



THE MIGRATION GOVERNANCE INDICATORS

**SUCCESS STORIES**

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# THE MIGRATION GOVERNANCE INDICATORS SUCCESS STORIES



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Building stronger  
communities through  
informed policymaking

## FOREWORD

Investment in more inclusive policy structures has become essential for the well-being and development of our communities. Helping governments to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their migration management policies can, in turn, empower migrants to contribute fully to their communities of origin and destination. The Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) assessment is a critical tool to support this endeavour.

This report reflects on the achievements of the MGI programme, on the eve of its fifth anniversary. The MGI was launched in 2016, with the support of The Economist Intelligence Unit, to inform policy change. Over 90 indicators are used to assess the comprehensiveness of national migration management frameworks, identifying good practices and areas for further policy development. By providing information to support evidence-based policymaking, the MGI embraces the ambitions of IOM's Strategic Vision 2019–2023 and newly published Migration Data Strategy.

Through the MGI assessment process, dozens of governments have engaged in a broad-based dialogue with IOM and other partners to strengthen their migration governance. Since 2016, several countries have used the MGI as a starting point to develop new migration policies, to integrate migration considerations into sectoral policies, or to develop action plans to achieve goals outlined in global commitments. As this booklet demonstrates, the MGI has proved to be an effective tool in assisting governments' efforts to meet the objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration and the Sustainable Development Goals. To date, 84 countries and 30 local authorities have participated in the process, demonstrating a truly global footprint.

This booklet showcases the full range of policy developments undertaken by national and local governments as a result of their involvement in the MGI process. These success stories illustrate the value of the MGI in promoting impact in migration governance. We hope that they may serve as inspiration for future government efforts to improve the well-being of migrants and communities in general.



António Vitorino  
IOM Director General



## The Migration Governance Indicators

Building stronger communities through informed policymaking since 2016

Maximizing the benefits of migration, while addressing its challenges, requires strong policies and institutional frameworks, clear objectives and a long-term perspective. Continually prioritizing migration in local, national and global policy agendas is a means for all governments to advance human development around the world.

In an effort to support countries to build comprehensive migration policy, IOM formulated the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) to offer an opportunity to governments to have an introspective look at the initiatives they have in place and identify good practices as well as areas of potential growth. Through a holistic assessment of migration governance using 94 standard indicators, the MGI seeks to offer a more comprehensive picture of a country's migration governance, at both the national and local levels.

This booklet showcases success stories of governments from all regions using the MGI to take concrete steps to maximize the benefits of migration, while addressing its challenges.





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Beqir is one of many young Albanians from the province of Elbasan who migrate irregularly to Italy or other European Union countries in search of better opportunities. © IOM

## ALBANIA

The MGI in Albania informed the formulation of a new migration policy that builds directly on the strengths identified through the process and tackles the gaps. The new policy has provisions that aim to bolster partnerships on migration governance, improve the protection of migrant rights and facilitate their reintegration.





Mohammed Hafiz returned from Libya to Bangladesh in 2019 and benefited from IOM reintegration programme to start up his own business. © IOM 2020/Moayad ZAGHDANI

## BANGLADESH

In response to a gap identified through the MGI, in 2020 and 2021, the Government of Bangladesh developed an information management system to support the sustainable reintegration of returnees. IOM provided technical assistance for the system's development.



## BRAZIL

The local MGI process in São Paulo supported the development of the Municipal Plan for Immigrant Policies (2021–2024), the first of its kind in Brazil. The Plan covers areas such as social assistance and housing, cultural diversity, decent work, education, and efforts to combat xenophobia, racism and religious intolerance. The MGI has also laid the basis for the creation of the MigraCidades platform, which consists of a certification process and a set of training courses aimed at enhancing the capacity of local governments to manage migration.

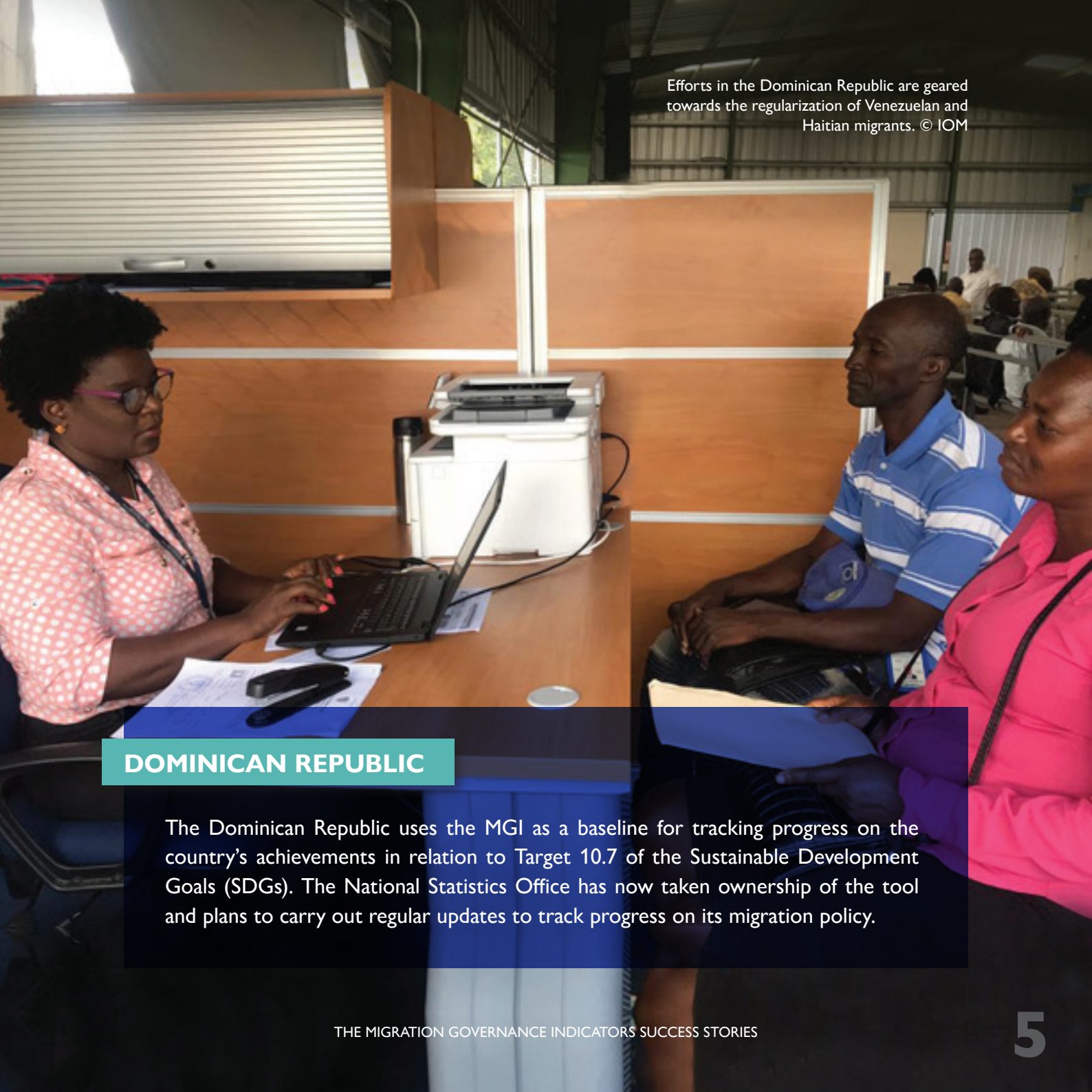


IOM staff conduct case finding for tuberculosis in communities with high numbers of migrants in Banteay Meanchey. © IOM 2020

## CAMBODIA

In Cambodia, the MGI process influenced the development of a new national policy on migrant health, by stressing how important it is for all migrants to have access to essential health care.




A woman with short dark hair and glasses, wearing a pink and white polka-dot shirt, is seated at a wooden desk, typing on a laptop. Two men are seated to her right, looking at the laptop screen. The man in the middle is wearing a blue and white striped polo shirt, and the woman on the far right is wearing a bright pink jacket. They are in an office setting with a wooden partition behind them and a printer on the desk. In the background, other people are visible at desks.

Efforts in the Dominican Republic are geared towards the regularization of Venezuelan and Haitian migrants. © IOM

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominican Republic uses the MGI as a baseline for tracking progress on the country's achievements in relation to Target 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The National Statistics Office has now taken ownership of the tool and plans to carry out regular updates to track progress on its migration policy.



A photograph of an Ethiopian man with a beard and short dark hair, wearing a green t-shirt, smiling and giving a thumbs-up while washing his hands at a public water station. He is in the foreground, leaning over a concrete basin. In the background, another man is also washing his hands at a similar station. The water stations are mounted on a wall with peeling plaster. The scene is outdoors with some greenery visible in the background.

An Ethiopian migrant washes his hands at IOM's Migration Response Centre, where he is staying while he waits to travel home with the Organization's help. © IOM

## ETHIOPIA

Following the MGI assessment, Ethiopia's Central Statistical Agency started conducting a labour force and migration survey. More generally, findings from the MGI are contributing to the development of the national migration policy in the country.




IOM staff conduct a survey to find the link between environmental degradation and migration, as well as to identify green employment opportunities for young people and women. © IOM/Clemento MENDES

## GUINEA-BISSAU

The MGI findings assisted in the elaboration of the national plan of action to implement the Global Compact for Migration in Guinea-Bissau. The plan outlines concrete actions to tackle gaps identified in the MGI report, such as promoting capacity-building to strengthen data collection on migration, improving access to information, and reviewing the legislation that defines the conditions for foreigners to access essential services to align it with international standards.



A photograph of a man in a brown jacket and a patterned headscarf, looking towards another person whose back is to the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

A data collection exercise was part of a study that IOM and Georgetown University conducted with nearly 4,000 internally displaced families living out of camps. © IOM/Anjam RASOOL

## IRAQ

The MGI process led to the creation of an interministerial committee on migration which developed a new national migration strategy to implement the Global Compact for Migration in Iraq. One of the main gaps identified in the assessment was the collection and use of migration data, which became a key pillar of the national migration strategy. A data task force was established to develop a capacity-building action plan, which is currently in its first stage of implementation.



A total of 149 Syrians, including 50 children, arrived in Ireland from Beirut, Lebanon, on 19 November 2020 with resettlement assistance from IOM. © IOM 2020

## IRELAND

In Ireland, the research done on the COVID-19 MGI module informed the Global Compact for Migration national review. The report uses MGI information on topics such as access to public medical testing and treatment irrespective of migration status, and the translation of COVID-19 resources into various languages to ensure that they are accessible to migrants.

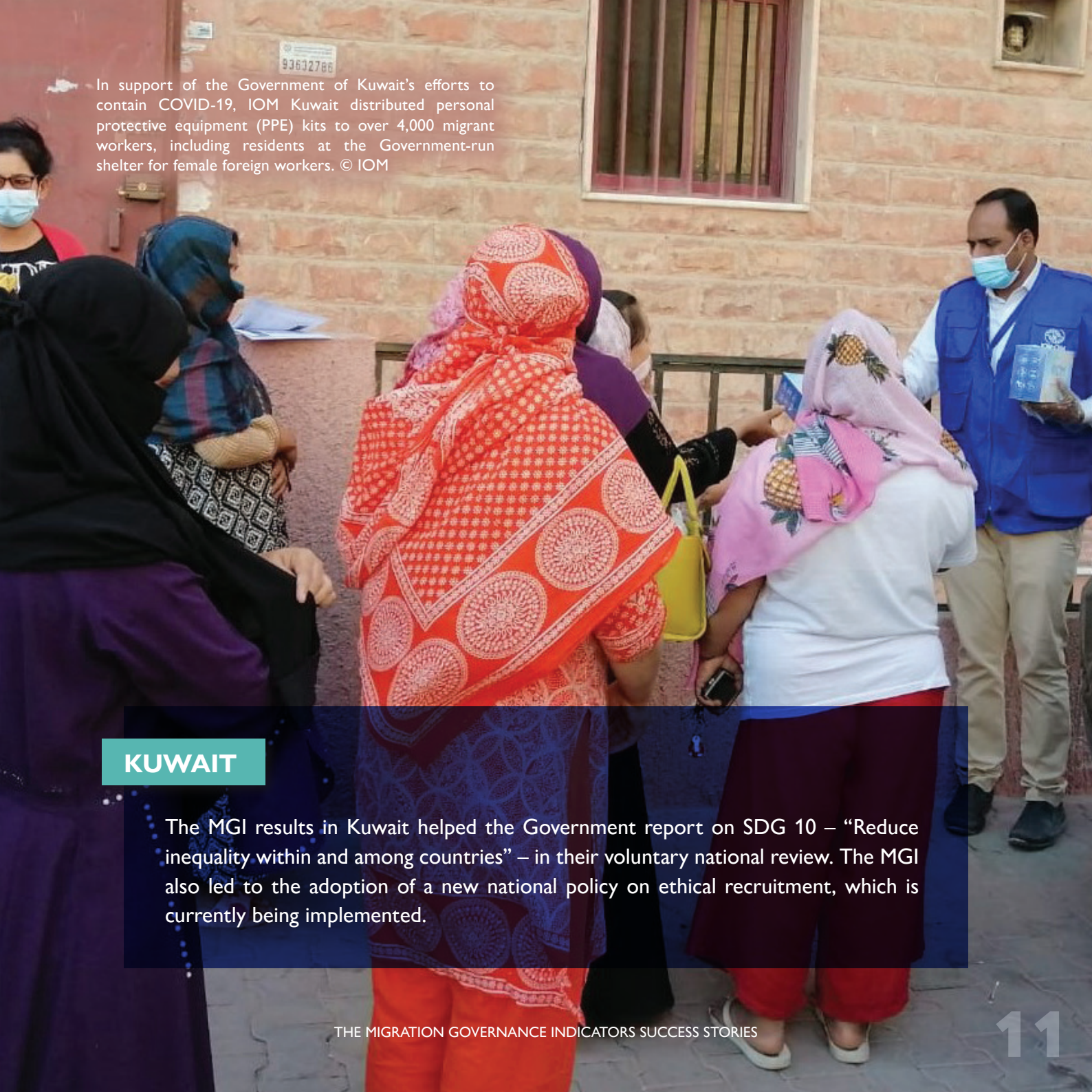


Migration Centre in Almaty where migrants can access government services. © IOM

## KAZAKHSTAN

To further assess some of the MGI findings and build evidence and the capacity of the Government to introduce policy improvements, IOM conducted in-depth research on brain drain and developed a training manual for civil servants on return migration. The MGI also serves as an important reference tool for developing the National Migration Policy 2022–2026.





In support of the Government of Kuwait's efforts to contain COVID-19, IOM Kuwait distributed personal protective equipment (PPE) kits to over 4,000 migrant workers, including residents at the Government-run shelter for female foreign workers. © IOM

## KUWAIT

The MGI results in Kuwait helped the Government report on SDG 10 – “Reduce inequality within and among countries” – in their voluntary national review. The MGI also led to the adoption of a new national policy on ethical recruitment, which is currently being implemented.



Livelihood support in Mauritania promotes social cohesion among refugees from Mali and host communities. © IOM/Geoffrey REYNARD

## MAURITANIA

Mauritania uses the MGI as an important source of data to report on the country's efforts to achieve its Global Compact for Migration objectives, and to support the update of its national migration strategy.




Stellio is a Mauritian returnee who came back from France in 2019. IOM assisted him and other returnees with support from the Government of France. Stellio used the assistance to purchase a boat and fishing equipment and began a fishing business in 2019.  
© IOM/Abibo NGANDU

## MAURITIUS

The MGI assessment informed the finalization of Mauritius' first National Migration and Development Policy and its related Action Plan.






Indian students in the Republic of Moldova perform at a cultural event, following the easing of immigration procedures in the country triggered by the MGI. © IOM

## REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Following the identification of a gap through the MGI assessment, the Government of the Republic of Moldova facilitated the admission and residence procedure for immigrant investors and professionals.



A photograph of two men in a workshop setting. The man on the left, wearing a white shirt, is speaking and gesturing with his hand. The man on the right, wearing a striped shirt, is listening attentively. In the background, there are blurred trees. A laptop screen is visible in the foreground on the right.

In Makeni, IOM organized a three-day workshop on communication for development (C4D) for radio journalists to help them raise awareness of trafficking in persons (TIP) in Sierra Leone. © IOM 2019/François-Xavier ADA-AFFANA

## SIERRA LEONE

In Sierra Leone, the MGI process led to the development of the National Action Plan on Trafficking in Persons and the new National Migration Policy. The policy contains new provisions on areas such as diaspora engagement, labour migration, and migrant rights and social protection, which were identified through the MGI process as possible gaps. Additionally, the MGI assessment will be used by the country to report on their progress in achieving the Global Compact for Migration objectives.



## TAJIKISTAN

The MGI assessment in Tajikistan is leading to the development of a new migration strategy. The new strategy covers both international and internal migration. It proposes concrete measures for migrants who were displaced due to natural disasters or climate change. The strategy also seeks to simplify procedures to obtain a work permit for foreign nationals. Both issues were identified as gaps in the MGI assessment.



IOM facilitated the voluntary return of 11 Vietnamese migrants from Timor-Leste. The migrants were rescued by Timor-Leste authorities after drifting at sea for days and eventually landing on the uninhabited Jaco Island. © IOM



## TIMOR-LESTE

In Timor-Leste, the results of the MGI assessment helped define the priorities of the United Nations Country Team and was included in the Common Country Assessment (CCA) of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

On 19 August, 2020, mental health and psychosocial support was given to vulnerable migrants affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.  
© IOM/Lucía SENA

## URUGUAY

IOM is working closely with the Government and key partners to develop a national protocol for the prevention of human trafficking, after this was identified in the MGI as an area for further development. As a first step, training sessions have been organized for judges and prosecutors to raise awareness of human trafficking and smuggling.



With funding from the Government of the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), IOM Zambia facilitated continued trade among small-scale cross-border traders, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. © IOM










































## ZAMBIA

In Zambia, the findings of the MGI contributed to the development of the new national migration policy. The MGI is also being used to inform the CCA process in the country.

## LIST OF PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS FROM 2016 TO 2021

 Albania	 Comoros	 Guinea-Bissau
 Angola	 Costa Rica • Heredia • San José	 Guyana
 Argentina	 Côte d'Ivoire	 Haiti
 Bahrain	 Djibouti	 Honduras
 Bangladesh	 Dominican Republic • Boca Chica • San Cristóbal	 Iraq
 Belize	 Ecuador • Manta • Quito	 Ireland
 Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	 El Salvador	 Italy
 Brazil • São Paulo	 Eswatini	 Jamaica
 Burkina Faso	 Ethiopia	 Kazakhstan
 Cabo Verde	 Fiji	 Kenya
 Cambodia	 Gambia	 Kuwait
 Cameroon	 Germany	 Kyrgyzstan
 Canada • Montreal	 Ghana • Accra	 Lesotho
 Chile	 Guatemala • San Marcos • Tacaná	 Liberia
 Colombia • Barranquilla • Bucaramanga • Cúcuta • Villa del Rosario	 Guinea	 Madagascar



 Malawi	 Paraguay	 Sweden
 Mali	 Peru • Lima	 Tajikistan
 Mauritania	 Philippines	 Timor-Leste
 Mauritius	 Portugal	 Trinidad and Tobago
 Mexico • Chihuahua • Guanajuato • Oaxaca • Tamaulipas	 Republic of Korea	 Turkey
 Morocco	 Republic of Moldova	 Tuvalu
 Nepal	 Rwanda	 Uganda
 Nicaragua	 Senegal	 Ukraine
 Niger	 Serbia	 Uruguay
 Nigeria	 Seychelles	 Uzbekistan
 North Macedonia	 Sierra Leone • Bo • Freetown • Kenema • Makeni	 Vanuatu
 Panama • La Chorrera	 South Africa	 Zambia
 Papua New Guinea	 Sri Lanka	 Zimbabwe • Beitbridge • Harare • Mutare • Plumtree



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🌐 [migrationdataportal.org/mgi](https://migrationdataportal.org/mgi)

#MigrationGovernance