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IOM FIGHTS DROUGHT-INDUCED MIGRATION IN THE SOUTH OF MADAGASCAR



Displacement Tracking Matrix



The fifth DTM report was released in September. Trends are alarming with displacement from and within the Androy Region projected to reach levels similar to those of 2016, the worst year on record, when the Region suffered from a dire humanitarian crisis.

[Read the 5th Report DTM!](#)

Border Management

A Memorandum of Understanding for the management of Ivato airport's Coordination Center was finalised in September with the help of IOM. The Centre will bring together five border management agencies and will be operational in the coming months.

Bilateral Cooperation



Mauritius/Djibouti Bilateral Cooperation: IOM facilitated bilateral cooperation between Mauritius and Djibouti for the training of 20 Djiboutian Police officers by the Mauritius Police Force.

[Read more about it!](#)

Cabinet Endorses Mauritius' National Migration and Development Policy

The Government of Mauritius has adopted its National Migration and Development Policy on 1st June 2018, following the strategic vision of the government to deal with challenges and opportunities related to migration in a holistic and proactive way. In line with the Government Programme 2015-2019, this Policy aims to maximize the positive outcomes and impact of migration for the socio-economic development of the Republic of Mauritius. The formulation of the Policy framework has been driven by the current and future imperatives generated by globalisation, rapid transformation of economies and societies as well as international commitments taken to promote universal respect and observance of human rights and freedom for all. IOM is proud to support the Government in implementing its National Migration and Development Policy for the benefit of all.

[Read more here about the Migration and Development Policy!](#)

Nippon Foundation Supports Protection for Victims of Trafficking in Madagascar



Representatives of the Malagasy Government, led by the Minister for Social Affairs, Mrs. Lucien Irmah NAHARIMAMY, IOM and partners proceeded on 17 September 2018 to the inauguration of the first victims of trafficking (VoTs) shelter in Madagascar. The inauguration of this shelter, rehabilitated by IOM, is a key step for ensuring VoTs' protection, since most of the time, upon their return in Madagascar, VoTs are left to themselves.

The "Mitsinjo" shelter is located in a central neighbourhood of the capital city, Antananarivo. It is the first of its kind, and will allow to provide first care and secure temporary accommodation for up to 12 VoTs at any given time. It provides a much needed space where VoTs can have a moment of pause, benefit from a range of assistance and counselling, including legal counselling, by well-trained social workers and assistance professionals, as well as reconnect with their families in a neutral environment. This effort complements IOM's multiyear programme of counter-trafficking activities in support to the Government and other national stakeholders.

Counter-Trafficking

From July to September, IOM, in coordination with the Malagasy Government, provided reintegration assistance to more than 40 victims of trafficking who returned to Madagascar from the Gulf countries and Asia.

Visit of the Regional Director

The IOM Regional Director for Southern Africa, Mr Charles Kwenin, undertook an official visit to Mauritius between 16 to and 20 September to present his credentials and hold bilateral discussions with different stakeholders.

Strengthening State Authority in Southern Madagascar



IOM got started with the construction of five outposts for the Gendarmerie to allow a better control of the remote areas and secure them against the attacks of the bandit group “dahalo”.

United Nations in Seychelles

On the 3rd of September the United Nations and the Government of Seychelles signed a Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF). The SPF is the result of joint consultations with different UN agencies, including IOM.

Comorian Diaspora

In July, a Study on the Comorian Diaspora Profile – the first of its kind – was launched. The research consortiums surveyed more than 400 Comorian migrants residing in France. Results are expected before the end of the year.

IOM, Public Health, and Mobility Partners Strengthen Plague Outbreak Preparedness

Between 11 and 13 September, IOM jointly with WHO facilitated a workshop for the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Health Screenings at international Points of Entry (airports and ports) and alongside major population mobility flow points within the country, such as public transportation hubs. This workshop comes in preparation to a possible resurgence of a plague outbreak but the SOPs could be activated in any scenario of health crisis with a pandemic potential.

Local, regional and far-flung human mobility is a complex and dynamic phenomenon, which has shown capable to amplify the spread of communicable diseases and the impact of public health events. The knowledge and understanding of population mobility dynamics is key for epidemiology and public health decisions aimed at preventing, detecting and responding to public health events. Plague is endemic in Madagascar and the transmission season runs from September to April, with an average of 200 to 400 cases reported each year. In 2017, the country experienced a particularly severe outbreak that affected endemic and non-endemic urban areas alike, with a reported 2,600 cases and 221 deaths.

Migration, Agriculture, Independence : a Mauritian story



Nitesh (not his real name), a Mauritian national of 22 years old, returned from Italy to Mauritius in February through IOM’s assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) programme, with the hope of finally being able to achieve his dream of becoming independent and helping his parents.

Upon his return, IOM provided guidance and financial assistance for Nitesh to start-up his own crop cultivation business. With the support of his family, Nitesh showed a keen determination and passion to learn about innovative agricultural methods. Soon, all the efforts and hard work paid off and Nitesh is now growing vegetables and sells his produce to retailers. His small business has also benefited his village since people no longer have to travel further for fresh vegetables. “I am thankful for the sustainable help that IOM has provided, and I look forward to expanding my business and improving the agricultural methods.”

For more information please reach out to us at IOMMadagascar@iom.int or IOMMauritius@iom.int

Or visit us:

IOM Madagascar
Immeubles Sonapar, Cube C, 1st floor,
Zone Galaxy Andraharo, Antananarivo,
MADAGASCAR
+261 20 23 308 09

IOM Comoros
United Nations Compound,
(Nearby Retaj Hotel) B.P. 648, Moroni
COMOROS
+269 773 15 59

IOM Mauritius
Suite 608, 6th floor, St James Court
St Denis Street, Port Louis,
MAURITIUS
+230 210 4250