

## GENDER, AGE, DIVERSITY AND IDPs

Men, women, boys and girls experience crisis in different ways.

When emergencies and/or conflicts emerge more than just material goods are affected; family structures and the social networks are often destroyed; Gender roles are changed; women often take on non-traditional roles, such as the head of household, for which they are seldom prepared.

IOM believes it is of great importance to identify and then address the unique challenges facing men, women and children during displacement.

Special planning attention needs to be given to female-headed households, separated children and other groups with specific needs and rights including elderly, disabled and minority groups.

IOM's overall goal is to mainstream, gender, age and diversity issues into all IOM programmes and activities.



## LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

Logistical support is essential to IDP operations for both IOM itself as well as other partners throughout all phases of displacement.

IOM transports essential relief items such as food, and non-food items on behalf of governments, other International Organizations and NGOs. IOM also helps transport relief workers when necessary.

The facilitation of transportation between warehouses and bases of international organizations, NGOs and other recipients is critical to success of IDP responses.

IOM also assists with customs clearance, database management and tracking of relief items. Logistical support is also necessary for the safe and dignified return of IDPs. IOM provides logistical support for returns programmes and activities. This includes undertaking road assessments prior to return.



**PAKISTAN:** IOM staff pitch camp in Bana, located in Pakistan's remote Alai district. As Cluster lead agency, IOM provides emergency shelter, logistics support and health services to the survivors of the October 8, 2005 earthquake in Pakistan. © IOM 2005 - MPK0031

# IOM'S INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS PROGRAMMES

# IOM SCOPE PROGRAMMES FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

## IOM'S INVOLVEMENT

Since its foundation in 1951, a primary function of the International Organization for Migration has been "to concern itself with the organized transfer of refugees, displaced persons and other individuals in need of migration services" (Art. 1§1b of the IOM Constitution). Furthermore, being mandated to deal with internal migration, IOM is widely considered as being competent to address IDP issues.

IOM's increasing practical involvement in assistance to internally displaced persons in the 1980's and 90's has led to a series of internal policy papers calling upon the organization to develop its assistance in this specific area. This process was finally formalized in 2002 with the IOM policy paper on "Internally displaced persons: IOM Policy and Activities".

IOM has world-wide experience in assisting IDPs, in such countries as Afghanistan, Angola, Guatemala, Haiti, Iraq, Mali, Mozambique, the Philippines, Kosovo, Timor Leste, Colombia, Ecuador, Sudan, Uganda, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and Zimbabwe.

IOM's activities are aimed at assisting and protecting those who are displaced. Such interventions have improved the lives of IDPs, returnees, host and return communities and significantly contributed towards developing stability within regions.

### A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

The issue of Internal Displacement is multifaceted and many organizations work on different aspects. Since no single organization is exclusively mandated with the protection, assistance and recovery needs of IDPs, the "Collaborative Response" emerged as the best option.

The Collaborative Response brings all Inter-Agency Members (UN and non-UN agencies) together on the basis of their respective mandates and expertise to respond to IDP crises. In September 2004, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) endorsed the "Implementing the Collaborative Response to Situations of Internal Displacement: Guidance for UN Humanitarian and/or Resident Coordinators and Country Teams".

Within this framework, IOM is recognized for undertaking different tasks such as providing emergency assistance by transporting and distributing of food and non-food items, undertaking situation assessments and registration of IDPs and conducting capacity building programs.

Since 2005, IOM has been involved in the **Cluster Approach** taking a leading role in Camp Co-ordination and Camp Management in Natural Disasters as well as being key partners in Emergency Shelter, Logistics, Health, Protection and Early Recovery. The cluster approach, while not only, focuses largely on the gap area of internally displaced and is based on the premise that no one organization can carry out all the responsibilities in a displacement crisis.



**SUDAN:** Arrival in Bor, disembarking. These Dinkas, one of the main tribes in Southern Sudan, were displaced from their homes during the long civil war which ended last year after a peace deal was signed between the government in Khartoum and the SPLA (Sudanese People Liberation Army). © IOM 2006 - MSD0191 (Photo: Sven Torfinn)



**SRI LANKA:** Women survivors are overcome with grief by the harrowing effects of the tsunami to their homes and their families. © Natalie Behring/IOM/OnAsia 2005 - MLK0009



IOM International Organization for Migration  
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations  
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

# IOM ACTIVITIES TARGETING IDPs

IOM's practical and result oriented focus has allowed the organization to become an important partner in situations of internal displacement. Although IOM has no legal protection mandate, IOM policies and activities in humanitarian responses in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field and other migration services in emergency or post crisis situations, contributes to protecting the Human Rights of the Individual, having the effect, or consequence, of protecting persons involved in migration. IOM is of the opinion that assistance can only be successful if the rights of vulnerable groups are simultaneously protected; assistance and protection are hence intrinsically linked.

IOM is fully committed to respect and implement the *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement*. All IOM's programmes evolve and new interventions are prioritized according to the needs of the affected-communities. The activities assisting IDPs may be divided in 6 areas:

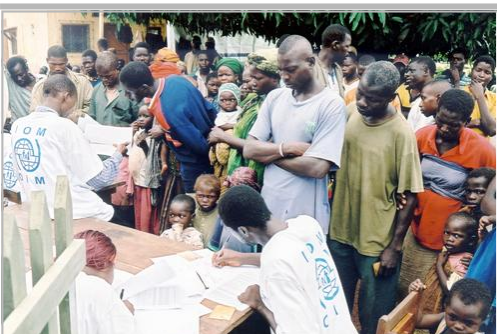
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	ACTIVITIES DURING DISPLACEMENT	RETURN PREPARATION	LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT & REINTEGRATION	CAPACITY BUILDING	STRENGTHENING POLITICAL RIGHTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide emergency assistance including managing camps, providing emergency shelter, distributing food and Non-Food Items (NFI), providing health assistance;</li> <li>• Support/assist inter-agency contingency planning in emergencies;</li> <li>• Support national/local authorities in developing policies and programmes to reduce/prevent displacement and advocate for improved conditions for IDPs;</li> <li>• Assist in the relocation of IDPs from high risk to protected areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor evolving IDP situations, including protection &amp; assistance concerns;</li> <li>• Provide NFIs and food distribution;</li> <li>• Information Management: collect &amp; analyse IDP information, implement socio-economic/ demographic surveys on displacement, IDP registration;</li> <li>• Undertake needs assessment surveys amongst IDP &amp; host populations to identify priority areas for implementing Reproductive Health Programmes including HIV/AIDS prevention projects;</li> <li>• Rehabilitate or strengthen the capacity of local primary health care services to be able to deliver adequate services to meet the increased demands created by the displaced populations;</li> <li>• Assist in the establishment and management of mental health and psychosocial support programmes;</li> <li>• Provide advice/technical assistance for property restitution/compensation programmes;</li> <li>• Provide temporary shelter and later permanent housing for displaced;</li> <li>• Information dissemination/ for IDPs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and strengthen local authorities' capacity for population resettlement, stabilisation &amp; socio-economic reinsertion of IDPs through community participation;</li> <li>• Prepare movement plans, road reconnaissance, rapid rehabilitation of secondary access routes;</li> <li>• Assist IDPs for voluntary return to areas of origin or areas of choice organized based on IDP registrations and vulnerability criteria, if applicable;</li> <li>• Sensitize displaced and the communities (host/return) on return issues &amp; provide them with assistance kits;</li> <li>• Undertake health assessments, referral for treatment, movement assistance in providing medical escorts for most vulnerable;</li> <li>• Provide safe and dignified transport with IOM staff escorting trucks;</li> <li>• Organize &amp; operate transit centres for IDPs &amp; refugee returnees that provide warm meals and safe accommodation in winterized shelters with potable water, sanitation facilities &amp; health services in a secure compound.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist vulnerable, excluded and minority groups (including women and demobilized soldiers) in reintegration;</li> <li>• Provide community assistance, reintegration &amp; rehabilitation support to IDPs &amp; host communities, including assistance packages on return;</li> <li>• Capacity building of local human resources for health and rehabilitation of primary health care services to assure continued access to health care for both IDPs and host communities to facilitate reintegration</li> <li>• Support for regional stabilization of returns; micro-credit projects;</li> <li>• Provide technical assistance for starting/expanding small enterprises &amp; cooperatives;</li> <li>• Provide IDPs &amp; host communities &amp;/or returnees &amp; return communities with reintegration assistance, including re-training programmes &amp; rebuilding infrastructure;</li> <li>• Support confidence &amp; peace-building measures &amp; reconciliation activities to create co-existence between communities to promote sustainable return &amp; reduce/eliminate future displacement: sensitisation of communities of absorption;</li> <li>• Support and/or set up Demobilization and Reintegration programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen role and capacity of national authorities to address IDP needs including developing a migration tracking system;</li> <li>• Implement workshops and training in conflict resolution, conciliatory efforts including the organization and development of productive processes and rehabilitation and construction of infrastructure;</li> <li>• Implement capacity-building programmes with local and national levels such as training workshops on migration and human rights; integrated and community-led approaches in areas of income-generation, health, education, community stabilisation, social communication, and transitional housing.</li> <li>• Advice and assist national authorities and other interested parties on the technical aspects and requirements of claims programmes that provide for property restitution/compensation to IDPs; help kick-start such programmes that address large-scale human rights abuses as part of a country's rehabilitation and reconciliatory efforts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist governments, electoral management bodies, IDP assistance organizations, civil society groups and other representatives of the International Community to improve the capacity of internally displaced populations to participate in political life of their countries and territories through their inclusion in electoral processes.</li> <li>• Implement training which provides advice and guidance on the legal frameworks and procedural mechanisms that can best protect the voting rights of internally displaced electorates.</li> <li>• Provide national and international stakeholders working in the fields of electoral programming and migrant services with assessments that identify problems for IDP enfranchisement and make recommendations on legislative and operational assistance and take coordinated action to address the electoral participation of IDPs.</li> </ul>



**PAKISTAN:** Local trucks form the backbone of IOM's earthquake relief logistics in Pakistan. As the lead agency of the Shelter Cluster of the Humanitarian Community that is responding to the South Asia Earthquake, IOM provides emergency shelter, logistics support and health services to the survivors of the October 8, 2005 earthquake in Pakistan. © IOM 2006 - MPK0023



**AFGHANISTAN:** Afghan IDPs work to clear a river blocked during an earthquake in Northern Afghanistan. IOM provided the shovels and logistical support to aid in the return of water to the community. © IOM 2002 - MAF0149



**CÔTE D'IVOIRE:** IOM staff in Tabou, western Côte d'Ivoire, register third-country nationals who have fled fighting in Liberia for their voluntary return. © IOM 2003 - MCI0004



**SUDAN:** IOM is providing transportation assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who are currently being relocated from Abu Shouk camp in north Darfur, to Al Salaam, a new camp located a few kilometres away. Other than providing transportation assistance, IOM is also responsible for ensuring newly arrived IDPs are registered on the IDP database. © IOM 2005 - MSD0021



**COLOMBIA:** Luz y Vida is an Artisan Women's Association created by internally displaced Colombian women. Income generating activities are vital to the successful settlement of displaced populations. IOM works with its partners to find sustainable employment for displaced & vulnerable heads of households, to provide support in farming and raising livestock & in the creation of micro-enterprises. © IOM 2005 - MCO0021



**INDONESIA:** Trainers from the sub-district animal husbandry office give insights to the participants during the duck husbandry training in Lancan Village, Junib, Bireuen, Indonesia. IOM's livelihood training targets women who may be vulnerable to human trafficking in tsunami-affected areas. © IOM 2005 - MID0217



**IRAN:** Female electoral worker in Iran. IOM conducts out of country voting for Afghan refugees residing in Pakistan and Iran. The largest ever out-of-country registration and voting programme was entrusted to IOM, who implemented it on behalf of the Afghan Joint Electoral Management Body and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). © IOM 2004 - MIR0009