

Protecting & Assisting Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflicts or Natural Disasters

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co-chaired by the Philippines and the United States

### **2011 Libya Crisis**

- February-June 2011 civil strife
- Nearly 800,000 migrants fled Libya



- Most from neighboring countries 45% were comprised of 120 nationalities
- All in need of assistance; many in need of protection and evacuation
- Other impacts:
  - Challenges for home countries evacuation, return, and reintegration
  - · Challenges for migrants livelihoods, reintegration, and empowerment
  - Challenges for Libya/country in crisis economy, skills, and services

### **2011 Japan Crisis**

- March 2011 earthquake and tsunami
- Approx. 700,000 foreigners in areas affected by earthquake and tsunami
   (and nuclear accident)
- 531,000 foreigners left Japan in the month after the earthquake and tsunami
- From diverse countries, within and outside the region, including Brazil,
   China, Malaysia, Philippines, South Korea, and Taiwan
- Effective communication essential for emergency assistance

# Why Migrants? Specific Vulnerabilities and Circumstances

- Pre-existing vulnerabilities
- Unable to leave the country in crisis
- Unwilling to leave the country in crisis
- Unable to access humanitarian assistance
- Unable or unwilling to return to country of origin
- Subjected to discrimination, targeted attacks, or exploitation

### Objectives of the MICIC Initiative

Save Lives

Protect Rights and Dignity

**Address Impacts** 

- Better preparation
- More effective responses
  - Better recovery

Non-binding principles, guidelines, and effective practices

### Scope of MICIC Initiative

#### Which Crises?

Conflict

and/or

Natural Disasters

≠ Economic ≠ Employment ≠ Other

#### Which Migrants?

In country when crisis hits
Temporarily or permanently
Regardless of legal status

Not personal crises

#### Can include:

Migrant workers and families
Tourists, business travelers, students, and diplomats
Victims of human trafficking and smuggled persons
Marriage migrants

Outcomes will not replace existing frameworks or mechanisms

#### Which Phases?

Pre-Crisis

Emergency

Post-Crisis

= All Phases

### What We Are Learning So Far

Data, tracking, and contact information on migrants

Crisis

alert

systems

Contingency planning/DRR

Emergency funds and insurance schemes Respect for human and labor rights, and ethical recruitment

Evacuation and return services

Open borders, humanitarian border management and temporary admission

Re-migration and other mobility opportunities

Back pay, outstanding wages, return of property, remains

Standing arrangements on evacuation, consular assistance, coordination etc.

Nonrefoulement

Save lives

Identification and Referral Systems

Services upon return - livelihood creation, health, psychosocial counselling

# **Looking Forward**



## Engage

#### Engage http://micicinitiative.iom.int



