



International Organization for Migration  
Migration for the benefit of all



**IOM Regional Strategy for  
Central and North America and the Caribbean  
2014-2016**



This document is the fruit of a collaborative effort by a team of contributing authors and the editorial team.

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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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# IOM Regional Strategy for Central and North America and the Caribbean 2014-2016



International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations (OIM)  
Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)







# Executive Summary

**C**entral America, North America and the Caribbean make up what is arguably the principal region of origin, transit, destination and return of migrants in the world.

This region includes: the country of origin of the world's largest number of emigrants; the corridor of the largest flow of migrants in transit worldwide; and the country of destination of the largest number of immigrants in the world. In addition, many countries of the region are home to what is perhaps the world's greatest flow of returning migrants proportional to their total populations.



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**This region has been shaped by migration. Nevertheless, while migration has contributed significantly to the region’s development, everyday many migrants suffer abuse, discrimination, violence, exploitation, crime and even severe human rights violations.** It is in this context that IOM’s Regional Policy Formulation and Coordination Committee conceived this 2014-2016 IOM Strategy for Central and North America and the Caribbean.

IOM’s strategy centers on **seven strategic working areas:**

- 1) enhancing protection of the most vulnerable migrants;
- 2) strengthening governments’ migration management

- 3) capitalizing on the benefits of orderly migration;
- 4) maintaining health as a migration priority;
- 5) responding effectively in scenarios of emergency and crisis;
- 6) raising awareness on climate change and disaster prevention; and,
- 7) helping governments to improve their migration policy.

In each one of these working areas, IOM will pursue the following **nine objectives:**

- 1) Fight against xenophobia and discrimination.
- 2) Contribute to the public’s increased knowledge of migration.



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- 3) Enhance IOM's involvement and expertise in regional processes and organizations.
- 4) Strengthen migrants' protection and reduce migrants' vulnerabilities.
- 5) Promote the continuity of governments' migration management capacities.
- 6) Promote the use of IOM tools and approaches to manage migration crises and situations where insecurity is impacting migration dynamics.
- 7) Strengthen governments' capacity to respond to disaster-induced population displacement.
- 8) Strengthen partnerships with the private sector.
- 9) Reinforce IOM's partnerships with donors.

To achieve these objectives, IOM will implement, in all of its actions in the region, an **approach that will put migrants' rights first, will build governments' and stakeholders' capacities, will fully incorporate a gender perspective, and will ensure sustainability.**

**IOM's ultimate goal is to strengthen migration governance in the region and ensure humane and orderly migration which benefits all.**







# IOM as the Leading Global Organization on Migration



# IOM in the Region



**IOM** currently implements **81 projects in the region** totalling over **US\$ 80 million**.

The IOM Regional Office for Central and North America and the Caribbean is located in San Jose, Costa Rica.

IOM is staffed with regional specialists in the following areas: Communication and Media; Emergency Coordination; Technical Cooperation and Migration Management; Coordination for the Caribbean; Project Development; Administration and Finance; Labour Migration/Migration and Development; Migration and Health; Operations and Movements; Liaison and Policies; Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration; and Information Technology.

**F**or IOM, the Central America, North America and Caribbean region covers a total of 25 countries, <sup>1</sup>19 of which are Member States and one is an Observer.

As of January 2014, IOM's presence in the region includes **12 country offices, 11 project-related offices, and a total of 612 staff members - 54 of whom are international staff.**



# IOM Capacities in the Region



**IOM** has extensive physical presence in all of the countries of Central and North America and a growing presence in the Caribbean. The Organization has created solid partnerships with national, regional and global organizations and platforms, including: the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM), the Central American Commission of Migration Directors (OCAM),

the Central America-4 Border Control Agreement (CA-4), the Central American Integration System (SICA), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Organization of American States (OAS), the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), and the United Nations, among others.

IOM's contribution to these regional platforms and organizations is constantly requested by counterparts, especially in terms of technical and advisory support.

**IOM's flexible, pragmatic and multifaceted institutional approach to project implementation allows it to address the numerous challenges, opportunities and facets of migration:** migration management, labour migration, human trafficking, migrant smuggling, migration policy, migrant protection and assistance, and migration crises, among others.

**Thanks to its years of presence in the field, IOM has developed important skills and operational tools in all of its areas of work.** Also, IOM's practical institutional culture and approach promote efficient implementation of projects in the short and long term throughout the region.





# The Dynamic Context of Migration in the Region

**W**ith only 7.2% of the total global population (over 550 million inhabitants in 2014), **the region of North America, Central America and the Caribbean hosts about 25% of all migrants in the world and experiences unique migratory flows.**<sup>3</sup> In 2013, **some 53 million migrants resided in the United States and Canada** (hereafter referred to collectively as North America, for practical purposes) **and about 3 million in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.**

Currently, **almost 15% of the population of North America is foreign-born.** In fact, about 72% of all migrants born<sup>4</sup> in Latin America and the Caribbean reside in North America, the vast majority of which are from Mexico and Central America.<sup>5</sup>

In this context, the region covered by the IOM San Jose Regional Office, in terms of migration, is frequently analysed and studied as **three distinct migration sub-regions, due to their distinctive contexts and particular migration issues. These sub-regions are: North America** (as defined above), **Mesoamerica** (defined as Mexico and Central America) **and the Caribbean.**

For decades, North America has primarily constituted a sub-region of destination for migration flows rather than one of origin. Many of these flows originate from Mesoamerica, especially from Mexico. Meanwhile, Mesoamerica and the Caribbean are principally considered sub-regions of origin and transit of migrants.

Nevertheless, it must be recognized that the countries of each sub-region vary greatly in degrees of prosperity, internal conflict, security, capacities of authorities to manage migration and vulnerability to natural disasters. Furthermore, the composition of migratory flows varies significantly in each country. **Consequently, the migration phenomenon is interpreted in diverse forms in each country of each sub-region, as it poses particular opportunities and challenges to each one of them.**

Despite the differences among countries of the region, **in all of them, most migrants present varying degrees of vulnerability**, in particular **children, women, indigenous people, temporary workers and domestic workers, extra-continental migrants, LGBTI migrants, migrants with disabilities and migrants who were victims of crimes.**



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Specific migrant vulnerability becomes evident when available data is analysed. For example, according to United States data, in 2007, 41% of trafficking victims in that country were nationals of Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Another characteristic shared by migration flows in all countries of the region is the high incidence of immigrants in irregular situations.** Irregular migrants are more vulnerable to discrimination, abuse, extortion, kidnapping, human trafficking, sexual violence, and other crimes.<sup>6</sup>



In the last decade, due mostly to the growing disparity among countries, new poles of attraction have emerged in some of the developing countries of Mesoamerica and the Caribbean for migrants coming mostly from neighbouring developing countries (south-south migration). Among these, the most important are located in: Mexico, Belize, El Salvador, Panama and Trinidad and Tobago

There is also an increase in the number of irregular migrants living in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean. This phenomenon is due to various factors, such as the increase of immigration flows, the porosity of the borders, the complexity and high costs of the regularization processes, the lack of employers' commitment to regularize their migrant workers, and governments' limited capacity to enforce immigration laws.

Similarly, in the last decade, an increase of irregular extra-continental migration flows has become evident, originating in developing Asian and African countries and transiting through Mesoamerican and Caribbean countries.

Another recent trend is the increase in the number of immigrants from developed countries who migrate to developing countries of the region (north-south migration).



## Migration to Mesoamerica and the Caribbean



In Mesoamerica and the Caribbean the number of these north-south migrants reaches nearly two million, mostly made up of retirees, investors and children and grand-children of Mesoamerican migrants born in the United States. Mexico hosts almost one million north-south migrants, the vast majority of them from the United States.

In the last few years, there has been an **increase in the number of migrants who have returned voluntarily or involuntarily to Mesoamerica and the Caribbean**. This is primarily due to the current economic crises and to intense deportation policies in countries of destination.



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## Migration to North America

**T**he United States continues to be the main country of destination for migrants in the world. The number of African immigrants in the United States has more than doubled during the last 10 years, reaching about 2 million. Meanwhile, migration flows from developing Asian countries to the United States and Canada continue to increase steadily.



Similarly, migration flows from most Central American and from many Caribbean countries to the United States have continued to rise steadily since 2011. A good portion of these flows are irregular. In fact, around 40% of all irregular migrants in the United States, or an estimated 6 million, were born in Central America or the Caribbean.

A particularly alarming irregular migration trend, which has grown recently in the United States, is made up of **immigrant children, especially unaccompanied, principally originating from Mesoamerica.**

On the other hand, **the growth rate of migratory flows originating from Mexico to the United States has steadily decreased** in comparison to the previous decade. Still, Mexico continues to be the principal country of origin for immigrants entering the United States and the principal country of origin for migrants in the world.

**The United States is also the main destination country worldwide for immigrants originating from developed countries (north-north migration).** In fact, the United States is part of the first, third, fourth and fifth most important north-north migration corridors of the world. Germany, Canada, Korea and the United Kingdom, respectively, are the principal countries of origin of the migration flows that make up these corridors.<sup>8</sup>



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# IOM's Commitment to a Better Migration Governance



# Protecting the Most Vulnerable



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**M**esoamerica and the Caribbean are part of the principal migration corridors in the world. **Many of the migrants who traverse these sub-regions have irregular statuses and are frequently in highly vulnerable conditions.** This vulnerability, along with **increased levels of insecurity and violence in these sub-regions, places migrants at a high risk of being exploited, abused, kidnapped, smuggled and trafficked.**

In this context, the international community has increasingly recognized the need to do more to promote the human rights of migrants. In this sense, IOM's de facto migrant protection mandate was recognized by its Member States in 2007.

That is why, to effectively contribute to protecting and assisting migrants, **IOM's strategy in the region will focus on strengthening local and institutional capacities to create and consolidate schemes for the protection of migrants at the national level.**

**In particular, IOM will build upon governments' growing interest in the protection of and assistance to victims of human trafficking, unaccompanied children, internally displaced persons, and migrants who have been victims of crimes and abuses.** IOM will continue prioritizing capacity-building actions, awareness-raising campaigns, and the promotion of public policies that address human trafficking and the protection of and assistance to vulnerable migrants.



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## Strengthening Governments Migration Management Capacities

**A**s the governance of borders and migration can pose enormous challenges to countries, amplified by a vastly and rapidly changing world, **it is necessary to enhance migration management at various levels, in order to strengthen the combat against illegal activities and to ensure the protection of migrants' rights.**

In these matters, the challenges faced by the Mesoamerican and Caribbean countries are particularly complex, owing to limited resources and their present condition as countries of origin, transit and destination for important migration flows, many of which are made up of irregular and vulnerable migrants.



Moreover, the significant downturn in the security of migrants in transit through Mesoamerica, due to the high increase in the number and seriousness of the abuses and crimes committed against migrants, renders these tasks even more complex.

In this context, **IOM prioritizes the development and strengthening of the most important capacities to ensure adequate migration management in three areas in particular: legal and procedural capacities; human and administrative capacities; and operational capacities.** This approach not only helps the governments to develop more effective and appropriate policies, legislation and administrative structures, but also ensures that proper training is available at all levels along with modern technology solutions.

An essential part of migration management in the region deals with the **fight against crime**. The development of necessary tools and making them available to governments in the region is particularly important in order to **tackle transnational organized crime, migrant smuggling, trafficking in persons and document forging**.

Therefore, **IOM's regional strategy with regard to migration management will focus on supporting governments in the development of safe and humane border management practices, with the help of technological solutions to reach a balance between regulating and facilitating migration**. Special emphasis will be placed on: **entry and exit controls; monitoring changes of migration status, as well as overstay; forensic document examination, at both first and second border control lines, and identity management, specially in regards to document issuance**.

Furthermore, **in response to the challenge of collecting and processing migration data, statistics and intelligence, IOM will continue to promote the use of its Border Management Information System (MIDAS software) by the governments in the region**. Moreover, partnerships with INTERPOL, ICAO and IATA will continue to be a priority.

IOM will dedicate additional efforts in Central America to: train border police officers and promote their coordination with Police

and Customs; and raise authorities' awareness on the importance of developing and updating migration management systems and developing appropriate assessments of the situations at the border as a prerequisite to developing comprehensive migration governance strategies.

## Capitalizing on the Benefits of Organized Migration



**IOM** recognizes the important contribution of migrants to the development of the region that benefits both countries of origin and countries of destination.

For instance, the contribution of migrant workers to the development of their host communities is evident through, among other gains, their labour, expenditures, the taxes they pay, and the capacities and innovation they bring. At the same time, they contribute to the development of their countries of origin, thanks to the remittances they send and the investments they make which contribute to poverty reduction and human capital formation. They also contribute through the application of newly developed skills acquired during their migration process and the development of entrepreneurial activities.

In line with IOM's global objective of harnessing the development potential of migration, for the benefit of both societies and migrants while contributing to poverty reduction and sustainable development, IOM's work in the field of migration and development (M&D) in Central and North America and the Caribbean is a priority for the Organization. In this regard, **IOM fosters synergies between labour migration and development, including the facilitation of temporary and circular labour migration, diaspora engagement initiatives, advice on migration and development policies, as well as the implementation of remittances and research projects.**

**IOM's migration and development strategy for Central and North America and the Caribbean will focus on providing continued technical assistance, and strengthening the capacities of governments to improve policy makers' and practi-**

**tioners' abilities in the following areas:**

- 1)** mainstreaming migration into the development agenda at local, national and regional levels;
- 2)** developing migration management policies which effectively promote and protect the rights of labour migrants;
- 3)** promoting the socio-economic development of migrants;
- 4)** enhancing inter-state dialogue and harmonization of policies between labour receiving and sending countries;
- 5)** recognizing and understanding the direct and indirect contributions of labour migrants to both sending and receiving countries;
- 6)** engaging with migrant communities abroad in order to encourage permanent, temporary or virtual return of skills;
- 7)** supporting reintegration of skilled migrants into their home societies, and
- 8)** enhancing the impact of migrant remittances and savings.



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## Health as a Migration Priority

**H**ealth inequities within and between countries of the region exist because of an unequal distribution of resources and opportunities, because of discrimination and marginalization, and as a result of unequal access to education, employment, and social and health services. **Migrants are particularly vulnerable to health inequities in part due to inadequate and excluding policies, as well as the circumstances in which they migrate and their precarious living and working conditions, both in places of destination and upon return to their communities of origin.**

Migration is a social determinant of the health of migrants and therefore needs to be adequately addressed in public policies and translated into specific and multi-sectoral programs.

Because of this, **IOM's Migration Health Division offers support to governments in the design and implementation of comprehensive, accessible and equitable programs, both preventive and curative, for migrants and mobile populations.** By doing this, IOM promotes the physical, mental and social well-being of migrants and thus encourages the social and economic development of migrants and that of their receiving communities.



In Central America, North America and the Caribbean, **IOM's strategy in migration and health will focus on actions that strengthen the governments' and the public's knowledge of the determinants of migrants' health in the region via research and information dissemination necessary for design and implementation of evidenced-based health and migration**

**programs and policies.** IOM will also continue to focus on the promotion of migrant-inclusive health policies and guiding the development of programs and regulations that promote and protect the health of migrants.

## Responding Appropriately and Effectively to Emergencies and Crises

**IOM** actively participates in emergency and post-emergency operations assistance in the region with a focus on mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

**In 2012, IOM developed the IOM Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF), a practical, operational and institution-wide tool to improve and systematize the way in which IOM supports its Member States and partners in their efforts to better prepare for and respond to migration crises.**

Using the MCOF as a basis for activities, IOM engages in emergency relief, return, reintegration, capacity-building and protection of the rights of affected populations in the region.

IOM programs in the post-emergency phase work to meet the needs that arise between the emergency and development stages by empowering communities to participate in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of affected areas as a way to prevent forced migration.



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In addition, as the lead agency of the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster in situations of natural disasters, IOM is involved in camp management support and in strengthening the capacities of local and national authorities in the region.

**IOM's strategy in the region in crisis and emergency response will emphasize working with governments and communities on disaster risk reduction and resilience in situations of emergencies.**

**IOM will also respond to crisis situations and emergencies through the provision of shelter and non-food assistance**, such as transportation for displaced persons, camp management and displacement tracking, psychological and health support, among others.

**IOM will work in post-crisis recovery by helping governments to reintegrate displaced populations and providing community stabilization and transition assistance**, including land and property acquisition for affected populations.



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## On the horizon: Awareness Raising on Climate Change and Disaster Prevention

**E**nvironmental factors have long had an impact on global migration flows, as people have historically left places with harsh or deteriorating conditions.

However, such flows, both internal and cross-border, are expected to rise as a result of accelerated climate change, with unprecedented impacts on the lives and livelihoods of people.

**Environmental migration, exacerbated by the increasingly inescapable impacts of climate change, should be a policy priority for governments in the region.**



**The region has been identified as one of the most vulnerable to climate change and its effects in the world. Nevertheless, information and actions on the issue remain limited.** There is a shortage of data and case studies; subject matter is consistently absent in migration policies, and there is lack of policy coherence with other fields, such as disaster risk reduction, development and urban planning.

For this reason, **IOM strategy in the region will include actions to help reduce vulnerability of populations exposed to environmental risk factors; assistance to displaced populations as a result of environmental causes; and building the capacities of governments and other actors to face the challenges of environmental migration.**

IOM's strategy on environmental migration will center on:

- 1) Preventing forced migration resulting from environmental factors to the extent possible.
- 2) Providing assistance and protection to populations affected by climate change and seeking durable solutions to their situation.
- 3) Facilitating migration as an adaptation strategy to climate change.
- 4) Working together with stakeholders to increase communities' resilience to underlying risk factors and expected changes in their natural environment.

## Helping Governments to Improve their Migration Policy

**M**igration is interlinked with almost every aspect of social life. Migration has the potential to reduce unemployment, revitalize national markets, increase entrepreneurship and productivity, support social security schemes, strengthen social and cultural capital, increase the demand for goods and services, supply innovation and creativity, bring communities closer together and promote democratization and a human rights culture worldwide.

Through these contributions, migration has the capacity to address some of the biggest challenges faced by the region, such as demographic pressure, poverty, ever-changing labour market needs, climate change and even the fiscal deficit.

However, migration potential cannot be completely achieved if migration is not adequately and systematically managed.



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The complexity of migration and its effects and implications for countries and communities of origin, transit, destination and return, requires wide-ranging, clear and legitimized policies for it to be properly managed and deliver all of its benefits.

At the same time, migrants' vulnerability to violations and abuses in the region calls for the development of migration policies that address migrants as human beings, recognizing and actively promoting their rights.

For these reasons, **IOM's strategy on migration policies focuses on providing continued support to the governments of the region in developing comprehensive, inter-sectoral, rights-based and consensual migration policies.** These should address all aspects of the migration phenomenon in a clear manner, by defining **governments' migration governance guiding principles, commitments and goals.**

To this end, IOM, in close collaboration with governments in the region, will **facilitate technical cooperation for policy-making, training in policy analysis and policy formulation, development of action-oriented assessments and research, support of national and inter-sectoral consultations, and the exchange of best practices.**



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# IOM's Priorities for the Region

In the coming years, IOM will place further emphasis on:

1. **Strengthening partnerships with governments, civil society and academia.**
2. **Raising awareness of migrants' contribution to development.**
3. **Reinforcing migrant protection frameworks.**
4. **Strengthening IOM's technical and operational capacities in accordance with the needs of the region.**

Keeping these focuses in mind, IOM has defined the following regional objectives for 2014-2016:





1) **Fight against xenophobic attitudes and discrimination**, among other initiatives, through awareness raising on migrants' contributions and migrants' rights, as well as through migrants' empowerment.

2) Contribute to the **public's increased knowledge of migration** issues by creating and providing research, analyses and informational materials.

3) **Build on IOM's participation in regional and sub-regional institutions, mechanisms and organizations** to put forth the Organization's expertise in the development of migration policies and regulations, as well as in the administration and management of projects in the field of migration.

4) **Strengthen stakeholders' protection and assistance capacities and tools** that address specific migrants' needs and reduce migrants' vulnerabilities by promoting their access to justice and social and economic services.





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**5) Promote the continuity of appropriate migration management** programs and models implemented by governments in the region.

**6) Promote IOM tools and approaches and enhance stakeholders' awareness of IOM's capacities** in terms of analysis, preparedness, management of migration crises and of situations where insecurity is adversely impacting migration dynamics.

**7) Strengthen stakeholders' capacities to respond to disaster and emergency-induced population displacement.**

**8) Establish multifaceted partnerships on migration matters with the private sector** to benefit migrants in areas such as co-funding of projects, joint actions and joint advocacy.

**9) Reinforce IOM's relationships and partnerships with donors and stakeholders** and strengthen their interest in partnering with IOM on migration initiatives.





# Implementation of Cross-Cutting Approaches





## Putting Migrants' Rights First

**IOM** works to promote the rights of migrants throughout the region. Accordingly, IOM ensures that the rights of migrants be included as a priority in all aspects of its work, in particular those of the most vulnerable including indigenous populations, women, children, LGBTI, minorities and individuals with disabilities.

IOM will also continue working with stakeholders to strengthen promotion and protection of migrants' rights, and encouraging the issue to be at the forefront of the public agenda. In particular, IOM will harness governments' growing interest in the protection of and assistance to victims of human trafficking, unaccompanied minors, displaced persons, and migrants who have been victims of crimes and abuses. Also, IOM will continue developing awareness-raising campaigns, trainings and public policies that promote the social, economic, cultural and political rights of migrants, regardless of their migration status.

## Building Governments' and Stakeholders' Capacities

**IOM** plays a key role in awareness raising and the training of government officials and other stakeholders on migration matters in the region, including in countries where IOM's presence is limited.

With this in mind, IOM will strengthen its efforts to raise awareness and reinforce stakeholders' capacities.

Taking advantage of IOM's involvement in regional platforms and organizations in which migration is discussed, **IOM will continue to work to develop governments' capacities to manage migration, advocate for international cooperation on migration initiatives, and include migration issues as a priority in relevant regional platforms and processes.**





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## Making Gender a Priority

**IOM** is committed to promoting the just treatment of all migrants, regardless of sex, gender, sexual identity or gender identity.

Thanks to its experience in the region, **IOM** recognizes the need to focus on women and LGBTI communities given their increased level of vulnerability.

Female and LGBTI migrants are more susceptible to abuse, trafficking and labour exploitation in the region.

**IOM** has devoted special efforts to ensure that the particular needs associated with the gender of men, women, and LGBTI communities are addressed through every project in the region and that they are fostered and considered in the policies and actions of governments and counterparts.

In addition, **IOM** addresses the feminization of migration occurring particularly in this region, and will employ actions designed to enhance the benefits and reduce the adverse impacts of this process.



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To do so, **IOM** will promote the empowerment of women and the implementation of policies that are sensitive to this process, and work to raise awareness of authorities and communities.

## A Focus on the Long-Term Effects: Ensuring Sustainability

The sustainability of the results of IOM activities in the region is key for the welfare of migrants and beneficiaries of IOM projects.

With this in mind, IOM seeks to integrate activities that work to ensure the sustainability of its projects and efforts.

In this regard, **IOM will focus on the development of applied research, monitoring and evaluation activities aimed at establishing and increasing the sustainability of IOM's project results.**

Likewise, capacity building of stakeholders will continue as a priority for IOM's sustainability strategy.





Furthermore, **IOM will promote strong and stable relationships with different levels and areas of government.**

Its relationships with numerous governmental partners allow IOM to gain increasing credibility with governments and to promote the continuation of successful migration management initiatives implemented by governments, even when their leaders and staff change.

**IOM will continue promoting the establishment and development of medium and long-term public migration policies** and especially as part of National Development Plans.

Likewise, **IOM will pursue systematic and adequate inclusion of migration issues in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)** as a mechanism to ensure that migration receives the attention that it deserves from the international community.

Furthermore, **IOM will continue developing its projects in consultation and coordination with beneficiaries and stakeholders** in order to ensure community ownership of the initiatives undertaken by IOM.

To this end, building strong and equal partnerships with civil society and academia will be a priority.







# Our Fundraising Needs





**IOM's** flexible and project-oriented structure along with its expertise and extensive presence in the region, allow it to respond professionally and quickly to the priorities of countries of the region and donors.

**IOM recognizes that donor priorities are shifting**, as more and more countries in the region enjoy improved stability and socio-economic conditions.

Nevertheless, given the migration patterns at the regional and global levels, in the short, medium and

long term, it is evident that migration will continue to present important opportunities and complex challenges to the countries of the region.

Consequently, **continuing to invest in its proper management and governance is imperative in order to gain all of its benefits.**

Therefore, the Organization will take a proactive fundraising approach. **IOM will actively and strategically seek innovative funding opportunities, particularly from the private sector and beneficiary governments, as well as with traditional donors in the region.**



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Over the next three years, IOM will work hand in hand with governments, key counterparts (such as UN agencies and NGOs), and other stakeholders to establish, consolidate and collaborate on migration programming strategies to ensure proper governance of migration in each country. **IOM will also engage more actively, jointly with the private sector,** in the promotion of: corporate social responsibility, the creation of employment opportunities, social protection, decent working conditions, and access to basic health care for the benefit of migrants.

In order to implement its 2014-2016 strategy, **IOM's funding needs are as follows:**

Programmatic area	USD
Operations, Emergencies and Post-crisis	188,100,000
Migration Health	22,710,000
Immigration and Border Management	60,810,000
Migrant Assistance	57,510,000
Labour Migration and Human Development	27,810,000
Migration Policy and Research	9,900,000
<b>Total funding requirements</b>	<b>366,840,000</b>



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## The Way Forward

**W**ith this document, IOM has attempted to outline the complex, dynamic, and challenging reality of migration in Central and North America and the Caribbean.

The most important challenges for the region in regard to migration include: **protecting migrants' rights, improving management of south-south migration, addressing the growing migration rates of unaccompanied children, fighting anti-immigrant sentiments, combatting migration myths, empowering migrants, managing irregular extra-continental migration, providing comprehensive voluntary return and reintegration options for migrants, and promoting orderly migration.**

In addition to addressing these challenges, in the next coming years IOM will focus primarily on strengthening the Organization's work in its **most strategic working areas**, which are:

- 1) Enhancing and improving migrants' protection.
- 2) Mainstreaming migration into public policies.
- 3) Improving the quality and dissemination of migration data and statistics.
- 4) Adequate and effective border management, secure document issuance and identity management.
- 5) Improving migrants' health conditions.
- 6) Awareness raising of the private sector on migration.
- 7) Promoting an increased involvement of all sectors in disaster risk reduction initiatives and disaster induced displacement management.



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**T**his regional strategy, made public for the first time, **is intended to be used as a reference tool** for the Organization, its Member States, donors and other partners in the region for the development and implementation of projects and initiatives in Central America, North America and the Caribbean **with the intention of attaining an improved and more humane governance of migration for the benefit of migrants and their societies of origin, transit, destination and return.**



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