Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. IOM works with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the well-being and human rights of migrants.

OVERALL EVOLUTION

More people are on the move today than at any other time in recorded history: 1 billion people – comprising a seventh of humanity. A variety of elements – not least the information and communications revolutions – contribute to the movement of people on such a large scale. The forces driving migration as a priority issue are: climate change, natural and man-made catastrophes, conflict, the demographic trends of an ageing industrialized population, an exponentially expanding jobless youth population in the developing world and widening North–South social and economic disparities.

As a consequence of this scale of human mobility, IOM continues to grow, currently counting 173 Member States, with a further 8 States holding observer status, as do numerous international and non-governmental organizations. The number of field locations increased from 119 in 1998 to 413 in 2018. Operational staff increased from approximately 1,100 in 1998 to 4,132 in December 2018, with 97 per cent of staff members based in the field.

Headquartered in Geneva, IOM’s structure is highly decentralized, enabling the Organization to acquire the capacity closer to where the needs are in order to effectively deliver an ever-increasing number of diverse projects at the request of its Member States and partners. IOM’s field structure is composed of:

- **9 Regional Offices** (Dakar, Senegal; Nairobi, Kenya; Cairo, Egypt; Pretoria, South Africa; San José, Costa Rica; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Bangkok, Thailand; Brussels, Belgium; Vienna, Austria), which formulate regional strategies and plans of action to provide programmatic and administrative support to the Country Offices within their regions;
- **2 Administrative Centres** (Manila and Panama), which provide administrative services to IOM's network of offices;
- **2 Special Liaison Offices** (New York, United States of America, and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), which strengthen relations with specific multilateral bodies, diplomatic missions, and non-governmental organizations;
- **9 Country Offices with resource mobilization and coordinating functions** (Berlin, Germany; Hamburg, Germany; Helsinki, Finland; Tokyo, Japan; Washington, D.C., United States of America; Astana, Kazakhstan; Bangkok, Thailand; Canberra, Australia; Georgetown, Guyana; Rome, Italy), which ensure effective fundraising and liaison with donors and have the additional responsibility to ensure that migratory realities within a defined cluster of countries are taken into account in the programmatic activities of the region;
- **Country Offices and sub-offices**, which implement a wide range of projects addressing specific migration needs;
- The **Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC)**, is based in Berlin, Germany, and was established as IOM’s response to growing calls for comprehensive high-quality data on global migration trends.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

IOM provides advice and support to governments and partners, with the overall aim to develop effective national, regional and global migration policies and strategies. IOM strives to establish internal and external coherence with regard to its approach to migration governance as a whole – including, but not limited to, protection and humanitarian policy – as it relates to migration and development.
GLOBAL COMPACT FOR MIGRATION

The global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration will be the first agreement negotiated at the intergovernmental level, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover all the dimensions of international migration in a comprehensive manner. IOM initiated a range of activities to promote the participation of all governments in the process to develop the global compact, while ensuring that the greatest number and variety of stakeholders had a voice in the process. IOM created the Migration Research Leaders Syndicate, through which the world’s leading migration researchers from diverse geographical and thematic backgrounds share their expertise and innovative solutions for migration issues in support of the global compact. This contributed to enhancing policymakers’ understanding of some complex migration issues. IOM supported civil society networks in the organization of seven regional civil society consultations, covering all regions, and a global civil society stocktaking meeting prior to the above-mentioned preparatory meeting for Member States held in Puerto Vallarta.

IOM DEVELOPMENT FUND

The IOM Development Fund serves as a unique global resource for IOM-eligible Member States. The Fund provides “seed funding” for innovative initiatives identified by Member States in coordination with IOM Offices worldwide and include activities that enhance migration management practices and promote humane and orderly migration.

In 2018, 52 new projects were approved benefiting 122 countries. On 31 December 2018, 133 active projects were being administered by the Fund.

GENDER

IOM’s commitment to gender dates back to 1995. In recent years, the Organization has joined the UN System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP) for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, a systemwide accountability framework designed to accelerate progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women.

IOM is also reinforcing its policies and practices in all its field operations to prevent and address gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse against women, girls, men and boys.

MIGRATION EMERGENCY FUNDING MECHANISM

The IOM Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism (MEFM) was established to allow for rapid emergency response in the critical period between the occurrence of an emergency and when funding is actually received.

SUPPORT TO EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

MIGRATION CRISIS OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

IOM’s Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) is an analytical and operational tool to formulate the way in which the Organization supports its Member States and partners to better prepare for, respond to and recover from migration crises.

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

IOM leads the global Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster for natural disasters and implements related activities. The CCCM Cluster has developed guidance and built capacity through training efforts at the global, regional and national levels. Innovative approaches are applied in the management of the displaced persons through strategic partnerships with UN partners, national authorities and the private sector.

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

IOM’s institutional displacement monitoring system is referred to as the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). DTM is increasingly being recognized by the humanitarian community as the operational tool of critical importance to the coordination and delivery of humanitarian assistance.

SOME KEY STATISTICS

MIGRATION HEALTH

Annual expense of USD 138.5 millions

~345,000 Health assessments

as data at 31.12.2017

CAMP HEALTH

Transit Assistance

105,681

Data as at 31.12.2018

US$ | USD

Resettlement Assistance

94,992

Data as at 31.12.2018

As of 31.12.2018

Counter-Trafficking Cases Assisted

7,400

Data as at 1.12.2018

Global Movements

284,492 Refugees and migrants assisted by IOM with air and surface transportation

37% by Air

63% by Surface

as data at 31.12.2018

PUBLICATIONS

1,794 publications

176 published in 2018

7,191 bookstore customers

12,520 mailing list subscribers

~2.2 million downloads

as data at 31.12.2018

Migration is inevitable, necessary and desirable – if well governed.

Migration is inevitable because of, inter alia, demographic, economic and environmental factors.

Migration is necessary to meet labour demands and ensure the availability of skills and the vibrancy of economies and societies.

Migration is desirable for migrants and host populations alike – when governed humanely and fairly as a path to the realization of human potential.