

May 2020



IOM Scales Up COVID-19 Response

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ASSISTING DISPLACED POPULATIONS



The 16,000-square-meter warehouse in Gaziantep, Turkey continues to operate amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Warehouse workers load approximately 200 trucks per month with essential items bound for northwest Syria. IOM implemented measures to mitigate health risks for front line staff so they can continue their life-saving work in safety. This project is funded by the USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). [Read more](#)

HEALTH-PROOFING MOBILITY SYSTEMS



PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT



Citi and the Citi Foundation have selected IOM as one of four partners for a new employee donation campaign. Citi will match the total contributions up to \$500,000 to [USA for IOM](#), the non-profit partner of IOM. [Read more](#)

Citi Foundation and USA for IOM also hosted a conversation with more than 30 representatives from U.S. companies and foundations. The call was the first of a series to highlight the human mobility perspective around COVID-19. For more information, contact [Maria Moreno](#).

STRATEGIC COOPERATION

IOM trained Vietnamese immigration officials on preventive procedures and infection control at ports of entry, including proper use of personal protection equipment. This short-term assistance was provided under the Asia Regional Migration Program funded by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM). For more information, contact [Richard Fairbrother](#).



On April 3 and 29, IOM Chief of Mission Luca Dall'Oglio met virtually with the Organization of American States and the international institutions of the Joint Summit Working Group to discuss coordinated and joint responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. This cooperation mechanism allows for strengthened action to address the multiple challenges in the region. [Read more](#)

SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING



During crises, such as the current COVID-19 pandemic, migrant women are particularly vulnerable to sexual exploitation. Perpetrators seek to take advantage of their circumstances: financial insecurity, lack of awareness of their legal rights, language barriers, and their irregular immigration status in many countries of destination. IOM is currently assisting victims of trafficking in Trinidad and Tobago and recently delivered dignity kits to a government shelter thanks to funding from PRM and UN Women. [Read more](#)

CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT



On April 29, IOM Ukraine Chief of Mission Anh Nguyen joined United Nations Association of the USA for a discussion on livelihoods during COVID-19. Also featured were speakers from the International Labour Organization and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. [Watch here](#)

ENGAGING DIASPORA IN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE



On April 22, IOM convened diaspora groups and individuals from around the world for the first global diaspora [virtual exchange](#) on the COVID-19 response. The objective was to create a space for diaspora communities to share experiences and best practices in their responses to the crisis and beyond. While there is an increasing attention on diaspora's engagement in the humanitarian space, more tools to connect diasporas and other institutional humanitarian actors are needed. An OFDA-funded IOM program to engage US-based diaspora communities for the promotion of safer shelters is among some of the most comprehensive and targeted actions to date. It is time to consolidate and scale up these efforts through coordinated and innovative approaches to support the engagement of diaspora groups and professionals in different sectors like the health sector, which is deeply affected by the pandemic. [Read more](#)

KEY RESOURCES

[Situation Reports](#) detail IOM's response to COVID-19 at the global, regional and country levels.

[Issue Briefs](#) highlight recommendations on stranded migrants, health-proofing mobility systems, socioeconomic impacts, and xenophobia and migrant inclusion.

[COVID-19 Analytical Snapshots](#) are designed to capture the latest information and analysis.

[Mobility Restrictions Dashboard](#) maps the impact of COVID-19 on human mobility.

[Migration Health Evidence Portal](#) is a repository of research on COVID-19 and its intersection with migration health.

Media Requests

For media inquiries, please contact IOM Washington Media & Communications Officer [here](#).

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