

IOM RESPONSE PLAN FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN AND BEYOND



Addressing complex migration flows
in the countries of origin, transit and destination

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

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Cover photo credit: Migrants and refugees in the Greek island of Lesbos. © IOM/Amanda Nero 2015

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society

This Response Plan is an update of the “IOM Response Plan: Addressing Complex Migration Flows in the Mediterranean”, issued in June 2015. It sets out a comprehensive strategy designed to address the multiple aspects of the migration flows heading towards Europe. As such, the Response Plan seeks to tackle emerging assistance needs within Europe and its immediate neighbourhood, as well as the essential drivers of irregular migration and displacement in countries of origin. The document does not include the delivery of humanitarian assistance to displaced populations, whether refugees or internally displaced persons, in countries where such interventions already benefit from dedicated inter-agency planning documents, inclusive of IOM activities (such is the case for Syria and its neighbours, Iraq, Nigeria, etc.). The IOM Response Plan is made up of a series of proposed interventions that should be implemented through December 2016, some of which are already under way, while others are at the planning stage. The plan presents IOM’s proposed interventions and reaffirms the collective responsibility of states, institutions and organizations to respond to the current situation that the international community is facing in Europe and beyond, in a manner that is centered on the protection of migrants’ rights, as well as enhanced partnership between all concerned stakeholders.

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Acronym

AVRR	Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
HOAI	Horn of Africa Initiative
HBM	Humanitarian Border Management
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
MARRI	Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MHUB	Mixed Migration Hub
MIDCA	Migration Dialogue for Central African States
MIDWA	Migration Dialogue for West Africa
MPFA	Migration Policy Framework for Africa
MRCs	Migrant Response Centres
MRRM	Migrant Response and Resource Mechanism
MSCs	Migrant Service Centres
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSBP	One-Stop-Border-Posts
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
RCPs	Regional Consultative Processes
RDPPs	Regional Development and Protection Programmes
RMCC	Regional Migration Coordination Committee
RMPF	Regional Migration Policy Framework
RMMS	Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Kosovo/UNSC 1244	UNSC resolution 1244-administered Kosovo

Introduction¹

Migration flows across the Mediterranean are not a new phenomenon. However, in recent years the combined effects of failing to address the drivers of irregular and forced migration and of ineffective migration and asylum systems and limited regular migration channels have led to the rise in the volume of these flows and the resulting increase in the number of fatalities.

The number of people seeking to enter Europe and the human tragedies suffered along the routes increase daily. Between January and October 2015, over 700,000 migrants and refugees have arrived in Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain. The mobility patterns have also shifted, notably with a significant increase in flows along the Eastern Mediterranean and Western Balkan routes.²

Since the beginning of the year, over 3,200 men, women and children have died attempting to cross the Mediterranean. Already, this number exceeds the total number of reported deaths in 2014 (3,149) and omits the likely large number of unreported deaths occurring in the Mediterranean, along the land routes heading towards the Mediterranean and Europe and along the subsequent land routes within Europe. The Central Mediterranean route, most frequently used by Sub-Saharan nationals, has proven to be the most dangerous, responsible for the vast majority of reported fatalities.

Originating from across Asia, the Middle East and Africa, the flows include nationals from over 20 countries, commonly (current order of top arrivals) the Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Albania and Iraq arriving in Greece; and nationals from Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Gambia and Bangladesh arriving in Italy.³ The main gateway for the Central Mediterranean route is Libya and to a lesser extent Egypt, Greece and Turkey. The main gateway for Greece is Turkey.



¹ IOM would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Development Cooperation in the development of this Response Plan.

² Flows originating in the Western Balkans are not included for the purposes of this paper.

³ In order of the highest numbers of persons arriving: the Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Nigeria, Pakistan, Albania, Somalia, Iraq, Sudan, Bangladesh, Syria, Gambia, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Iran, Democratic Republic of Congo, Georgia, Mali, Senegal, Ghana and other.

Migration routes (see map)

MEDITERRANEAN ROUTES

Central Mediterranean: From Northern Africa towards Italy and Malta through the Mediterranean Sea. Libya often acts as the nexus point where the Horn of Africa and Western African routes meet before embarking towards Europe.

Eastern Mediterranean: Through Turkey to the European Union via Greece.

Western Mediterranean: Sea passage from North Africa to the Iberian Peninsula, as well as the land route through Ceuta and Melilla.

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE ROUTE

Western Balkans: Through the Bulgarian-Turkish or Greek-Turkish land or sea borders and then through the Western Balkans into Hungary or Croatia.

AFRICAN ROUTES

East African: From East Africa towards Libya and Egypt for onward travel via the Central Mediterranean route.

West African: From West Africa towards Morocco, Tunisia and Libya for onward travel via the Western Mediterranean or Central Mediterranean route.

The nature and composition of the migration flows along these routes are mixed; with groups having different immediate needs and falling under different protection frameworks. They include migrant workers (regular and irregular), smuggled migrants, trafficked persons, unaccompanied and separated children, environmental migrants, stranded migrants, pregnant women, victims of exploitation and abuse, as well as refugees, asylum-seekers, and individuals seeking to reunite with their families. People's reasons for moving are mixed and they may fall into one or more categories which also may change along the route and over time. In most cases, there is at least some degree of compulsion and vulnerability involved, whether it is as a result of the conditions in which they fled or due to the harsh conditions or exploitation and abuse suffered along the routes.

Apart from seasonal variances, the high volume of mixed migration along the various routes to Europe is

expected to continue. The crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic is in its fifth year and the resources of neighbouring Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey—who host the bulk of Syria's 4 million refugees—are stretched beyond capacity. Two-thirds of the refugees concentrated in these areas are considered to be living in poverty. Further, over 7 million Syrians are displaced internally. While the vast majority of refugees remain within the region, as the conflict persists and the pressures on the surrounding hosting countries mount, people will continue to seek their own solutions further afield. Elsewhere, ongoing conflicts and insecurity in such places as Afghanistan, Libya, Yemen, Iraq and northeast Nigeria; and persistent rights violations, poverty, environmental degradation and climate change among other factors prevalent in several countries to the south and east of Europe, will continue to push individuals towards irregular migration, often under dangerous conditions and through smuggling networks.



Migrants are further drawn towards (perceived or real) livelihood and other opportunities; family reunification; access to asylum; diaspora networks; and the pursuit of social, economic, and political freedoms. For many, the decision to move is a result of a combination of factors: protection concerns combined with the desire to attain a more stable economic future or to join relatives already living in Europe; while for others economic drivers may predominate but nonetheless still be shaped by underlying political instability in their country of origin. Migrants often make fateful decisions to undertake dangerous journeys on the basis of incomplete or erroneous information about the risks ahead or the likelihood of being summarily returned if detained or exploited en route. The spread of

inexpensive communication devices and widening access to social media has facilitated access to smugglers who tempt migrants by peddling mistruths.

While the direction of the flows is aimed towards Europe, the diversity of nationalities, as well as the diversity of land and sea migration routes, irrefutably confirm the inter-regional, and indeed global, nature of the issue. The current phenomenon is the result of a combination of factors across countries of origin, transit and destination, with several countries simultaneously playing multiple roles.

Responses must thus be comprehensive, integrated, responsive to shifts in movement and adaptable to the multiple challenges and diverse roles each country holds.

IOM Response Plan

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) firmly believes that migration is a human reality that, if managed in the right way, can benefit all. Central to this is the protection of all migrants.

Refugees are narrowly defined under and entitled to specific protections pursuant to international refugee law, chief among which is the obligation of non-refoulement. To this end, IOM refers all refugees and asylum-seekers to relevant authorities – whether governmental or the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – for appropriate protection and assistance. However, all migrants – as human beings – are entitled to protection of their human rights and far too many migrants today are in precarious situations and subject to exploitation and abuse. These vulnerable migrants are of direct and deep concern to IOM. Protection of their rights, and empowering them to live in safety and dignity, are central to IOM's mandate and action, while supporting states in developing and implementing comprehensive, balanced, coherent and rights-based migration governance policies and structures.

Given its broad migration mandate, IOM is uniquely positioned to address the humanitarian, protection and immediate migration management needs associated with the current migration flows; while also undertaking measures with longer-term impacts. This includes undertaking programmes that address the underlying drivers of irregular migration; support structural changes towards more efficient migration systems; and promote sustainable human development. IOM is committed to helping protect the rights of all migrants

through an integrated and holistic response based on shared responsibility. This includes tailoring its response specifically to the inter-connected but diverse contexts of Europe, South-Eastern Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, West and Central Africa and the Horn of Africa.

The present response plan underscores the collective responsibility of states, institutions and organizations to respond to the challenges of the large-scale migration in a humane, rights-based and sustainable way.

Actions within the plan centre on migration governance, direct assistance to migrants, development and law enforcement actions within the following four core pillars and objectives.

1. Protecting migrants' rights

Objective: To reduce loss of life and human suffering during and as a result of migration and protect the human rights of all migrants.

2. Addressing drivers of irregular and forced migration

Objective: To reduce negative contributing factors to irregular and forced migration and enable a genuine choice between migrating safely and finding local alternatives.

3. Promoting safe, orderly and dignified human mobility

Objective: To create the conditions for migration to take place in safe, orderly and dignified ways.

4. Strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development

Objective: To create the structural conditions and make systemic changes needed to enable positive outcomes of migration for all involved.

In carrying out the activities outlined in this response, IOM will continue to work closely with government counterparts and actively coordinate, cooperate and engage with its partners, including UN agencies, European Union institutions and agencies, the African Union and various regional economic communities and bodies, civil society organizations as well as the private sector.

The Response Plan consists of more than 150 short, medium and long-term activities, which will be implemented, as appropriate, in 40 countries, in UNSC resolution 1244-administered Kosovo,⁴ and cross-regionally. Each IOM office and sub-office (149 located along the migration routes and countries concerned) will be responsible for the implementation of the plan in

their respective areas; while regional offices and Headquarters will be responsible for overseeing the multi- and cross-regional activities.

Not every activity will be implemented in each country; and some will be carried out in multiple locations, being tailored to the specific contexts of each location. The broad scope of the plan provides the dynamic and integrated approach necessary to cover the immediate and longer-term needs of countries of origin, transit and destination, and the multiple roles different countries may play as countries of origin, transit and destination. Full implementation of the plan and the effectiveness of the results will be contingent upon mobilizing the required financial resources, which IOM estimates at just over USD 780 million (until 31 December 2016).⁵

Structure of the Response Plan

Each chapter of the IOM Response Plan begins with a regional overview of the migration flows, the drivers of irregular and forced migration and the routes followed. The chapters then outline the relevant policy processes applicable to the region and present a table of the IOM presence within the region, including office locations and the number of staff members. Priority actions are then listed for each of the four strategic pillars, presented according to:

- **Short to medium-term interventions** (immediate actions with a duration of up to six months); and
- **Medium to long-term interventions** (with a duration of over six months, even if it may have begun as an immediate response).

Each chapter ends with a regional summary table listing priority actions according to the respective pillars and country requirements. Annex I provides a summarized regional budget and Annex II provides country-specific budgets.

IOM Response Plan Pillars

The pillars and objectives contained in this document provide the overall framework for IOM's response to the migration challenges associated with the current situation in the Mediterranean. The pillars themselves,



⁴ Hereafter Kosovo/UNSC 1244 Kosovo.

⁵ The calculated total for the priority actions, as outlined in Annex I and Annex II, is USD 780.4 million.

and the objectives and activities contained therein, are interrelated. Each pillar supports and reinforces the objectives and activities of the other pillars.⁶

1. Protecting migrants' rights

Objective: To reduce loss of life and human suffering during and as a result of migration and protect the human rights of all migrants.

Saving lives must be the top priority for all migrants, regardless of their status. Migrants face grave dangers along the routes towards Europe and in crossing the Mediterranean. In addition to fatal risks, migrants frequently live in difficult circumstances where intense exposure to rough environmental elements is compounded by severe limitations in access to the most basic survival needs; are often detained in deplorable conditions; may experience the effects of xenophobia; and may be subjected to violence, exploitation, abuse and even torture by migrant smugglers or human traffickers. Women and children are at a particularly high risk of gender-based violence and sexual abuse and exploitation. In the context of a rights-based approach, assistance and protection must be afforded on a needs-first basis to all vulnerable migrants, regardless of their status, along migration routes. National and regional cooperation as well as multilateral approaches for search and rescue (land and sea) are necessary in order to detect and assist lost, missing and injured migrants. Subsequently, life-saving assistance must be extended to those in need, ranging from basic survival assistance to complex medical treatment to those who are critically ill and injured. The effectiveness of policies, strategies and interventions developed to address these issues depends largely upon the quality of data collection and analysis available. This includes mappings of migrants, their profiles, needs, rights violations, morbidities; and chosen migration routes (including their reasons for choosing one route over another).

In order to protect rights, cross-sectoral approaches need to include facilitating the identification and registration of migrants, and providing direct assistance and support services (i.e. urgent health care; food; non-food items; psychological support; temporary shelter; counselling; communication with families, consular offices and referral services; etc.). There is also a need to strengthen legal frameworks, as well as policies, procedures, and programmes to protect the rights of

migrants and address human trafficking and associated forms of exploitation.

2. Addressing drivers of irregular and forced migration

Objective: To reduce negative factors contributing to irregular and forced migration and enable a true choice between migrating safely and finding local alternatives.

Migration is inevitable, necessary and desirable (when safe, legal and orderly) in today's mobile and inter-connected world. However, without adequate regular migration avenues, irregular channels are, for many, the only viable alternative, while without addressing drivers, forced migration is likely to continue unabated. Further, returning individuals to the conditions they had felt compelled to leave will only perpetuate the cycle of secondary movement, including re-using irregular channels, and the rights abuses this entails. To interrupt this cycle, drivers of irregular and forced migration need to be addressed in a comprehensive and holistic manner in countries of origin, transit and destination countries.

Drivers of irregular and forced migration are context-specific but can include a multitude of factors, including a lack of economic opportunities, especially for countries with a significant youth population; weak governance, failing state structures, and a lack of rights protection and access to basic services; environmental degradation due to mismanagement and aggravated by climate change; protracted conflict, instability and/or insecurity; a lack of durable solutions to forced displacement; and the unavailability of legal migration channels. An absence of reliable, trusted information on safe migration choices or conversely the prevalence of unverified rumors and speculation among migrants also drives individuals to take risky decisions. More broadly, drivers also stem from migration management policies and systems that are ill-adapted to the challenges and needs of a globalized world in the 21st century, where travel is more accessible and rapid than ever and vast amounts of information are instantly available to anyone with an internet connection.

As a basis for policies addressing the drivers of irregular and forced migration, further research and data initiatives are essential to gather quantitative and qualitative data on migrants' and other vulnerable mobile populations' profiles, needs, expectations, vulnerabilities and intentions. This includes the need to



⁶ Certain similar activities could fall under different pillars, but are placed where it is most complementary to a regional or country context.

gather and analyze more data on irregular migration routes as well as motivations for using certain routes over others, such as, for example, the importance of diaspora networks and family reunification along specific corridors. Investment in better understanding of and combatting migrant smuggling and human trafficking is also paramount.

In addition to adapting migration management policies to contemporary realities, combatting drivers of irregular and forced migration also needs to involve both stabilization and development programmes in countries of origin and along migration routes that are sufficient in scale and scope. Such programmes should target communities within those countries that face particular stresses or risks related to irregular and forced migration, including, for example, communities trying to adapt to large-scale returns or arrivals of forced or irregular migrants. This could include efforts aimed at conflict prevention, transition, recovery, governance, resilience-building, social cohesion and disaster risk prevention.

3. Promoting safe, orderly and dignified human mobility

Objective: To create the conditions for migration to take place in safe, orderly and dignified ways.

Greater access to safe, regular migration and mobility options are also necessary for safe, orderly and dignified human mobility. This includes opening adequate channels for regular migration at all skills levels in line with destination countries' labour market and demographic needs; enhancing options for family unification and education abroad; promoting the establishment of alternatives to dangerous migratory movements; and providing clear and accurate information about the risks of irregular migration.

Well-managed resettlement, relocation and social integration programmes are essential to assist countries that host large numbers of forced or irregular migrants or face a sudden large inflow of such migrants and can also play a role in minimizing secondary movements. Resettlement and relocation form a core component of responsibility-sharing. Successful resettlement programmes provide not only much needed international protection for the most vulnerable, but also provide a path to successful integration into new societies. Positive models include improving refugees' prospects for labour market integration and devoting a significant portion of pre-departure orientations on identifying transferable skills, preparing refugees for job prospects, and promoting both language and vocational skills training after arrival. Further, best practices are

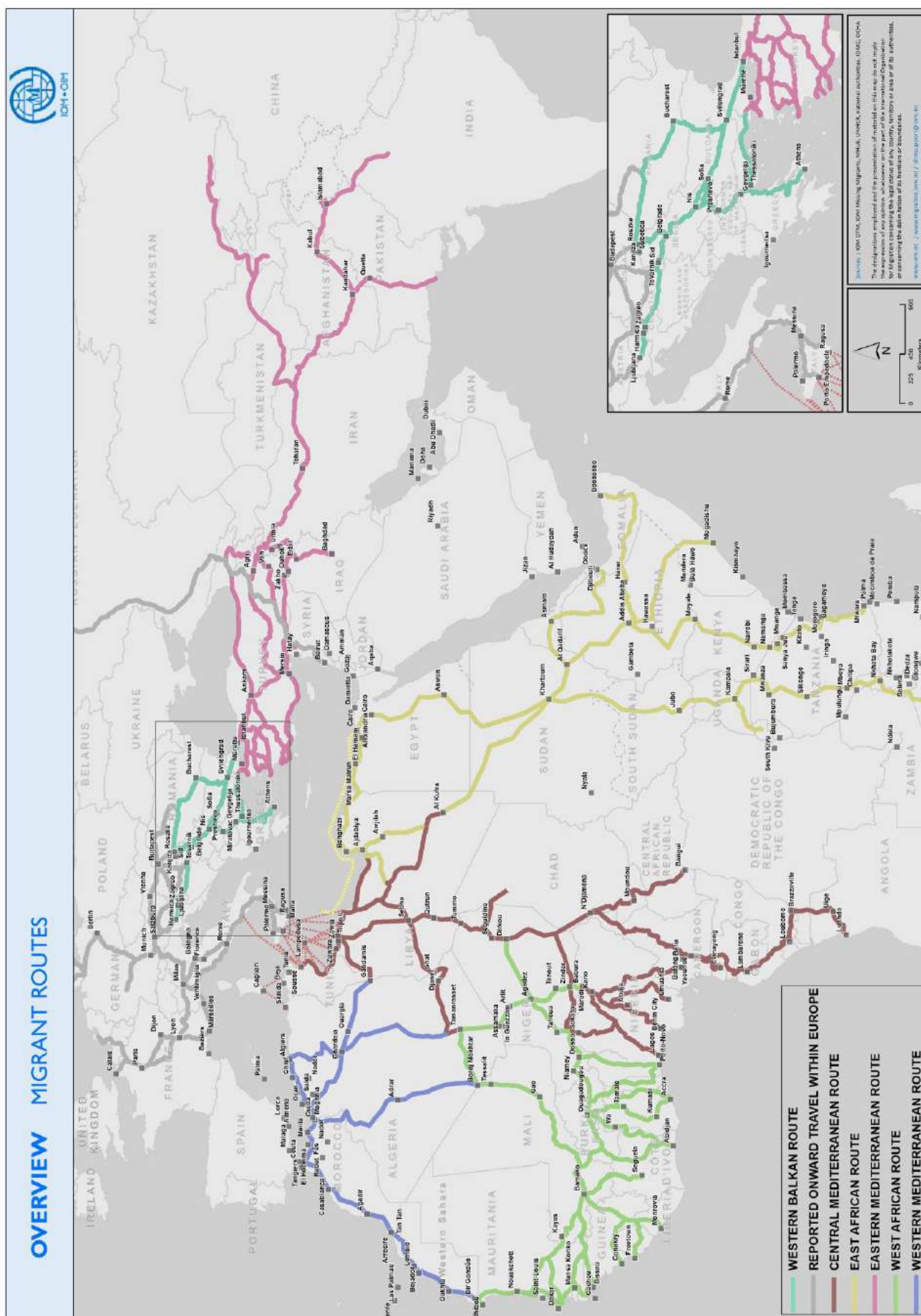
increasingly being developed that move beyond simply preventing or limiting the entry of diseases into destination countries. Rather, they are focusing on ensuring that migration health assessments adopt a public health- oriented approach that contributes towards global efforts to prevent the spread of communicable diseases and other health threats.⁷ Optimizing migrants' health prior to resettlement and addressing health needs early on is also cost-effective in reducing the demand for health or social services in arrival countries. The efficient, timely exchange of medical information allows domestic resettlement agencies to prepare adequately for the arrival of refugees; ensure continuity of care; and make appropriate settlement arrangements. Similarly, relocation schemes should follow a comprehensive model related to identification, screening, selection, pre-departure assistance, travel, reception and integration.

Assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) is a key response to irregular migration, providing needed assistance to countries as well as stranded migrants who are in distress—often destitute—and who wish to return home. AVRR also responds to the specific needs of vulnerable migrants, such as unaccompanied and separated children, migrants who have been trafficked, exploited or abused, those with health conditions, and other migrants in situation of vulnerability. Especially in transitional contexts, AVRR needs to be carried out within a comprehensive approach to return and reintegration to avoid that it adversely affects ongoing efforts to increase community cohesion and, more broadly, peacebuilding and recovery.



⁷ Making available medical attention that can be obtained in a timely manner and in a safe place, combined with information sharing between relevant health entities in countries of origin, transit and destination, support implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005).

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International cooperation and national actions to address smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings must also be stepped up. This requires enhanced law enforcement measures against the smugglers and traffickers along the migratory routes. Key priorities must thus focus on improving the capacity of law enforcement to intervene at the earliest opportunity, including through cooperation in gathering intelligence and data on smuggling operations; assisting in building the capacity of law enforcement structures and policy-makers to disrupt criminal activity. At the same time, assistance and protection are needed for migrants in distress, and victims of trafficking and smuggled migrants should not be criminalized.

4. Strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development

Objective: To create the structural conditions and make systemic changes to enable positive outcomes of migration for all involved.

Fair and balanced cooperation, including within existing regional/interregional consultative processes, is essential for establishing or reinforcing policy and operational platforms. A comprehensive range of concrete policies and actions to improve migration governance must be taken jointly by stakeholders in countries of origin, transit and destination. There must be a shift in public and political discourse on migration, recognizing that migration is a process to be managed and not a problem to be solved. Several intergovernmental dialogue and cooperation mechanisms have highlighted the substantial human and societal development benefits of migration,⁸ for migrants, their families and communities in countries of origin, transit and destination. The post-2015 UN development agenda has also recognized the positive links between migration and development, and focus attention on the need to “facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.

The nature of migration inherently creates cross-border relations. Addressing complex migration challenges requires an inclusive and integrated approach that fosters cooperation within and among countries of origin, transit and destination. It is not enough to simply



⁸ The Global Forum on Migration and Development, UN High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, IOM's International Dialogue on Migration, Regional Economic Commissions and other.

address the negative elements; but rather to also create the systems and structures that empower migrants and enable them to promote sustainable development in their countries of origin and destination.

Countries mutually benefit from improved human mobility based on labour market and demographic needs and focused on matching labour demand and supply domestically, regionally and internationally. Such efforts should aim to improve education systems in countries of origin; facilitate the transfer of skills and education certifications across borders; and improve the integrity of international recruitment and migrant employment conditions to avoid exploitation and abuse. Accumulated rights and benefits, such as migrant investments in pensions and social security schemes in host countries also need to be more readily portable. Partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development should also focus on safeguarding much needed professional and technical skills in developing countries and mitigating the effects of brain drain, for example, through engaging diaspora networks, and creating incentives for the circular flow of ideas, skills, talents and investments.



Syrian refugees crossing the Serbian-Croatian border.
© Francesco Malavolta/IOM 2015

European Union: Regional Overview

Flows

The number of persons arriving in Europe exceeded 700,000 between January and October 2015, far ahead of the levels at this time in 2014, with numbers increasing daily and arrivals expected to continue. IOM's data on missing migrants reveals that over 3,200 people have lost their lives when crossing the Mediterranean Sea in 2015.

By mid-October 2015, 140,000 migrants had arrived by sea to Italy through the Central Mediterranean route. The migrants travelling along this route are primarily nationals of Eritrea, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan and Syrian Arab Republic; however the mixed migration flows include over 15 nationalities from across West, North and Sub-Saharan Africa as well as Asia (Bangladesh, Pakistan) and elsewhere in the Middle East (Occupied Palestinian Territories). In 2015, the number of Syrians arriving to Italy notably decreased as the routes increasingly shifted eastward in response to the situation in Libya and restrictive visa policies in Algeria and Egypt. Most of the migrants are men (80%); however, arrivals are including an increasing number of women and children, including unaccompanied and separated children.

This year the routes to Greece and along the Eastern Mediterranean have seen a dramatic increase in persons arriving. By mid-October 2015, the current total had reached 480,000 arrivals compared to 43,500 arrivals in 2014. The main nationalities include Syrians, Afghans, Pakistani and Iraqis, with a significant number of women and children amongst these flows. In the first days of September, an unprecedented 3,000–4,000 per day arrived, leading to major congestion on the Greek islands. The islands of Lesbos, with a resident population of 86,000 and Kos, with 33,400 have been ill-equipped to keep up with the unprecedented number of new persons arriving.

Hungary had registered over 150,000 asylum applications by October 2015, representing a threefold increase from 2014. The applicants are mainly from the Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan and Iraq, having transited through Greece and arriving from Serbia (until the closure of the Hungarian-Serbian border). Since early July, nearly 1,000 migrants a day were registered entering Hungary from the Serbian border.

The number peaked on 14 September 2015 with over 9,000 persons arriving. In August, over 95 per cent left for other destinations in Western Europe within a few days. On 15 September, Hungary brought new legislation into force that criminalized irregular entry and instituted expedited asylum procedures on the border. This resulted in the refusal of almost all asylum applications as most applicants came through Serbia, which Hungary counts as a safe third country. The closure at the Hungarian border has resulted in increased flows into Croatia (over 200,000 persons as of mid-October 2015), even after Croatia closed seven of its eight border crossings with Serbia. Following Hungary's decision in mid-October to also close its border with Croatia, Slovenia, has now become a major transit country for migrants on route to (mostly) Germany.

Routes

The mixed flows of persons arriving in Italy have principally used the Central Mediterranean route with onward movement to France (also see the Horn of Africa, West and Central Africa, and North Africa chapters).

Along the Eastern Mediterranean route, persons arriving from Greece or Turkey proceed through the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia, re-entering the European Union through Croatia, Slovenia, Romania, Bulgaria or Hungary (also see South-Eastern Europe Chapter). Germany and Sweden are the main intended countries of destination. But also other European countries such as for example, Cyprus, Malta, Spain, Slovenia, Finland and France have experienced a significant increase in asylum applications in 2015.

Policy Processes

European Union

IOM has long worked with the European Union and its Member States to formulate rights-based policy responses to address the mixed migration flows, notably in the context of the recently adopted European Agenda on Migration.

IOM considers the Agenda a good initial step towards a comprehensive European approach on migration. A number of important operational and budgetary measures have been taken to implement the Agenda's priorities, including establishing the 'hotspots'

approach launching the European relocation scheme, and developing the European Union Action Plan on Return.

The European Union has given increased attention to addressing the drivers of irregular and forced migration through strengthening dialogue and assistance to partner countries and regions. This includes important new funding commitments for the Syria Regional (Madad) Trust Fund; the Western Balkans and Turkey; the Regional Development and Protection Programmes (RDPPs) for the Horn of Africa and North Africa regions; and the upcoming European Union Trust Fund for Africa. The implementation and absorption of these funds will be a key challenge for the European Union this year and beyond, requiring adequate assessment of needs, existing actions and synergies as well as coordination with partner countries and specialized implementing partners. On a diplomatic level, it will be essential that cooperation moves beyond the current focus on return and readmission and progress further toward enacting shared commitments on development, mobility and protection issues in support of comprehensive approaches to migration governance both within and outside of the European Union.



The Italian Coast Guard rescues migrants bound for Italy. © Francesco Malavolta/IOM 2014

IOM in countries along the Mediterranean land border of Europe (see map)

Country	Offices	Locations	Staff
Bulgaria	1	Sofia	11
Croatia	1	Zagreb	12
Cyprus	1	Nicosia	1
Greece	8	Athens, Lesbos, Samos, Thessaloniki, Patras, Ioannina, Orestiada, Crete, Kos	50
Hungary	1	Budapest	7
Italy	4	Rome, Sicily/Lampedusa, Apulia, Calabria ⁹	42
Malta	1	Floriana	6
Romania	1	Bucharest	23
Slovenia	1	Ljubljana	1
Spain	1	Madrid	15
Total			160

1. Protecting migrants' rights

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

The increase in European Union funding for operations Triton and Poseidon in 2015 and 2016 enables a reinforcement of capabilities and expansion of operations combined with search and rescue. IOM will support regional coordination as well as multilateral approaches to search and rescue. It will also work, upon request, with national authorities to prepare and update contingency plans, including putting in place early warning mechanisms through the use of its comprehensive data collection mechanisms on migrant flows.

In order to ensure protection and to further uphold the human rights of all migrants entering the region,



⁹ Sicily/Lampedusa, Apulia, Calabria are made up of mobile teams.

regardless of their status, they require timely and appropriate first reception and referral to specialized services, on a needs-first basis. IOM will strengthen the capacity, as required, of staff at reception centres. Screening at borders should identify persons with special needs and facilitate proper referral for assistance and protection and, where needed, be linked with the provision of non-food items and transportation to the main points of registration. IOM will support such screening and legal counseling; provide adapted and up-to-date information to migrants about the services available to them, their rights and alternatives to irregular migration including through one-stop Migrant Information and Resource Centres or Desks; and access to health and psychosocial support for distressed and traumatized individuals.

IOM has followed the Praesidium model since 2006 for the landing sites in southern Italy and Greek islands, and it is now considered a best practice. The model involves multi-disciplinary teams and information officers screening; identifying and counseling vulnerable groups (especially victims of trafficking), unaccompanied and separated children, and other vulnerable persons; and, in close cooperation with UNHCR, status determination for those seeking asylum.

Finally, IOM stands ready to work with national and local governments, civil society actors and other international organizations to provide direct assistance to vulnerable migrants and help their early identification and referral.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM will support efforts that offer alternatives to detention. Open reception facilities and other alternatives to detention provide the mutual benefit of fostering the well-being of migrants and reducing pressure on individual reception facilities. Reception facilities must ensure humane and dignified conditions in line with international standards, as well as tailored assistance to vulnerable migrants. IOM will provide technical assistance on a case-by-case basis in closed reception facilities.

Smugglers and traffickers have been quick to take advantage of the significant number of vulnerable and desperate migrants arriving into Europe. IOM thus calls for efforts to counter smuggling and human trafficking of migrants both inside and outside of Europe. Among other approaches, this requires informing migrants about the risks of—and potential alternatives to—irregular migration. It also requires enhanced capacity building efforts for national authorities in order to

identify victims of trafficking. In this regard, consolidating European Union efforts to strengthen national referral mechanisms and national child protection systems is essential. Identification of special needs and vulnerabilities and human trafficking concerns should be mainstreamed throughout the asylum procedure of all Member States. Reducing the leverage and operations of smugglers, further requires that more legal avenues are made available to enter Europe (resettlement, family reunification, labour migration schemes, student mobility) and for secondary movements within Europe (European Union-wide relocation scheme and proper implementation of the right to family unity under Dublin III for eligibility).

IOM's Equi-Health project has found that the duration and conditions of reception have led to worsening physical and mental health of migrants at the European Union's southern borders. The number and quality of reception facilities, staff training and support systems, including psychosocial assistance should thus be increased or reinforced. Such facilities need to ensure humane and dignified conditions in line with international and European Union standards, and include tailored assistance to vulnerable groups.

2. Addressing drivers of irregular and forced migration

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

In order to develop appropriate policies and responses to address the drivers of irregular, investment in data gathering and analysis is essential. Several authorities and European Union institutions are already gathering basic data on irregular entries and asylum-seekers. However, in order to best inform relevant decision-making processes, efforts should aim to further develop and improve the knowledge and analysis of mixed migration flows including socioeconomic conditions, migration intentions and the profile of vulnerable migrant populations. To this end, IOM is strengthening its mobility tracking and analysis efforts across the different migration routes in Europe and beyond. The organization also recently established a global migration data analysis centre, which supports further analyses of migration flows and data and includes the Missing Migrants Project, which collects data on deceased and missing migrants.

The clandestine nature of the irregular migration journeys means that information is often shared through private channels, typically via mobile phones and social media. Migrants intuitively know that engaging the services of a smuggler can lead to danger;

however push factors are often prevailing. The challenge in communicating with migrants is that they are difficult to reach, highly motivated and often disbelieving of official messaging. IOM will use communication channels most accessed and trusted by migrants to disseminate information about services and alternatives to irregular migration.

Regarding economic drivers of irregular migration, IOM supports the effective management of labour migration so that it responds to labour market needs and safeguards the protection of migrant workers. It also engages with diaspora associations to enhance economic development in countries of origin, and supports positive livelihood alternatives to irregular migration. IOM is thus well placed to develop programming that responds to the key economic drivers of irregular migration across the Mediterranean through a comprehensive strategy implemented in countries of origin, transit and destination.

Addressing the root causes of irregular and forced migration will also require the European Union and its Member States to further invest in large-scale stability and development programmes, including initiatives aimed at improving economic opportunities in areas prone to economically-induced irregular migration, individual and community level assistance for returning migrants and genuine regular migration opportunities. Similarly, disaster risk reduction and community resilience building initiatives are necessary to reduce other negative migration drivers, such as instability, environmental degradation, violence, and other man-made and natural disasters. (See North Africa, West and Central Africa, and Horn of Africa Chapters for more details).

3. Promoting safe, orderly and dignified human mobility

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM advocates for better access to safe and regular migration and mobility options. This needs to include strengthening legal avenues that can include alternatives to dangerous movements by land and sea and providing clear and accurate information about the risks of irregular migration.

A Europe-Union wide non-binding and voluntary resettlement scheme is currently offering a quota of 22,504 resettlement places. This should be seen as a first step towards enhancing refugee resettlement to the European Union, Liechtenstein, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland with an incremental increase in order to promote responsibility-sharing with the non-

European countries that host the vast majority (86%) of the refugee population worldwide.

IOM will support states with relocation, resettlement and other forms of humanitarian admission in close partnership with UNHCR and resettlement and relocation states. In particular, IOM will support European Union Member States with implementing the recently established relocation scheme including, depending on the needs, the provision of transportation; safe travel and pre-departure preparation support; and training to promote better social and economic integration.

Moreover greater use of other legal avenues for persons in need of international protection (temporary protection status, humanitarian visa, private/non-governmental sponsorships and family reunification) as well as avenues for legal migration should be envisaged. These efforts should be complemented by commitments to strengthen available integration measures and IOM will assist and advise governments, as appropriate, in this regard.

IOM will provide support, as required, towards the development of policies and programmes that facilitate more avenues for safe and regular migration in accordance to labour market needs (for all skill levels); that focus on providing alternatives to irregular migration; and that promote ethical recruitment and reduce risk of smuggling, abuse and exploitation. IOM will further focus on inter and intraregional mobility programmes between countries of origin and countries of destination to support efforts to better regulate and manage migration flows while simultaneously responding to actual labour market needs and demographic shifts that much of the developed world is undergoing.

Assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) is a core IOM activity, having provided assistance to tens of thousands of migrants returning home every year. The approach to AVRR has become more comprehensive, including enhanced cooperative measures and partnerships and engaging countries of destination, transit and origin, in order to respond to the growing complexity and circular nature of migration. IOM remains committed to facilitating AVRR programmes in support of governments.

At present, IOM has not witnessed a substantial and direct link between the mixed migration flows in the Mediterranean and an increase in AVRR in the Mediterranean countries. This is partly due to the number of persons in need of international protection within the mixed flows and the suspension of return decisions for specific countries. However, there is an

information gap on the services available for migrants and possibilities of return. As such, IOM will provide information on AVRR programmes at major points of entry.

Among its efforts, IOM will provide the necessary expertise and assistance related to rights-based border management at irregular migration hotspots in cooperation with Frontex, including through enhancing capacities and facilitating coordination and cooperation with border management agencies.

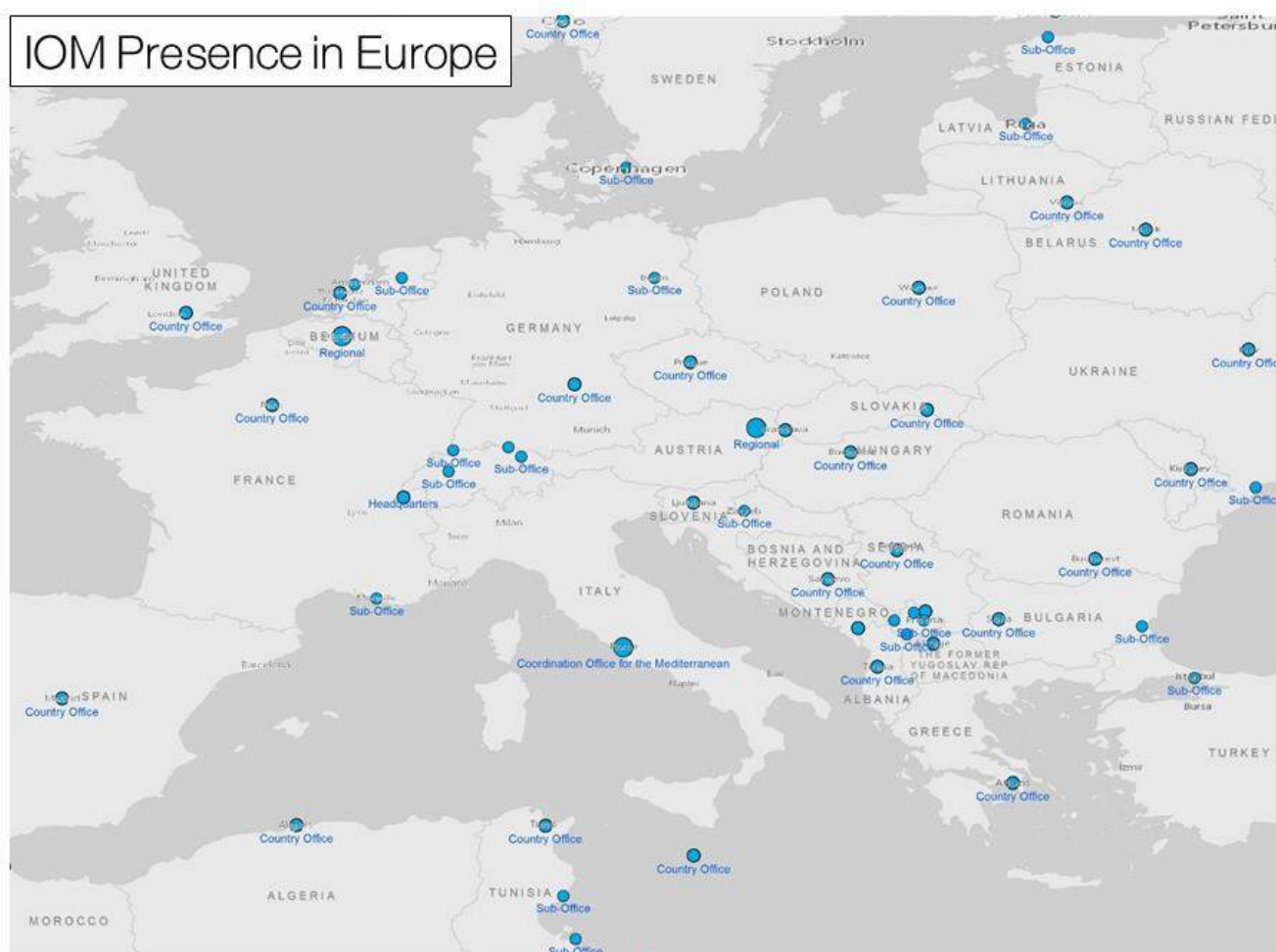
With the purpose of promoting social integration and addressing xenophobic tensions, IOM will continue to conduct data collection and analysis, which will also be used to implement informed and accurate communication and social awareness campaigns. Investments in IOM's research and data analysis will further enable a solid evidence-base for informing IOM's own policy-development and decision-making and in bolstering the information base of governments and other stakeholders in this regard.

4. Strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Governments, international organizations, NGOs and private stakeholders are engaged in addressing the migration flows across the Mediterranean. There is, however, a need for a more holistic and coordinated long-term approach regionally and inter-regionally.

New approaches to labour migration should be established that take into account cross-border mobility, promote more inclusive employment and labour market participation, and strengthen the contribution of migration to growth and competitiveness.





Migrants rescued last March in the Channel of Sicily
by Italian Coast Guard.
© Francesco Malavolta/IOM 2015

IOM will establish comprehensive and tailored institutional capacity-building initiatives to provide national policymakers and practitioners with better understanding of the links between human mobility and development. It will mobilize diaspora associations to promote development and for migrants to become peer mentors in the hosting communities in job-generating enterprises, diaspora networks, transnational social ties and financial capital.

Although the European Agenda and the Europe 2020 Strategy highlight the importance of legal migration and mobility for future competitiveness, concrete proposals should be established for taking this forward. In addition to the plans to increase resettlement and other forms of humanitarian admission, regular economic migration channels should be developed to respond to labour market requirements (of all skill levels). Opening such channels should also include initiatives that support migrant skill development;

improvements in country education systems and comparability of certifications; improve domestic and international job– matching; and enhance the integrity of international recruitment chains (a model being IOM’s International Recruitment Integrity System, IRIS). Efforts should also focus on developing government capacity in labour migration management, including enhanced intra- and interregional labour mobility. IOM will assist information and referral services, which ideally should be delivered to potential and travel-ready migrants in cooperation with employment services and other actors through migrant information and resource centres or desks.

PRIORITY ACTION	Bulgaria	Croatia	Cyprus	Greece	Hungary	Italy	Malta	Romania	Slovenia	Spain
I. PROTECTING MIGRANTS' RIGHTS										
Support regional cooperation as well as multilateral approaches to search and rescue; and contribute to national, regional and multilateral efforts to strengthen search and rescue			✓	✓		✓				
Prepare and update contingency plans with national authorities and other relevant actors in order to respond to significant increases in arrivals		✓	✓			✓	✓			
Early warning mechanism and information sharing network	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Provide direct assistance and legal counseling to mixed flows arriving by sea and land	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Assist with the identification and referral of vulnerable migrants (victims of trafficking, unaccompanied and separated children, those with medical needs) to local authorities and relevant civil society actors and institutions, including training, capacity building and development of standard operating procedures	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop communications tools to disseminate information on services available to migrants (e.g. health, psychosocial support, legal, shelter, education), migrant rights, legal migration and mobility channels and alternatives to irregular migration, including through migrant information/resource centres	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Strengthen capacity of staff at first-line and second-line reception centres, providing social and specialized services for migrants, including vulnerable migrants (unaccompanied and separated children, victims of trafficking, migrants with health needs) and persons in need of international protection and health professionals through training and technical assistance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Support reception capacities and monitor detention conditions and border crossing points and possible development of standard operating procedures		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Enhance the professional capacity of guardianship staff in order to enable the provision of appropriate care and protection to unaccompanied and separated children	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Support the revision of the European Union legal framework on migrant smuggling and promote the effective application of the European Union relocation mechanism and individual right to family unity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

PRIORITY ACTION	Bulgaria	Croatia	Cyprus	Greece	Hungary	Italy	Malta	Romania	Slovenia	Spain
II. ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF IRREGULAR AND FORCED MIGRATION										
Data collection, research and analysis of the mixed migration flows including socioeconomic conditions, well-being, migration intentions and the profile of migrants arriving by sea and land, with the aim to provide the data needed for policymakers to inform their decisions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
III. PROMOTING SAFE, ORDERLY AND DIGNIFIED HUMAN MOBILITY										
Contextualized information on AVRR programmes provided at points of entry, especially within the Border Fast Track procedure	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Implement AVRR measures for irregular migrants as well as vulnerable groups and failed asylum-seekers with a view to their sustainable reintegration in their country of origin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Implement refugee resettlement programmes with governments, UNHCR and relevant civil society and local community partners including safe travel; pre-departure preparation and training as well as post-arrival integration measures	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Advise and support governments to make full use of other legal avenues available for persons in need of international protection (examples are humanitarian admission, private/non-governmental sponsorship, family reunification and more flexible visa arrangements)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Provide information and assistance to recognized refugees, persons granted subsidiary protection and their eligible family members in the family reunification process	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Promote avenues for regular labour migration and build capacity of institutions for the social and economic integration, including through ethical recruitment to reduce smuggling, abuse and exploitation		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓
Initiate multimedia awareness raising campaign on the risks related to irregular migration and options available for legal channels and access to social and health services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improving the public discourse over migration issues and contribute to evidence-based policy making, through highlighting migrant perspectives, human interest stories, raising awareness about the migratory push factors, and migrants' positive contribution to society	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

PRIORITY ACTION	Bulgaria	Croatia	Cyprus	Greece	Hungary	Italy	Malta	Romania	Slovenia	Spain
Support rights-based border management at irregular migration hotspots in cooperation with respective European Union Member States, by enhancing capacities and facilitating coordination and cooperation with border management agencies		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Provide social and care workers responsible for unaccompanied and separated children with tools to support their integration through thorough assessment of foreign family contexts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Provide implementation support to the European Union-wide relocation scheme with European Union Member States for Syrians, Eritreans and Iraqis from Italy, Greece and other affected European Union Member States	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IV. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT										
Propose comprehensive and tailored institutional capacity-building initiatives to provide national policymakers and practitioners with better understanding of the link between human mobility and development		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mobilize diaspora associations as agents for development by engaging in co-development initiatives, including in the health sector, sustainable land management and land rehabilitation in their countries of origin; and migrants to become mentors of their peers in the hosting communities		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

South-Eastern Europe: Regional Overview

Flows

Large migration flows of a complex nature to Turkey and through the Western Balkans towards the European Union are not a new phenomenon. However, the region has seen a steady growth in mixed migration flows since 2013, with volumes sharply increasing to record levels during 2015.

The level of mixed migration along these routes has put immense pressure on the countries concerned. Apart from the sheer volume of persons, the mixed composition of the flows adds complexity. There has been a marked increase in 2015 in the number of nationals from refugee-producing countries, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan, and Iraq. There is also a rapid growth in the number of migrants from Pakistan and African countries, including from Eritrea, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, Cameroon and Niger. Further, the migration flows include higher numbers of families with children, unaccompanied and separated children, single women or pregnant women, elderly citizens as well as sick and injured migrants. In Serbia for instance, between January and July 2015, the number of registered unaccompanied and separated children exceeded 4,000, mainly from Afghanistan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq.¹⁰ The vulnerable groups have limited assistance available to them.

The Turkish Coast Guard has apprehended some 53,560 migrants by sea, an increase of 560 per cent over the past year (January-September 2015). These figures include the rescues at sea carried out by the Turkish Coast Guard, which quadrupled over the same period last year (30,469 people rescued, compared to 7,883). In addition to being a country of transit, Turkey hosts a large number of forced and irregular migrants. Most notably, since 2011, Turkey has been hosting a growing number of Syrian refugees, currently reaching over 2 million people, which makes Turkey the largest refugee-hosting country in the world.

In the current context, the Western Balkan countries are experiencing secondary movements from Turkey. However, it is important to note that transit migration



¹⁰ August 2015, Asylum Office, Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia.

through these countries is not limited to flows from the Mediterranean. There is also a steady and growing number of transit migrants arriving at land and air borders to the region. In addition, flows originating in the Western Balkans, most notably from UNSC resolution 1244-administered Kosovo,¹¹ should be considered as well though their volume dropped sharply in the second quarter of 2015.¹²



Routes

In the context of Mediterranean migration, the Western Balkan route is a continuation of the Eastern Mediterranean route, which is currently the main maritime route to Europe.

Migrants arrive at the land, air or sea borders of Turkey, and move by sea to Greece and Bulgaria. From there, the pathway leads north across the Western Balkans, entering the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia proceeding through Serbia to cross the Hungarian, and after the border closures, the Croatian borders on to Slovenia and then Austria.

The situation is likely to remain fluid and fast changing. Depending on response measures, the main routes for mixed flows from the Mediterranean may shift, for example towards Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina.



¹¹ UNSC resolution 1244-administered Kosovo, hereafter Kosovo/UNSC 1244 Kosovo.

¹² Frontex, September 2015, Western Balkans Quarterly: Quarter 2 – April-June 2015.

Policy Processes

Regional Processes

There is a good level of cooperation among the Western Balkan countries on migration and several platforms for intergovernmental dialogue exist. Established in 2003, the Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative (MARRI) promotes closer regional cooperation and a comprehensive, integrated, and coherent approach to migration and asylum as part of the European Union integration processes.

The Budapest Process, and in particular the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration implemented within its framework (led by Turkey), provides a comprehensive framework to anchor collaboration on migration management between countries along the migration route, in this case between the European Union and Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan.

IOM

IOM, in coordination with UNHCR, provides capacity building to MARRI as part of a broader joint Western Balkan Initiative spearheaded by the two organizations. The initiative assists the regional governments in developing and operationalizing a sustainable, comprehensive and cooperative framework for national and regional level refugee protection and migration management.

IOM works in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and Frontex to address aspects of irregular migration in South-Eastern Europe not covered by the Western Balkan Initiative. This complementary approach looks at the whole migration route, from countries of origin of irregular migration through transit (with a focus on the Western Balkans and Turkey) to the European Union. IOM, UNODC and OSCE intend to build on the results of the trans-regional workshop on “Enhancing Cooperation in Combating Irregular Migration and Smuggling of Migrants through South-Eastern Europe” held in Athens in 2014 to continue supporting dialogue and cooperation among the countries of origin, transit and destination.

IOM in the Western Balkans and Turkey (see map)

Country	Offices	Locations	Staff
Albania	1	Tirana	15
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6	Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Doboj, Brcko, Tuzla, Drvar	30
Kosovo/UNSC	5	Pristina, Gjilan,	43
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	3	Skopje, Kumanovo, Gevgelija	22
Montenegro	2	Podgorica	4
Serbia	2	Belgrade, Vranje	35
Turkey	3	Ankara,	98
Total			247

1. Protecting migrants' rights

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Given the unprecedented levels of the flows and the challenges countries face in responding to them, the vulnerability of migrants and their humanitarian and protection needs have significantly increased. For the foreseeable future, the existing level of ongoing vulnerabilities and needs will depend upon developments at the different border crossings, changing numbers of migrants, and the severity of the winter season. As such, an immediate priority is to support governments and local civil society organizations in providing assistance.

IOM has already increased its staffing where most needed and it will continue to coordinate its support to national authorities with other international actors. IOM will also work with governments to ensure that addressing all possible needs are integrated into contingency planning.

Health and psychosocial services should be provided to migrants throughout their journey. This is necessary in order to reduce health risks associated with displacement and mass movement of people and its

impact on the mental health and psychosocial well-being of both migrants and local communities. To this end, IOM will provide emergency primary health care assistance and referral to secondary care when needed. IOM will also conduct a rapid psychosocial needs assessment and mapping of services in the transit or reception centres throughout the region. Based on identified needs, IOM will provide trainings to reception workers, law enforcement officials, social services, community leaders; and members of civil society in psychosocial and “do no harm” approaches; establish multidisciplinary mobile teams to provide psychosocial services at the community and individual level; and train frontline workers and partners on the provision of psychosocial first aid.

The mixed nature of flows will remain a major challenge. It is thus necessary to strengthen inter-institutional coordination and referral mechanisms to profile, screen, refer and assist migrants. One of the measures that can be implemented in the short-term is the deployment of mixed profiling teams with diverse expertise. The teams should facilitate the regular reporting and sharing of information and trends with relevant partners and stakeholders. This should be complemented by the development of effective identification and screening mechanisms, including tools, guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Migrant Resource and Response Mechanisms (MRRMs) can be used to provide legal and social counselling; psychosocial support; facilitation of contact with families; consular offices; and health and referral services for migrants in transit. However, this requires improving the effectiveness of and synergies among the existing reception structures, in particular building upon the network of Migrant Service Centres (MSCs) present in the Western Balkans, and mainstreaming transit migrant support into their operations.

It is also important to continue enhancing the capacity of multidisciplinary teams and border officials to ensure the effective and efficient operationalization of relevant identification and screening mechanisms, as well as delivering regular capacity building trainings on humanitarian border management. Furthermore, IOM will aim to promote alternatives to detention in the region and ensure that detention facilities are operated in line with international standards.

While migrants have been generally well-received by the public, the growing volume of migration flows can lead to rising tensions. Building on the findings of an

IOM report conducted with Gallup World Poll, which provides a global overview of people’s attitudes towards migration and shows that 52 per cent of Europeans think immigration should be decreased, IOM will conduct a comprehensive study of European attitudes towards migrants and incorporate its findings in the development of evidence-based information campaigns.

The success of the measures listed above depends largely on the national laws and policies in place to protect the rights of all migrants and the effective implementation of such laws and policies. Despite progress achieved in recent years for protecting migrant rights, legislative and policy frameworks as well as law application practices need to reflect changing migration realities. Further, migrants often lack access to or information about rights protection mechanisms, both judicial and non-judicial, including appeal systems. IOM will continue working with governments, international organizations, NGOs and migrants to develop the capacity of relevant state institutions in this area and provide support in the review and update of national policies and legislation.

2. Addressing drivers of irregular and forced migration

While the majority of actions towards addressing drivers of irregular and forced migration should take place in the countries of origin, governments and partners in transit countries can also help to address these drivers.

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Identifying key driving forces for transit migration through the region, as well as the key characteristics and aspirations of migrants is important in order to refine response measures. As such IOM intends to conduct a survey among a representative sample of transit migrants. The survey will complement the data collected in the region by other agencies, such as UNHCR, and by IOM along the Western and Central Mediterranean routes, and the results will be used to inform policy measures along the whole migration route.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Irregular migration places migrants in a vulnerable situation. As such, it is necessary to conduct information awareness-raising campaigns on the risks and dangers of irregular migration, including migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings, as well as

on migrants' rights and obligations during the migration process and possibilities of regular migration and employment. IOM aims to carry out information campaigns and awareness-raising activities on these issues in synergy with operations of the MRRMs and MSCs. The campaigns will include sensitization and active engagement of diaspora and migrant networks.

3. Promoting safe, orderly and dignified human mobility

Initiatives aimed at promoting safe, orderly and dignified human mobility are a high priority in countries of transit overall and in the Western Balkans and Turkey in particular. The sharp increase in the numbers of transit migrants has significantly challenged the capacities of certain countries to process and manage these flows. While these countries need urgent support, the fluidity of the situation means that contingency planning and strengthening of capacity also should take place in the neighbouring countries. Above all, there is a need to improve coordination and cross-border cooperation at different levels.

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

In this context, one of the most immediate needs is to address the lack of information sharing on cross-border movements between countries regionally and interregionally. IOM aims to support governments by facilitating the exchange of relevant information on cross-border movements, capacity building in humanitarian border management, and building on existing regional instruments and initiatives such as the Police Cooperation Centres. IOM further aims to facilitate regional cooperation and coordination by conducting joint operational activities. IOM has already established an early warning information sharing network for Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and will expand this network to other countries where migration routes may shift in the coming months.

Another priority involves border management equipment and the availability of interpreters to ensure appropriate communication between migrants and border officials at all stages of the migration process as interpreters for the main languages are not available. IOM plans to explore the most appropriate way of establishing a regional pool of interpreters and identify and purchase requisite interpretation infrastructure.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Building on the early warning information sharing networks, IOM aims to address the overall lack of comprehensive data and information on movements through South-East Europe by enhancing data collection as a long-term measure.

Governments, particularly border and law enforcement authorities also require advanced training for document examination as smugglers often falsify travel documents. Further, in order to assist the relevant authorities to identify the origins of undocumented migrants, trainings on language analysis could be conducted. Such trainings should be part of a larger package of long-term measures to combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking. IOM plans to support governments through conducting thematic research; regular trainings to identify smugglers and traffickers; build the capacity for prosecutors and judges; and ensure that border agencies have technical equipment and know-how to enable interdiction of smugglers and traffickers.

Mid- and long-term measures to promote alternatives to irregular migration can include feasibility assessments to determine under what conditions and in which sectors transit migrants may be granted access to labour markets in the region. These assessments should be complemented with multi-stakeholder dialogue to determine whether incoming transit migrants might be bringing in skills which are in demand. Recommendations could be developed to ensure the attractiveness of possible foreign employment schemes to employers. At the same time, it is necessary to establish a framework for a regional assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) mechanism in cooperation with UNHCR to manage assisted voluntary returns for migrants stuck in transit and who express a willingness to return; and establish standard operating procedures for a humane, dignified and sustainable return.

4. Strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development

MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

With a view to devising effective and balanced solutions for migration across the Mediterranean, and to achieve the long-term government objectives in South-Eastern Europe, IOM calls for a comprehensive and coherent approach to the large-scale migratory movements. This would involve strengthening dialogue and cooperation among the countries of origin, transit,

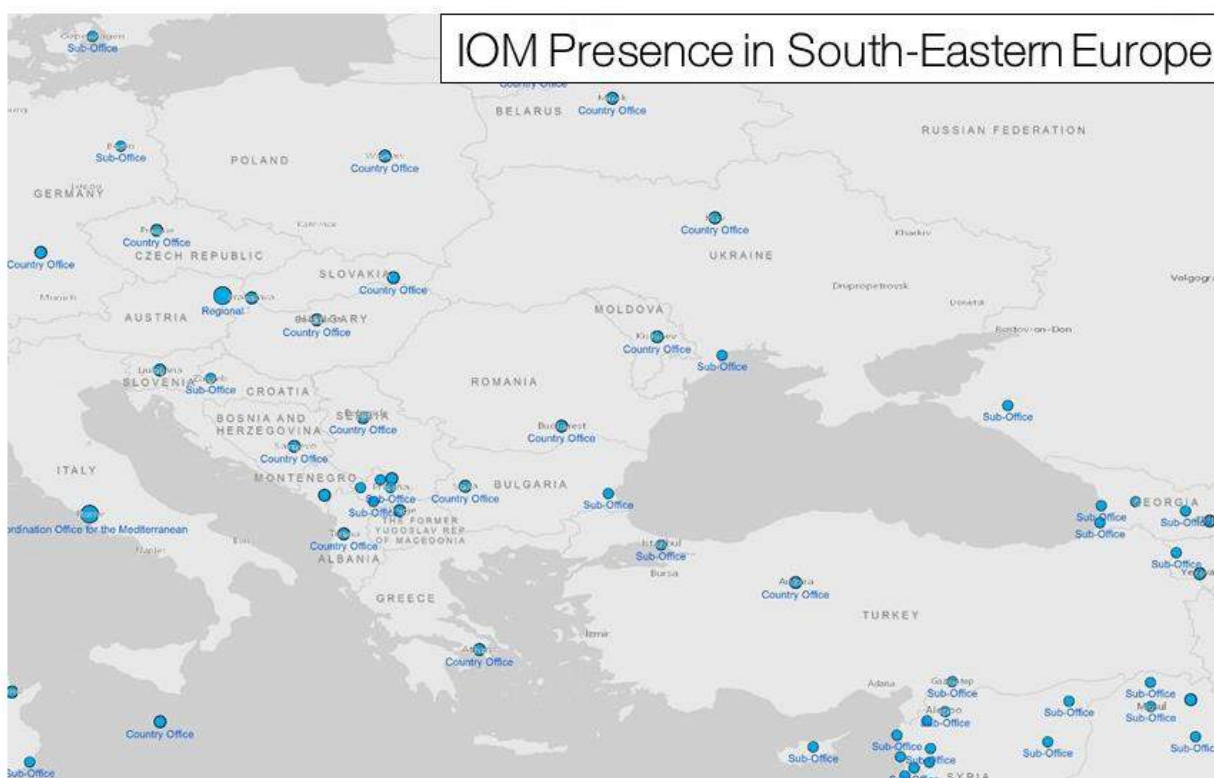
and destination. The focus of the existing regional dialogues and platforms tends to be on the concerns and challenges of countries of origin and destination, while the transit country perspective is limited to short-term issues. IOM thus proposes to ensure that broader and long-term impacts of mass transit migration on countries of transit, including, socio-economic, political and environmental aspects, are duly considered.

It is also necessary to further strengthen cooperation and coordination with partners and donors to increase the overall effectiveness and impact of interventions, and avoid duplication. IOM is already working closely with a wide range of actors active in the migration field in the region. In designing and implementing its programme of action, IOM will continue building partnerships with governments, EU institutions, UN agencies, other international organizations, NGOs, academia and the private sector. IOM will seek to actively involve civil society, local communities, local authorities and migrants, in particular vulnerable and marginalized groups, in its programmatic work, including in the identification of needs and priorities, as well as implementation, and monitoring of activities.

IOM will aim to empower migrant and diaspora networks and build their capacity to enable their active engagement and to support them to be the voice of the local communities, as well as promoting more participatory frameworks of engagement. Particular attention will be paid to ensuring participation of vulnerable groups, including women and youth.



Syrian refugees crossing the Serbian-Croatian border.
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PRIORITY ACTION	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo/UNSC resolution 1244-administered	Macedonia, FYR of	Montenegro	Serbia	Turkey
I. PROTECTING MIGRANTS' RIGHTS							
Support governments and local civil society organizations in providing humanitarian assistance to migrants in need	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mitigate the impact of displacement and mass movement of people on the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of migrants and local communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reduce health risks associated with displacement and mass movement of people for migrants and local communities				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Develop effective identification and screening mechanisms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Strengthen the inter-institutional coordination and referral mechanisms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Enhance the design and effective implementation of national laws and policies to protect the rights of all migrants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Enhance the capacity multidisciplinary teams and border officials at points of entry, including in humanitarian border management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Promote alternatives to detention and ensure that detention facilities are operated in line with international standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Strengthen existing and establish new Migrant Resource and Response Mechanisms (MRRM)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Combat prejudice and xenophobia towards migrants		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
II. ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF IRREGULAR AND FORCED MIGRATION							
Identify key driving forces for transit migration through the region, as well as the key characteristics and aspirations of migrants		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conduct information campaigns and awareness-raising activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
III. PROMOTING SAFE, ORDERLY AND DIGNIFIED HUMAN MOBILITY							
Enhance data collection in line with data protection principles, including the establishment of early warning information sharing networks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Facilitate exchange of relevant information on cross-border movements among governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ensure appropriate communication with migrants at all stages of immigration process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Establish a framework for a regional AVRR mechanism	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PRIORITY ACTION	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo/UNSC resolution 1244-administered	Macedonia, FYR of	Montenegro	Serbia	Turkey
Promote access of all migrants to health care services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support law enforcement, immigration and border agencies in combatting migrant smuggling and human trafficking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conduct feasibility assessments to determine under what conditions and in which sectors transit migrants may be granted access to labour markets in the region		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Enhance the capacity of the governments in document examination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IV. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT							
Factor in transit migration and include transit countries in existing regional cooperation platforms and dialogues on migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Further strengthen cooperation and coordination with partners and donors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Facilitate the engagement of civil society, local communities, local authorities and migrants, in particular of vulnerable and marginalized groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

North Africa and the Middle East: Regional Overview¹³

Flows

The migration context in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) can be broadly characterized as consisting of three closely interrelated patterns:

1. Forced migration and internal displacement as a result of multiple and protracted crises across the region, particularly in Libya, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Iraq;
2. Complex irregular migration flows, driven by a mix of economic and other factors, within and transiting through the region, in particular to and through North Africa and towards Europe, as well as towards Gulf countries; and,
3. The movement of (regular and irregular) labour migrants both within and from far beyond the region, where Gulf countries and Libya are as the principal magnet for migrant labour.

All North African countries are countries of origin, transit and destination, albeit to varying degrees. Current migration trends are dominated by complex mixed migration flows originating in West Africa, the Horn of Africa and the Middle East. Key drivers of migration to, within, through and from North Africa are armed conflict, environmental stress, political and economic instability, poor education, employment prospects, and the presence of large youth populations whose aspirations remain unfulfilled. Perceived and real educational, professional and other opportunities, access to asylum and the presence of networks, including the diaspora, are among the main factors on



¹³ Sources: operational data and information by IOM country offices; IOM Missing Migrants Project <http://missingmigrants.iom.int/>; Altai Consulting for IOM (2015) "Migration trends across the Mediterranean: Connecting the dots" available at http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&Path=50&products_id=1525&zenid=bsctth08bimd28klgo3e9qlkb6; North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force / MHub (2015) "Behind bars: the fate of young migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees in Libya today" and "Conditions and risks of mixed migration in North East Africa" (forthcoming) see www.mixedmigrationhub.org; Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (Nairobi).

the destination end shaping migration flows. Many migrants use – or intend to use – North Africa as a springboard to Europe. However, evidence suggests that many migrants, in particular those from West Africa, establish themselves in North Africa, opting for economic opportunities as close to home as possible. They may then find themselves compelled to migrate onwards, in particular to escape the violence in Libya. In addition to more than 480,000 internally displaced persons, IOM estimates that there are more than 1 million migrants in Libya, mostly from Egypt, Niger, Sudan, Nigeria, Bangladesh, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Mali, with approximately 150,000 migrants affected by the current insecurity.

Flows in the Middle East are dominated by forced migration and internal displacement related to the crises in the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq. According to IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix, the number of internally displaced persons in Iraq has reached 3.2 million (August 2015), while there are close to 250,000 Syrian refugees in Iraq. Neighbouring countries host the vast majority of Syrian refugees, principally Turkey (2 million), Lebanon (1.11 million) and Jordan (630,000

– all figures as of September 2015), with smaller numbers also in Egypt, Sudan and some North African countries. Flows in and from the Middle East evidently arise from the conflicts themselves. Given the protracted nature of the crises and the ensuing displacement, however, much of the movement is now motivated by desperation and the desire for a stable future. Increasingly precarious living conditions in host countries, lack of access to employment, education and livelihoods, and cuts in basic humanitarian assistance to communities both in camps and in urban areas are important push factors for the movement. The large networks of fellow nationals who are residing in Europe are sources of information for those considering the journey. In addition to refugee flows, Jordan and Lebanon continue to be countries of destination for migrant workers from the region and beyond. Lebanon has also witnessed the return of Lebanese nationals from the Syrian Arab Republic who were forced to depart as a result of the conflict.

Across the MENA region, flows broadly combine economic migrants and persons in need of international protection. However, at the family or individual level, migration motives and risk analyses are often more complex: for example, protection concerns combined with the desire to attain a more stable economic future or to join family already living in Europe; while economic migration can also be significantly shaped by underlying political instability and lack of freedoms in the country of origin.

In addition to vulnerabilities related to age, gender and health, risks for migrants also arise from the physical conditions of the journey as well as human rights violations at the hands of smugglers, traffickers and others. Migrants may get stranded along the way and at border areas, and are at risk of destitution and arbitrary and prolonged detention in inhumane conditions (especially in Libya). There are several particularly concerning trends: first, the high number of unaccompanied and separated children, especially from Egypt and the Horn of Africa countries, who cross the Mediterranean from North Africa; second the intense abuse by smugglers which, in many instances, converts a smuggling situation into one more akin to human trafficking; and third, the potential of crises and (protracted) displacement to give rise to negative coping strategies, early/forced marriages, human trafficking and risky onward irregular migration.

Routes

On the western side, routes run along the coast from Mauritania to Morocco (mainly used by Senegalese and Gambians) or through the desert through Niger and Mali to Algeria and Morocco (used inter alia by Ghanaians, Ivoirians, Cameroonians, Nigeriens). Gao in Mali, Agadez in Niger and Tamanrasset in Algeria feature as important hubs for migrants along the way. In Morocco, the main entry points into Europe are traditionally the Spanish enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, although increased controls have led to a decline in the numbers recently.

The Central Mediterranean route originates in the Horn of Africa and runs via Sudan into Libya and to a much lesser extent into Egypt. This route is mainly travelled by Eritreans, Ethiopians, Somalis and Sudanese. The majority of migrants from the Horn of Africa tend to go south towards South Africa or east towards Yemen and the Gulf, although the latter route is subject to change in view of the crisis in Yemen since March 2015 (see also Horn of Africa chapter). In addition to routes starting in the Horn of Africa, there are also routes through Chad and Niger extending northwards into Libya, used principally by West Africans. Sebha, Qatrun and Al Khufra in southern Libya are key transit points on this route.

The Libyan coast, in particular its western end, is the main departure point from North Africa to Italy, with a few occasional departures from Egypt. The route across the Mediterranean from North Africa towards Italy is by far the most risky for migrants, accounting for nearly all of the more than 3,200 recorded deaths

in 2015 to date. In addition to the 121,391 arrivals in 2015, so far nearly 1,000 migrants were rescued off the coast of Tunisia after departing from Libya.

In 2015, the Eastern Mediterranean Route has grown in significance, with primarily Syrians and Iraqis leaving their countries of origin or the countries that had been hosting them hitherto to and through Turkey, by boat to Greece and along the Balkan route to Europe. An increase in the number of Syrians leaving Lebanon via Lebanese ports towards Turkey has been noticed in recent months.

Policy Processes

At a regional and interregional level, policy processes and cooperation frameworks on migration relevant to North Africa include the African Union-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants, the European Union-Horn of Africa Migration Routes Initiative (Khartoum Process), and the Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process). Numerous countries in the region have concluded bilateral agreements amongst each other and with European countries. Tunisia and Morocco have signed Mobility Partnerships with the European Union. Countries of the region are also part of the League of Arab States – which is in the process of establishing the Arab Regional Consultative Process on Migration – and the Arab Maghreb Union. Furthermore, in 2012, the ministers of the League of Arab States adopted the “Comprehensive Arab Strategy for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings”.

IOM in North Africa and Middle East (see map)

Country	Offices	Locations	Staff
Algeria ¹⁴	1	Algiers	1
Egypt	2	Cairo, Aswan	99
Jordan	1	Amman, plus IOM Clinic Amman, and various locations Jordan concerning Syria emergency	383
Lebanon	5	Beirut, Tripoli, Sarafand, Beqaa, Qubaiat	80
Libya	2	Tripoli/Tunis, Benghazi	23
Morocco	3	Rabat, Tangier, Tétouan	50
Tunisia	3	Tunis, Sfax, Zarzis	53
Total			689

1. Protecting migrants' rights

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

The conditions of migration in the region and the abuse, risks and deprivations migrants experience call for immediate and sustained direct assistance and protection to migrants. This includes displaced persons in camps or in urban settings, stranded migrants, migrants in detention and rescued at sea, victims of trafficking, migrants with significant health conditions, unaccompanied and separated children, and other vulnerable cases. In this respect, IOM works with governments and local partners to deliver, as needed, direct material assistance (especially non-food items) and other humanitarian support and protection as well as to build capacity as needed. This includes effective mechanisms to refer asylum-seekers to the appropriate institutions and expanding access to health and psychosocial services for migrants, especially for



¹⁴ The IOM office in Algiers is currently being established and staffed.

those rescued at sea or detained. IOM will strengthen the capacity of health services across the region to respond to the health needs of (transit) migrants through training, improved referral mechanisms, improved infrastructure of health facilities and provision of medical equipment. IOM will also continue to help individuals access safety by providing transportation, for instance from border crossing points to refugee camps.

Situations of displacement or migrants' living conditions and irregular status often hinder their access to their rights and to available services. IOM and partners produce and disseminate information on health, psychosocial, legal services, shelter, education, and migrant rights, as well as legal migration options and alternatives to irregular migration. IOM maintains centres and/or online platforms for this purpose in several countries in the region and proposes to further expand these mechanisms.

Where countries undergo crises and conflict, IOM, in coordination with countries of origin, assists migrants through emergency evacuation and repatriation.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

In relevant countries, IOM will further invest in the capacities of coast guards to engage in search and rescue at sea, and to implement Humanitarian Border Management strategies at land and sea borders. Strengthening government capacity through the provision of technical assistance to develop and implement human rights-based policies and legislation on migration, human trafficking and migrant smuggling further remain a priority throughout the region.

2. Addressing drivers of irregular and forced migration

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

As a short-term measure, IOM will continue to develop targeted awareness-raising campaigns on the risks of irregular migration and provide available alternatives in coordination with local and international partners. It is important that such campaigns be accompanied by rigorous analyses of their impact and of the ways in which information circulates among migrants.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Resilience-building measures will be prioritized, in particular in countries and communities hosting large populations of displaced persons, refugees and migrants. IOM will operate on the principle that, for

best impact, resilience-building, livelihood activities and community stabilization must balance the needs of host communities and migrants and displaced populations. For example, innovative livelihood interventions, infrastructure development, and socioeconomic integration initiatives will benefit both migrants / displaced populations and host communities. Efforts are also needed to enhance employability, employment and self-employment for youth and communities witnessing high rates of rural-urban or international out-migration. Also relevant are the role, capacity and needs of returning nationals, regularized migrants and internally displaced persons (IDPs); therefore, IOM will prioritize social cohesion measures at community level among different groups. IOM will also engage with communities potentially affected by climate change and environmental degradation to mitigate possible migration consequences.

Underpinning all of the above, IOM is heavily engaged in data collection and knowledge production on irregular migration in, to and from the region and across the Mediterranean. Analysis has focused on migration routes into and through North Africa as well as on drivers, migration intentions, profiles of current and potential migrants, and human rights of migrants. IOM proposes a move towards more systematized and continuous mechanisms of data collection to allow for a more rigorous analysis of changing trends. The work begun by the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force and the associated Mixed Migration Hub (MHub),¹⁵ as well as through IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix, shall be continued, expanded and reinforced in this regard. Qualitative research on migration intentions and the circulation of information on migration routes among populations, including among refugee populations, is also necessary.

3. Promoting safe, orderly and dignified human mobility

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Enhancing the quantity and quality of legal migration channels is a matter of priority. The youthful populations of the Middle East and North Africa would particularly benefit from appropriate student migration and labour migration systems. IOM would help to design targeted migration policies, combined with educational and vocational training schemes, to enhance skills and qualifications of labour market

entrants for domestic and foreign labour markets. IOM proposes to further build government capacity across the region in this area. Labour migration systems would encompass mechanisms to forecast and match labour needs in MENA and European countries. An expansion of labour migration systems should be accompanied by investment in education and training to enhance qualifications and employability, to benefit both domestic and foreign labour markets. MENA countries are also countries of destination, some of which have major labour market needs of their own that require more effective labour migration and ethical recruitment systems. Particular attention is to be paid to the protection of the human and labour rights of migrants moving from or to MENA for work.

Other effective shorter-term interventions include training on the human rights of migrants, institution-building and developing standard operating procedures for authorities dealing with irregular migration, the promotion of alternatives to detention, and preparedness for migration crises, all of which are vital components that contribute to addressing the harmful manifestations of migration in MENA in the longer term.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM advocates for and supports the expansion of other legal migration avenues, including resettlement opportunities for those in need of international protection and assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR).

IOM will further support efforts to mainstream migration into relevant sectoral policies and the mobilization of diaspora communities for national development via skills transfer through temporary return, investment and business opportunities and philanthropic engagement.

Other structural measures to promote safe, orderly and dignified migration include IOM's contribution to legal reform and capacity to address irregular migration, border management, human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Voluntary return and reintegration assistance also remains an important component of IOM's rights-based response to irregular migration.

4. Strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development

While the need to meet the acute challenges in the region persists, IOM will advocate for concrete measures in the realms of migration channels, inclusive



¹⁵ www.mixedmigrationhub.org

and sustainable development, and peace and security to address the systemic failures that have given rise to the current situation.

IOM promotes and supports regional and interregional fora through its technical expertise and years of experience in facilitating inter-State dialogue. In this regard, IOM supports, through regional and country-level interventions, the African Union-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants, the European Union-Horn of Africa Migration Routes Initiative (Khartoum Process), the Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process), and relevant regional institutions. IOM and partners will continue capacity-building measures for governments on the region on a range of relevant areas of migration governance.

At an inter-agency level, IOM, UNHCR, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Danish Refugee Council, and the Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (Nairobi) have formed the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force which is supported by the Mixed Migration Hub¹³ and is dedicated to coordination and knowledge production concerning the protection of people moving in mixed and complex flows to, through and from North Africa. The Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region, co-chaired by the League of Arab States, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and

IOM, have produced the first situation report on migration in the Arab region. The report comprises an analysis of the relationships between forced migration and development, which will serve as an important resource and reference for work on migration, displacement, development and resilience in the region.

Given the scope of intraregional migration, IOM will also dedicate greater efforts to dialogue, exchange and cooperation among North African countries and between North Africa and regions of origin such as West and sub-Saharan Africa, in particular with regard to regional mobility.

As a growing number of countries in the Middle East and North Africa updates and revises its policy and legal framework on migration, IOM will also continue facilitating greater coherence and comprehensive approaches at national levels, for instance by supporting inter-ministerial platforms on migration.



PRIORITY ACTION	Egypt	Libya	Morocco	Tunisia	Jordan	Lebanon
I. PROTECTING MIGRANTS' RIGHTS						
Provide direct material assistance (e.g. non-food items) and other humanitarian support and protection, or empower local partners to deliver such assistance, to vulnerable migrants and refugees, including stranded migrants, those in detention or rescued at sea, victims of trafficking, migrants with significant health conditions, unaccompanied and separated children and others (IDPs where relevant)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Produce and disseminate information on migrant rights, legal migration and mobility channels, alternatives to irregular migration, and on services available to migrants (e.g. health, psychosocial, legal, shelter, education)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Strengthen ability of health providers and psychosocial services through capacity building, improved referral mechanisms, and material assistance to meet the needs of migrants and other vulnerable mobile populations as well as host communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand and enhance the network of Migrant Resource Centres / Migrant Response and Resource Mechanisms at points of origin and along migration routes				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Design online platforms and social media outreach to provide information to migrants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Assist countries in implementing Humanitarian Border Management Strategies at land and sea borders and enhance capacities of coast guards for search & rescue operations at sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Make available emergency evacuation / repatriation from countries in crisis, and ensure referral to relevant protection authorities in the case of asylum-seekers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support adequate reception capacities for migrants rescued at sea; build capacity of officials to screen for vulnerabilities; monitor and improve conditions in detention and at border crossing points and develop relevant Standard Operating Procedures; promote alternatives to detention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Provide technical assistance to governments and relevant authorities and service providers in devising and implementing rights-based policies and laws as well as procedures and services (especially referral mechanisms for vulnerable cases and victims of trafficking; health provision; detention)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of the Regional Development and Protection Programme in North Africa in close cooperation with the Government of Italy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
II. ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF IRREGULAR AND FORCED MIGRATION						
Develop targeted awareness-raising campaigns on the risks of irregular migration and available alternatives, accompanied by assessment of the impact of such campaigns and information circulation among migrants	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support innovative initiatives in the area of resilience, social cohesion, integration, community stabilization and development and infrastructure rehabilitation, that take into account – as appropriate – host communities, migrants, refugees, IDPs, returnees and regularized migrants		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implement livelihood alternatives and community stabilization activities for communities hosting migrants and refugees and/or affected by smuggling and trafficking patterns		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Invest in livelihood opportunities, employability and (self-)employment for youth and communities experiencing high rates of out-migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PRIORITY ACTION	Egypt	Libya	Morocco	Tunisia	Jordan	Lebanon
Engage with communities potentially affected by climate change and environmental degradation to mitigate possible migration consequences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Put in place systematic and continuous data gathering mechanisms throughout the region for centralized, ongoing and robust monitoring of trends, routes and conditions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Mapping of displacement patterns and identification of needs through the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix, including mapping returns of IDPs and areas conducive to return		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
III. PROMOTING SAFE, ORDERLY AND DIGNIFIED HUMAN MOBILITY						
Support collective efforts towards greater quantity and quality of legal migration channels (labour migration, student migration, family reunification, resettlement)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Help design targeted migration policies, combined with educational and vocational training schemes, to enhance skills and qualifications of labour market entrants for domestic and foreign labour markets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Assist in devising rights-based labour migration systems that forecast and match expected needs of national and foreign labour as well as web-based job-matching systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Enhance government preparedness to respond to migration crises		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support institution-building and re-establishment of the rule of law in relation to migration and border management; advocacy for regularization of migrant status		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support policy development and legal reform on human trafficking and migrant smuggling, including training on human rights and international migration law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support policy development and planning for a well-managed, rights-based labour migration and ethical recruitment system to meet the country's future labour market needs		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Support efforts to mainstream migration into relevant sectoral policies and diaspora engagement strategies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Make available assisted voluntary return and reintegration,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IV. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT						
Facilitate and contribute expertise to relevant regional and interregional policy dialogue processes and fora	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Promote dialogue, exchange and cooperation within the region and with regions of origin of migration to North Africa, in particular with regard to facilitating intraregional labour mobility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Support policy coherence and comprehensive approaches through inter-ministerial dialogue and platforms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reinforce coordination, joint advocacy, information exchange and knowledge production with partners agencies and civil society	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

West and Central Africa: Regional Overview

Flows

With a fast-growing, young and increasingly urban population, West and Central Africa are undergoing rapid changes in population dynamics, which influence migration patterns. The West and Central African regions are characterized by a long history of intra- and interregional migration (mainly towards North Africa). West Africa, in particular, has the strongest intraregional mobility in sub-Saharan Africa, with some 70 per cent of migratory movements taking place within the sub-region, largely facilitated by the free movement protocols within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region.

Many of the countries in the region have a dynamic economy with high growth rates but are still marked by weak socioeconomic conditions, governance and access to basic services, especially in rural or border areas. Low wages or low purchasing power of income, lack of regular employment or underemployment, limited opportunities or means for education are also factors driving migration. This is compounded by a bottom-heavy population pyramid with up to 75 per cent of the population in many of the countries below the age of thirty five. The percentage of the population living in extreme poverty in those countries often reaches similar levels. The scarcity of opportunities for the youth is a powerful incentive for migration.

Security is also a significant factor of migration where the impacts of conflicts are still felt in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire are compounded by more recent conflicts in Mali, Central African Republic and Nigeria. The socioeconomic and security contexts have also enabled the rise and spread of transnational criminal and terrorist organizations.

Droughts, desertification, deforestation, rising sea level, coastal erosion and flooding have also increased in occurrence and severity over the last few decades and constitute factors of instability that have contributed to displacement and growing competition over resources. Mali, the Central African Republic, and Nigeria have some of the largest displaced populations in the region. Ongoing instability in these countries has resulted in large refugee populations fleeing to neighbouring

countries such as Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad and Niger.

The presence of large groups of migrants – often irregular – in specific areas usually in the outskirts of main cities has been tolerated for years by the authorities as a vital component of the intraregional economy. However, the number of irregular migrants has been increasing and the growing presence of migrant populations has become a source of tension with host communities. It is also increasingly perceived by governments as a threat to national security. For this reason, several countries in the region are gathering migrants and deporting those who are found undocumented. These operations are often weakly managed in terms of resources and logistics; their legal foundation at times questionable, especially given the free movement areas of ECOWAS.

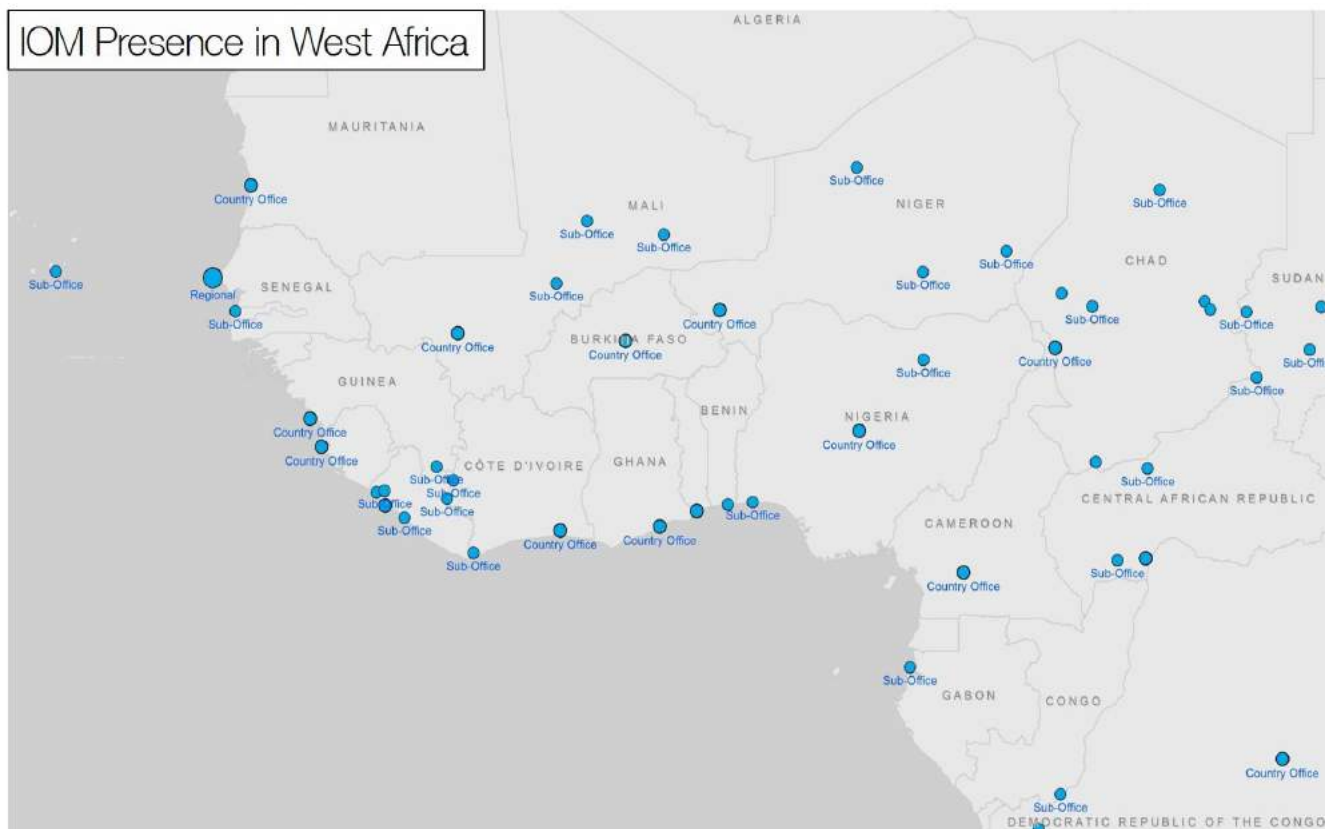
Further, while the great majority of migrants from West and Central Africa are young males looking for better opportunities, highly vulnerable migrant categories are also concerned by changing mobility patterns. In Niger, for instance, migrants from the Region of Zinder and the villages of Matameye and Kantché are frequently single women and children who travel to Algeria and are particularly vulnerable to exploitation. Unaccompanied and separated children are a common feature of migration flows in the region, often at risk of abuse, exploitation or trafficking.

Routes

In recent years, irregular migration from sub-Saharan Africa towards Europe has substantially increased along the Central Mediterranean route. From West Africa the main migration routes currently transit Niger through the desert city of Agadez, with many migrants then crossing the border with Libya and eventually reaching the coastal cities of Zuhara and Zawia (neighbourhood of Tripoli) from where they often attempt to reach Europe via Italy.

According to the Agadez Governorate's official figures, on average, 2,000 sub-Saharan migrants transit through Niger each week: it is estimated approximately 120,000 migrants will enter Libya via Niger by end of 2015, coming from West Africa (mainly Senegal, Gambia, Mali, and Nigeria). Half of all West African migrants who arrive in Lampedusa, Italy have reportedly transited through Agadez. Another important but currently less-frequented route is through Niger to Algeria where the economic situation is more conducive to seasonal occupation. Migration flows along the West Africa route via Mauritania

IOM Presence in West Africa



towards Morocco and Algeria, and eventually Spain, continue to take place but have significantly decreased since their peak in 2006.

The Central Mediterranean route is the most dangerous route, where the highest number of reported deaths has occurred. As of mid-October 2015, there have been over 3,100 reported deaths, of which over 2,800 occurred along the Central Mediterranean route. As this route is most common among sub-Saharan Africans, they represent just over half of the identified fatalities. As such, nationals of the region have been most affected attempting to cross the Mediterranean.

remittances, migrants' rights, trafficking and smuggling, and return and reintegration. The Rabat Process is another key regional forum that aims to create a framework for dialogue and consultation among the European Union Member States and countries in North, West and Central Africa.

Policy Processes

Consultative processes at the regional level are supporting the development of a common understanding and response to the opportunities and challenges of migration. The Migration Dialogue for Central African States (MIDCA) and the Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA) bring together Member States of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and of ECOWAS respectively to discuss and seek regional solutions to common migration issues, including border management, data collection, labour migration, irregular migration,

IOM in West and Central Africa (see map)

Country	Offices	Locations	Staff
Burkina Faso	1	Ouagadougou	10
Cameroon	2	Yaoundé, Maroua	26
Chad	10	N'djamena, Abéché, Amtimane, Bagossola, Farshana, Goré, Ahraz, Maro, Moundou, Tissi	99
Gambia	1	Baniul	1
Ghana	4	Accra, Immuna, Sogakope, Tamale	65
Mali	4	Bamako, Gao, Mopti, Timbuktu	56
Mauritania	2	Nouakchott,	18
Niger	6	Niamey, Agadez, Arlit, Dirkou, Diffa, Zinder	39
Nigeria	4	Abuja, Baouche, Lagos, Yobe	93
Senegal	2	Dakar, Kédougou	48
Total			455

1. Protecting migrants' rights

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM will implement all urgent and life-saving activities that are essential to ensuring migrants protection, namely direct assistance such as medical assistance, legal counselling and counter-trafficking. This is even more relevant when targeting the most vulnerable categories such as unaccompanied and separated children, victims of trafficking, medical cases, separated families, etc.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM is on the frontlines for developing the Migrant Response and Resource Mechanism (MRRM) concept

thanks to its presence in key countries, including Niger where IOM manages four transit centres in Arlit, Agadez, Dirkou and Niamey, along the main transit routes from West and Central Africa to Europe. The MRRM is intended to provide direct assistance to migrants in distress while at the same time building the capacities of those state and non-state actors that are part of the assistance process to ensure a targeted and harmonized provision of assistance. Direct assistance includes the provision of medical, psychological and legal assistance. The synergies established with all relevant stakeholders through the MRRM along with daily access to migrants allows for the collection of first-hand information about migratory patterns, and trafficking or smuggling networks. This will also enable a better understanding of migrants' profiles, their skills, expectations, motivations and aspirations. The collection of reliable information is one of the main limitations in the region and the improvement of this aspect is paramount to shape more effective interventions. Towards this end, IOM will continue to improve the existing MRRM in Niger and develop new ones in other countries in the Region to ensure that the mechanism continues to provide targeted assistance to migrants, governments and other key stakeholders. Finally, the MRRM also aims to enhance government and NGO capacities in migrant protection, including in counter-trafficking.

In the longer term, the MRRM will also serve to provide migrants with targeted vocational trainings and to contribute to the development of job placement programmes for vulnerable migrants.

In addition to this IOM aims to build on its existing counter-trafficking activities to ensure that assistance continues to be provided for these vulnerable migrant groups. To this end, IOM will also continue to support governments in the design and effective implementation of national laws and policies to protect the rights of all migrants.

2. Addressing drivers of irregular and forced migration

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

As a basis for policies addressing the drivers of irregular and forced migration, further research and data initiatives are essential to gather quantitative and qualitative data on migrants' and other vulnerable mobile populations' profiles, needs, expectations, vulnerabilities and intentions. IOM proposes to contribute to regional data and research efforts by rolling out its displacement tracking systems in communities of origin and along the migratory routes

to capture, process, and disseminate information. This will create a better understanding of migratory movements, origins, intentions and evolving needs.

A more systematic process of data collection and analysis on key migratory routes and socioeconomic profiles and motivations of migrants is essential to understanding and addressing the drivers of irregular migration in the region. This would provide a basis for context specific policymaking as well as facilitate the design of appropriate and tailored interventions.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Based on its cross-sectorial expertise, IOM further proposes to undertake stability and development programmes in communities of origin to reduce irregular migration and for returning forced and irregular migrants. Enabling communities to allow for the sustainable reintegration of returning displaced persons, and irregular migrants is equally important, including in preventing secondary migration.

Based on data analysis, tailored community-based and multi-sectorial interventions can include improvement in the delivery of basic services, livelihoods promotion/diversification and employment generation, especially for youth and women, including through the development and delivery of labour market-relevant training opportunities and job placement programmes. IOM will support the rehabilitation of socioeconomic infrastructure as well as support individualized migrant reintegration and livelihood assistance, thereby building individual and community resilience and addressing key push factors of irregular and forced migration. Such initiatives would engage with and support institutions, communities and individuals with the overall goal of addressing key drivers of irregular migration. An inclusive participatory approach would equally be essential to promote empowerment, ownership, and dialogue, as well as strengthen cohesion amongst various groups, including displaced persons, migrant groups, and community members, including from vulnerable and disenfranchised communities.

Building government capacity to deliver services is also critical to promote governance and support the development and implementation of evidence-based policies to address key drivers of irregular migration. IOM will continue to provide technical assistance and other capacity building interventions to governments in the region including in disaster risk management and managing displacement.

Finally, promoting the active engagement of large diasporas originating from West and Central Africa, in both philanthropic and investment initiatives, is also essential. Diasporas have the potential to leverage considerable amounts of funding and technical support that address key drivers of irregular migration. This engagement can stimulate the growth of Small and Medium Enterprises in countries of origin. IOM aims to continue to work with diaspora communities to support entrepreneurship and economic development in countries of origin. Moreover, IOM will also support socioeconomic integration initiatives linked to community development for returning nationals.

3. Promoting safe, orderly and dignified human mobility

In order to ensure the safe and orderly movement of migrants across borders, further efforts are needed to promote stronger and more coherent approaches to border management. Despite the increased prioritization of border management by governments in the region countries continue to face enormous challenges to reach the objective of open but well-controlled and secure borders. Enhancing operational and strategic border management capacities should therefore be considered as a key component to promoting safe, orderly and dignified human mobility. Integral to the approach is taking into consideration needs of vulnerable migrants and persons in need of international protection by building national capacities and promoting stronger cross-border cooperation.

The effective governance of labour migration to respond to labour market gaps and support economic development is a complex process involving both public and private stakeholders and requiring high levels of government engagement and coordination, both at origin and destination, in order to match employers and workers with the required skills. Developing programmes that serve to organize labour migration to respond to the labour market will hence be another key component of this pillar.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM's approach to combating migrant smuggling in the region also focuses on building capacity for law enforcement actors, supporting an effective criminal justice response, and strengthening cooperation amongst key actors while at the same ensuring due protection of migrants' rights. IOM aims to continue to work in close partnership with governments in order to i) promote stronger and more coherent approaches to border management and improve national capacities

to collect, analyse and report data on cross-border flows of people through the region, ii) promote the engagement of cross-border communities in improving border security addressing threats as well as in maximizing the development potential of border management, including trade facilitation, iii) support travel document harmonization and enhance national and regional identity management processes to further promote safe and facilitated cross-border travel within the region, and iv) strengthen capacities of national authorities to understand, analyse and jointly address the challenges relating to migrant smuggling along the Mediterranean route.

In view of promoting regular migration channels, including fostering intraregional labour mobility, IOM will implement feasibility assessments for development of scalable labour mobility programmes in specific sectors across the region and with countries of destination. In addition, IOM aims to build on its existing AVRR programmes to ensure that assistance continues to be provided for these vulnerable migrant groups.

4. Strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development

Several stakeholders are operating in the region to strengthen dialogue and partnership for growth and development. The MIDWA and MIDCA are two Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) respectively targeting migration in West and Central Africa. While MIDWA is certainly a major stakeholder, an excellent forum to establish and/or foster intra and intraregional dialogue on several aspects including migration management, counter-trafficking and counter-smuggling, MIDCA remains in its infancy and requires further support for it to begin showing the promised benefits to its member countries. In addition, since 2006 European Union and African States have come together to improve migration management through a more human development-centred approach under the Rabat Process.

More broadly, the African Union and the Regional Economic Commissions in Africa, including ECOWAS and ECCAS in West and Central Africa, remain preferential stakeholders for IOM to promote a more effective governance of migration in Africa and hence to strengthen growth and sustainable development through enhanced regional integration.

Partnership with non-state actors such as migrants and employers organizations are also considered key to

ensure that that labour mobility programmes are responsive to real needs and people's aspirations.

With specific reference to the Sahel Region, strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development is a core feature among the different strategies developed including the G5 Sahel, ECOWAS, the United Nations as well as the European Union.

Partnership with non-state actors such as migrants and employers organizations are also considered key to ensure that that labour mobility programmes are responsive to real needs and people's aspirations.

With specific reference to the Sahel Region, strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development is a core feature among the different strategies developed including the G5 Sahel, ECOWAS, the United Nations as well as the European Union.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM's approach to strengthen partnership for inclusive growth and sustainable development in West and Central Africa will focus on four priority interventions.

First and foremost, IOM will continue supporting and reinforcing relevant RCPs on migration. Regarding MIDWA, the establishment and support of a formal Secretariat, the development of an annual work plan and a sound monitoring and evaluation system are among the actions that IOM foresees in the medium term. For MIDCA, IOM plans to promote the establishment of working modalities and to support their implementation. Appropriate representation and contribution to the Rabat Process will also be made as needed.

IOM also envisages reinforcing the cooperation with the African Union and other regional economic bodies on issues related to free movement and migration in Africa. A series of interregional meetings on priority actions to foster labour mobility will be organized and studies to advance evidence base policy decisions on free movement will also be carried out in coordination with relevant stakeholders, including other UN specialized agencies.

Thirdly, IOM plans to work closely with the G5 Sahel, ECOWAS, Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel (OSES), European Union and the Government of the United States of America as well as relevant UN agencies to promote coordination among the various existing Sahel strategies for increased effectiveness.



Rescue operations carried out at the end of June
in the Channel of Sicily, Italy.
© Francesco Malavolta/IOM 2015

Finally, IOM will continue strengthening its ties with civil society organizations, including migrants'/youth organizations and employers, for the development of labour migration programmes which are responsive to real labour market needs and to ensure that migrants views and aspiration are duly taken into account. IOM plans to establish/support platforms to promote social dialogue in the region, specifically focused on labour mobility and youth employment issues.

PRIORITY ACTION	Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Chad	Gambia	Ghana	Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal
I. PROTECTING MIGRANTS' RIGHTS										
Enhance the capacities of Civil Society and Governmental Institutions on migrant protection, including counter-trafficking	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provide direct assistance to migrants in distress, including AVRR	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Raise awareness on risks related to irregular migration and trafficking	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improve the collection and elaboration of information on migratory flows		✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
Support the MRRM approach					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Capacity-building in Humanitarian Border Management (HBM)	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓
II. ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF IRREGULAR AND FORCED MIGRATION										
Regional Migration flow monitoring and data analysis initiatives	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Strengthen governance and service delivery by building government capacity and providing technical assistance to develop and implement evidence- based policies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support skills development and income generating activities, specifically for youth and women, in migration-prone areas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Promote stability and social cohesion among migrants, internally displaced and host communities, inter alia through tailored community stability and development programmes, ensuring an inclusive participatory approach	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support innovative socioeconomic (re)integration initiatives linked to community development for returning nationals	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Leveraging diaspora philanthropy to support entrepreneurship and economic development	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Facilitating diaspora investments in innovative start-ups and small and medium enterprises	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Developing Labour Market-relevant Training opportunities and job placement programmes	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

PRIORITY ACTION	Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Chad	Gambia	Ghana	Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal
III. PROMOTING SAFE, ORDERLY AND DIGNIFIED HUMAN MOBILITY										
Promote stronger and more coherent approaches to border management and improve border management capacities to collect, analyse and report data on cross border flow of people through the region	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	
Promote the engagement of cross-border communities in improving border security addressing threats as well as in maximizing the development potential of border management, including trade facilitation	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓
Support travel document harmonization and enhance national and regional identity management processes to further promote safe and facilitated regional cross- border travel within the region	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓
Strengthen capacities of national authorities to understand, analyse and jointly address the challenges relating to migrant smuggling along the Mediterranean route	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓		
Conduct feasibility assessments to determine where and in what conditions labour mobility programmes may function in specific sectors	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Building capacities of public and/or private recruitment actors in countries of origin	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support the development of policies and programmes at all skill levels to respond to labour market realities and provide alternatives to irregular migration	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provide capacity-building and other technical assistance to improve educational outcomes to meet international labour market demand; to better match workers with employers domestically and internationally; to improve integrity of international recruitment chains; to develop government capacity in labour migration management and to further promote intraregional labour mobility	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support the national authorities to develop a national framework to regulate						✓		✓	✓	✓
IV. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT										
Supporting and reinforcing relevant RCPs on migration	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reinforcing the cooperation with the AU and other African RECs on issues related to free movement and migration in Africa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support to the G5Sahel, ECOWAS, OSES, European Union and the USG and UN agencies to promote coordination among existing Sahel strategies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

PRIORITY ACTION	Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Chad	Gambia	Ghana	Mali	Mauritania	Niger	Nigeria	Senegal
Strengthening its ties with civil society organizations, including migrants' / youth organizations and employers , for the development of labour migration dialogue in the region	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Horn of Africa and Yemen: Regional Overview

Flows

Migration remains a key but insufficiently managed feature of the Horn of Africa. Migrants from Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Somalia continue to take the frequently perilous journey from the Horn of Africa to Europe (via South Sudan, Sudan, and Libya), Yemen and the Gulf States (via Somalia and Djibouti), and South Africa (via Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe). Most countries in the region, including Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Yemen are known source and transit countries for human trafficking, while migrant smuggling is rife throughout the region.¹⁶

Migrants are opting for irregular and unsafe migration as the opportunities for safe and regular migration are limited. The drivers of irregular migration in the Horn of Africa include political, demographic, economic, environmental, and social factors. Politically, the region faces protracted and recurrent conflicts within Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen, weak governance and corruption, limited rule of law, and limited political freedoms. In terms of demographics, countries in the region have young populations with relatively high fertility rates and population growth rates. There is widespread poverty with inequitable distribution of the benefits of areas of economic growth. Climate change and environmental degradation contribute to resource-based competition and conflict. The majority of the regional population have limited education opportunities and/or poor educational outcomes, limited access to health care services, are exposed to harmful traditional practices, and many face social exclusion.

In some parts of the Horn of Africa, migration is embedded in communities as both a means of exporting excess labour at the national level, and, at the household level, as a strategy for diversification of income. Irregular migration is facilitated by trafficking and smuggling networks that actively promote their services to migrants, and compounded by poor



¹⁶ RMMS 2014. Going West: contemporary mixed migration trends from the Horn of Africa to Libya and Europe.

governance and weak border management.¹⁷ The security situation throughout the region has been further weakened by violent radicalization of youth and the surge of terrorist activities and groups that increasingly operate across borders.

As of June 2015, there were over 9 million refugees and internally displaced persons in the region.¹⁸ There are over 1 million Somali refugees and an estimated 1.1 million IDPs in Somalia. In South Sudan, by September 2015 more than 2.2 million people had been displaced (1.64 million IDPs and 620,000 who have fled to neighbouring countries) since fighting broke out in December 2013. As of end August 2015, the crisis in Yemen had displaced more than 1.4 million people internally, over 52,000 people leaving Yemen for Djibouti and Somalia.¹⁹ Ethiopia is currently the largest refugee hosting nation in Africa (currently hosting more than 700,000 refugees and asylum-seekers) and is simultaneously an important country of origin with high numbers of Ethiopians migrating for mainly economic reasons. Kenya and Sudan also host significant numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, with 585,000 refugees in Kenya and 258,226 refugees in Sudan. Tanzania is hosting 172,699 refugees and asylum-seekers.²⁰

Routes

While most persons move within the region, there are significant and increasing flows to other regions. Traditionally, mixed flows from the Horn of Africa have moved towards Yemen and countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council; however, since 2012 there has been a marked increase in the use of other routes, particularly the Western Route to North Africa and across the Central Mediterranean Sea to Europe, as well as to Southern Africa.²¹ The situation of mixed migration in the Horn of Africa is marked by high risks, dangers, documented abuse, and deaths at sea or on land. Research has shown that large numbers of



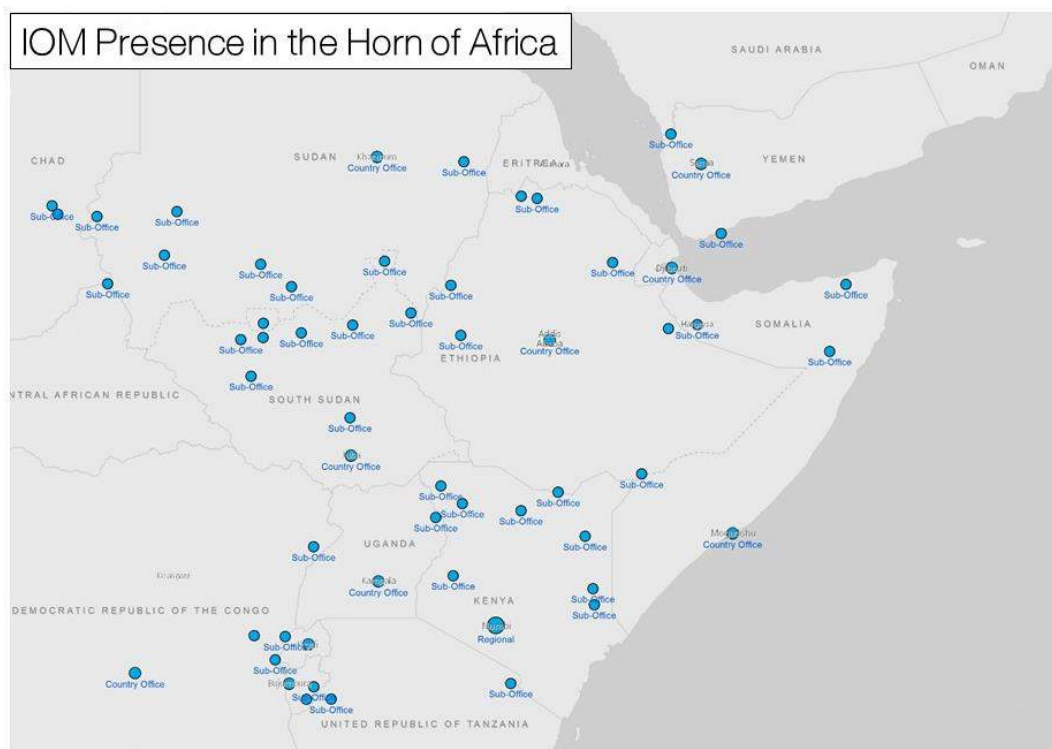
¹⁷ RMMS 2013. Migrant Smuggling in the Horn of Africa and Yemen.

¹⁸ OCHA 2015. Eastern Africa Regional Humanitarian Snapshot as of 25 June 2015.

¹⁹ IOM 2015. Yemen Crisis – IOM Regional Response.

²⁰ UNHCR and World Bank 2015. Eastern Africa HOA Displacement Study: Forced Displacement and Mixed Migration in the Horn of Africa and UNHCR 2015, Ethiopia Refugee Update (September 2015).

²¹ IOM 2015. Migration Trends across the Mediterranean; connecting the dots.



migrants opt to migrate in this manner, despite being aware of the risks and dangers.²²

Policy Processes

In the context of the Horn of Africa region, the continental policy frameworks of the African Union have been a key point of reference for governments and sub-regional processes: 1) the Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA, 2006) identifies nine key thematic issues and makes national and regional level policy recommendations; 2) the African Common Position on Migration and Development (2006) underscores the importance strengthened migration management, including for pursuing common approaches towards harmonization of migration policies, laws and strategies; 3) the Joint Africa-European Union Declaration on Migration and Development (2006) emphasizes the need for mutual partnerships for better migration management. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) has also spearheaded other noteworthy initiatives in the HoA, such as the development of the Regional Migration Policy Framework (RMPF), which draws on the MPFA.

IOM also supports the IGAD Regional Migration Coordination Committee (RMCC) comprising of Heads of Immigration and labour authorities in IGAD Member States. The RMCC meets regularly to address emerging migration issues in the HoA region.

Another important initiative is the Sana'a Declaration (2013) in which governments from the Horn of Africa and the Gulf States called for the development of national action plans, improvements to at-sea procedures, and building capacity of coast guard services. Governments from the Horn of Africa have also participated in and contributed to the Khartoum Process and Horn of Africa Initiative (HOAI), which aims to address the root causes of irregular migration through improved migration management, increased opportunities for safe and regular migration, and improving protection for refugees and asylum-seekers.

IOM within its mixed migration programming for the Horn of Africa and Yemen has facilitated the annual meetings of the Regional Mixed Migration Committee which brings together representatives from Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Yemen to coordinate and identify priority actions for responses to complex migration flows in the region. IOM has also supported national mixed migration taskforces, which coordinate humanitarian responses of governments, civil society organization, United Nations agencies, and non-governmental organizations to mixed migration.



²² IOM 2014. Fatal Journeys; tracking lives lost during migration.

IOM in the Horn of Africa²³ (see map)

Country	Offices	Locations	Staff
Djibouti	2	Djibouti City, Obock	20
Eritrea	1	Asmara	1
Ethiopia	8	Addis Ababa, Assosa, Dollo Ado, Gambella, Jijiga, Moyale, Semera, Shire	303
Kenya	8	Nairobi, Dadaab, Eldoret, Garissa, Kakuma, Lodwar, Marsabit, Moyale	348
Somalia	6	Mogadishu, Bossaso, Garowe, Hargeisa, Doble, Nairobi (Coordination Office)	229
South Sudan	6	Juba, Bentiu, Bor, Malakal, Renk, Wau	351
Sudan	7	Khartoum, El Fasher, Nyala, El Geneina, Kassala, Kadugli, Abyei	117
Tanzania	3	Dar es Salaam, Kigoma, Moshi	115
Uganda	4	Kampala, Hoima, Isingiro, Kyegegwa	78
Total			1562

1. Protecting migrants' rights

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM proposes to improve and expand its protection and assistance activities in the region together with its partners with a particular focus on the services provided by the Migrant Response Centres (MRCs).

As part of this, IOM also proposes to establish additional centres in communities of origin, including with the aim of counselling prospective migrants prior



²³ Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda fall under IOM's Regional Office in Nairobi, while Sudan falls under IOM's Regional Office in Cairo.

to a migration decision on safe migration and alternatives to irregular migration.

IOM will also assist governments, as required, to enhance reception and registration systems as well as to build capacity for direct assistance for vulnerable migrants, including for victims of trafficking, migrants that have been subjected to exploitation and/or abuse and unaccompanied and separated children. This includes psychosocial support, first aid, health care and referral mechanisms. Upon request, IOM will support states in enhancing their rescue at sea and disembarkation capacities, as appropriate.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

In the mid to long-term, IOM proposes to improve the capacity of legal service providers to assist vulnerable migrants to claim their rights, including rights to safe haven, temporary or complementary protection in the region, return, family reunification, best interest determination and the right to seek asylum.

In line with this, IOM also proposes to strengthen social protection mechanisms in place in the Horn of Africa region to protect the fundamental human, social, and labour rights of migrants, including enhancing the portability of pensions, social security, and other social benefits, ensuring decent working conditions for migrant workers, and promoting occupational safety and health measures. In order to enhance the effectiveness of the envisaged protection responses to the complex migration flows in the Horn of Africa, IOM will seek to ensure a strong link between all protection activities and other migration management instruments available, including specifically development approaches.

IOM will also work to protect the right to health of all migrants in need through advocacy with key decision-makers and will increase the capacity of the health sector to address mobility in migration-affected areas.

2. Addressing drivers of irregular and forced migration

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

In the short and medium-term, IOM aims to establish referral networks to improve the access of potential or in-transit migrants and returnees to livelihoods, micro-finance, labour migration, and other service providers in an effort to provide alternatives to irregular migration and to address irregular onward migration/secondary movements.

As a basis for policies addressing the drivers of irregular and forced migration, further research and data initiatives are needed to gather quantitative and qualitative data on the profiles, needs, expectations, vulnerabilities and intentions of migrants and other vulnerable mobile populations. IOM proposes to build the capacity of national and regional authorities as well as of the MRCs to gather and analyse migration data and identify and respond to trends in irregular and forced migration, including with regard to specific repercussions for migrating women.

Specifically, IOM can build on its partnership with the Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS) to conduct research to address specific knowledge gaps (e.g. secondary movement of refugees, use of social media in trafficking and smuggling, etc.), and support ongoing data collection and analysis efforts being conducted by RMMS. Synergies will also be ensured with MHub22 and the North Africa Mixed Migration Task Force covering the response in North Africa specifically (see the chapter on North Africa).

IOM further proposes to contribute to regional data and research efforts by rolling out its displacement tracking systems in communities of origin and along the migratory routes to capture, process, and disseminate information. This will create a better understanding of migratory movements, origins, intentions and evolving needs.

Based on its cross-sectorial expertise, IOM aims to undertake stability and development programmes in communities of origin to reduce irregular migration and for returning forced and irregular migrants. Enabling communities to allow for the sustainable reintegration of returning internally displaced persons, refugees, and irregular migrants is equally important, including preventing secondary migration.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM will work with governments to expand the regular migration channels available to low and semi-skilled workers from the Horn of Africa. This will entail the provision of technical mid-term and long-term assistance to governments in developing and implementing bi-lateral labour agreements and labour exporting frameworks. This will also include a wide range of social protection mechanisms, legal instruments, and welfare systems, with countries with skill shortages that could be addressed by Horn of Africa migrants.

IOM will also expand on delivering pre-departure training and orientation services to departing migrant workers, supplemented by post-arrival counselling,

orientation, and training when required, to maximize their ability to successfully complete a work placement and leverage earnings and remittances for personal, household, and community development. Collective remittances in the form of philanthropic contributions, charitable donations, matching grants, and innovative remittance-linked financial products and savings/credit schemes will be leveraged and channelled into support for community development through microfinance, revolving loan funds, livelihood assistance, and skills/vocational training.

IOM also aims to support governments in the region to develop sustainable mechanisms for ensuring that labour market information is kept up-to-date for the purposes of matching labour supply and demand between countries of origin in the Horn of Africa and countries of destination in which critical shortages have been identified within specific sectors in their respective labour markets.

In this regard, IOM proposes to strengthen governments' capacity to conduct regular labour force surveys, labour migration needs assessments, manpower surveys, and sector skills audits as well as to establish and maintain comprehensive labour market information systems. Such initiatives will help reduce unemployment—and by extension prevent further irregular migration—among youth and other target groups by enabling informed programmatic interventions over the long-term.

3. Promoting safe and orderly human mobility

SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Efforts to build capacities in the region should be targeted, go beyond traditional border management approaches, and foster trade and development. This includes the establishment and support for One-Stop-Border-Posts (OSBP), which foster a single, shared physical infrastructure in which the neighbouring countries' customs/border services operate side by side. IOM is currently supporting a Japan led initiative to integrate, for the first time, migration into the OSBP source book. This offers a unique opportunity to provide technical and logistical assistance to border and customs officials on how to address migration management, in all its forms across borders.

Border management information systems and corresponding capacities need to be strengthened. In times of crisis, measures also need to address complex mixed migration flows such as large-scale displacement of civilian populations, environmental disasters or

health crises, as a way of instituting good migration governance. This includes the promotion of humanitarian border management to ensure that border management practices can adapt to the needs of these specific groups. Upon request, IOM will also expand its activities related to AVRR.

IOM proposes to focus on innovative, community-based awareness raising, information, and referral services in source communities in order to improve local capacities to respond effectively to inaccurate information and unsafe, irregular migration practices. This will include working with local partners to provide migrants or potential migrants with accurate, unbiased, and timely information on the risks of irregular migration, and on the conditions they will face in their intended country of destination (e.g. labour market information, costs of living, rights and responsibilities of migrants, legal status, detention and deportation practices, etc.).

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

Information campaigns on safe and regular alternatives to irregular migration will be carried out under well-defined monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

The diaspora of African countries located in the Horn of Africa will be engaged in information campaigns to raise awareness of the opportunities, challenges, risks, and dangers associated with different forms and types of migration.

International cooperation and national actions to address smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons must also be stepped up. It is important to gather information and data on migrant smuggling and promote an intelligence led approach to reduce migrant smuggling. IOM is currently developing a global counter-smuggling action plan. In the Horn of Africa, IOM proposes to support this global process by improving skills and systems for law enforcement authorities to monitor, investigate, analyse, and interdict human trafficking and migrant smuggling operations and improving the capacity of service providers to respond to the needs of affected migrants.

4. Strengthening partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM INTERVENTIONS

IOM will continue to facilitate regional and interregional coordination on migration management, through the policy processes outlined above, including:

i) close collaboration with IGAD-RCP, technical assistance for the implementation of the IGAD Migration Policy Framework, and support for the implementation of the Sana'a Declaration; ii) participation in and contribution to the Khartoum Process; iii) and facilitation of the annual meetings of the Regional Mixed Migration Committee.

Complementing efforts to enhance regional and intraregional dialogue, increased efforts are needed to strike an appropriate balance between law enforcement measures, ensuring protection and assistance, and responding to the drivers of irregular and forced migration. IOM will continue assisting governments and partners in the region to set up national Mixed Migration Task Forces which are co-chaired by IOM and UNHCR as well as in assisting National Task Forces on counter-trafficking in some countries. These task forces convene on a regular basis to ensure coordination and capitalize on agency expertise, and to avoid overlap of intervention.

PRIORITY ACTION	Djibouti	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Kenya	Somalia	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda
I. PROTECTING MIGRANTS' RIGHTS									
Expand and enhance the network of MRCs in key migrant source communities and along migration routes	✓		✓		✓				
Improve services available at new and existing MRCs to include support for community-based outreach, awareness, information, and referral services, including for health and direct assistance services	✓		✓		✓				
Improve capacity of MRCs to gather and analyse migration data and become resource centres on migration trends, routes, and motivations	✓		✓		✓				
Support MRCs in communities of origin to counsel potential migrants on safe and regular migration opportunities and alternatives to irregular migration			✓		✓				
Provide direct assistance and protection to vulnerable migrants (trafficked persons, victims of abuse, migrants with health needs, unaccompanied children, etc.)	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improve capacity of legal service providers to assist vulnerable migrants to claim their rights	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provide technical assistance to governments for improved national legislation and build capacity on implementation of existing frameworks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mainstream effective management of crisis-induced forms of human trafficking into humanitarian preparedness and response measures	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
II. ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF IRREGULAR AND FORCED MIGRATION									
Conduct national profiling exercises of protracted and fresh instances of displacement to enable effective response to the protection needs of IDPs	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Conduct research on push and pull factors driving forced and irregular migration in the region, as well as of the factors facilitating such migration	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support durable solutions for IDPs			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Conduct national migration profiling exercises	✓	✓			✓			✓	
Support development, strengthening, and/or roll-out of national migration data collection and management systems	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
In partnership RMMS conduct research to address specific knowledge gaps and support on-going data collection and analysis efforts	✓		✓	✓	✓				

PRIORITY ACTION	Djibouti	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Kenya	Somalia	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda
Provide technical assistance to IGAD to improve their capacities to collect, synthesize, and analyse regional migration data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Support local and central authorities to improve basic service delivery and support community-based recovery and development activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support livelihoods programming and community development initiatives aimed at reintegration of returnees and reducing unemployment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
III. PROMOTING SAFE, ORDERLY AND DIGNIFIED HUMAN MOBILITY									
Support the development of policies, regulations, and practices that enhance integrated border management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Provide technical support to border management agencies on the implementation of humanitarian border management policies and principles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Build capacity for law enforcement and border agencies to establish effective border control and identity management systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improve selected land, sea, and/or airports (improved physical infrastructure, systems, and equipment)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Establish network of local leaders and service providers and train them on migration issues and information sharing and counselling techniques	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Support local service providers in delivery of livelihoods, micro-finance, and safe and regular labour migration services, including also for returnees		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Provide technical assistance in the development and implementation of bi-lateral labour agreements and in streamlining labour migration procedures			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Provide pre-departure training and orientation services to departing labour migrants			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Facilitate diaspora engagement in community and national development processes, including through return of qualified nations programmes			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Facilitate adoption and implementation of frameworks counter human trafficking and to prevent and combat smuggling frameworks and procedures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improved capacity of law enforcement authorities to monitor, investigate, analyse, and interdict human trafficking and migrant smuggling operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PRIORITY ACTION	Djibouti	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Kenya	Somalia	South Sudan	Sudan	Tanzania	Uganda
IV. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT									
Support national, bi-lateral, regional, and international efforts towards durable solutions for refugee and migrant populations in the region	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Conduct annual meetings of the Regional Mixed Migration Committee and support implementation of recommendations	✓			✓					
Support national level mixed migration task forces and other thematic task forces	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓

Annex I: Regional Response Plan - Summarized Budget (USD) by Region*

	Pillar I Protecting Migrants' Rights	Pillar II Addressing Drivers of Irregular and Forced Migration	Pillar III Promoting Safe, Orderly and Dignified Human Mobility	Pillar IV Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development	TOTAL PER REGION
Europe	32,300,000	6,350,000	76,750,000	5,500,000	120,900,000
South-East Europe	27,500,000	4,600,000	13,500,000	4,050,000	49,650,000
Middle East and North Africa	28,950,000	17,050,000	11,450,000	10,500,000	67,950,000
West and Central Africa	69,900,000	175,150,000	118,000,000	10,000,000	373,050,000
Horn of Africa	56,500,000	45,900,000	19,400,000	8,200,000	130,000,000
Cross-cutting multi-Country	750,000	21,600,000	16,500,000		38,850,000
TOTAL	215,900,000	270,650,000	255,600,000	38,250,000	780,400,000

* Until 31 December 2016

Annex II: IOM Regional Response Plan – Budget (USD) by Pillar and Country*

	Pillar I Protecting Migrants' Rights	Pillar II Addressing Drivers of Irregular and Forced Migration	Pillar III Promoting Safe, Orderly and Dignified Human Mobility	Pillar IV Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development	TOTAL PER COUNTRY
European Union					
Bulgaria	1,200,000	200,000	7,500,000		8,900,000
Croatia	1,500,000	150,000	6,000,000	200,000	7,850,000
Cyprus	1,400,000	200,000	3,700,000	100,000	5,400,000
Greece	8,400,000	450,000	32,500,000		41,350,000
Hungary	3,200,000	200,000	3,750,000		7,150,000
Italy	11,500,000	4,150,000	6,400,000	4,200,000	26,250,000
Malta	1,000,000	100,000	3,000,000	150,000	4,250,000
Romania	500,000	200,000	5,700,000	150,000	6,550,000
Slovenia	1,000,000	100,000	2,000,000	100,000	3,200,000
Spain	600,000	150,000	2,000,000	600,000	3,350,000
Regional Initiatives	2,000,000	450,000	4,200,000		6,650,000
TOTAL PER PILLAR	32,300,000	6,350,000	76,750,000	5,500,000	120,900,000

	Pillar I Protecting Migrants' Rights	Pillar II Addressing Drivers of Irregular and Forced Migration	Pillar III Promoting Safe, Orderly and Dignified Human Mobility	Pillar IV Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development	TOTAL PER COUNTRY
South-East Europe and Turkey					
Albania	2,600,000	250,000	1,200,000	500,000	4,550,000
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3,000,000	400,000	1,300,000	550,000	5,250,000
Kosovo/UNSC Resolution 1244- Administered	2,600,000	350,000	900,000	500,000	4,350,000
the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	4,000,000	600,000	1,600,000	500,000	6,700,000
Montenegro	2,200,000	350,000	1,000,000	400,000	3,950,000
Serbia	3,900,000	650,000	2,000,000	600,000	7,150,000
Turkey	9,200,000	2,000,000	5,500,000	1,000,000	17,700,000
TOTAL PER PILLAR	27,500,000	4,600,000	13,500,000	4,050,000	49,650,000
	Pillar I Protecting Migrants' Rights	Pillar II Addressing Drivers of Irregular and Forced Migration	Pillar III Promoting Safe, Orderly and Dignified Human Mobility	Pillar IV Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development	TOTAL PER COUNTRY
Middle East and North Africa					
Egypt	2,400,000	1,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	8,400,000
Jordan	6,800,000	5,300,000	950,000	800,000	13,850,000
Lebanon	1,000,000	1,500,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	7,500,000

Libya	6,550,000	3,600,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	14,150,000
Morocco	4,000,000	3,000,000	1,000,000	500,000	8,500,000
Sudan	5,000,000	150,000	2,400,000	900,000	8,450,000
Tunisia	3,200,000	2,500,000	1,100,000	300,000	7,100,000
TOTAL PER PILLAR	28,950,000	17,050,000	11,450,000	10,500,000	67,950,000

	Pillar I Protecting Migrants' Rights	Pillar II Addressing Drivers of Irregular and Forced Migration	Pillar III Promoting Safe, Orderly and Dignified Human Mobility	Pillar IV Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development	TOTAL PER COUNTRY
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West and Central Africa

Burkina Faso	8,200,000	3,800,000	6,000,000	0	18,000,000
Cameroun	3,000,000	8,800,000	0	0	11,800,000
Chad	3,000,000	7,500,000	3,600,000	0	14,100,000
Ghana	6,000,000	3,500,000	1,750,000	0	11,250,000
Mali	7,500,000	21,000,000	7,750,000	0	36,250,000
Mauritania	7,200,000	15,000,000	31,500,000	0	53,700,000
Niger	2,500,000	32,500,000	10,000,000	0	45,000,000
Nigeria	11,000,000	20,300,000	15,500,000	0	46,800,000
Senegal	4,000,000	1,350,000	7,500,000	0	12,850,000
The Gambia	2,500,000	4,400,000	400,000	0	7,300,000

Regional Projects in West and Central Africa	15,000,000	57,000,000	34,000,000	10,000,000	116,000,000
TOTAL PER PILLAR	69,900,000	175,150,000	118,000,000	10,000,000	373,050,000
	Pillar I Protecting Migrants' Rights	Pillar II Addressing Drivers of Irregular and Forced Migration	Pillar III Promoting Safe, Orderly and Dignified Human Mobility	Pillar IV Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development	TOTAL PER COUNTRY
East and Horn of Africa					
Djibouti	11,500,000	50,000	3,600,000	1,550,000	16,700,000
Eritrea	200,000	500,000	3,000,000	200,000	3,900,000
Ethiopia	1,800,000	3,950,000	750,000	300,000	6,800,000
Kenya	5,800,000	2,500,000	500,000	250,000	9,050,000
Somalia	31,500,000	29,900,000	650,000	500,000	62,550,000
South Sudan	3,100,000	1,000,000	4,000,000	5,000,000	13,100,000
Uganda	600,000	3,000,000	3,900,000	200,000	7,700,000
Tanzania	2,000,000	5,000,000	3,000,000	200,000	10,200,000
TOTAL PER PILLAR	56,500,000	45,900,000	19,400,000	8,200,000	130,000,000

	Pillar I Protecting Migrants' Rights	Pillar II Addressing Drivers of Irregular and Forced Migration	Pillar III Promoting Safe, Orderly and Dignified Human Mobility	Pillar IV Strengthening Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development	TOTAL
Cross-cutting/multi-Country					
Cross-cutting multi-Country	750,000	21,600,000	16,500,000		38,850,000

* Until 31 December 2016

