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 Immigration and Border Management Division

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.

IOM’s Border Security Activities

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