



Children wait for their connecting flight at the airport in Newark, USA. © IOM 2013

United States Refugee Admission Programme (USRAP)

Since 1951, IOM has provided essential services in support of refugee resettlement operations. In the last decade alone, IOM has organized resettlement movements of 892,243 refugees from 186 locations around the world. In West and Central Africa, the main destination country for refugee resettlement is the United States.

In West and Central Africa, IOM provides the following resettlement services under the USRAP:

- ⇒ Movement Management and Operations
- ⇒ Health Assessments and Travel Health Assistance

IOM Ghana serves as the regional hub for both services and covers the following countries:

Country	
Benin	Ghana
Burkina Faso	Guinea
Cameroon	Guinea Bissau
Cape Verde	Liberia
Central African Republic	Mali
Chad	Mauritania
Congo	Niger
Congo, Dem. Republic	Nigeria
Côte d'Ivoire	Senegal
Equatorial Guinea	Sierra Leone
Gabon	Togo
Gambia	

Movement Management & Operations

Part of IOM’s core mandate is to arrange safe and orderly movements for refugees and vulnerable migrants. Movement services for refugees travelling under IOM auspices include the following:

- Obtaining travel documents including exit permits, transit visas;
- Pre-embarkation orientation;
- Transportation to and passenger handling at embarkation airports: assisted check-in, help with customs and immigration formalities;
- Arrangement of international and domestic air tickets at reduced fares;
- Provision of operational or medical escorts for refugees with special needs; and
- Assistance in transit and on arrival.

Statistics

While an increase in resettlement figures was seen over the last few years departures in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 were low, mainly as a result of a moratorium at the start of the FY and challenges with exit permits in Chad. However, FY2015 started off with a steep increase in movements, with the majority of departures from Cameroon and Chad.

Movement assistance FY2011—FY2014:

Fiscal Year 2011 (Oct '10 – Sep '11)	409
Fiscal Year 2012 (Oct '11 – Sep '12)	489
Fiscal Year 2013 (Oct '12 – Sep '13)	691
Fiscal Year 2014 (Oct '13 – Sep '14)	348
Fiscal Year 2015 (Oct '14 – Dec '14)*	263

*Quarter 1 only

Main countries of departure:

Departure Country	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Cameroon	117	155	75	13
Central African Rep.	-	65	-	-
Chad	130	35	286	36
Congo	67	3	46	3
Congo, Dem. Rep.	21	9	114	12
Gabon	8	89	50	21
Ghana	35	67	107	108
Nigeria	2	1	3	110

Main nationalities resettled:

Nationality	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Central African Rep.	184	133	315	25
Congo	25	93	149	27
Congo, Dem. Rep.	86	42	42	100
Liberia	39	50	44	27
Rwanda	8	68	26	2
Sudan	28	40	61	84

Resettlement Support Centre (RSC) Support

IOM provides extensive support throughout the region to the RSC for Circuit Rides to the various missions. IOM Ghana assists with the coordination of services, budgets and invoices, and acts as an intermediary between RSC, IOM Nairobi and the IOM mission concerned.

Typical logistical support includes: refugee transportation, provision of accommodation and food, arrangements for security, child minders and interpreters, in addition to other requests.

Capacity Building

IOM Ghana aims to enhance capacities in the region in order to ensure safe and efficient refugee and migrant movements from the region in line with IOM Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and agreements and the various programmes' requirements.

In September 2013, IOM Ghana organized and hosted the first regional training for IOM Operations Assistants from the entire region who are responsible for pre-departure and departure assistance.

Health Assessments & Travel Health Assistance

Health assessments in the context of refugee resettlement are one of IOM's core activities. Refugees are a particularly vulnerable population, with health profiles that vary according to the displacement experience, pre-existing health conditions, and epidemiological profiles, among other factors. Health assessments and travel health assistance ensures that refugees are fit to travel and meet the requirements of the resettlement country.



Above: A pre-departure medical screening examination at the IOM office in

Through its pre-departure screening and treatment service, IOM provides presumptive and targeted anti-parasitic treatment prior travel to minimize international transmission of diseases of public health significance. Fitness to travel checks and stabilization of chronic conditions are also done prior to travel.

IOM upholds safe and dignified resettlement by providing individual or group medical escort services for refugees requiring medical attention and monitoring during travel.

Migration health assessments FY2011—FY2014:

Fiscal Year 2011 (Oct '10 – Sep '11)	376
Fiscal Year 2012 (Oct '11 – Sep '12)	674
Fiscal Year 2013 (Oct '12 – Sep '13)	660
Fiscal Year 2014 (Oct '13 – Sep '14)	711
Fiscal Year 2015 (Oct '14 – Dec '14)*	545