



OBJECTIVE 3

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

Safe and regular migration and visa facilitation

The Migration Government Framework (MiGOF) underlines the need to ensure that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner. This is also a central goal on the international agenda, enshrined in Target 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The International Organization for Migration's (IOM) work on immigration and border management plays a central role in facilitating well-managed, safe and dignified migration.

Immigration and visas

IOM supports States in improving migration governance through the provision of efficient and cost-effective international migration services. In line with a protection-centred approach, IOM manages visa application centres for humanitarian and regular migratory flows. In addition, IOM shares with States examples of good practices in line with international standards, both in terms of operational efficacy and from a human rights perspective. IOM's efforts in this field aim at strengthening regular and safe migration pathways, thereby dissuading migrants from seeking unsafe, irregular and life-threatening journeys and preventing misinformation and exploitation by unscrupulous visa brokers or other actors.

Enhanced support to Member States and other stakeholders throughout the visa policymaking cycle

Visas are an essential instrument for States to manage migration and facilitate regular entry and admission to their territory. Well-managed visa policy is of key importance when aiming to enhance regular migration and reduce irregular migration and the associated risks for both migrants and States. Visa policymaking allows governments to react to current and anticipated migration dynamics and reconcile them with their respective national context, including population growth, labour market needs and the overall economic situation. With extensive experience regarding the implementation of visa policy, IOM is well positioned to support the States operationally and throughout the visa policymaking cycle. IOM is currently implementing initiatives aimed at consolidating institutional knowledge and lessons learned and enhancing internal support capacities in the field of visa policy.

Strengthening document verification solutions

As part of its immigration and visas programmes, IOM will expand its verification solutions provided on behalf of Member States. With fraud being an ever-present challenge within immigration procedures, IOM supports neutral and effective visa issuance processes that protect migrants from seeking unsafe and irregular channels. Through the provision of efficient and cost-effective verification solutions, member

States are supported in challenging operational environments where they have minimal or no consular presence or mechanisms to conduct document integrity checks. IOM conducts in-person site visits to document issuing entities, leveraging ongoing collaboration with host governments, relevant ministries and authorities, along with the local networks and language skills of IOM Verification Solutions focal points.

In 2020, IOM will introduce Verify, a proprietary and adaptable software solution designed for the secure exchange of documents between Member State counterparts and IOM. This software will strengthen data protection standards and the monitoring of verification procedures through enhanced financial management and automated reporting capabilities.



IOM's integrated border management training-of-trainers on Travel Document Examination and Advanced Biometrics in Bangkok, Thailand. © IOM 2017/Benjamin SUOMELA

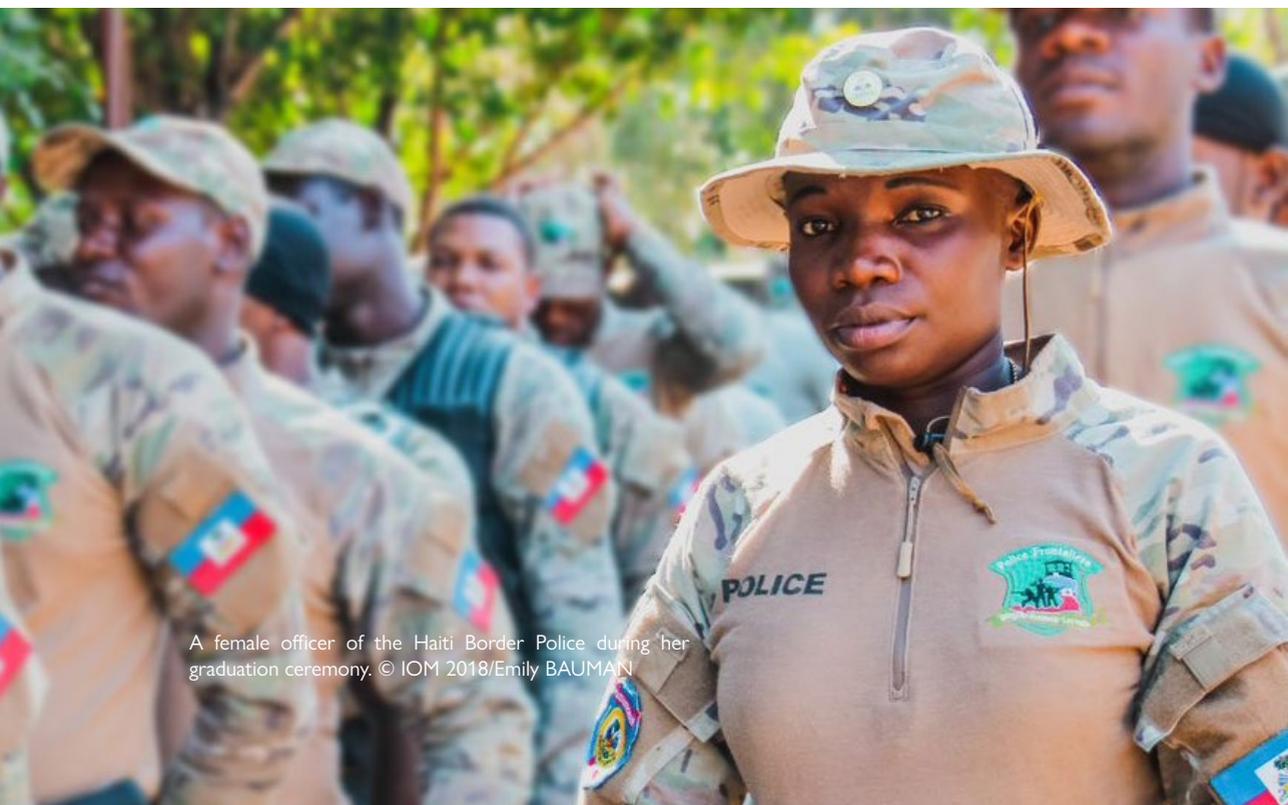
Border and identity management

IOM's work focuses on promoting human security by reducing risks in migration journeys and assisting Member States in the effective implementation of policies and systems that enhance access to regular migration channels. This includes helping States in preventing and countering migrant smuggling and enhancing border security through cooperation between relevant State agencies and between interested States. The objective of this process is to reduce cross-border and transnational crimes of all types.

IOM implements various immigration and border management activities in areas, such as readmission, regularization, humanitarian border management, visa processing support and others. Through building capacities of Member States, IOM contributes to the following: (a) promoting efficient border and migration management policies and structures; (b) facilitating and fostering enhanced movement management at borders; (c) preventing irregular migration; (d) helping dismantle organized criminal networks; and (e) protecting the rights of migrants. IOM also assists Member States in strengthening their capacities in registering and analysing cross-border movements, enhancing the security of identity documents and developing relevant technical tools.

MIDAS
MIGRATION INFORMATION AND DATA ANALYSIS SYSTEM

Developed by IOM in 2007, the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) is a high-quality, user-friendly and fully customizable solution for States in need of a cost-effective and comprehensive border management information system. Currently, MIDAS is operational in over 20 countries.



A female officer of the Haiti Border Police during her graduation ceremony. © IOM 2018/Emily BAUMAN

Enhancing international cooperation to counter migrant smuggling

The large-scale smuggling of migrants across international borders has developed into a global challenge to migration governance while also exposing migrants to great dangers and risks. IOM has been active in the field for many years and contributes towards preventing and combating migrant smuggling through various streams of work, such as capacity-building, development and delivery of technical solutions for enhanced border security and intensified cross-border information exchange, as well as migrants' rights protection. Recognizing the need for increased inter-agency coordination to effectively counter migrant smuggling, and within the framework of the newly established UN Network on Migration, IOM and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) are looking at joint programming opportunities. Joint initiatives aim to respond to migrant smuggling based on a holistic approach, which includes the protection of human rights of all migrants, regardless of their status, and the alignment with relevant international instruments.



IOM Safe Migration Outreach and Victim Screening at the Myawaddee border in Mae Sot, Thailand.
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Enhanced International Civil Aviation Organization Traveller Identification Programme Strategy implementation

Building on the memorandum of understanding with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), IOM provides technical assistance to States in strengthening their traveller identification management. The ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (TRIP) Strategy is an important global framework that helps to provide facilitation, security and sustainable development benefits to migrants and Member States. IOM assistance activities include the following: (a) technical field visits; (b) assessments; (c) advocacy events and technical consultations; (d) developing and delivering professional training; (e) equipment procurement; and (f) setting up effective processes and inspection tools aligned with international norms. IOM's engagement in TRIP Strategy implementation has been gaining momentum. The Action Plan for ICAO TRIP Implementation Assistance helps to structure IOM's work in providing support to States in TRIP Strategy implementation and mobilizes IOM efforts in directing the assistance where it is needed the most. In addition to the above-mentioned programmes, in 2020, IOM will focus on assisting Member States implement the passenger data applications, advance passenger information (API) and passenger name record (PNR). These data applications help member States to increase the facilitation and security of their border control management. API has been established as a standard and became a legal obligation for all ICAO member States, but effective API implementation remains a challenge for many States. IOM provides impartial and tailored technical assistance towards the implementation of a passenger data system that is fully owned and sustained by the beneficiary State, while effectively cooperating with international and regional partners and adhering to internationally recognized standards.

Health assessment and travel health assistance

In 2020, in line with the outcomes of the Global Workshop on Strengthening the Use of Biometrics in IOM Programming, IOM will continue to enhance the quality and integrity of its pre-departure migration health assessment operations worldwide through incorporating biometric technologies into the migration health assessment process. The initiative will enhance the integrity reliability and quality of IOM's migration health assessment services, thus increasing stakeholders' confidence in the programme and offering a competitive edge, as well as facilitating institutional acquisition of knowledge and experience, which can be applied in the context of other IOM migration management programmes and projects.

In line with institutional priorities, throughout 2020, IOM will continue to work to improve data on migration health, in particular, data collected through the migration health assessment programmes. In the last three years alone, IOM provided health assessments to more than 1 million migrants worldwide and collected a large amount of data that will help promote evidence-informed health programming and practices for Member States and partners. To achieve this goal, IOM will conduct rigorous analysis of migration health assessment data and share it with policymakers. Since more and more migrant-receiving countries request IOM to conduct pre-departure health assessments, IOM plans to conduct well-designed economic evaluations of health assessment activities, such as cost-effectiveness analyses.



An IOM doctor takes the temperature of a Canada-bound Syrian refugee during a pre-embarkation check.
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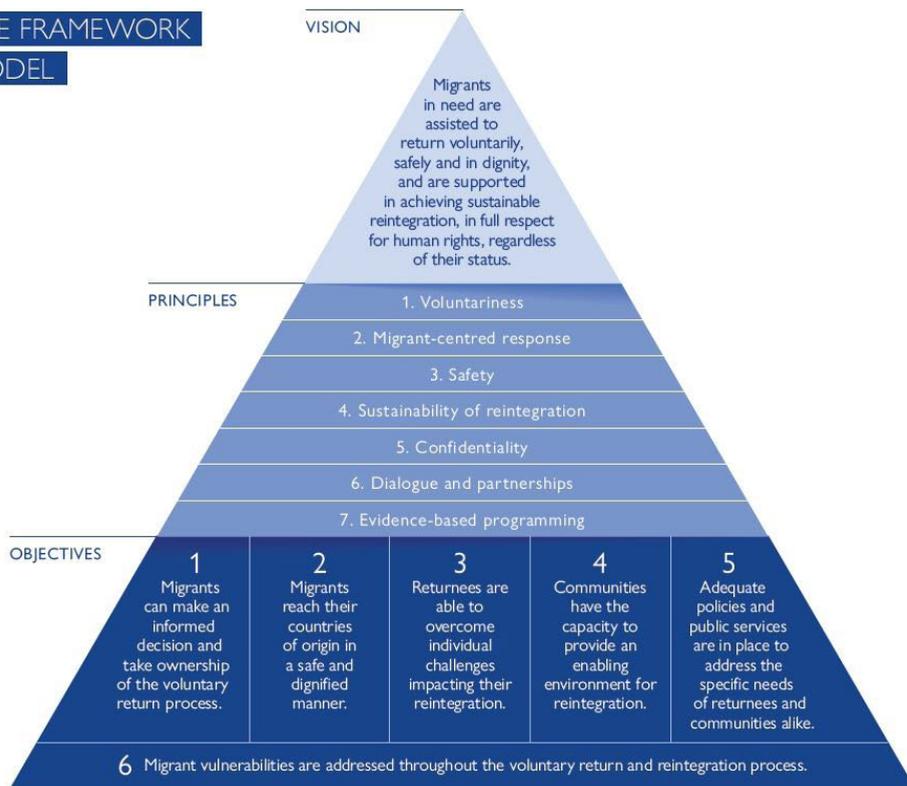
Assisted voluntary return and reintegration

Assisted voluntary return (AVR) and assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) are indispensable parts of a comprehensive approach to migration management aiming at orderly and humane return and reintegration of migrants who are unable or unwilling to remain in host or transit countries and wish to return voluntarily to their countries of origin. The partnerships created by IOM and a diverse range of national and international stakeholders ensure the vital AVRR assistance to several tens of thousands of migrants returning home every year.

Through AVRR programmes, IOM aims at facilitating the sustainable reintegration of returning migrants into community life by providing them equal access to social protection and services, justice, psychosocial assistance, while at the same time identifying and addressing the needs of the communities to which migrants return by including respective provisions in plans developed in the country of origin.

The return and reintegration of migrants unwilling or unable to remain in host or transit countries has gained renewed political importance in the agenda of national and international policymakers around the world. The AVRR Framework guides policymakers and practitioners in the design and implementation of AVRR-related policies and programmes. The framework lays out a vision for dignified voluntary returns and sustainable reintegration, seven principles to be adhered to, and six objectives to be pursued. In 2020, IOM aims to promote and disseminate the principles and objectives embedded in the AVRR Framework through the development of key training materials, particularly focusing on pre-departure and counselling.

**THE FRAMEWORK
MODEL**



Source: IOM, *A Framework for Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration* (Geneva, 2018). Available at www.iom.int/sites/default/files/our_work/DMM/AVRR/a_framework_for_avrr_online_pdf_optimized_20181112.pdf.