

Building Better Futures: Canada and IOM

Partnerships in Action



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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Building Better Futures: Canada and IOM

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IOM distributes relief kits to typhoon survivors in the province of Capiz, the Philippines. © IOM 2013 - MPH1068 (Photo: Alan Motus)



Two young students play in a group activity during a career guidance programme led by IOM. © IOM Sri Lanka 2014

Foreword

This year, IOM and Canada will convene their first ever high-level consultative meeting, with Canada participating on whole-of-government terms. This provides the two partners with the perfect opportunity to reflect upon their record of achievement going back to 1951, when Canada joined the Organization as a founding member.

In the last twenty-four years, the IOM – Canada partnership has evolved considerably. Our collaboration has become global in reach, diverse in thematic focus, and inclusive of a growing number of Canadian stakeholders, across the federal and provincial governments, as well as Canadian non-governmental organizations. While IOM continues to offer a portfolio of tried and tested services to facilitate the orderly migration of refugees and migrants to Canada, the Organization is also expanding its humanitarian and development programming with Canada's support. Indeed, since 2010, Canada has generously contributed more than CAD 100 million towards IOM's emergency response, post-crisis support and resilience building portfolio, assisting millions of mobile and vulnerable persons to overcome adversity and move towards a better future.

Canada's substantive engagement with and contributions to IOM-led fora have enriched discussions and helped IOM to devise modern and innovative approaches to global migration governance and crisis response. Equally, the secondment of Canadian officials, including through the CANADEM programme, has brought valuable expertise to the Organization.

We are pleased to offer Canada this special publication – Building Better Futures – which offers a snapshot of IOM and Canada's migration-focused work together since 2010. We hope you enjoy reading about the scope and impact of our joint achievements. We trust that it will inspire continuing partnership in existing and new areas of endeavour.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William Swing". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Swing" clearly distinguishable.

William Swing
Director General



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A Partnership Overview

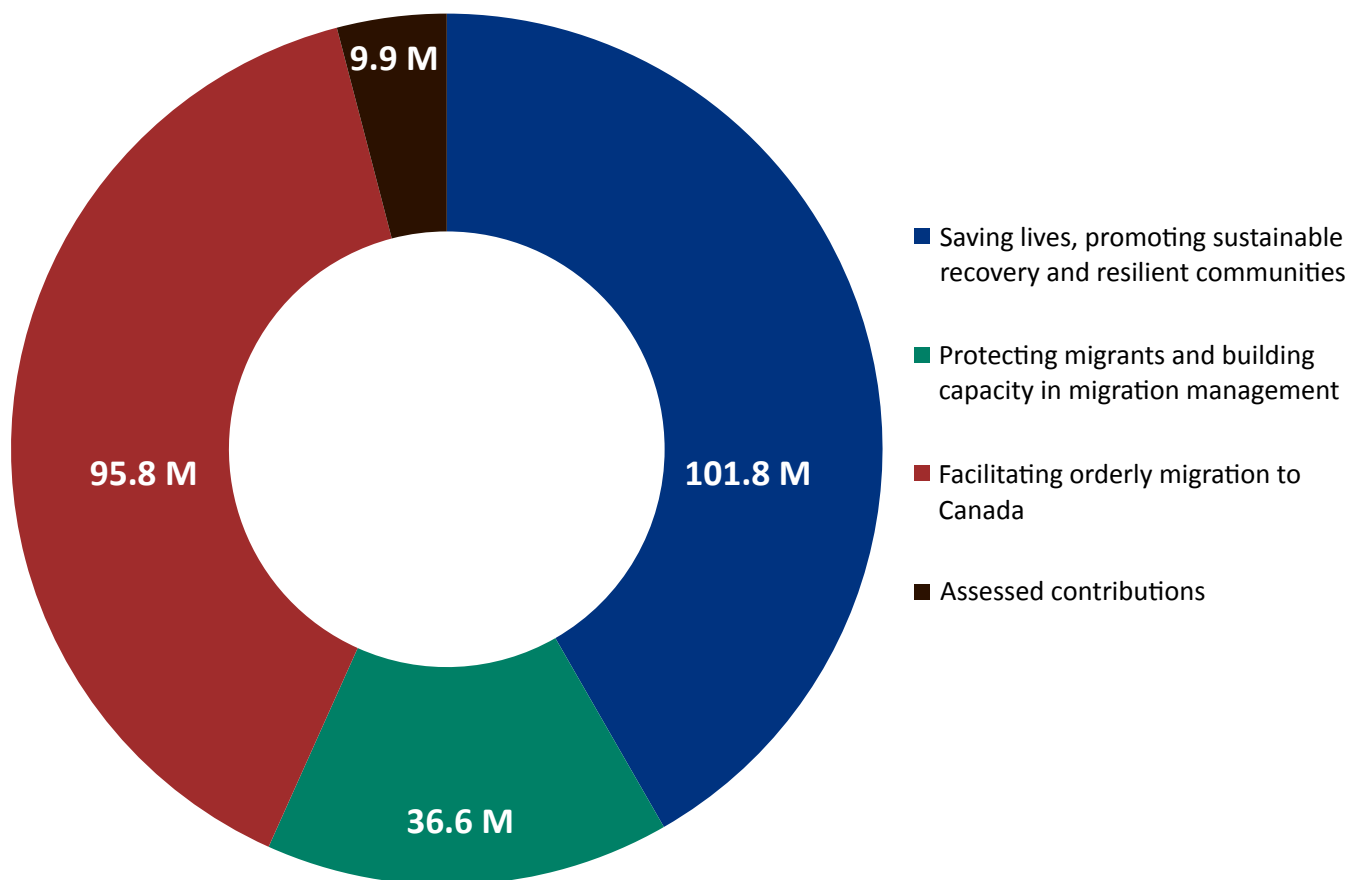
A Bhutanese woman greets guests with the traditional “Namaste.” IOM’s resettlement activities for refugees in Eastern Nepal include the processing of cases referred to resettlement countries by the UNHCR, medical screening, cultural orientation and travel arrangements, including to Canada. © IOM 2009 - MNP0073 (Photo: Kari Collins)



Canadian Contributions to IOM

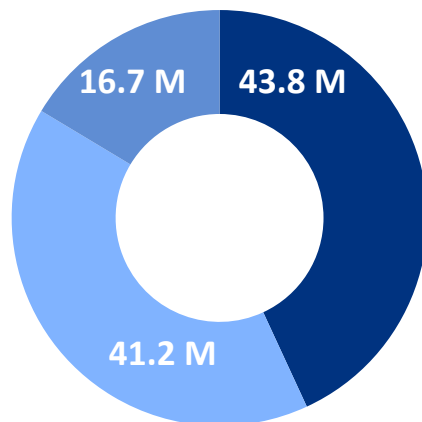
Thematic Breakdown: 2010 - 2015*

(displayed in million CAD)



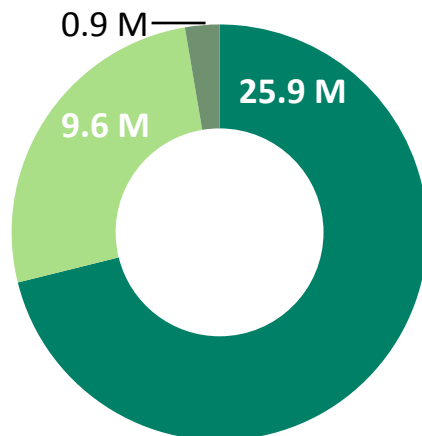
*Data inclusive to 1 September, 2015.

Saving lives, promoting sustainable recovery and resilient communities



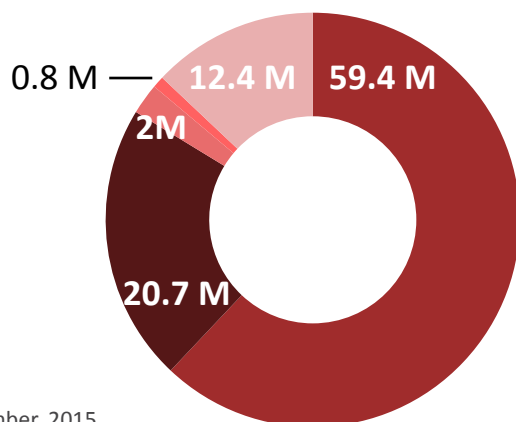
- Humanitarian relief
- Transition and recovery
- Sustainable development and resilience building

Protecting migrants and building capacity in migration management



- Promoting regular migration and building capacity in border management
- Preventing trafficking in human beings and assisting victims
- Labour migration

Facilitating orderly migration to Canada



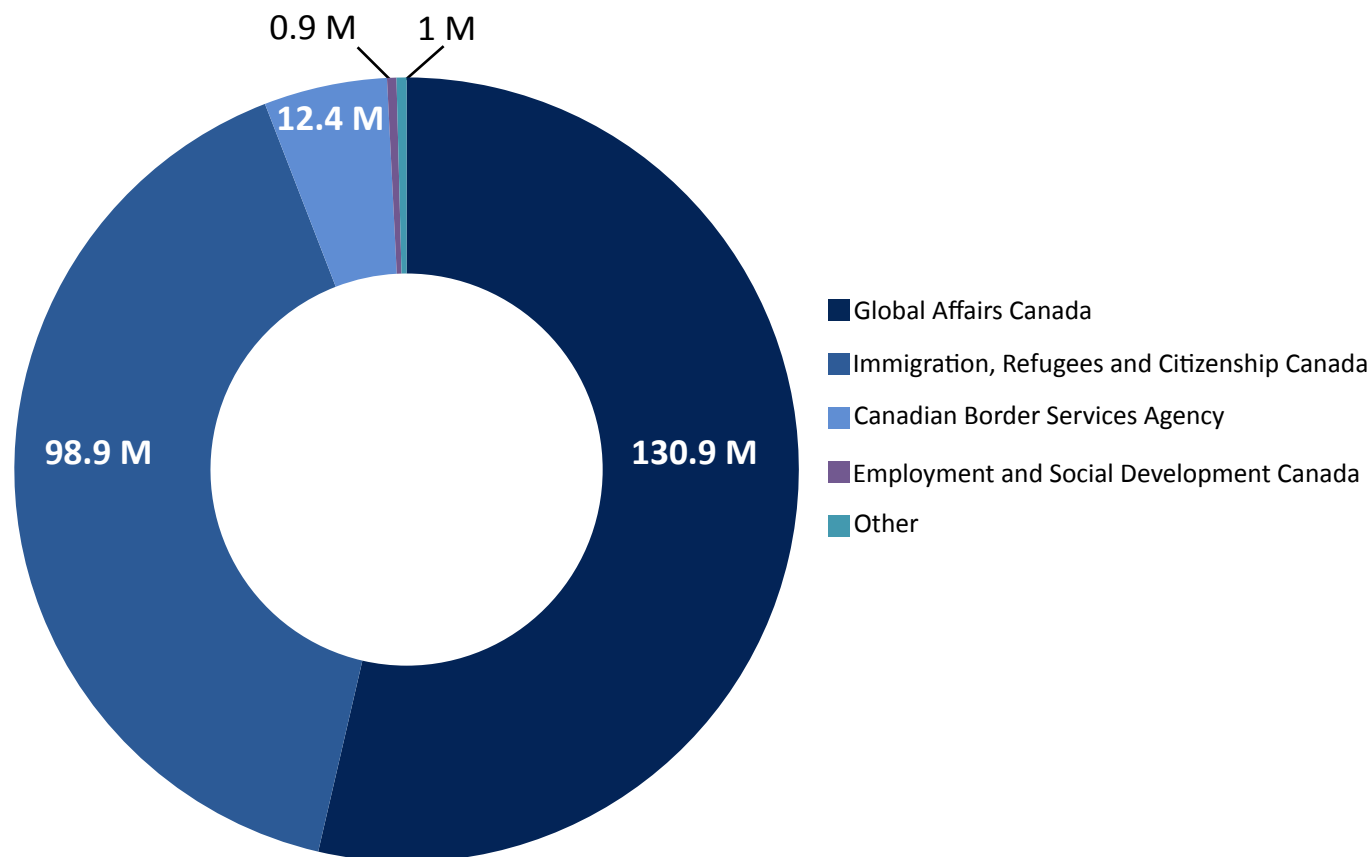
- Assisted movements: refugee and humanitarian resettlement
- Canadian Orientation Abroad
- Health assessments
- Document verification and visa support
- Assisted voluntary return and reintegration support

*Data inclusive to 1 September, 2015.

Canadian Contributions to IOM

Agency Breakdown: 2010 - 2015*

(displayed in million CAD)



*Data inclusive to 1 September, 2015.

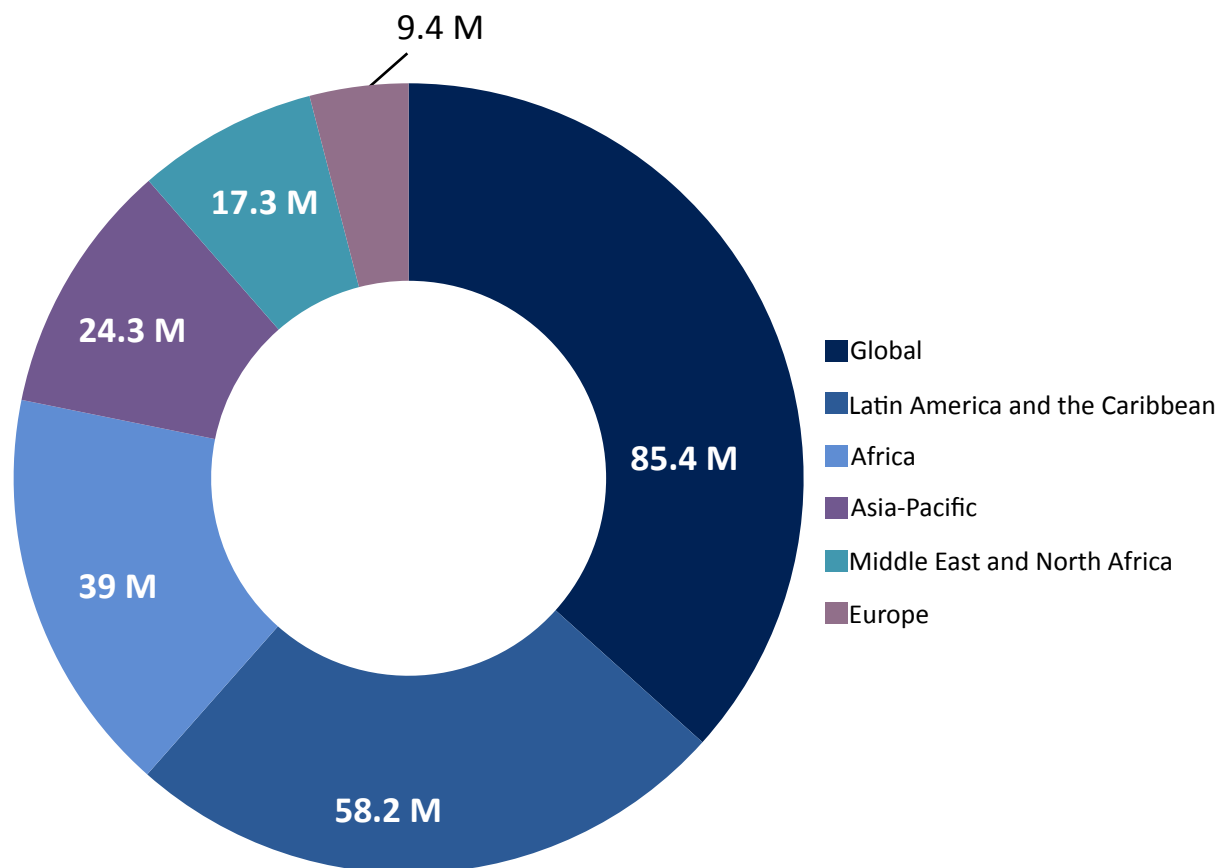
Global Affairs Canada includes contributions for DFATD, DFAIT and CIDA.

Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada includes contributions from CIC.

Employment and Social Development Canada includes contributions from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

Other includes contributions from provincial governments of Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec, the International Development Research Centre, and the Canadian High Commission to Ghana, Togo, and Sierra Leone.

Geographic Breakdown: 2010 - 2015* (displayed in million CAD)



*Data inclusive to 1 September, 2015.

Global includes multiregional projects and resettlement movements, Canadian Orientation Abroad, health screenings, assisted voluntary return projects.





Saving lives, promoting sustainable recovery and resilient communities

Canada and IOM have a strong history in the fields of humanitarian relief, post-crisis recovery, and resilience building. Working around the globe, IOM and Canada have responded quickly and purposefully to alleviate suffering in the aftermath of natural disasters and complex crises. IOM also helps affected communities transition towards a more sustainable future, including by being more resilient to external shocks. To this end, IOM supports community dialogue and peacebuilding activities, durable solutions and livelihoods, disaster risk reduction, and inclusive development interventions. Canada and IOM have been particularly active in trying to provide gender sensitive programming, and are making strides to reduce women's vulnerabilities to sexual and gender-based violence.





Humanitarian Relief

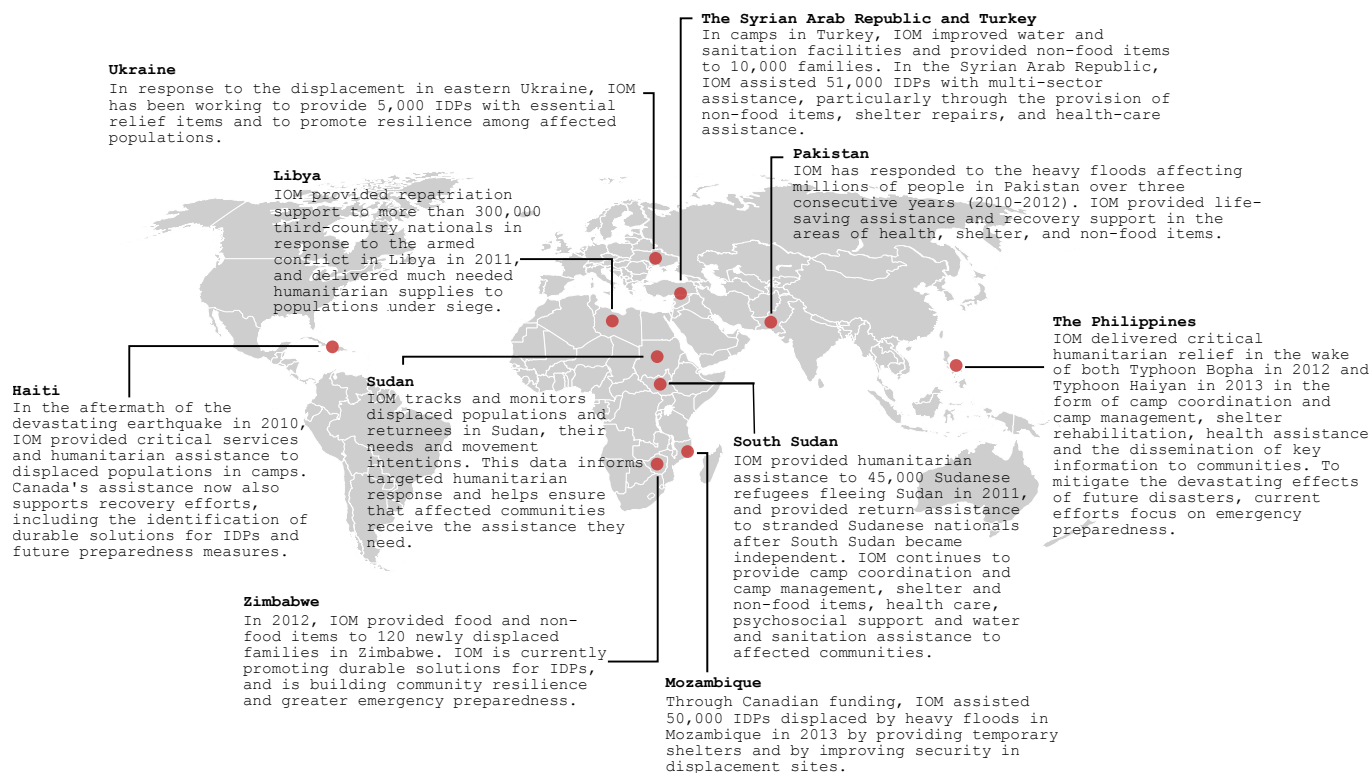
Between 2010 and 2015, the Department of Global Affairs Canada has contributed over CAD 43 million to support IOM's life-saving operations. Canada and IOM have partnered around the world to alleviate suffering in the aftermath of natural disasters such as the Haiti earthquake, the floods in Pakistan, and the typhoons in the Philippines, as well as during complex crises such as in Libya, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Ukraine. In these contexts, IOM and Canada have carried out a variety of interventions to assist affected populations to access shelter, relief items, health and psychosocial support, essential services, and in some cases, repatriation assistance. Canada's efforts to help IOM address the vulnerabilities of women and girls are especially notable.

IOM pays particular attention to the mobility dimensions of crises, and tracks displacement patterns and the evolving needs of populations on the move. This information is shared with the wider humanitarian community to inform targeted and coordinated humanitarian relief operations.

In close coordination with humanitarian partners, IOM supports all vulnerable groups and mobile populations, including internally displaced persons, refugees and stranded migrants. IOM also provides community-focused support and assistance to host and returnee communities, as well as affected and at-risk communities. As established in the Migration Crisis Operational Framework, IOM aims to ensure a holistic and integrated approach, focusing on all of the mobility dimensions before, during and after a crisis.

IOM provides life-saving emergency transportation to South Sudanese refugees arriving in Ethiopia. Too vulnerable to travel by boat or bus, this family was airlifted on a UNHCR helicopter with IOM medical support. © IOM 2014

IOM and Canada's Humanitarian Initiatives 2010 – 2015



IOM as a Global Humanitarian Actor

- 4th largest humanitarian actor, in terms of global expenditure
- Standing invitee on the Inter-Agency Standing Committee
- Lead agency for the Global Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster in natural disasters and major player in humanitarian shelter operations
- In 2014, IOM's Department for Operations and Emergencies reached almost 20 million individuals in 64 countries, expending USD 554 million



© IOM South Sudan 2013
(Photo: Matthew Graydon)



Striving to better protect women and girls

As the Global CCCM Cluster lead agency for natural disasters, IOM is working to ensure that proper prevention and mitigation measures are in place to reduce the likelihood of gender-based violence taking place in camps and camp-like settings. To date, and with the support of Canada, IOM has integrated and rolled out gender-based violence and other protection risk indicators in the Displacement Tracking Matrix in nine countries (Iraq, South Sudan, Philippines, Mozambique, Malawi, Nigeria, Vanuatu, Ethiopia and Nepal). IOM has also conducted training sessions in Iraq, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Nepal to build the capacity of national authorities and camp management staff to better anticipate, recognize and address protection concerns of women and girls.



Teaming up with Canadian Experts

Following Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, IOM staff and Canada's Disaster Assistance Response Team worked together to set up tents inside the Pontevedra elementary school evacuation centre in Capiz. The Government of Canada also provided IOM with significant financial support against the emergency appeals, including unearmarked funds, which allowed IOM to rapidly adjust to the evolving needs on the ground. With Canada's direct support, IOM delivered 3,500 essential relief items to people in need, provided another 2,000 families with shelter kits, and provided health consultations and health referrals to over 20,000 and 500 people respectively.

Transition and Recovery, Community Development and Resilience Building

In the aftermath of conflict and natural disasters, Canada and IOM have worked with governments and affected populations to help transition towards durable solutions and a more resilient future. IOM and Canada's portfolio is rich and diverse, reflecting the unique contexts in which we work across Central and South America, Africa and the Asia-Pacific regions. Since 2012, Canada has contributed over CAD 58 million to help build back stronger communities who are better equipped to face future challenges, with approximately 30 per cent of the funding coming from the Global Peace and Security Fund.

Community Stabilization

Supporting communities to transition from crisis response to development and recovery requires a long-term and multipronged approach. IOM's portfolio of programming is varied and context specific, and aims to support governments, mobile and vulnerable populations to cope with displacement related pressures, and to recover from the effects of natural disasters, environmental degradation, instability and war.

Stable and secure communities are an essential pillar to support post-crisis recovery and wider development initiatives. IOM and Canada have partnered in a variety of settings to support safer communities, including by working to increase dialogue between police and communities and by building the capacity of police and judicial stakeholders. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo for example, IOM has sought to improve police accountability and community confidence in



Inauguration of a Haitian National Police Commissariat in Croix-des-Bouquets. © IOM 2012

law enforcement actors. Specific training for police and related authorities on the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as the recruitment of women in institutional positions, has also been incorporated into IOM's programming. IOM is also reinforcing the operational capacity of the Haitian justice and public security stakeholders following the 2010 earthquake through the provision of equipment and the rehabilitation of critical infrastructure in the particularly volatile areas of Port-au-Prince, Delmas and Croix-des-Bouquets. These kinds of initiatives have sought to increase stability and security in communities and thereby prevent or mitigate future cases of displacement.

Resilience and Durable Solutions

IOM aims to assist displaced populations to find durable solutions where they can live self-sustainably and in dignity. In many cases, the provision of long-term housing is a key component of this process. Following the earthquake in Haiti for example, the majority of the displaced population did not have access to land. To support the transition from camps to community-based living, IOM and Canada partnered to identify durable, customized solutions, which has often included rental support cash grants to IDPs.

Livelihood interventions are also critical and complimentary components of programming that build affected populations' resilience. With Canada's support, training programmes, job placements, and small business support have been implemented following the typhoons in the Philippines, the internal conflicts in Zimbabwe and the earthquake in Haiti, among others.

Finally, the adoption of methods to better prepare populations for future disasters are also being increasingly adopted into IOM's programming. From capacity-building of local authorities and communities on disaster risk management, to the adoption of more sustainable construction techniques, IOM is striving to mainstream disaster risk reduction in the recovery and transition phases of all complex emergencies.

Resettlement of IDPs in Haiti

As CCCM Cluster lead agency in Haiti, IOM is seeking to identify durable housing solutions to help displaced families from the Haiti earthquake transition from camps to communities. With 45 IDP sites open as of June 2015 hosting more than 60,000 IDPs across the Port-au-Prince area, IOM and the Government of Canada continue to provide critical assistance. To date, more than 21,500 IDPs have been relocated out of camps, and 668 IDP households have received transitional shelters.



© IOM Haiti 2013 (Photo: MHT0807)



© IOM 2015 (Photo: Bannon)

Preparing for Peace

In the aftermath of conflict and forced displacement, IOM and Canada have worked to advance institutional and community preparedness for territorial based reconciliation and peacebuilding initiatives. In Colombia for example, IOM is working to support the Office of the High Commissioner for Peace and the Counsel Minister for Post Conflict, Human Rights and Security to overcome key barriers to the peace process, which include lack of awareness and engagement and societal fragmentation. In response, IOM is mobilizing officials and communities around democratic participation and the peace negotiation process through targeted training courses, and is supporting networks of local and regional “peace and reconciliation champions” to be more inclusive and effective in their communication and leadership strategies.

Community Development

In many parts of the world, rural poverty and the marginalization of vulnerable populations continue to pose significant barriers to social, economic and political development processes. In Colombia, IOM and Canada have been engaged in a large and comprehensive endeavor to support the Government of Colombia at the municipal, departmental and national levels in the planning and design of a new model for rural economic development, focusing on the microregional level. Adopting a territorial approach to rural development, our joint efforts aim to bridge different demographic groups, private and public actors and economic sectors within specific microregions. IOM has launched participatory workshops to identify officials and associations that will be the target of technical assistance, and is currently working to mobilize these groups around the formulation of strategies for economic development in their respective communities.



The governor of Inga de Aponte discusses rural development solutions at an IOM-facilitated participatory workshop, as part of the Canadian funded programme on inclusive economic development in Colombia. © IOM 2015

Migration and Development

IOM aims to better understand the links between migration and development in order to harness the potential of migration for the benefit of both societies and migrants, and to contribute to sustainable development and poverty alleviation. The Organization's portfolio is diverse working in post-conflict and development settings, and engages with migrants and their families, diaspora communities, government actors, non-governmental actors and the private sector. From facilitating the temporary return of qualified nationals to transfer skills, experience and expertise to their origin countries, to reducing the cost of remittance transfers, IOM's migration and development programing is evolving to respond to contemporary migration challenges and opportunities.



© IOM 2004 (Photo: Rocío Sanz)



Protecting migrants and building capacity in migration management

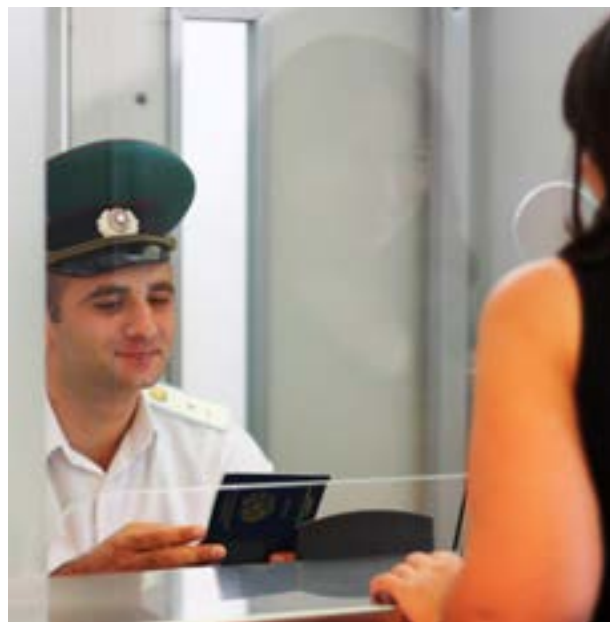
IOM believes that orderly and humane migration is of benefit to all. To achieve this aim, IOM and Canada work to facilitate the management of population movement at borders and aim to reduce irregular migration, especially in the forms of human smuggling and trafficking. Partnering in Asia-Pacific, Central and South America, Africa, and Eastern Europe, IOM and Canada's portfolio of projects includes elements of capacity-building for relevant authorities, the refurbishment of technical equipment, information management systems, regional cooperation on migration, research and direct assistance to migrants in need.



Promoting Regular Migration and Building Capacity in Border Management

IOM and Canada work closely in the field of technical cooperation and border management, and have run 18 projects in the last five years across the Asia-Pacific, African and Latin American regions. Funded primarily through the Anti-Crime Capacity-Building Programme and the Counter-Terrorism Capacity-Building Programme, Canada has supported IOM to develop multifaceted and context-specific programmes that promote orderly migration while preventing irregular migration. Working at both the national and regional levels, IOM's approach includes elements of technical capacity-building for governments, police and border officials, travel documentation verification services, and improved information sharing within and between countries.

Across the Asia-Pacific region, the Government of Canada through the Anti-Crime Capacity-Building Programme has implemented a comprehensive regional capacity-building programme consisting of seven projects in six countries, including in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam. The funding assists the governments of the target countries to strengthen their immigration and border management capacity in order to more effectively manage migration, prevent irregular migration, and suppress transnational organized crime. These projects often include training modules on how to identify fraudulent documents, investigate cases of human smuggling and assist victims at borders.



© IOM 2010 (Photo: lioyan Terminasyan)

As human smuggling is often underpinned by complex and vast networks, IOM and Canada's initiatives focus on improving information sharing between countries and regions, including through refining data collection and analysis methods. Training and capacity-building of key officials who support border management is also essential. The participation of Canadian officials, including from the RCMP and the Border Services Agency, in IOM-led workshops has been especially valuable for partners to gain knowledge and best practices from such experienced officials.

Supporting Safer Migration

A key avenue to encourage regular migration is by supporting informed migrant decision-making. Many smugglers and human traffickers prey on especially vulnerable communities, and make false promises that mislead individuals about their migration choices. To counter this, IOM and Canada have worked to ensure that migrants are better aware of the legal avenues available to them, as well as the risks and dangers of travelling through irregular channels. Information campaigns on safe migration are delivered through innovative methods, including via plays and theatre productions, hotlines, SMS text messages and community information sessions.



© IOM 2014

In Latin America, Canada has collaborated with IOM to conduct border control and migration management assessments that enable States to identify areas for improvement, strengthen their immigration and border structures, and support the development of operational measures and legal instruments to counter smuggling and related criminal activities. Working with the Central American states of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and Belize, IOM aims to build greater border security in the region by improving the availability of up to date and accurate information, while strengthening coordination and cooperation of border security at national and regional levels. In these countries, IOM focused particularly on the vulnerability of peripheral borders and uncontrolled border crossing points.



© IOM 2014 (Photo: Keith Dannemiller)



Spotlight on the Document Examination Support Centre

The Document Examination Support Centre offers guidance, support and advice to immigration and border control officials in the Asia-Pacific region when they intercept questionable travel documents. Established by IOM in 2012 in Bangkok with Canadian financial backing, the Centre contributes to the prevention of irregular migration and transnational crime by providing direct support to border and immigration officers from multiple countries. The Centre serves as a single point of contact for immigration and border control officials and facilitates data collection and information-sharing to enable more efficient and effective document examination among frontline immigration and border control officials.

In 2013, the Centre established the Asian Network for Document Examination which is made up of document examiners of forgery units in 12 countries in South and South-East Asia. The network convenes annually to facilitate information sharing between subject matter specialists in document examination and immigration fraud.

Global Assistance for Irregular Migrants

In today's complex migration landscape, decision-making about migration takes place not only at the beginning of a journey, but also along the way to a final destination. In some cases, migrants may realize during the journey that they wish to return home, but that they may not have the means to do so, or fear social stigma of returning without a job or additional resources.

IOM, with support from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, is addressing this phenomenon through the implementation of a programme to help Sri Lankan migrants who become stranded in West Africa to return home in a safe and dignified manner. These irregular migrants had intended to reach Canada, but ended up stranded in a very precarious situation in West Africa, often at the hands of smugglers who had deceived them. Since 2012, the programme has supported 618 of these very vulnerable Sri Lankan nationals to return home with livelihood support to start a small business. The results of the programme are positive, with over 90 per cent of returnees reporting that they are satisfied with their businesses and are optimistic about their future.



Through the Global Assistance for Irregular Migrants programme, returnees are supported with livelihood support upon their arrival back to Sri Lanka. To the left, an IOM staff member runs an out boat motor training for a group of returnees. Below, a group of women proudly display the woven baskets they sell in a community shop, with support from IOM. © IOM Sri Lanka 2014



Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings and Assisting Victims



To raise awareness about the plight of victims of trafficking, and give a sense of the magnitude of trafficking in Ukraine, Canada supported IOM in setting up a public art installation that tells the stories of trafficked victims who live among us, but often remain unseen. The installation, which opened on the International Day for Abolition of Slavery, was shown in nine regions of Ukraine between January and September 2015. The exhibition displays 120 silhouettes representing the 120,000 Ukrainians who have been trafficked since 1991. © IOM Ukraine 2015

Human trafficking is a violation of basic human rights and a crime that preys on the world's most marginalized people. Traffickers deceive women, men and children from all corners of the globe into exploitative and degrading situations.

Through the Anti-Crime Capacity-Building Programme, IOM and Canada have been taking decisive and result-oriented actions to strengthen national governments' institutional capacity to counter human trafficking. IOM provides specialized and technical expertise in formulating and drafting comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation, and in tandem builds the capacity of judges, prosecutors and border officials to both better identify and protect victims and prosecute criminals. Particularly successful was Canada's support for IOM's work in El Salvador, which has become a point of reference to measure national progress in countering trafficking in other countries in the region.

“Victims of trafficking are modern day’s slaves. The criminals that buy and sell them have created a business worth multiple billions a year. [...] Migrants must be able to find safe, decent work, free of degradation and fear. Their journey should be voluntary, and their work must benefit their families – not their captors.”

William Lacy Swing, 29 July 2015

Rebuilding victims’ lives

Strong national referral mechanisms are crucial to connect victims of trafficking with the assistance and services they need to recover. Canada and IOM have a joint-track record in strengthening social services through capacity-building exercises and in providing direct assistance to survivors, including in Niger, Ukraine and El Salvador. IOM’s support to victims is multifaceted, and includes medical and psychosocial assistance, temporary shelter, transportation to their communities of origin, and reintegration support. In light of the gender dimensions of trafficking, IOM and Canada have also worked to ensure assistance is sensitive to gender specific needs, including in Ukraine where a Canadian expert helped IOM to mainstream gender into the national referral mechanisms.



A photograph of a person, likely a woman, carrying a large, dark, rectangular box or container balanced on their head. The person is wearing a striped shirt and is looking towards the camera. The background is a clear blue sky.

Counter-Trafficking: Key Facts and Figures

IOM works on prevention; technical assistance; direct assistance to victims and research

254 active counter-trafficking projects in 2014

6,292 victims of trafficking supported in 2014

¼ of victims assisted between 2011–2014 were under 18, and half of all victims assisted were women

Regional Conference on Migration

IOM's partnership with Canada extends into the Regional Conference on Migration, or the "Puebla Process", a multilateral regional forum on international migration in the Americas with a particular focus on migration policies, human rights, and migration and development. Canada is a key member of the CRM and has supported IOM to host the Technical Secretariat as an autonomous unit within its Regional Office for Central America and Mexico, located in San Jose, Costa Rica. Counter-trafficking in the Americas, labour mobility and intergration are key themes discussed at the Conference.

© IOM 2006 (Photo: Lerato Madena)

Labour Migration

Given the transnational nature of human mobility, IOM holds that labour migration is most effectively managed through well-formulated national policies, and bilateral and multilateral partnerships. IOM aims to create synergies between labour migration and development, to promote more legal avenues for migration, and develop policies that provide protection and assistance to labour migrants and their families. On a number of occasions, IOM and Canada have partnered in support of these aims, including through the annual forum on the Regional Conference on Migration in the Americas. With the backing of Employment and Social Development Canada, IOM also sought to support the design and implementation of effective, comprehensive, gender-sensitive, and rights-based labour migration strategies in Honduras, Panama and the Dominican Republic. Capacity-building, policy advice and the sharing of best practices were key pillars of IOM's approach.



© IOM 2004 (Photo: MC0014)





Facilitating orderly migration to Canada

Canada is a global leader in terms of its support to refugees around the world who are in need of a new start. IOM applauds Canada's announcement to extend its welcome to Syrian refugees and looks forward to working with Canada to achieve this humanitarian goal. Equally, IOM recognizes Canada's leadership in coming up with inclusive and supportive policies for refugee and immigrant communities to be welcomed upon their arrival to Canada. Over the years, IOM has worked closely with Canadian counterparts, in particular the Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, to provide a suite of services in support of refugees and immigrants who are bound for Canada. IOM transports refugees to Canada, provides pre-departure health assessment services, and delivers the Canadian Orientation Abroad Programme which supports approved applicants prepare for living in Canada prior to their arrival. IOM also draws upon its global presence to help Canadian provinces assess the authenticity of migrant documents as part of the Provincial Nominee Programme, and operates some Visa Application Centres that assist applicants to submit completed applications to Canadian authorities.

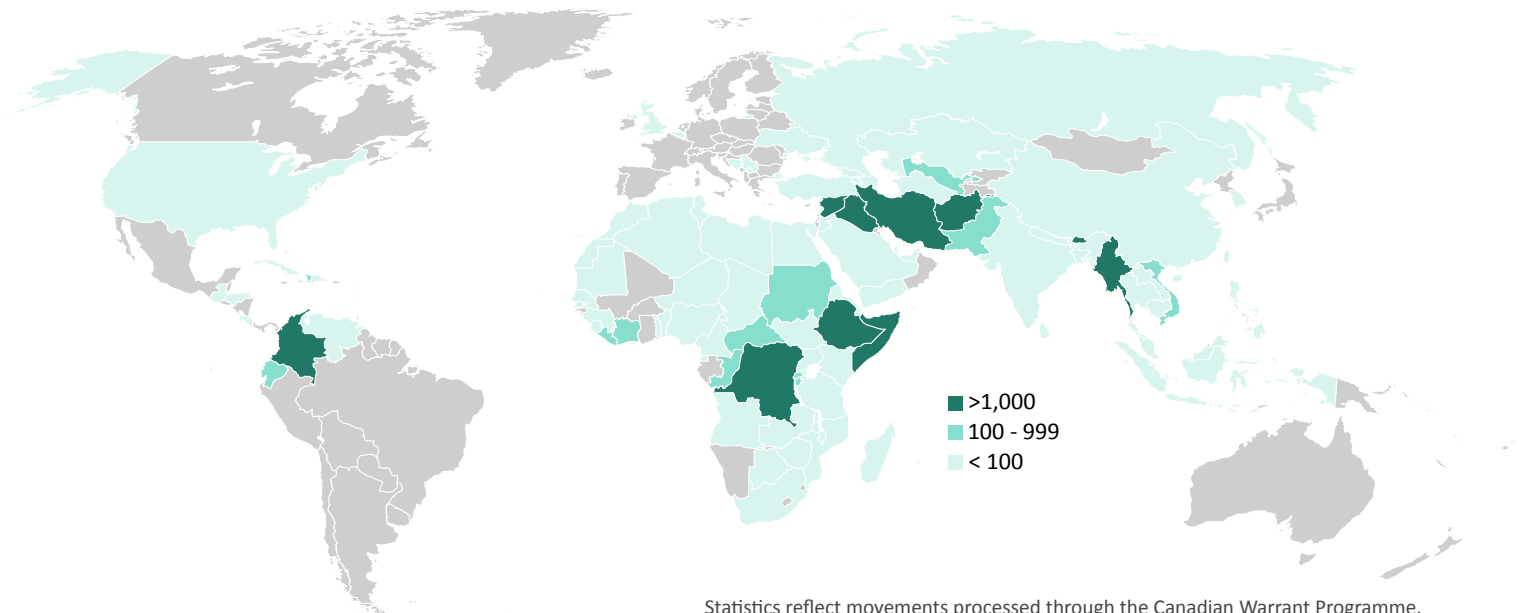
Assisted Movements - Refugee and Humanitarian Resettlement

Canada has been and continues to be a land of refuge. In 1986, the United Nations awarded Canada the Nansen Medal for its outstanding humanitarian tradition of supporting refugees; it was the only time the Medal was awarded to an entire nation.

Canada admits refugees for resettlement on humanitarian grounds, and takes part in collective responsibility sharing. Refugees are accepted under three main programmes: (i) Government Assisted;

(ii) Privately-sponsored; and (iii) Blended Visa Office-Referred. Through these programmes, Canada admits about 14,000 refugees annually. In addition to resettling refugees from abroad, Canada also admits those who come to Canada on their own and are found to be in need of protection through in-country claims.

IOM Assisted Movements for Refugees and Protected Persons to Canada
Number of Individuals Assisted by Nationality
2010 – 2014



Statistics reflect movements processed through the Canadian Warrant Programme.
68 individuals are not reflected as they are stateless or of unknown nationality.

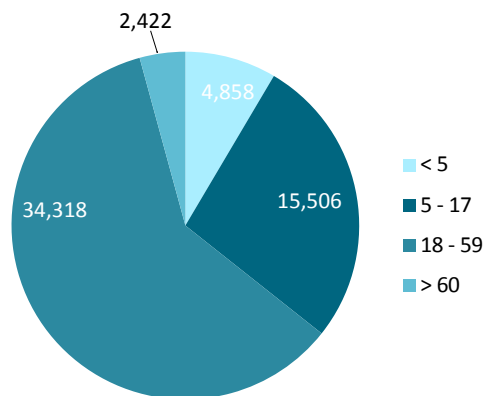
IOM has been assisting Canada in meeting its resettlement and humanitarian commitments by providing services such as case processing, health assessments, pre-departure orientation and movement and travel operations. IOM works closely with Canada's Department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship to provide this suite of services.

Canada also responds to the complex humanitarian needs of vulnerable individuals and groups. The Public Policy programmes have included special immigration measures for Afghan nationals who served with Canadian Forces in Afghanistan, and presently include measures for displaced Tibetan people living in Arunachal Pradesh in India. As part of pre-selection activities, IOM assists Canada in processing the files of applicants who cannot be accessed by Canadian officials. This is an important activity and has resulted in the delivery of programmes in challenging environments, such as Afghanistan and the Syrian Arab Republic, where Canada's operational capacity has been constrained.

Refugees resettled to Canada are selected from places all over the globe, including remote and operationally challenging areas. A vast network of IOM offices helps ensure that refugees travel to Canada in a safe and dignified manner. Based on agreements with a number of leading airlines, IOM uses preferential airfares which results in substantial savings for refugees. IOM assists in obtaining their travel documents, exit permits, transit visa waivers, entry visas and passports. IOM also provides pre-embarkation orientation, in which refugees receive information about flight schedules, airline regulations, customs requirements and transit and arrival formalities. IOM also provides operational or medical escorts to assist refugees with special needs.

Between 2010 and 2014, IOM has arranged the movement of almost 58,000 refugees and beneficiaries of other special humanitarian programmes to Canada. Approximately half of the refugees assisted with transportation and movements were women (49%).

**IOM Assisted Movements for Refugees and Protected Persons to Canada
Individuals Assisted by Age
2010 – 2014**



IOM Assisted Movements to Canada 2010 – 2014

Year	Refugee Movement Assistance	Public Policy Movement Assistance	Total Assisted
2010	11,471	17	11,488
2011	12,693	200	12,839
2012	9,383	537	9,920
2013	11,626		11,626
2014	11,985	45	12,030
Total	57,104	799	57,903

Health Assessments



To date, IOM has provided health assessments to nearly 500,000 refugees and migrants heading to Canada.

A Canadian-bound migrant undergoes a health examination in IOM's migration health clinic in Accra, Ghana. © IOM 2013 (Photo: Nyani Quarmyne)

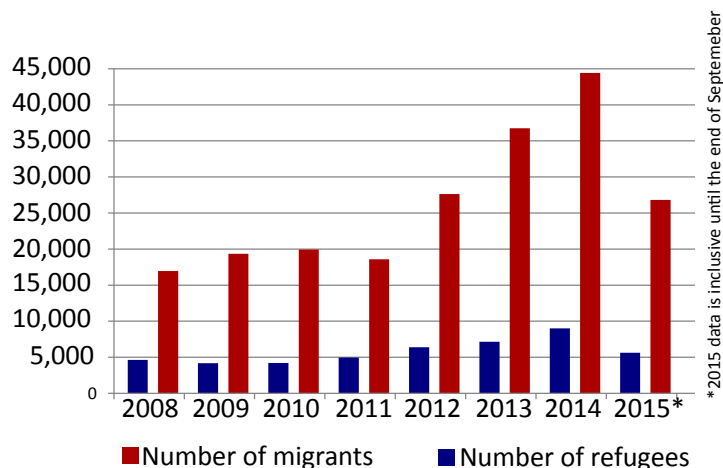
Supporting Healthy Communities

Since 1997, IOM and Canada have collaborated to provide migrants and refugees bound for Canada with the necessary health assessments and follow-up support prior to their departure. IOM's pre-departure health assessment services support the health of migrants and hosting communities throughout the different phases of the migration continuum, and seek to integrate healthy people into healthy communities.

Health assessment services have been one of the core activities of IOM since its inception in 1951. The Government of Canada is one of IOM's longest-standing partners in this domain and has been instrumental in helping IOM adapt and evolve its programmes to better address contemporary migration health challenges. To date, IOM has provided health assessments to nearly half a million refugees and migrants heading to Canada.

IOM's primary interlocutor in the area of migration health assessment programmes is the Health Branch of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. IOM began providing health assessment services on behalf of Canada in 1997 in South-East Asia and Eastern Europe. Initially, caseloads for Canada consisted of fewer than 3,000 examinations per year in six countries. Caseloads rapidly increased in the subsequent decade, and today IOM conducts over 40,000 health assessments per year in 68 countries. In addition to the provision of migration health assessments, from 2001 to 2012, several IOM migration health operations were entrusted with admissibility determinations ("M-Assessments"), a function normally reserved for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Regional Medical Officers.

IOM Health Assessments for Canadian Bound Migrants and Refugees



IOM Health Assessments for Canadian Bound Migrants and Refugees, Top 10 Countries by Number of Assessments 2008 – 2015

Pakistan	47,294
Ukraine	35,954
Philippines	25,636
Viet Nam	25,446
Russian Federation	15,264
Ethiopia	14,312
Romania	13,193
Kenya	10,936
Republic of Moldova	10,846

This growth in migration health assessments has not occurred in isolation, but in response to Member States' expectations and IOM's belief that health assessments should serve as a tool not only for the detection of certain conditions, but also for health promotion, education and preventive care. Importantly, these assessments are also critical for fostering migrants' integration into receiving communities. Canada has long been a strong supporter and partner in this development.

An Evolving Partnership

In 2012, the IOM Migration Health Division signed a historic Cooperation Framework with the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Health Branch. The framework defines the scope of current areas of collaboration and aims to facilitate the development of future country or region-specific initiatives and agreements between the two entities in the provision of health assessment programmes. Several Memoranda of Understanding for the delivery of specific health services have followed, such as for the provision of immigration medical examinations, tuberculosis treatments, and vaccinations to Bhutanese refugees in Nepal selected for resettlement to Canada. Most recently, the provision of relocation and Ebola symptom monitoring in select West African countries for refugees being resettled to Canada has also been negotiated.

Over the past several years, IOM has also been applying advanced medical technologies to its health assessment operations. In 2013, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada requested IOM to provide assistance on its behalf to roll out the new e-Medical system used for immigration medical examinations to both IOM and non-IOM clinics in more than 40 countries. IOM also provides quality control services in the area of remote reading of chest x-rays for Canada-bound migrants at its Global Radiological Interpretation and Quality Control Centre in Manila, Philippines.

Canadian Orientation Abroad



IOM delivers the Canadian Orientation Abroad programme through a mobile training team in a refugee camp in Kigoma, United Republic of Tanzania. © IOM 2015

The Origins

IOM has been implementing pre-departure orientation programmes for refugees and immigrants bound to Canada since the early 1990s. With the support of the Government of Canada, IOM provided information sessions and language acquisition classes to over 20,000 refugees from 1990 to 1998.

In November 1998, IOM was selected as the partner of choice to implement the Canadian Orientation Abroad (COA) programme. Since its inception, COA has provided pre-departure support to over 200,000 eligible clients preparing for their move to Canada, including refugees, economic immigrants, family class immigrants as well as (exceptionally) caregivers in the Philippines.

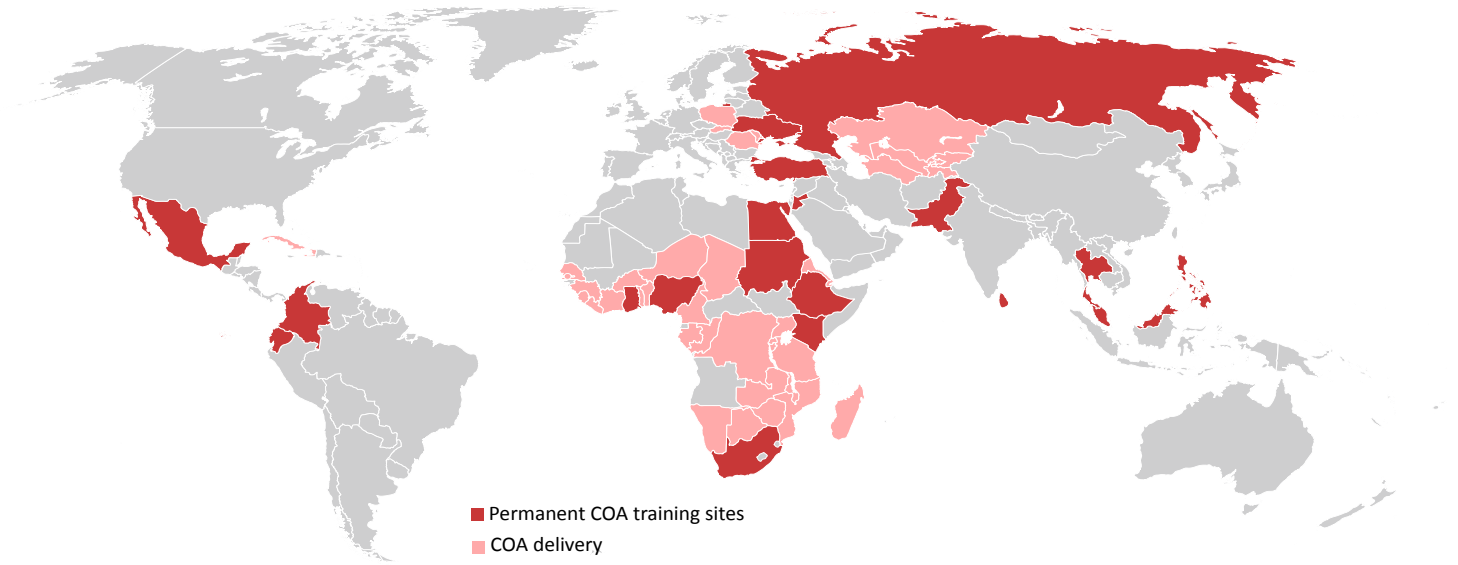
Over the years, COA has increased its capacity and demonstrated its flexibility in providing training under

a myriad of different and challenging circumstances. Today, COA operates 20 permanent training sites, delivering orientation in more than 35 countries and 50 locations every year. Building on IOM's extensive global footprint, COA is dedicated to reaching eligible beneficiaries even in the most difficult or remote parts of the world.

Preparing Newcomers for Life in Canada

COA provides newcomers with relevant, accurate, consistent and timely information needed to make informed settlement decisions. Refugees receive a three to five-day orientation session in their mother tongue. Refugee youth can access additional support and services, including referrals to Canadian partners and connections with youth in Canada. Immigrants

Canadian Orientation Abroad Training Sites 2014 - 2015



receive a one-day pre-departure orientation session on labour market integration, and as of November 2015, a personalized pre-arrival planning session as well as referrals to employment and settlement partners in Canada.

IOM has fostered greater connections with post-arrival service providers and has developed a number of strategic partnerships with Canadian stakeholders, including Colleges and Institutes Canada and YMCA Canada. COA leverages partners' strengths through innovative models of collaboration, thereby increasing the prospects for the successful integration of refugees and immigrants bound for Canada.

The COA programme aims to maximize the potential of all newcomers to Canada. Participants report that they feel better prepared for the move, know what they need to do upon arrival and are more likely to use settlement services.

“Due to its flexibility and adaptability, the COA programme has provided pre-departure support to over 200,000 refugees and immigrants who are bound to Canada since its inception in 1998.”

**Louise Bélanger,
COA Global Program Manager**



Cornerstones of the COA Training

- Provide immigrants and refugees with accurate information about life in Canada;
- Help immigrants and refugees develop realistic expectations about settlement/resettlement in Canada;
- Develop immigrants' and refugees' awareness of the skills necessary for successful adaption, especially during their first 6 months of stay in Canada;
- Address migrants' concerns and questions.



The COA Team

The COA has a team of more than 60 dedicated staff supported by the Global Program Manager, the Liaison Office in Ottawa and the Monitoring Unit in Manila, the Philippines.

COA facilitators proudly and diligently represent Canada overseas and are often the first link between newcomers and Canada. COA facilitators are trained professionals with high education and pedagogical skills, combined with a sound understanding of Canada's resettlement infrastructure and programmes. Bridging between cultures and languages, they build on a comprehensive set of training resources to equip participants with the information and tools they need to succeed in a new environment.



Top and Middle: COA participants proudly display their certificates and Canadian flags following the completion of the IOM delivered course in the Philippines. Bottom: COA participants discuss challenges they might encounter in Canada, and brain storm solutions. ©IOM 2011

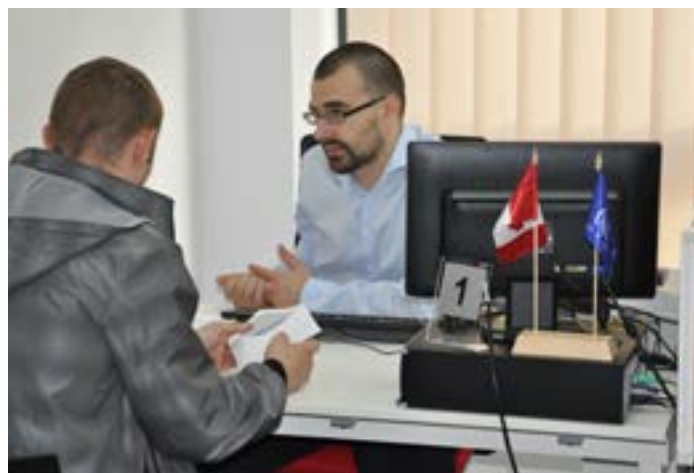
Document Verification, Visa Support, and Assisted Voluntary Return

Document Verification

IOM is working with Canada to combat immigration and visa-related fraud through efficient and cost-effective document verification services that are accurate, objective and confidential. To this end, IOM has partnered with the Canadian provinces of Alberta and Manitoba – a Memorandum of Understanding with Ontario is currently being finalized – to assist in the verification of the authenticity of migrant supporting documentation (i.e. civil, educational and financial documents) in support of Canada's Provincial Nominee Programmes. In a similar vein, the Canadian High Commission in Singapore is also working with IOM to assess the validity of educational documentation in Bangladesh to facilitate student mobility to Canada. In these cases, IOM draws on its global presence, technical experts, and local knowledge and networks, to provide verification services that may otherwise be too costly, time consuming or logistically challenging for the requesting Visa Office.

Visa Application Centres

To facilitate legal and orderly migration to Canada, IOM also operates Visa Application Centres that provide timely and accurate visa-related information and assist migrants to submit complete applications, enroll biometrics, and securely transmit fees to the respective visa office for processing by Canadian visa officers. Since 2013, IOM has processed over 200,000 visa applications via a network of 46 Visa Application Centres in 45 countries, under a private sector partnership.



© IOM 2014 (Photo: Mark Richmond)

Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Pilot

IOM implemented a pilot assisted voluntary return and reintegration programme in the framework of the refugee reform carried out by the Government of Canada in 2012. This three-year pilot programme was open to unsuccessful refugee claimants in and around the Greater Toronto Area and was administered through a partnership between IOM and the Canada Border Services Agency. Although the reduced number of refugee claimants in Canada did not allow for the extension of the pilot beyond March 2015, the pilot resulted in important lessons learned, and could inform the replication of similar activities in the future. The pilot was also novel in that it was the first assisted voluntary return programme to be implemented in North America.





Looking Forward

Migration and Sustainable Development

On 27 September 2015, the international community agreed on an ambitious agenda comprising of 17 goals and 169 targets to reduce poverty and inequality, and achieve social, economic, and environmentally sustainable development by 2030. Importantly, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have incorporated migration into global development policy, correcting the omission made 15 years earlier in the Millennium Development Goals.

In the lead-up to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, IOM strongly advocated for the inclusion of migrants and migration in the SDGs, which was echoed by IOM Member States, including Canada, during discussions in international dialogues, such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and UN High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development. The inclusion of migration into the 2030 Agenda represents a milestone in acknowledging the valuable contributions migration and migrants can make to global sustainable development, and reinforces that support and protection of migrants is needed to achieve this goal.

Eight targets under six goals explicitly refer to migrants and migration, including quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, reduced inequalities, peace, justice and strong institutions, and partnerships for the goals. IOM looks forward to exploring future collaboration with Canada in these areas, both by building on existing initiatives (e.g. ethical recruitment, remittances) and by devising new innovative programmes.

Migration in the 2013 Development Agenda



“We will cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants regardless of migration status, of refugees and of displaced persons.”

A/RES/70/1: Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Declaration paragraph 29.



Migration Governance

The 2015 IOM Council passed a resolution recognizing the importance of IOM's work on a global migration governance framework which sets out the key elements for states to well manage migration and human mobility. The relevance of well managed migration policies to international development, particularly in the context of reducing inequalities, is recognized in SDG 10. IOM seeks to broaden and deepen the dialogue on the framework to tease out in more detail how states and others can implement the framework's principles and objectives. As Canada has supported early drafts of the framework, continued support would be valuable in reaching this goal.



© IOM 2007

Spotlight: Fair employment opportunities

For many workers, recruitment is often the first step in the labour migration process. Particularly lower skilled workers and vulnerable groups often rely on recruitment intermediaries to access overseas employment opportunities. This dependency can lead to situations of exploitation, as intermediaries may charge high fees, misrepresent job offers, or even confiscate passports and personal property.

As outlined in SDG 8 – decent work and economic growth – it is essential that (potential) migrants have the means to find fair employment and that their rights are protected. In line with this goal, IOM and a global consortium of like-minded partners is collaborating with the Government of Canada, provincial regulators, Canadian employers and other immigration stakeholders to promote the ethical recruitment of workers destined for jobs in Canada and elsewhere around the world. IOM is developing and pilot testing the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS), a voluntary multi-stakeholder certification system that promotes transparency and good practice in the industry. By recognizing intermediaries that are committed to ethical recruitment, IRIS seeks to bring transformative change and better protect migrant workers.





Between 1952 and 1989, IOM assisted in the movement of over 460,000 people to Canada.



Migrants board the General Taylor, at the port of Bremen, Germany, bound for Canada. © IOM 1952 (Photo: Leonhard Kull)



Refugees bound for Canada, on an Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM – later to become IOM) chartered boat, crowd the rails for a last look at Columbus Quay, Liverpool, before departing for Canada. © IOM 1952



Refugees board one of the first flights of the “Flying Tiger” to Canada. These planes were used extensively throughout the 1950s to resettle tens of thousands of refugees around the world. © IOM 1952 (Photo: F.L. Solms)



Since 1956 ICEM has implemented a training programme for young Greek women willing to emigrate to Australia or Canada to work there as domestic works. © IOM 1961



Indo-Chinese refugees transit through Zurich airport, where they board an ICEM chartered plane taking them to Montreal, Canada. © IOM 1978



Building Better Futures: Canada and IOM

Partnerships in Action



International Organization for Migration (IOM)