

Migration Initiatives Appeal 2009

ZIMBABWE

Migration issues

Zimbabwe continues to face socio-economic challenges, particularly hyper-inflation and a high rate of unemployment.

During the past few years, the humanitarian situation in Zimbabwe has been exacerbated by political gridlock. Mobile and vulnerable populations, including those affected by the 2007 floods, "Operation Murambatsvina" in 2005 and the "Fast Track Land Reform Programme" are still in need of assistance. As the flow of irregular migrants from Zimbabwe into neighbouring countries continues, there is sustained need for protection services, humanitarian assistance, transportation, healthcare, and HIV and AIDS programmes targeting returned migrants.

Over the years, Zimbabwe has also seen a continued movement of professionals and skilled workers migrating to neighbouring countries and overseas. This brain drain has adversely affected service delivery in all sectors and creates challenges for the attainment of development goals. Consequently there is growing need for the country to formulate migration management policies and programmes that will reduce the negative aspects of migration and enhance its positive impacts. In addition to needing capacity building support, the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ) requires technical assistance for its border management and international migration law programmes.

Total Funding Requirements for Zimbabwe - USD 50, 132, 257

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Programme Areas

Emergency and Post-crisis Migration Management

Emergency and Post-emergency Operations Assistance

In order to address the most urgent needs of mobile and vulnerable populations affected by the post-election situation and other factors contributing to population mobility, IOM is providing affected populations with emergency humanitarian assistance (food and non-food items (NFIs), plus emergency health interventions) and longer-term community stabilization interventions including shelter, water, sanitation, and livelihood support. Dissemination of information on HIV and AIDS and GBV, as well as the mainstreaming of

protection are integral parts of all emergency humanitarian assistance and community stabilization interventions.

- **Emergency humanitarian assistance to Communities affected by post-election violence in Zimbabwe – USD 4,637,561**
- **Humanitarian assistance to mobile and Vulnerable populations in Zimbabwe: relief, reintegration and Community health — USD 12,115,000**
- **Supporting community stabilization and reintegration of mobile and vulnerable populations through the provision of semi-permanent shelter and human capital enhancement – USD 5,775,000**
- **Facilitating stabilization and reintegration of mobile and vulnerable populations through livelihood provision and promotion — USD 3,787,000**

Migration Health

Health Promotion and Assistance for Migrants

In order to improve health among internal migrants in Zimbabwe, IOM will continue to provide emergency health care, which includes prevention and control of cholera and malaria outbreaks and other water-borne diseases.

By strengthening the relationship with national authorities and the UN Country Team through the Expanded Support Programme (ESP), IOM will scale up HIV and AIDS services -such as access to anti-retro-viral treatment and HIV prevention measures – among hard-to-reach, mobile, and vulnerable populations. Through this project, IOM will support the National AIDS Council in developing a nation-wide action plan to address the HIV prevention needs of mobile populations in Zimbabwe. The focus of this initiative is to disseminate information on HIV and AIDS as well as sexual and gender based violence, while at the same

time facilitating the affected populations' access to voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) centres, post-rape treatment, HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), and emergency contraception.

- **Protecting and responding to the sexual and reproductive health and rights among returned migrants in Zimbabwe - USD 345,833**
- **Mitigation and support programme for mobile and vulnerable populations infected and affected by HIV and AIDS – USD 640,500 (New)**
- **Responding to HIV and AIDS in the informal cross-border trade sector – USD 1,050,000 (New)**
- **Combating and preventing public health threats at border regions in Zimbabwe — USD 782,250 (New)**

Migration and Development

Migration and Economic/Community Development

Over the past six years, Zimbabwe has witnessed an accelerated loss of skilled workers not only to neighbouring countries but also further a field. In the short-term, as the economic situation continues to deteriorate, migration will continue to be a common coping strategy for many Zimbabweans. Should the socioeconomic situation change in the near future, a substantial number of Zimbabweans will require assistance to voluntarily return, and IOM has received requests from various stakeholders to develop strategies to prepare for this scenario.

While the foregoing illustrates the magnitude of the migration challenges that Zimbabwe is facing, the capacity of the GoZ to manage these multi-faceted migration issues so as to reduce the negative and enhance the positive impact of migration has been constrained by the lack of a comprehensive and coherent legal, institutional and policy frameworks. In this regard, IOM and the GoZ are currently working on a national migration and

development policy paper and the development of a migration legislation framework. In a GoZ and IOM initiative, a Migration and Development Unit has been established in the Ministry of Economic Development with the aim of mainstreaming migration in the national development process.

- **Facilitating temporary and safe migration of Zimbabwean farm workers to the Limpopo province – USD 1,323,000**
- **Zimbabwe migration and development Strategies - USD 147,274**
- **Preparation and response for large-scale return and reintegration of Zimbabweans in the diaspora – USD 5,900,000 (New)**
- **Strengthening legislation and institutional structures for migration management: technical support to the Government of Zimbabwe — USD 250,000 (New)**
- **Reintegration assistance to returnees: revolving livestock scheme – USD 5,365,000**

Regulating Migration

Return Assistance for Migrants and Governments

Migration of Zimbabweans to neighbouring countries continues to be a serious concern. While the number of people leaving the country in search of employment and for other socio-economic reasons is difficult to quantify, the number of migrants deported to Zimbabwe continues to increase. In response to this situation, IOM established Reception and Support Centres in Plumtree and Beitbridge. These Centres provide humanitarian assistance including food, basic health care, referrals for further treatment, transportation, information on HIV, AIDS, and safe migration, HIV and AIDS counselling, and protection assistance. Youth centres at these establishments welcome returned UAMs in need of care and also provide family

reunification and counselling services. An “e-registration” project is planned that will enable IOM to assess irregular migration trends among returned migrants, which will allow IOM to better target its assistance programmes.

- **Humanitarian assistance to returned migrants and mobile populations at the South Africa-Zimbabwe border- USD 3,835,650**
- **Humanitarian assistance to returned migrants and mobile populations at the Botswana-Zimbabwe border – USD 2,045,500**
- **Cross border mobility, irregular migration and HIV and AIDS: safe migration information campaign in Zimbabwe - USD 847,689**

Counter-trafficking

Zimbabwe is a source, transit and destination country for trafficking in persons for the purposes of forced labour, sexual exploitation and domestic servitude. IOM, in partnership with UNICEF and the GoZ, commissioned a research study focusing on the nature and extent of child trafficking, both cross-border and internal, in Zimbabwe. The research findings will strengthen the current counter-trafficking interventions in Zimbabwe.

In an effort to educate Zimbabweans on the risks and realities of migration, including vulnerabilities to HIV infection, a nationwide information campaign will continue to be implemented with a focus on youth.

- **Prosecution and prevention strategies to reduce trafficking in Zimbabwe – USD 550,000 (New)**
- **Prevention and protection of children from the risk and realities of child trafficking — USD 735,000 (New)**