

BORDER SECURITY

IOM's Immigration and Border Management Division

As the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is increasingly called upon by Member States to assist in addressing complex migration and border management challenges in order to maintain the delicate balance between the facilitation of cross-border movements, while upholding border security and protecting migrants' rights.

IOM's Immigration and Border Management (IBM) Division supports Member States with improving border management related policy, legislation, operational systems, and strengthen human resources and administrative and technical structures

IOM'S BORDER SECURITY ACTIVITIES

To help States respond to and mitigate threats at their borders, IOM provides technical assistance and capacity-building interventions. IOM assists agencies working on border security to improve their institutional and human resource capacities, while enhancing cooperation at the intra-service, inter-agency and international levels to increase information-sharing and streamlining of operations.

IOM conducts in-depth assessments of Member States' current capacities, operational frameworks and policy, and provides recommendations to allow for more effective border security practices. IOM's activities in border security include the following training courses:

- Data collection, management and information-sharing. IOM also provides training on how to gather intelligence and create evidence-based risk profiles, interviewing techniques, case working methods and report writing skills.
- Travel document examination and verification, including passport and identity fraud and impostor recognition. Other capacity-building activities provide Member States with travel document inspection and verification equipment and technical support, including establishing forensic laboratories for document examination.
- Countering transnational organized crime and developing national capacities to detect threats to border security, including terrorism and migrant smuggling. Contextualized training can be delivered to analyse data – for example on regional trends of passports and identity frauds – aimed at developing actionable intelligence.

MIGRATION PERCEPTIONS

IOM is committed to upholding migrants' rights under international, humanitarian and refugee law, including the principle of non-refoulement. As such, the Organization is dedicated to promoting positive perceptions of migration, combating xenophobia, racism and discrimination, and ensuring their access to protection, as stated in the Organization's Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF).



Objective 4: Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation.

Objective 9: Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants.

Objective 11: Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner.

Objective 23: Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration.



Target 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

Target 16.4: By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flow, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.

Target 16.a: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.

IOM'S CAPACITY BUILDING TOOLS FOR BORDER SECURITY



MIGRATION INFORMATION AND DATA ANALYSIS SYSTEM (MIDAS)

Developed by IOM, MIDAS is a border management information system designed to collect, process and store travellers' information at entry and exit border crossing. It enhances the Member State's capacity to identify and apprehend people posing a national or international security threat at the border due to MIDAS' interconnectivity with national and INTERPOL alert lists.



VERIFIER TRAVEL DOCUMENT AND BEARER SYSTEM (TD&B)

VERIFIER TD&B is an IOM-developed document examination and verification system that allows border management officers to detect fraudulent travel documents and imposters by analysing the match between the travel document and its bearer's biographic and biometric data.



DOCUMENT EXAMINATION SUPPORT CENTRE (DESC)

IOM's DESC provides guidance, advice and support to immigration and border control officials, as well as travel document issuing authorities, whenever a suspicious document has been intercepted and further information is required to determine the legitimacy.



ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION (API)

IOM provides States with technical assistance and capacity-building support to strengthen their API implementation, allowing governments to pre-identify persons of interest prior to their arrival.



PASSPORT EXAMINATION PROCEDURE MANUAL II (PEPM II)

One of the world's leading reference tools, IOM's PEPM II serves as a guide for border officials to verify the validity and authenticity of travel documents.

IOM'S PARTNERS IN ENSURING BORDER SECURITY

IOM is a member of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and works closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on issues of migrant smuggling and counter-terrorism.



For more information, please contact IOM's Immigration and Border Management Division at ibm@iom.int.