IOM AND TRAINING FOR BORDER AND MIGRATION MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is increasingly called upon by States to assist in addressing multifaceted border management challenges, including to provide technical support in the specific area of training. Training in border management primarily refers to the technical support of immigration officers or other border officials who have a direct role in movements processing and the management and operations of border crossing points. It is a core component of IOM’s capacity building work and is often integral to projects of the Immigration and Border Management (IBM) Division.

Foundation training
IOM offers “foundation trainings” that aim at increasing awareness of migration issues and focus on several areas: passport and visa systems, immigration systems, border management systems, migration intelligence systems, management of operational data and more. Furthermore, it includes the awareness raising of international law, labour migration, migration and health, gender training and integrated border management, as outlined in IOM’s two foundation training tools - the Essentials of Migration Management for Policy Makers and Practitioners (EMM) and the Essentials of Migration Practice for Immigration Officers (EMP).

Thematic training
IOM also delivers “thematic trainings” that focus on specific IBM topics and are designed to support immigration practitioners in carrying out their tasks and duties in a professional, efficient and ethical way. Comprehensive modules have been developed to provide in-depth training in communication at border crossing points, border procedures, passport examination procedures, countering document fraud and transnational organised crime (trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants), interviewing techniques and intelligence analysis for immigration and border officers. The IBM thematic training is backed by several IOM-developed training manuals, such as the Passport Examination Procedure Manual (PEMP), the Counter-Trafficking Training Modules and Capacity Building Workbook, and the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) manual and training.

OUR OBJECTIVE
REINFORCE THE SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES OF BORDER AND IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL, ETHICAL AND EFFICIENT BORDER MANAGEMENT
IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration, and work towards effective respect of the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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THE AFRICAN CAPACITY BUILDING CENTRE: A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE DEDICATED TO FOSTERING GOOD MIGRATION GOVERNANCE

In order to address the concern of several African IOM Member States, IOM established the African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC) in Moshi, Tanzania.

Since its inception in 2009, the ACBC is committed to availing technical expertise to requesting African States on all concerns along the migration management spectrum and to delivering training programmes to the African actors of migration management. The Centre facilitates expertise and training in areas such as integrated border management, counter smuggling and counter trafficking, passport examination procedures, document fraud, interviewing techniques and intelligence in addition to other migration management topics, such as migration policy. ACBC’s trainers have delivered dozens of on- and off-site training courses, thereby reinforcing the skills of border and immigration officials. For the African continent, the ACBC is also the cornerstone of implementation of the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS), IOM’s in-house border management information system.

ENHANCING MIGRATION MANAGEMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC THROUGH TRAINING OF BORDER OFFICIALS

The Document Examination Support Centre (DESC) is a training Centre based in IOM’s Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok under the auspices of the IBM division. The Centre was established in February 2012 with funding from the Government of Canada. DESC recognizes the importance of document examination as an area of expertise to develop among frontline immigration and border control officers in the region.

The main objectives are to strengthen the training capacities of regional border authorities. This includes the improved availability of document examination training as well as post-training support for immigration and border control officials. Well trained border personnel is a key factor towards effective migration management, which in turn helps counter irregular migration, including smuggling of migrants and human trafficking, but also transnational organized crime.