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IOM SUPPORTS VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING TO REGAIN TRUST IN THEMSELVES



Border Management



The Border Management Information System MIDAS has been installed in Mahajanga, where now the police has IT tools to control the flow of passengers. In May, the system will also be installed at the Nosy Be airport.

Mauritius, Know your Rights!

On 23 March the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms, in collaboration with the British High Commission launched the "Know your rights" pamphlet for migrant workers, with the contribution of IOM and other stakeholders.

Peacebuilding Fund



IOM Madagascar has completed the construction of the Andranambao Gendarmerie's outpost in the Ihozy region. Four more outposts will be completed in the coming months and will help secure areas of the country heavily affected by rural banditry.

Dance Your Feelings: Body Language Workshop with Victims of Trafficking

Since 2015, IOM Madagascar and the Ministry of Population, Social Protection and Women Empowerment are collaborating to provide assistance to victims of human trafficking. Since the beginning of this year, the assistance includes, beside the medical, psychological and economic reintegration services, the opportunity for IOM beneficiaries to participate to body language workshops. These consists of a series of six classes, lasting approximately two hours. "Each participant has the opportunity to express herself through dance, using different exercises, some on their own, others in pairs and some with the group, with the objective of exploring the internal and external spaces and of living and dancing their own feelings", underlines Laurianne Bitarelle, educator and tutor of body expression who delivers the workshops. One of the main aims of these workshops is to encourage personal development, knowledge of and self-trust. These aspects are pivotal for the successful social reintegration of IOM beneficiaries, who are predominantly young women that present psychosocial and physical trauma from the abuses and exploitation they faced. The workshops are proving very productive and extremely beneficial: « they (i.e. the workshops) loosen the body and the mind, they bring relief » commented the beneficiaries.

Population Mobility Mapping to Avoid Plague in Urban Areas



In order to prevent plague from spreading to urban areas as it did during the major outbreak of 2017, IOM conducted Population Mobility Mapping (PMM) exercises in three major cities of Madagascar (Antananarivo, Antsirabe, and Fianarantsoa) in close collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Transport. Ten priority sites were identified as strategic zones along major mobility corridors for the establishment of Health Screening Points (HSP) in the event of a declaration of a plague

E-Visa Technical Assistance

From the 6 to 8 March a Technical Assistance for the implementation of an E-Visa system for Mauritius was carried out under the ACP-EU Migration Action initiative.

Counter-Trafficking



In February 2019, IOM Madagascar launched the project “Protecting Human Rights and Enabling Economic Empowerment for Women Victims of Trafficking in Madagascar”, funded by the Australian Government’s Direct Aid Program (DAP), which will cover direct assistance for 25 women VoTs until July 2019.

Career Fair

IOM Mauritius partnered with the UNRCO to participate in the Middlesex University career fair on the 31 January to showcase the work of the UN in Mauritius to the students and raise their interest in working for/with the UN.

epidemic outbreak. Each of these potential sites were assessed, and feasibility and relevance criteria were used in order to restrict the number of proposed locations. Since HSP can only be operational with the required equipment and competent human resources, IOM also provided the Ministry of Public Health with 10 HSP kits that contain all the necessary equipment for the running of safe health controls around the 3 major cities and organized HSP management trainings for 221 relevant stakeholders from the health sector, the gendarmerie and local communities.

Home, Family Support and Successful Reintegration for a Better Health

Mr. Henry (fictitious name) had left Mauritius in search of better opportunities. After spending several years abroad, he started facing serious health difficulties and decided to return to Mauritius through the IOM’s Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programme.

Upon his return, Mr. Henry’s sister and father accepted to accommodate and take care of him as his medical condition no longer allowed him to work. With family support and his reintegration grants, Mr. Henry managed to secure a comfortable place to live as well as a medical pension for the long term. Additionally, he used his medical grant to consult with medical specialists and to get medication complementing the treatment received in the public hospital.

Coming back home and the reintegration grant played a significant role in the improvement of Mr. Henry’s health and social condition. “Being back in Mauritius, having the reintegration and medical grant, as well as securing a medical pension for the long term have really given me some peace of mind” stated Mr. Henry “I have suffered from fewer seizures since my return in Mauritius.”

Celebration of the International Migrant Day with the Bangladeshi High Commission

In 2000, the United Nations proclaimed December 18 as the International Migrant Day in recognition of the increasing number of people on the move. However, on 3 February 2019 IOM Mauritius joined the Bangladeshi High Commission in celebrating the International Migrant Day. The Bangladeshi High Commissioner and the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training highlighted the contribution of migrant workers to the economic development of Mauritius. They renewed a strong condemnation of any form of exploitation towards migrant workers and encouraged the latter to report cases of abuse. “In the near future, provision will be made for migrant workers’ contracts to be written in their native language” affirmed the Minister of Labour. IOM stressed the importance of governments’ cooperation to ensure safe, orderly and dignified migration, to reduce the risks that migrants may face. The speeches were followed by the screening of IOM videos (in Bangla) on migrant workers journey in order to raise awareness on the risk and danger of irregular migration. The Bangladeshi High Commission concluded the event awarding certificates to the migrant workers who have been sending their remittances through proper channel, to encourage them and others to do so in the future.

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