



THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION AND HUMANITARIAN BORDER MANAGEMENT

IOM's Humanitarian Border Management (HBM) programme recognises the need for appropriate border management responses at times of humanitarian crisis arising from both natural and man-made disasters. HBM activities aim to improve preparedness and responses to protect those who cross borders in emergencies, as well as to ensure that the security of the border is maintained.

Border management agencies including immigration, police, customs, quarantine and armed forces need to be equipped with operational mechanisms that are designed to respond to changing and often escalating movement patterns. In addition, a support network of agencies is necessary in order to assist migrants with a variety of vulnerabilities and protection needs when they are moving in large numbers across international borders. IOM is well-positioned to provide on-the-ground, targeted expertise and capacity building assistance to countries who wish to establish or improve their response mechanisms for mass movements.

HUMAN SECURITY AND MIXED MIGRATION

HBM recognises the broader role that border management agencies have in supporting human security.

Gross abuses of human rights, large-scale displacement of civilian populations, drug and arms trafficking, environmental disasters or health crises present direct threats to human security and may drive highly vulnerable populations across borders.

Population movements during migration crises include people on the move who, although they do not fit easily into established protection categories, are nonetheless vulnerable and require protection. HBM seeks to ensure that border management practices can adapt to the needs of specific groups found within complex mixed migration flows.

WHAT SUPPORT CAN IOM PROVIDE ?

- Assessments on HBM capacities;
- Delivery of HBM training for border officials;
- Drafting or review of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for emergencies;
- Initiation of and improvement to emergency preparedness and contingency plans;
- Establishment of a referral system to assist migrants and provide humanitarian relief;
- Creation of interagency cooperation mechanisms to allow for a more coherent response to crises;
- Design and procurement of mobile communication and registration technology solutions;
- and more...



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

EXAMPLES:

Assessment of HBM Capacities in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

In September 2013, the IOM African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC) and the IOM Office in Bunia, DRC, completed a week-long assessment of HBM capacities in the DRC. The IOM assessment team visited four different border crossings in Province Orientale, sharing borders with South Sudan, Uganda and the Central African Republic.

The assessment team examined the types of crises occurring in these regions, existing preparedness, contingency plans, coordination mechanisms, division of responsibilities and finally, cooperation and exchange of information across the border.

The assessment team made several recommendations, including to reinforce existing border management committees, encourage awareness raising on migrants' rights, create standardized operational procedures for crisis situations, and institutionalize cross-border cooperation.

The findings and recommendations of the HBM assessment will serve as a basis for a full-fledged HBM training curriculum to be developed by the ACBC for DRC's border agencies.

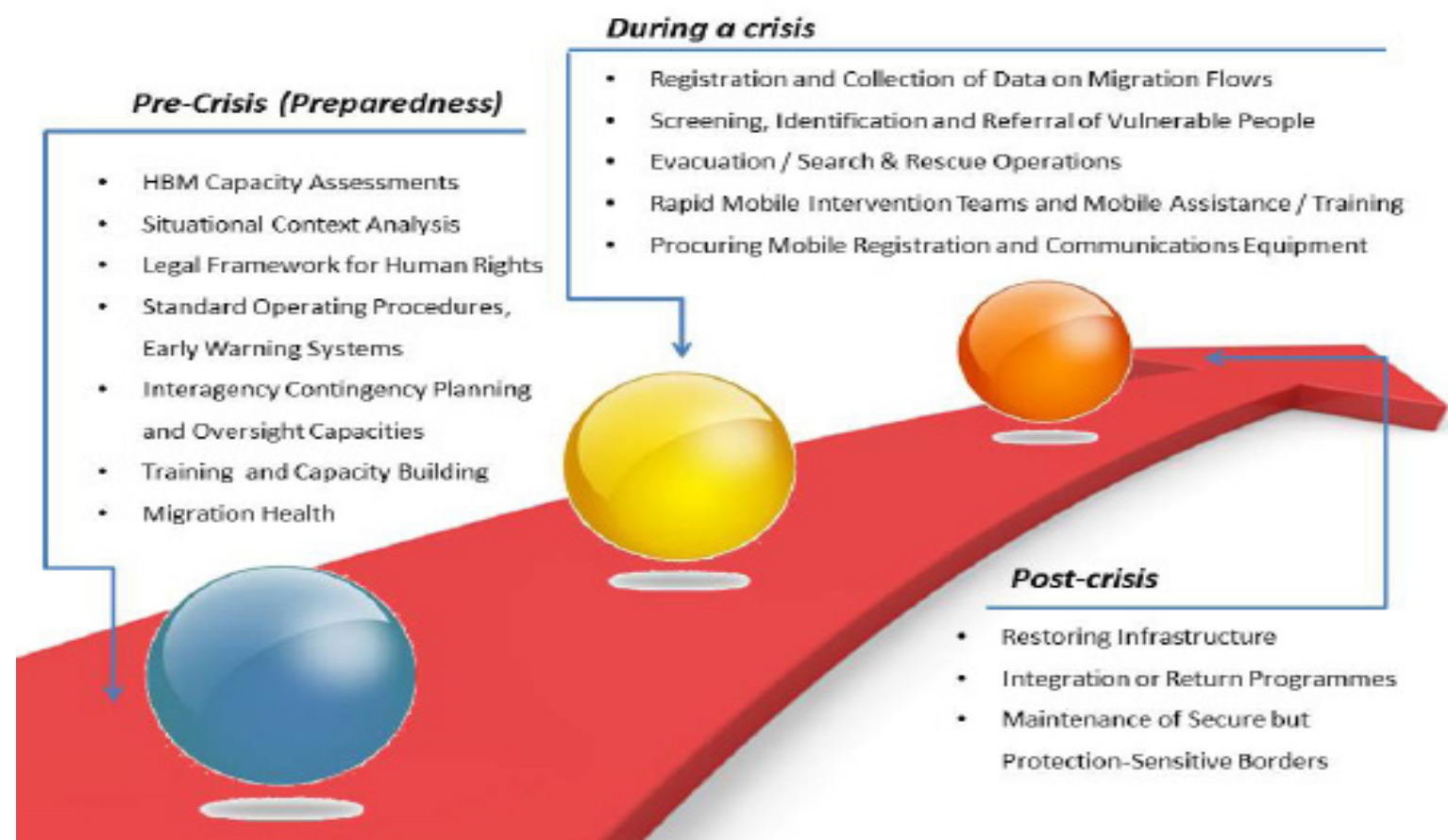
Training of Trainers on HBM in Tajikistan

The IOM Regional Office Vienna, together with colleagues from IOM Tajikistan, and the Danish Refugee Council delivered a six-day Training of Trainers (ToT) training course on HBM in Dushanbe.

The training was aimed at acquainting the participants with international best practices on HBM, covering topics such as the fundamental rights of migrants, identification of vulnerable migrants in mixed migration flows, contingency planning in pre-crisis scenarios, and migration & health.

Follow-up HBM training events are planned from September 2013 – March 2015. It is envisaged that 120 Afghan and 60 Tajik Border Guards will be enrolled in these courses.

THREE STAGES OF INTERVENTION



IOM
TODAY

OVER 150 MEMBER STATES
MORE THAN 470 FIELD LOCATIONS
7,800 STAFF WORKING ON 2,300 ACTIVE PROJECTS
MORE THAN 1.2 USD BILLION EXPENDITURE IN 2012

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 WORK TOWARDS EFFECTIVE RESPECT OF THE HUMAN DIGNITY AND WELL-BEING OF MIGRANTS.