This brief presents IOM’s objectives and areas of work when providing protection to crisis affected individuals and communities. “In addressing the mobility dimensions of humanitarian crises in an integrated and comprehensive manner, IOM seeks to ensure that the right to protection of migrants, displaced persons and affected communities is upheld and their needs fulfilled regardless of inter alia, their age, sex, gender, physical condition, nationality, ethnic group or religious affiliation”.

**OBJECTIVE**

IOM supports States to uphold and restore the rights of those who are particularly vulnerable to, or at risk of, violence as a result of/or during forced migration. In simple terms, IOM crisis response not only ensures that no one is left behind, but works for those who are at risk of falling behind to make sure they are properly assisted and protected.

**KEY AREAS OF WORK**

- Humanitarian evacuations (international and internal relocations)
- Mental health and psychosocial support
- Protection considerations for humanitarian admissions and other resettlement schemes
- Prevention and response to child abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence
- Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse
- Meeting institutional commitments on human rights
- Counter-human trafficking in crisis
- Mainstreaming protection in other sectors
- Land, property and reparations (LPR)
- Civil documentation and prevention of statelessness
- Prevention and response to gender-based violence

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1 IOM’s Principles for Humanitarian Action, Part IV
2 Ibidem
3 Violence: umbrella term to include abuse, exploitation, neglect, harm, threats, violation of human rights and of international humanitarian law
**APPROACH**

Through the Organization’s proximity to affected individuals and communities, IOM ensures that protection outcomes are first integrated into other sectors objectives (e.g.: protection outcomes included in CCCM, or shelter, transport interventions, transition and recovery programs etc.) and when relevant and according to needs, develops stand-alone protection actions (e.g.: preventing, responding and restoring).

Example: In an emergency transportation project for crisis affected migrants, IOM prioritizes the transport of women, girls, boys and men on the basis of their degree of exposure to imminent risks of being targeted by violence and identifies the safest transit options considering their different needs. In addition, if unaccompanied and separated children are identified within the affected migrants, IOM engages with key partners in activities of documentation, tracing, family assessments and reunification or in alternative care options in line with the migrant children’s best interests.

**KEY REFERENCE GUIDANCE AND CONTACTS PER AREA OF WORK**

### Child Protection
- **Child Protection Minimum Standards**
- **IASC UASC Handbook & Toolkit — 2016**
- **IOM Guidance on children on the move— 2013**
- **Child Rights in the Global Compacts — 2017**
- **Harrowing Journeys — 2017**
  
  **Contact:** DOEProtection@iom.int

### Civil Documentation and Prevention of Statelessness
- **IOM guidance— in progress**
  
  **Contact:** DOEProtection@iom.int; IML@iom.int

### Counter-human Trafficking in Crisis
- **IOM Handbook for the direct assistance to victims of trafficking**
- **IOM Guidance—in progress (MAD)**
  
  **Contact:** migrantassisteddivision@iom.int

### Gender-based Violence
- **IASC GBV Guidelines-2016**
- **IOM Guidance—in progress**
- **IOM Site Planning: Guidance to Reduce the Risk of Gender-Based Violence — 2017**
  
  **Contact:** CCCMSupport@iom.int; DOEProtection@iom.int

### Humanitarian Evacuations and Relocations
- **IOM’s Guidance Note— IN/238 Protection Considerations in International Humanitarian Evacuations of migrants**
- **IOM’s key principles for Internal humanitarian evacuations**
- **IOM—MICIC Special Measures for the Evacuation of Migrant Children: a Reference Checklist — 2017**
  
  **Contact:** DOEProtection@iom.int; IML@iom.int

### Meeting Institutional Commitments on Human Rights
- **Human Rights’ Upfront Initiative Action Plan**
- **IOM’s Principles for Humanitarian Action**
- **Mapping of available human rights’ reporting channels— in progress**
  
  **Contact:** DOEProtection@iom.int; IML@iom.int

### Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
- **IASC Guidelines in Mental Health and Psychosocial Support**
- **IOM GN/IN 206 Mental Health and Psychosocial support to migrant, displaced and crisis affected populations, including returnees**
  
  **Contact:** psychosocialsupport@iom.int

### Land, Property and Reparations
- **UN Basic Principles and Guidelines on Rights to Remedy and Reparations for Victims of Gross Violations of IHRL and IHL, UNGA Resolution — 2005**
- **UN Principles on Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons (known as Pinheiro Principles); UN ECOSOC — 2005**
  
  **Contact:** icvetkovski@iom.int

### Protection from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (PSEA)
- **IOM PSEA Policy IN/234 — Policy and Procedures for Preventing and Responding to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse**
- **IASC Minimum Operating Standards on PSEA**
- **CBCM Best Practice Guide: Inter-agency Community-based Complaint Mechanisms**
  
  **Contact:** PSEA-CBCM@iom.int; Ethics&ConductOffice@iom.int

### Protection Mainstreaming
- **Global Protection Cluster Guidance**
- **IOM Guidance Note IN 232 - How to mainstream protection in IOM’s crisis response and relevant tools**
- **CCCM Toolkit**
  
  **Contact:** DOEProtection@iom.int; IML@iom.int