South America
In response to the migration flow of Venezuelans, IOM provides technical support and humanitarian assistance to countries receiving this population. As a result, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is implemented in 16 countries throughout the Americas and the Caribbean. © IOM 2018/Amanda MARTINEZ NERO
Regional Office Buenos Aires

Migration Governance Framework principles and objectives

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

In 2020, the Regional Office for South America will continue to support regional integration bodies in the application of international standards through joint projects as well as by expanding its technical assistance portfolio with the Southern Common Market (Mercado Común del Sur, MERCOSUR) and other regional integration mechanisms.

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

The Regional Office will enhance research on key priorities such as the recent migration flows from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and other intraregional migration processes. It will also strengthen data, information and knowledge on migration, which will be shared through the Centre on Migration for Latin America (CIMAL), the South American Observatory on Migration and the Inter-American Course on International Migration.

The Regional Office will also continue to support governments in developing capacities in data production and processing while providing technical assistance at the regional level to exchange and consolidate high-quality data and migration analyses.

**Principle 3: Developing strong partnerships**

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) will continue its work on mainstreaming migrants’ rights and gender into regional forums including the South American Conference on Migration (SACM), MERCOSUR and other regional processes by enhancing its joint programming including technical assistance provision, training and research.

IOM will support regional meetings that focus on exchange of best practices and will aim to strengthen free mobility processes and the development and implementation of the South American citizenship programme.

IOM will also focus on expanding strategic partnerships to advance the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) achievements, with special emphasis on SDG 10 (reduce inequality within and among countries), as well as to implement the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. With regard to the Global Compact for Migration, IOM will support governments in identifying needs and priorities, based on the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI), and assist with the preparation
of an action plan to help address the main challenges and gaps in the migration governance field.

IOM will also continue to encourage civil society initiatives on migration governance, especially in the area of assistance to vulnerable population, and to strengthen institutional capacities.

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

IOM will continue strengthening capacities of and partnerships with regional and international bodies that help to facilitate orderly labour migration and to promote the socioeconomic integration of migrants. Particularly, in the context of IOM’s response to the Venezuelan mixed migration flows in South America, IOM aims to bridge the nexus between the ongoing humanitarian response and the longer-term perspective to build resilience at the individual and institutional levels, thus ensuring that the “leave no one behind” commitment enshrined in the SDGs is upheld. As such, IOM aims to focus on promoting cultural and socioeconomic integration of Venezuelan migrants, through activities that fully involve the host communities, thus avoiding or reducing the spread of xenophobia and anti-migrant sentiment.

IOM will support regional bodies in developing strategies and implementing actions that aim to highlight the benefits of migration for development, both in countries of origin and destination.

IOM will encourage the application of regional knowledge regarding South–South cooperation initiatives in the areas of labour migration and migration and development.

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

IOM will work closely with the concerned regional and subregional bodies towards improving mechanisms that contribute to strengthening the operational responses to Venezuelan migrants in the region. In this respect, IOM will provide support to governments at the local and national levels and other partners to develop actions to address the protection and assistance needs of Venezuelan citizens in South American countries.

In addition, IOM will continue working towards strengthening partnerships with regional bodies active in preparedness, transition and response spheres. Specifically, IOM’s support to preparedness will focus on developing the capacities of regional and national partners in risk knowledge, prevention and reduction as well as post-disaster reconstruction planning and recovery, aiming to reduce mobility-related vulnerabilities and strengthen the resilience of the communities.
Objective 3: Migration should take place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner

IOM will provide technical guidance to regional bodies to enhance migration governance (including border management procedure, regulation of movements, regularization measures, etc.) in compliance with the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF), the SDGs, the Global Compact for Migration and the country’s commitments. Furthermore, IOM will support regional and national authorities in the formulation and follow-up of migration policies towards Venezuelan migrants to ensure favourable conditions to cross national borders, obtain legal documentation and facilitate the process of integration in host communities.

Argentina

IOM Argentina will intensify its interventions and support towards the reception and integration of vulnerable migrants and counter-trafficking and will promote protection of migrant rights and diversity in the private sector. Priorities for 2020 include the following:

- Provide direct emergency assistance and support to reception centres, thus strengthening their capacity in providing assistance to the most vulnerable refugees and migrants in border areas and urban centres. Additional assistance includes transportation from border areas to urban centres, delivery of non-food items (NFIs) and food items, provision of psychosocial support and monitoring of flows through the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM).

- Conduct awareness-raising campaigns designed to prevent human trafficking, migrant smuggling and GBV. In addition, IOM Argentina will provide support to the decentralization of the National Program for the Rescue and Assistance of Victims of Trafficking and the ongoing implementation of National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking as well as provide direct assistance to victims of trafficking, smuggling and GBV.

- Reinforce the socioeconomic and cultural integration of migrants by establishing information and orientation centres for refugees and migrants as well as supporting entrepreneurs through microfinancing. Additionally, the country office will carry out communication campaigns and cultural initiatives to combat discrimination and xenophobia.

- Support the Government in implementing the Regional Mobility Card. IOM aims to improve the Government’s mechanisms for registration and documentation as well as training of government officials on protection and migration management.
- Strengthen the reception and integration of Syrian nationals through the government-led Syria Program and scale up community sponsorship schemes that might benefit migrants of other nationalities.

- Develop a private sector strategy to enforce the protection of migrants’ rights in the supply chain as well as promote diversity and intercultural dialogue in the workforce.

Bolivia, Plurinational State of

IOM in the Plurinational State of Bolivia will work to strengthen the capacity of the Government to effectively implement policies to fight human trafficking and smuggling of migrants. IOM’s initiative will deliver the following outputs:

- A baseline study detailing the current statistics on human trafficking and smuggling of migrants as well as recommendations for institutional response to combat these crimes;

- An information system to collect, systematize and generate accurate gender-sensitive data related to human trafficking and smuggling of migrants.

Furthermore, IOM will contribute to improving migration governance in the Plurinational State of Bolivia by strengthening the Government’s capacity in producing reliable evidence for inclusive migration policies. This will be done by: (a) conducting a migration governance assessment, which will aim to provide the Government with information about the current gaps that need to be addressed in order to improve migration governance; (b) optimizing the current government’s migration information system, which will be able to better collect, systematize and generate gender-sensitive data about migration; and (c) deliver training to public officers on the collection, processing and utilization of migration data in order to improve the capacity of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to generate useful information for decision-making.

IOM will also work with local partners to formulate a development model to maximize the benefits of migration of young and indigenous people, especially those impacted by climate change. The initiative will deliver these two outputs: (a) generation of evidence about the relationship between the environment, climate change and migration; (b) based on this evidence, the development and implementation of strategies that aim to enhance the benefits of migration.
IOM will also contribute to the formulation and implementation of the national urban policy through the generation of study on the functional relationships between urbanization and the needs of the population. The focus will be on the socioeconomic characteristics of migrants and the potential for their integration. IOM seeks to provide a series of recommendation for the effective implementation of the urban policy in the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

IOM in cooperation with host governments and partners has activated DTM to capture, process and disseminate information and to better understand the migration flows and needs of vulnerable migrants throughout the regions. © IOM 2019/Paula VÁSQUEZ

Brazil

IOM Brazil – in coordination with federal, state and local governments, United Nations agencies and civil society partners – will provide support and will work to increase the response capacity of the Government and other actors to the mixed flows of Venezuelan nationals into Brazil. The priorities for 2020 include the following:

- Ensure that newly arriving Venezuelans are provided with direct emergency assistance and have access to basic services including temporary shelter and accommodation, food items and NFIs, transportation and basic health care.
- Provide sustainable economic and social integration of Venezuelans and support the private sector, government bodies and civil society partners in developing mechanisms to hire, support and integrate Venezuelans in their companies and communities.

**Chile**

IOM Chile, in coordination with the Government at the national, regional and local levels, will carry out institutional strengthening activities that promote good migration governance. Main priorities for 2020 are as follows:

- IOM will conduct new studies on discrimination and xenophobia against migrants in Chile. In accordance with the study’s findings, IOM will carry out public information campaigns and integration activities.

- Within the framework of the Migrants and Cities Program, and as a result of the implementation of the new Migration Law, IOM will carry out information campaigns, training and workshops throughout the country to promote the inclusion of migrants into each region’s civil protection systems.
- As the migrant population nearly doubled between 2017 and 2018, and taking into account that it is an economically active population, IOM will encourage public and private actors to develop recruitment and labour migration projects as well as labour inclusion through competence certification, intercultural workshops and sensitization on labour laws.

- IOM will support the governments in the region in analysing and creating policies that address the cross-section of migration, including climate change and the environment.

- In response to the Venezuelan crisis and increase in migration flows, IOM will carry out a study on the profile of human trafficking in Chile and also train government officials and civil society in this matter.

**Colombia**

IOM Colombia will continue to provide support to vulnerable populations’ needs related to the mixed flows of Venezuelan nationals and implement actions to contribute to peacebuilding within the country. All efforts will be aligned with the National Development Plan 2018–2022 of the Government, as well as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2020–2023 in Colombia, through the Indicative Workplan to be signed by the mission office with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the period 2020–2023. Main priorities for 2020 will include the following:

- Support the Government in the design and implementation of migration-related initiatives, particularly in the development of input for policymaking, the Global Compact for Migration and actions against human trafficking and migrant smuggling and provide assistance to international migrants and Colombian returnees.

- Address the needs of vulnerable international migrants and Colombian returnees from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and host communities, by delivering timely humanitarian assistance and by strengthening coordination mechanisms at the local, national and regional levels. Provide humanitarian assistance to vulnerable migrants including shelter, NFIs, basic health care, and registration; implement DTM surveys; prevent xenophobia and human trafficking; and create employability and entrepreneurship opportunities for social and economic integration.

- Continue working with the Government to strengthen its technical assistance and tools to address the humanitarian situation.
- Support the Government in the design and implementation of peacebuilding and security initiatives, victim assistance and reparation (including land tenure), socioeconomic inclusion of vulnerable communities, reintegration programmes and reincorporation of former members of illegal armed groups, as well as the Development Program with a Territorial Approach (El Programa de Desarrollo con Enfoque Territorial, PDET), the Government’s strategy to lay the foundations for the structural transformation of the countryside, create conditions of well-being for the rural population and ensure a stable and lasting peace.

**Ecuador**

IOM Ecuador will intensify its operations at the local and national levels to strengthen its response to the flows of migrants and refugees that are entering and transiting the country. Accordingly, IOM will continue to promote the SDGs as well as the MiGOF. In 2020, IOM aims to:

- Provide protection and assistance to migrant victims of human trafficking, human smuggling, violence, exploitation and abuse, or any migrants whose rights are violated. Through the identification of cases in need of protection, strengthening of referral routes and enhancement of national actors’ capacities, IOM will provide comprehensive assistance to vulnerable migrants.

- Deliver direct humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable population on the move by providing transportation, NFIs and shelter assistance.

- Produce reliable and comprehensive migration data aimed at supporting migration-related actors (e.g. government entities, private institutions and international organizations) in their decision-making on migration-related topics.

- Support migrants by providing information on and access to services and support.

- Provide technical and financial assistance to government counterparts to enhance border and migration management procedures in line with IOM’s commitment to facilitate orderly, safe and regular migration and mobility and in compliance with international law and the country’s commitments. In addition, IOM will provide support to the analysis, definition and implementation of regularization measures aimed at enabling non-nationals to remain lawfully in the country.
- Promote social and economic inclusion of migrants to ensure their full engagement and integration into their host communities from socioeconomic, political and cultural perspectives through effective policies and strategies. Additionally, IOM will provide technical support and assistance to government counterparts and civil society organizations to update and/or develop new national, regional, and local laws, policies, plans and actions.

- Promote and strengthen coordination within United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the field of migration.

Paraguay

In 2020, IOM in Paraguay will intensify its efforts to strengthen government institutions, through the implementation of projects that contribute to improving migrants’ access to the Government’s return and reintegration services. Furthermore, IOM will support the Government strengthen its border and migration management capacities. The initiatives are the following:

- Maintain the malaria-free country certification. Paraguay is the first country in the Southern Cone Region to have achieved malaria-free status (certification granted by the WHO in 2018). As such, IOM
will continue to support the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in strengthening the National Strategy for the Prevention of the Reintroduction of Malaria, placing an emphasis on disease prevention, identification of potential cases, accurate diagnosis, treatment as well as the increasing resources and skills throughout the country.

- Improve migration management through increased human and structural capacities supported by information and communications technology. IOM’s objective is to improve the production, management and use of information on migration management. Furthermore, IOM aims to support the General Directorate of Migration in establishing a border management system with international security standards and biometric registration.

- Strengthen the return and reintegration processes led by the Development Secretariat for Repatriates and Refugees (Secretaría de Desarrollo para Repatriados y Refugiados Connacionales, SEDERREC) in Paraguay. IOM aims to strengthen the integrated approach to the return and reintegration of Paraguayan migrants according to IOM’s orientation, which will allow SEDERREC to use the information generated by an initial diagnosis to improve the provision of services based on gender, age, family situation and vulnerabilities. Overall, this will provide tailored assistance and promote the socioeconomic reintegration of returnees.

Peru

In the past two years, Peru has become a migrant-receiving country especially for Venezuelan migrants. In this new context, IOM Peru will support the State in addressing the challenges posed by the increased migration flows. Main priorities for 2020 include the following:

- Strengthen inter-institutional capacities for the adequate implementation of the national migration policy, including training sessions for different levels of government, assessments and studies, and technical support for the decentralization of the policy at the regional and municipal levels.

- Establish mechanisms to provide protection and assistance to migrants in vulnerable situations. IOM aims to support the creation of an inter-institutional action plan, which will include response plans and humanitarian assistance provision for Venezuelan nationals, mapping assessments to identify existing institutional actors at the regional and local levels, and capacity enhancement in providing assistance to migrants, in addition to the design of inter-institutional action plans.
- Promote the socioeconomic and cultural integration of migrants in the country by providing technical support in setting up a roundtable conference with participants from the private sector, public sector and civil society. The roundtable conference will produce studies on regional labour markets and occupational profiles, as well as support resettlement plans and labour intermediation and conduct campaigns against xenophobia and discrimination to promote interculturality.

Uruguay

IOM Uruguay will continue supporting national and local governments, NGOs and other stakeholders in strengthening capacities in migration management. Main priorities for 2020 will include the following:

- Enhance the capacities of local governments in border areas with Brazil in better managing the increased migration flows and in incorporating a gender and human rights approach into migration management. This initiative will include data management, social services, training and infrastructure (i.e. shelter and accommodation).

- Reinforce national capacities (national authorities, private sector and civil society organizations) to facilitate the social and economic integration of migrants in the country (considering shelter, labour market, education and cultural affairs, among others).
- Support the efforts of the Government and civil society to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, especially women, adolescents and children.

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

IOM in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela will continue to address vulnerable populations’ needs related to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the country. Actions will be implemented in coordination with key stakeholders, including the Government and humanitarian actors in the field. Main priorities for 2020 are as follows:

- Support partners in the country in enhancing DTM and in conducting rapid needs assessment to overcome the information gap on internal human mobility in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. IOM seeks increased information on the figures as well as the specific conditions, needs and vulnerabilities to enable evidence-based responses. In addition, IOM aims to increase visibility and assistance mechanisms for individuals that may be vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, trafficking and GBV.

- Provide shelter and NFIs to people on the move, especially those in extreme poverty, as well as provide basic life-sustaining items and temporary accommodations, which are also needed to promote resilience.

- IOM will contribute to the provision of health care by bringing assistance to vulnerable Venezuelans whose decisions to move are based in part on the lack of access to health services. In this context, IOM will provide basic health services and distribute medicines for people on the move, especially those in extreme poverty and those who suffer from lack of access.

- IOM will promote the implementation of food security programmes to help vulnerable Venezuelans.
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