



1. Flash on IOM Activities



Haiti.— IOM continues assisting victims of the earthquakes, communities and governmental institutions

IOM Haiti continues to provide emergency response to address the displacement caused by the January 2010 earthquake (with one of the largest operational capacities in Haiti) while continuing its pre-earthquake mandate of addressing more traditional migration issues.

This dual approach has achieved significant results. Since January, IOM Haiti has raised over USD 35 million in new funding towards the implementation of a diverse portfolio of activities, such as, Human Trafficking, Cholera Response, Land Tenure, Disaster Risk Reduction, and CCCM Operations, inter alia.

The objective remains **the implementation of effective projects in a timely manner**, hence the priority working with the Haitian Government to develop capacity. The Mission works closely with line ministries, the Interim Haitian Reconstruction Commission, and civil protection agencies to ensure that the projects are aligned with the objectives of the Haitian Government and its citizens.

The Displacement Tracking Matrix Report (DTM) (which identifies the population size and location of internally displaced persons in Haiti following the earthquake) was recently published in collaboration with the Department of Civil Protection, the sub-unit of the Haitian Ministry of Interior charged with protecting Haitians in the event of an emergency. The Report has become the authority on describing the displacement situation in Haiti and was endorsed by the Haitian Government, the UNCT, and the IHRC preceding publication.

The DTM Report presents an on-going displacement crisis occurring in Haiti, with **680,000 IDPs** still living in camps across the country. IOM remains committed to continuing

the provision of assistance to the displaced population in spite of a vastly under-funded humanitarian space. The majority of camp service providers are withdrawing due to a lack funds. However, with the rainy season fast-approaching, **there will be an increase in humanitarian needs.** IOM's emergency response capacity will again be to the test this rainy/hurricane season, given the increased demand of needs with a decreased supply of assistance. However, the support shown by the donors has equipped IOM Haiti with the capacity to fill critical gaps.

Paraguay and Argentina.— The DDG's visit to Argentina and Paraguay

On May 2-6, 2011, the Deputy Director General, Ambassador Laura Thompson visited Argentina and Paraguay.

In Argentina, the DDG met with the Undersecretary for Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Argentina, as well as with high authorities of the Ministry of Interior and the Direction of Migration. The main topics addressed during the meeting were: the implementation of the restructuring plan in the Regional Office in Buenos Aires, the voluntary contribution from the Government of Argentina and a possible agreement with the "Cascos Blancos" agency, among others.

In Paraguay, the DDG met with the Viceminister for Administrative and Technical Affairs, the Director of Consular Affairs and the Director of the Office for the Assistance of Paraguayans Abroad of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the Director of Migration, the Viceminister of Labor, the Ministry of Repatriation and the UN Resident Coordinator. The main topics of discussion during this visit were: the migration law, the creation of a new coordination body on migration matters, the role of MERCOSUR on migration issues, the voluntary contribution of Paraguayan Government, the out-

of-country voting and other capacity building initiatives.

Haiti.— Positive accomplishments of the PREPEP (Program for Revitalization and Promotion of Understanding and Peace) management and implementation.

The overall PREPEP Stabilization program is now approaching nearly a \$100 million portfolio. Through several incremental grant modifications, the PREPEP has been able to gain the confidence of the donor and carry out an extremely diversified and relevant menu of sustainable community development initiatives addressing social and environmental vulnerabilities throughout Haiti.

Jamaica.— Migration & Development event in Kingston: EU/LAC Migration Project Launch.

On May 5, 2011, the Government of Jamaica, engaged in the process of developing a comprehensive migration policy for the country, held a conference to present its three migration policy initiatives:

1. Developing a National Policy and Plan of Action on International Migration and Development.
2. Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies.
3. Developing a Migration Profile.

During his speech preceding the detailed presentation of the initiatives, IOM Regional Representative for Washington DC highlighted the positive relationship between migration and development and presented concrete steps to develop mechanisms and tools to mainstream migration into development policies.

IOM staff in charge of the coordination of the EU-LAC project from the MRF Brussel also attended the conference.

Chile.— VI Inter-Sessional meeting of the South American Conference on Migration.

The South American Conference on Migration's VI Inter-sessional meeting took place in Chile on May 12 and 13.

10 of the 12 South American countries attended (only Guyana and Surinam did not participate). The Regional Representative to the Southern

Cone, the IOM Head of Office in Santiago and the Senior Regional Advisor for the Americas attended the meeting, as well as a technical staff from the MRF Buenos Aires in the capacity of Technical Secretariat of the Conference.

One of the most important outcomes was that **Brazil** announced that they will host the XI meeting of the SAMC that will take place in October. Other relevant topics that were addressed among others in the meeting were: the relationship between the SACMC and UNASUR; the participation of Civil Society Organizations in the annual meetings of the South American Conference; the link between environment and migration and the effective implementation of multilateral and sub-regional agreements regarding the regularization of migrants.

IOM informed about the EU funded project to support the EU-LAC dialogue on migration and about the 60th Anniversary, as well as on the implementation of the migration profiles in the sub-region.

Colombia. — IOM's response to the emergency in Colombia.

Since April 2010, IOM Colombia has been providing assistance to the Colombian Government to address the emergency caused by heavy rains brought by La Niña. IOM Colombia is receiving funding from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Colombian Family Welfare Institute.

IOM actions to respond to the emergency caused by the rain are the following:

- On March 2011, IOM provided cooking kits, sleeping kits, hygiene kits and shelter kits to 200 families /800 people in the municipality of Tibu (Department of Norte de Santander).
- Since December 2010, IOM has been building 750 shelters housing in San Benito Abad (Sucre Department) and Ayapel (Department of Córdoba).
- On April 26, 2011, a total of 136 tents were delivered for the care of 6,800 children affected by floods and located in 10 departments.
- IOM, having the lead of the Shelter Cluster, has assembled a weekly working team whose

activities can be found [here](#).

- IOM is also working in collaboration with the Ministry of Education to improve and/or reconstruct 35 educational institutions damaged by the winter and located in 8 departments.

El-Salvador.—Project inauguration by authorities: "Regularization of Nicaraguan migrants and their families in El Salvador".

The delivery of the first El Salvador's resident card to a Nicaraguan migrant officially inaugurated the Project "Regularization of Nicaraguan migrants and their families in El Salvador" (PRORENISA, by its acronym in Spanish), supported by IOM.

The General Director of Migration, Rubén Alvarado; the General Consular Director in Nicaragua, Lury Orozco; the Ambassador of Nicaragua in El Salvador Gilda Bolt and the IOM Chief of Mission in El Salvador, Norberto Girón, participated on the inaugural act of the project.

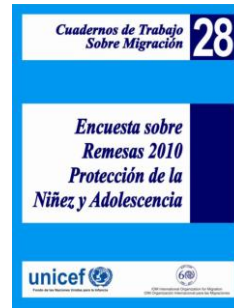
The project's objective is to regulate the maximum number of Nicaraguans residing irregularly in El Salvador since before December 2008. It has been opened a Consular window of the embassy of Nicaragua in the department of San Miguel and adjacent to the facilities opened in the area Migration and Foreign Matter General Direction zone. The Nicaraguans obtain more quickly, the documents they require to process their residency in the country without having to move or travel to the capital.

Argentina.— Creation of the UN Inter-agency Group on Human mobility, Vulnerability and Borders

In May 9, 2011, was confirmed the creation of a UN inter-agency working group to share activities and ongoing actions, to deepen jointly analysis, to interact with government entities and to identify joint actions on the following issues:

- a. Rights associated with human mobility and the fight against discrimination and xenophobia.
- b. Cross-border mobility highlighting women's and children's vulnerability.
- c. Human trafficking for sexual and labor exploitation.

The Inter-agency Group will be coordinated by IOM and UNICEF during one year.



Guatemala.— Publication of IOM Remittances Survey in Guatemala.

In April 2011, IOM Guatemala, jointly with UNICEF, published a survey entitled *Remittances 2010: Protecting Children and Adolescents*. The survey revealed notably that more

than **1.6 million Guatemalans are living abroad**, of which **1.4 million are sending money to their relatives**. Of the remittances sent to Guatemalans, 49 percent are used for household consumption.

Mexico.— Course on The Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their families, Trafficking in Persons for Labour Exploitation.



On May 4 and 11, 2011, the Federal Judicial Council and the International Organization for Migration, held a course to raise awareness on the main rights of migrant workers and trafficking. The course entitled "*Protecting the rights of migrant workers and their families, and trafficking for labor exploitation*," was held at the Federal Judicial Institute in Mexico City.

Bolivia.— Technical Workshop Migration Profile in Bolivia.

On April 25, 2011 a technical workshop was held to discuss, in a preliminary way, the progress of the study regarding the Migration Profile. The Migration Profile is presenting an overall analysis of the migration situation in the country.

Washington.— IOM shares its expertise on migration trends and patterns in the Americas to the OAS Special Committee on Migration Issues.

On April 12-13, the OAS Special Committee on Migration Issues held a workshop entitled *Learning from Experience: Bilateral Cooperation in Migration Management*. The Chair of the OAS Special Committee on Migration made reference to the DG's visit last year and the signing of a

cooperation agreement, noting that the OAS has the political convening power but IOM has the much needed expertise on migration matters. The IOM presentation established IOM as the point of reference for information about migration trends and dynamics in the Americas, as well as the partner of choice for governments in the region seeking to improve their management of migration.

Guatemala. — Restorative justice program brings together young Central-American people for the third time.

28 Central-American youths met in Guatemala for the third meeting on Promoting the culture of Peace focusing on Migration and Restorative Justice. This event was organized by the NGO Soleterre in collaboration with IOM and UNFPA.

The issues of restorative justice, human rights, irregular migration, human trafficking and smuggling were notably addressed with the participants. The youth expressed the need to disseminate the information that has been given to them. After completing this workshop they will undertake a project of restorative justice in each of their countries.

Chile.— The Government of Chile has initiated a review of its migration policy and has requested IOM's support for the process.

The Government of Chile has initiated a process of review of its national migration policy, which is expected to produce new general policy guidelines and a draft of new migration legislation. As part of this process the Minister of Interior has requested that IOM organize a workshop to analyze national migration policies in several LAC countries, Canada, Australia and Nordic European countries. The workshop will be held on May 26-27, 2011.

Brazil-Bolivia. — Resettlement of Brazilians

In 2008, the governments of Brazil and Bolivia agreed to seek a comprehensive solution to

Brazilian migrants settling in the 50 km border area, specifically in the so-called border security zone in Pando department.

According to the Political Constitution of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, no foreigner can own land in this strip of border. IOM has been mandated by both governments to develop a proposal that would enable the relocation and resettlement of Brazilian families out of the strip of border.

In May 2009, an IOM office was established in Cobija (Pando department). From June to November, 2009, a **census** was conducted across the Bolivian-Brazilian border strip (Pando department) to determine the number of families occupying this territory. A post-census to complement the information gathered previously was carried out between February and May 2010. The sum of the census and post census presented **a total of 414 families.**

In June 2010 the first resettlement was conducted in two farms (1,000 hectares) acquired by the Program, near the municipality of Puerto Rico (Pando department). In order to ensure the economic sustainability of the families resettled in Puerto Rico, the team program, in coordination with local actors, worked in the design of a model that includes efficient and social reintegration guidelines (agrovillas).

The same year the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil informed IOM that under the agrarian reform of Brazil, **the voluntary return to Brazil of Brazilian families would be possible.** Between June and December 2010, IOM thus supported and supervised the voluntary return of 99 Brazilian families to different settlements in the State of Acre. There are currently 14 families resettled in the lands of Puerto Rico and in May 2011, 20 more families will be resettled for which there is available land.

2. Flash on Migration News in the Americas



Comparative Analysis of Remittances Impact in the contexts North-South and South-South: United States-Costa Rica and Costa Rica-Nicaragua.

This document is intended to make a general comparison of the main findings of two recent researches on remittances, taking in Costa Rica as

an axis, in order to draw lessons and policy implications of migration, remittances and development. The first of these studies examines the South-South corridor between Costa Rica and Nicaragua and the second North-South corridor between the U.S. and Costa Rica. It seeks to find differences and similarities between the findings for the two mentioned remittance corridors and thus contribute to the empirical literature related to migration, remittances and development in the LAC region.

Source: [Remesas y Desarrollo](#), April 25, 2011

Peru. – Correos de Costa Rica Launches Remittances Service in Peru.

Since April 4, 2011, Correos de Costa Rica has provided the service, called Correogiros, of sending and receiving remittances to Peru. Correos de Costa Rica will charge between \$5 and \$28 for any wire started in the country. People can send money to some 45 branches in Peru. Uruguay will be the next country in which Correos de Costa Rica will extend its service.

It is planned that in 2011, the service will also be provided through the post office services of Spain, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina, Cuba, Ecuador, Dominican Republic and Colombia.

Source: [el financiero.com](#), April 15, 2011

Old and new matters in the estimations of the international migration in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Changes in population dynamics and migration patterns prevailing in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, which have become visible in the last 30 years, have brought new requirements to the estimates of international migration. The ECLAC document is trying to address several aspects of this issue.

Source: [ECLAC](#)

Jamaica. — Biennial Diaspora Conference set for Ocho Rios.

The foreign affairs ministry will be taking the biennial Diaspora Conference to Ocho Rios, St Ann this year instead of Kingston. Between 700 and 800 Jamaicans living overseas are expected to attend the three-day conference scheduled for June 15-17. The summit is being held under the theme One Nation: Jamaica and its Diaspora in Partnership.

Source: [Go-Jamaica](#), April 25, 2011

Canada.— Nova Scotia wants more immigrants

By 2020, the province of Nova Scotia hopes to double the number of immigrants arriving in their province per year. Nova Scotia is planning to attract approximately 7,200 immigrants a year.

Source: [Canadavisa.com](#), May 03, 2011

Caribbean. — Agricultural jobs in US for Barbadians

Barbadians who are interested in securing work in the agriculture industry in the United States of America are a step closer to achieving that goal. This disclosure has come from the Minister of Labour who met on Wednesday with the executive director of Florida East Coast Travel Services and his colleague who were in Barbados on a two-day recruitment drive for prospective workers of the H2A (Agriculture) Programme.

Source: [Caribbean News Now](#), May 05, 2011

Caribbean.— St Vincent PM speaks to UK Diaspora

Dr Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) addressed Vincentian nationals, friends of SVG and other interested parties on developments in the country, at Buckinghamshire New University in High Wycombe, England.

Source: [Caribbean News](#), May 02, 2011

Affected by rain, shelters are "bumped".

The lodgings inherited from last winter have reached the maximum capacity of housing and they will not be able to shelter potential victims who may arise due to the rainfalls of this next rainy season.

Source: [END](#), May 23, 2011

Immigrants pay millions of remittances.

Immigrants from Central America, Dominican Republic and Haiti paid about \$ 600 million in 2010 in the United States in fees to banks and transfer agencies to send remittances to their families in their countries.

Source: [END](#), May 20, 2011

Increase in African and Asian emigration via Mexico.

The National Institute of Migration (INM) in Mexico stated that there were, in 2010, 2 thousands 329 Asian and African migrants, mainly from India, China, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia.

Source: [Prensa Latina](#), May 20, 2011

Migrants underwrite development through remittances, says UN secretary general.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today underlined the role of migrants in accelerating development through remitting funds regularly to their countries of origin, noting that their economic contributions to host societies are often overlooked.

Source: [ONU](#), May 23, 2011

El Salvador welcomes Nicaraguans residents.

El Salvador starts a regularization process for Nicaraguans living in the country as part of a pilot plan which should be extended to Guatemalans and Hondurans.

Source: [END](#), May 19, 2011

Bi-national meeting on human trafficking between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

This meeting brought together members of the National Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons to share the efforts, accomplishments, and limitations, for the prevention and protection of migrant children. Another aim of this meeting was the reconciliation of the Nicaraguan and Costa Rican authorities, as well as civil society, to inform about the faced daily by migrants in this area.

Source: [MIGOB](#), May 13, 2011



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