In Mali, as elsewhere in the Sahel region, governance challenges and need for stronger institutional capacity to manage security threats are high on the policy agenda. Through IBM technical cooperation, IOM contributes to the ongoing stabilization efforts and enhancing the human security of the Malian population.

In providing IBM technical assistance, IOM pays particular attention to promoting good governance, respect to human rights and the rule of law, as well as the special needs of vulnerable populations in the border areas.

Effective border management is a powerful tool for combatting terrorism and trans-border crime, and enhancing national and regional security. Security is a pre-condition for sustainable development and ongoing stabilization efforts in the Sahel region. Development without security is impossible, security without development is only temporary.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Building border control posts and installing migration management IT systems (MIDAS) in Gogui and Sona
- Working with the Malian Government and UN partners on developing the National Border Policy and IBM Strategy
- Training the Police and other IBM agencies in border management and travel document examination

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A glance at our IBM activities in Mali

Construction of international border control posts. The new police post in Gogui, on the Mali-Mauritania border, was officially opened in April 2016. Another police border post in Sona, Sikasso region, will be finished and opened by the end of the year.

Providing Malian border police posts with a border management information system (Migration Information and Data Analysis System, MIDAS). The system has been installed at the Gogui post and to be launched in Sona by the end of 2016. It enables the Malian police border posts to collect, process, store and analyse information about travellers, including their bio-data and biometrics. Future plans include connecting MIDAS to the Interpol’s I-24/7 Global Communication System and its Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database.

Working with the Malian Government and MINUSMA on updating and developing the National Border Policy.

Performing a comprehensive assessment of Mali’s IBM capacity. Its objective is to produce a systematic picture of border management capabilities in Mali, identifying gaps and deficiencies, and producing recommendations for future IBM capacity-building reforms and international assistance.

Training the Malian police in auxiliary skills such as computer literacy and English.

Strengthening the competencies and professionalism of Malian border officials through professional training in border management, travel document examination and combatting trans-border crime. The training is delivered in joint groups for Malian and Mauritanian police to strengthen bilateral cooperation in border management.

Enhancing Mali’s Humanitarian Border Management (HBM) capacity to handle crises and mass flows of population across the borders. Activities include developing HBM Standard Operating Procedures for government institutions and conducting drills in border control post areas, chiefly on the Mali-Mauritania border.

IOM in Mali

IOM has been present in Mali since 1998, with offices in Bamako, Mopti, Timbuktu and Gao.

IOM Mali has over 100 staff and a large project portfolio, including community-led programming on stabilization and socio-economic reintegration in the North.

Implemented in close cooperation with the Malian Government and international partners, IOM’s initiatives focus on international migration and internal displacement, assisting the most vulnerable.

Established in 1951, the IOM is a UN Migration Agency and the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration. It is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society.