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OUR NEWSLETTER



PUBLISHED ON 04/13/2017

IOM WASHINGTON

In This Issue

Irregular Migration in the Americas

Crowdsourcing App Seeks to Solve Migrant Crisis

Beyond the Headlines: Changing the Narrative

Somalia Food Crisis: 5 Things to Know



[Read here](#)

Photo Contest: "Migrants: An Invisible Force in Central Asia"

Report Highlights Need for Hemispheric Approach to Increased Migration Flows



The number of migrants from the Caribbean, Asia and Africa moving irregularly through Central America, Colombia and Mexico has increased, in some cases, up to six times since 2012. This is the main conclusion of a joint report - *Irregular Migration Flows to/within the Americas from Africa, Asia and the Caribbean* - released by the Organization of American States and IOM on March 11th in Washington, D.C. Yet, migration through Mesoamerica still remains mainly intraregional: more than 66 percent of all migratory movements occur within the region or between neighboring countries. "For some individuals, irregular migration is their only way to escape poverty, conflict and possibly death. They are vulnerable when they leave home and become more vulnerable on the routes. With the multiplication of smugglers and traffickers along the migratory routes, we remain concerned about their protection and safety,"



[Read here](#)

said Luca Dall'Oglio, IOM Chief of Mission in Washington, who attended the launch event of the report. Download report [here](#)

SAS Crowdsourcing App Seeks to Solve Migrant Crisis



Leader in analytics, SAS, launched the first crowdsourcing app aimed at solving humanitarian crises. The app - [GatherIQ](#) - was launched earlier this month during the SAS Global Forum in Orlando. The first GatherIQ project, developed in partnership with the International Organization for Migration, is asking the public to help analyze data to better understand the dangers migrants face by using data from the Missing Migrant Project. "There is a common denominator with mobility and that is the possibility of a dangerous journey. There are multiple migration corridors throughout this world. You can help us get a better understanding of these routes and the issues faced by people traveling on them. We have questions and we really hope you can help us get answers," Brian Kelly, Head of the Community Stabilization Unit at IOM, said during the launch event. Learn more [here](#)

Beyond The Headlines: Changing the Narrative



The International Organization for Migration in Washington, D.C., joined the Spring Conference organized by George Washington University's student group, *No Lost Generation*, to discuss the need of a more positive narrative on migrants and refugees. Communications and Social Media Coordinator, Hajar Naili, invited the audience - made up mostly of students and members of the Department of State's PRM - to create personal connections with displaced communities and highlighted the importance to invite migrants and refugees to share their own stories. Watch video [here](#)

Addressing Operational Challenges and Innovation in Protracted Forced Displacement

The World Bank hosted last month a seminar on operational challenges and innovation in protracted forced displacement. The International Organization for Migration, represented by Roberta Romano, Migration Policy and Community Stabilization Specialist, introduced the Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations Framework (PRDS) adopted in 2016, and which guides the organization to navigate the complexity of forced migration dynamics and support incremental efforts to resolve displacement. The seminar was also the opportunity for IOM to reaffirm its commitments to maximize the benefits of mobility for displaced populations, as well as hosting and home communities. Learn more about PRDS [here](#)

American States Kick Off Consultations for Global Migration Compact



The first bi-regional meeting to begin consultations for the Global Compact on Migration took place on March 31 at the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C. The event brought together representatives and experts on migration from 34 countries of the Western Hemisphere, representatives of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Regional Conference on Migration or Puebla Process (CRM), the South American Conference on Migration (CSM) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). The participants

exchanged experiences and best practices, renewed their cooperation in the field of migration and agreed to establish a working group to review proposals submitted for the Global Compact. The working group will be composed of Chile, Panama, and their respective Technical Secretariats.

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IN BRIEF



- **Libya**- During an official visit late in March, IOM's Director General, William Lacy Swing, announced that the organization will re-establish its mission in the country and "will stand by Libya." "By being present, bearing witness and distributing aid, IOM hopes to help Libya achieve the peace and prosperity we know it must have," said Mr. Swing. Read [more](#)
- **Somalia**- Due to the increasing food insecurity and the worsening drought, thousands of Somalis are being forced to leave their homes in search of food and water. The Government of Ethiopia and the humanitarian community are preparing for the arrival of an estimated 50,000 Somalis in Ethiopia, all of whom will urgently require humanitarian assistance. IOM is appealing for USD 24.6 million to provide life-saving humanitarian relief to more than one million affected persons. Read [more](#)
- **Yemen** - Late last month, IOM donated approximately 3 tons of medicines and medical supplies to Al-Thawra General Hospital in Yemen. Al-Thawra General Hospital, which is the largest public hospital in the country, has been crippled by conflict and overwhelmed with an increase of patients. According to WHO, Yemen's health care system is on the brink of collapse with over 274 health facilities destroyed due to ongoing conflict. Read [more](#)
- **Iraq** - In conflict-affected and retaken areas in Ninewa governorate, community members are implementing peacebuilding activities to promote dialogue and enhance social cohesion within their communities. The peacebuilding activities have been carried out by 10 community "peace builders" trained and mentored by the University of Dohuk's Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies. Read [more](#)
- **Colombia** - A Somali delegation of UN, IOM, and Government officials, visited Colombia late last month with the aim of learning on Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programs, strategies and initiatives. The group was also introduced to strategies to prevent the recruitment of children and adolescents and participated in conversations with groups of victims who have overcome their vulnerability. Read [more](#)
- **Peru** - IOM has joined the UN Evaluation and Disaster Coordination (UNDAC) team, in support of the Government of Peru, to assess the emergency caused by heavy rains,

and mud- and landslides in several regions of the country. At least, 124,000 people have been affected and 97 fatalities have been recorded to date. Read [more](#)

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Top 3 Tweets



-  Up to 50,000 Somalis are expected to flee to Ethiopia. Urgent humanitarian aid is needed. You can help: <http://bit.ly/2lHyvC> #Somalia. See tweet [here](#)
-  Food crisis in #Somalia could become a migrant crisis. 138,000+ pp have already been displaced. Here's what to know http://usaim.org/somalia_fivethingstoknow. See tweet [here](#)
-  Syrian Refugees in Turkey start small businesses to reduce dependency on humanitarian Aid <http://bit.ly/2mnnSwM> #syrianrefugees. See Tweet [here](#)

Do you have any questions? Email us: [iomwashington @iom.int](mailto:iomwashington@iom.int)

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