Jamaica and eight temporary enrolment locations across Latin America and the Caribbean.

- Provide socioeconomic and reintegration assistance for migrants returning to Jamaica.

- In partnership with the Government, conduct a situational assessment of migration health issues in the country. Recommendations arising from this assessment would be used to develop targeted information campaigns and capacity-building initiatives. IOM aims to also partner with the Government in conducting a feasibility study for the creation of a circular migration programme for health-care professionals.
- Develop initiatives to strengthen its relationship with relevant public and private sector stakeholders to ensure that migration is mainstreamed into disaster management, risk reduction and emergency preparedness programmes and policies. As a complementary activity, IOM also aims to build institutional capacities and public awareness on issues concerning MECC.

**Mexico**

Mexico is a country of origin, transit, return and destination of migrants. Following the significant transit of migrants in October 2018 and January 2019 and subsequent agreements reached between the governments of the United States and Mexico, migration has brought new social, economic and political challenges and is playing a predominant role in the national agenda.

In 2020, IOM Mexico aims to strengthen the capacities of federal and local governments towards the protection, attention and labour integration of migrants. IOM will continue the implementation of existing projects focused on labour migration, strengthening the capacities of reception shelters at the northern border and facilitating the sustainability of migrants waiting in Mexico for the determination of their migratory status in the United States and assisted voluntary returns. Furthermore, collaboration with the private sector regarding trafficking in persons and student mobility will continue to be implemented. Furthermore, IOM will continue to expand its presence in cities along the northern border. Efforts for 2020 will be focused on the following:

- Strengthen work opportunities for migrants mainly from Central America.

- Combat counter-trafficking and smuggling and provide direct assistance to victims of trafficking including medical and psychological support, shelter, documentation and information on return and reintegration opportunities in their countries of origin.

- Support the integration and implementation of international agreements. Specifically, implement a pilot on the Plan de Desarrollo Integral and conduct efforts towards social cohesion of migrants in Mexican host cities.

- Establish international mobility support that will aim at establishing new partnerships with universities and other private and public sector partners and scholarship providers.
Provide assisted voluntary return to migrants by providing counselling, orientation, as well as assistance with the issuance of travel documents and air tickets. This programme will continue offering the option of return for eligible migrants who decide to return to their country of origin.

Nicaragua

IOM Nicaragua aims to support sustainable development and the protection of the human rights of the migrant population. As such, IOM will continue providing technical assistance to the Government and relevant partners to address the current migration challenges. IOM intends to strengthen partnerships that guarantee the fulfilment of rights to migrants, the promotion of actions focused on updating databases on migration flows and promotion of social inclusion in both national and regional migration public policies. IOM will prioritize border areas and communities with a high level of migration. Furthermore, fund mobilization is planned to be focused on the reintegration of migrants and their families’ initiatives. The priorities for the year 2020 are as follows:

- Efforts will be directed to the prevention of irregular migration and the protection of children and adolescents in vulnerable communities.

- Strengthen communication channels for reporting and management of suspected trafficking in persons crimes. Also strengthen the capacities of government officials who are part of the National Coalition against Trafficking in Persons, reinforce the technical capacities and provide resources in order to enhance the prevention and identification of
possible cases of human trafficking, within a preventive community approach including the participation of civil society and stakeholders.

- Enhance regional integration and protection of migrant women in social inclusion policies; moreover, provide capacity-building for the integral accompaniment of the psycho-socioeconomic reintegration of migrant women and their families in the return processes or to a third destination country.

- Strengthen reintegration processes and assistance for Nicaraguan returnees. IOM intends to facilitate return migration processes under an integrated approach that would work in the socioeconomic spheres, while providing information for the prevention of irregular migration.

Panama

In 2020, IOM in Panama aims to contribute to the efforts of the State in the development of a comprehensive and evidence-based migration policy, as well as provide support to strengthen the capacities for the response to migration crisis situations and the effective implementation of anti-smuggling legislation. Moreover, IOM will develop a strategy for the economic integration of Venezuelan migrants, as well as contribute to the efforts of the State for the improvement of human
security of the host communities at the border along the migration route of the extraregional migrants that transit through Panama. Lastly, IOM will provide support to the State for the implementation of the migration-related SDGs.

United States of America

From counter-trafficking to diaspora engagement, IOM in Washington, D.C. is well positioned to manage a diverse portfolio. One example of this is the Global Knowledge Management Project, designed to build the capacities of governments in Asia, Africa and across the Western Hemisphere to manage migration effectively. The programme promotes coordination, information-sharing and knowledge management by utilizing innovative, evidence-based approaches to capacity-building. IOM also maintains key relationships with government officials of the United States, policymakers, donors and partners serving to reinforce programming on the national and global levels. In close coordination with the US Department of State’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP), IOM staff in Washington implement training and technical assistance (T&TA) activities. These activities require engagement with State law enforcement, social protection, lawmakers and other stakeholders in order to provide guidance on the development of national action plans, better inform anti-trafficking legislation, strengthen criminal justice response(s), victim identification, referral and overall assistance. T&TA interventions and activities are global in nature, and countries are selected in coordination with J/TIP, US embassies and IOM missions. IOM Washington will further develop and implement this programming in the coming year.

The Return, Reintegration, and Family Reunification Program for Victims of Trafficking in the United States allows IOM to facilitate safe travel for victims of trafficking who seek to be reunited with their families. By working with NGOs that provide referrals, pro bono attorneys, faith-based organizations and law enforcement agencies, IOM Washington will keep providing critical services for victims of trafficking. Likewise, through the Emergency Victim Assistance Fund, IOM will continue to provide emergency short-term, direct assistance to victims of trafficking, with a focus on reintegration. The programme is designed to ensure the sustained protection and socioeconomic well-being of these individuals, which in turn reduces the risk of re-victimization.

IOM also supports the engagement of selected diaspora communities for disaster response and preparedness, with a focus on building back safer shelters for affected communities in their countries of origin. More broadly, the Washington office will further develop its roles as a reference hub for diaspora communities that want to be engaged in both humanitarian and development interventions within their countries of origin.
### Central and North America and the Caribbean

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**Using evidence and whole-of-government approaches**

**Good migration governance relies on strong partnerships**
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<td><strong>Addressing the mobility dimensions of crises</strong></td>
<td><strong>Migration should take place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner</strong></td>
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