As of mid 2009, both the RMI and FSM have finalized an implementation agreement with USAID specifying IOM’s role. This agreement will allow IOM to react on USAID’s behalf in disaster affected areas as well as in preparedness activities.

Hybrid Mitigation, Relief and Reconstruction Program: Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) are two nations collectively made up of 1,800 islands (comprising 340 square miles, mostly uninhabited) spanning 2,000 miles across the northwestern Pacific Ocean, with a combined population of 180,000. The two nations account for three million square miles (about 5%) of the western Pacific Ocean, an area triple the size of the South China Sea or the Mediterranean. Typhoon events in these island nations take place between November and April each year. Documented disaster declaration histories, albeit partial, show that: (a) for FSM, based on records covering the period 1990 through 2004, total disaster expenditures reached USD 106 million – addressing typhoons, drought, and mudslides; and (b) for RMI, for the period 1991 to 1998, total disaster expenditures was USD 24 million, addressing drought, typhoons, and sea wave actions.

Under the Compacts of Free Association signed in 2003 between the United States Government (USG) and the Governments of the RMI and FSM, respectively, and as amended in 2004, responsibility for disaster and reconstruction services for these independent nations was transferred from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), a component of the US Department of Homeland Security (USDHS), to the US Agency for International Development (USAID) in November 2008. In this regard, USAID’s roles and responsibilities are: (a) coordination of (and/or direct provision of elements of) the USG emergency federal response to disasters declared by either or both of the two nations’ Presidents and by the President of the United States (humanitarian relief); and (b) provision of operations and finance for post-emergency recovery (reconstruction).

With the objective of providing operational support to USAID in complying with these federal responsibilities, IOM, through the Hybrid Mitigation, Relief and Reconstruction Program, will: (1) maintain a small full-time project-specific presence in the region, in areas most likely affected by disasters; and (2) manage and implement various planning, pre-positioning, mitigation, and disaster emergency relief and reconstruction activities. The program will initially run from 2008-2013.

Outcomes of this program will include:

- The establishment of project offices in the islands with a dedicated support team in place in Manila, Philippines, to provide maximum coverage for regional as well as global logistics and procurement activities;
- Execution of advance stand-by resource/service contracts, grants, personnel and other arrangements, in the FSM and RMI at the on-set of an emergency;
- Organized pre-positioning of basic emergency resources and coordination mechanisms; and,
- Establishment of pre-positioning agreements for logistical service support, emergency medical services and medical evacuation.

As of mid 2009, both the RMI and FSM have finalized an implementation agreement with USAID specifying IOM’s role. This agreement will allow IOM to react on USAID’s behalf in disaster affected areas as well as in preparedness activities.
The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners throughout the world. IOM currently has 125 member states, a further 16 states hold observer status, and has offices in over 100 countries. IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all, and does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants.

IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need - including refugees and internally displaced people. The IOM Constitution recognizes the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as the right of freedom of movement. IOM works in the following four broad areas of migration management: (1) Migration and Development, (2) Facilitating migration, (3) Regulating migration, and (4) Forced migration.

**AREAS OF FOCUS**

Recognizing the spectrum and inherent complexity of migration issues, IOM has developed an analytical four-box chart to attempt to capture the four major themes of IOM’s migration management work:

- **Migration and Development** - covering activities that deal with: (a) return of qualified nationals; (b) exchange of expertise; (c) remittance and money transfers; (d) overseas communities; (e) micro-credit schemes; (f) targeted assistance; and (g) brain drain and gain.
- **Facilitating Migration** - covering activities that deal with: (a) workers and professionals; (b) students / trainees; (c) family reunification; (d) recruitment / placement; (e) documentation; (f) language training; (g) cultural orientation; and (h) consular services.
- **Regulation Migration** - covering activities that deal with: (a) systems for visa, entry and stay; (b) border management; (c) technology applications; (d) assisted return and reintegration; (e) counter-trafficking; (f) counter-smuggling; and (g) stranded migrants.
- **Forced Migration** - covering activities that deal with: (a) asylum and refugees; (b) resettlement; (c) repatriation; (d) internally displaced persons (IDPs); (e) transition and recovery; (f) former combatants; (g) claims and compensation; (h) elections and referenda; and (i) emergency preparedness and response.

Activities cross-cutting all four themes include: (a) technical cooperation and capacity building; (b) migrants’ rights and international migration law; (c) data and research; (d) policy debate and guidance; (e) regional and international cooperation; (f) public information and education; (g) migration health; (h) gender dimension; and (i) integration and reintegration.

**WHAT WE DO: SAMPLE AREAS OF IOM ACTIVITY**

- Return and Reintegration of Qualified Nationals
- Remittance and Development
- Labour Migration
- Local Economic and Community Development
- Post-Conflict Community Revitalization
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Post-Disaster Relief and Community Rehabilitation
- Pre-Consular Orientation and Services
- Self-payer Movement Support
- Family Reunification
- Border Management
- Migration Management
- Assisted Return and Reintegration of Victims of Trafficking
- Counter-Trafficking
- Out of Country Voting and Elections
- Demobilization, Repatriation, Reintegration

**IOM FACTS & FIGURES**

- Membership increased from 67 States in 1998 to 125 States in 2009 and continues to grow.
- Field locations increased from 119 in 1998 to more than 430 at present.
- Active projects increased from 686 in 1998 to more than 2,030 at present.
- Operational staff increased from approximately 1,100 in 1998 to approximately 6,690 at present, almost entirely in the field.

**IOM REGIONAL OFFICE IN MANILA**

IOM first opened its doors in the Philippines in 1975. Regional office status was conferred in 1996. The Mission with Regional Functions (MRF) in Manila provides administrative, financial, liaison and programme development support in a regional context (and within regional consultative processes) to field offices under its responsibility. This allows for effective sharing of limited core resources and expertise between IOM Missions and within regions.

MRF-Manila ensures a consistent approach in important areas such as project development and the application of administrative and operational policies and procedures. It also provides structural flexibility for the rapid and temporary deployment of expert resources to undertake assessment missions to provide expertise and support to governments and to IOM offices in the region.

IOM-MRF Manila region includes: China, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Macau SAR, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, and Timor-Leste. The IOM Regional Representative in Manila also serves as the Chief of Mission of IOM Philippines.