

# IOM Humanitarian Priorities 2019

*Prepared for the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)*

## AFGHANISTAN

***\*INFORM measures Afghanistan's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster to be very high, at 7.7/10. Afghanistan's exposure to hazards is of particular concern, at 8.7/10.***

Continued internal displacement due to conflict, coupled with an influx of returnees from Pakistan and Iran have led to a significant increase in humanitarian needs. In Afghanistan, IOM is the main provider of humanitarian assistance to the increasing number of unregistered Afghan returnees, from both Pakistan and Iran. Returns are either voluntary, due to several diverse pull and push factors or through deportation. Cross-border movements from Pakistan and Iran to Afghanistan have in 2017 been most sensitive to the deteriorating protection space in the respective host countries.

Many of those returning from Pakistan and Iran have lived outside of Afghanistan for decades, and need support from the government and humanitarian actors, both on arrival and as they seek to reintegrate into a country already struggling with wide-spread conflict and displacement. Apart from reintegration support, IOM-led in-depth returnee monitoring clearly indicates the need for comprehensive humanitarian and protection-related services at major border crossings. Unaccompanied minors, elderly and/or single females often need family tracing; persons with serious medical conditions require screening and referral; while families require cash, non-food items and food. Moreover, in 2018, the worst drought in Afghanistan in decades has affected an estimated 2.2 million Afghans, impacting their access to water, crop production and agricultural output. As a result, tens of thousands of Afghans have fled their homes in search of stable water sources.

IOM in response to the extensive return of un-documented Afghan nationals from Pakistan and Iran provides multi-sectoral humanitarian services. This includes medical screening, accommodation, food, non-food items (NFIs), transportation cash grants, and referral services at Transit Centres located at the major border crossing points with Pakistan and Iran. IOM also prepositions stocks of emergency shelter and NFIs for distribution to populations affected by natural hazards around the country. As part of its humanitarian programming, IOM is also implementing community-based quick impact projects supporting returnees' host communities, particularly in areas with diminishing resources. The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) plays an integral role in these response efforts with its ability to track population movements as well as identify the needs and vulnerabilities of host communities and return populations.

IOM's role in the response and its holistic approach to the short- and longer-term needs of Afghan returnees from Pakistan and Iran is of great importance to the Organization, as well as to the overall response effort. Collaboration between actors engaged in the IDP and returnee response is critical, as the two components are interlinked and are shaping the context of Afghanistan.

**Budget (USD): 50,000,000 (approx. SEK 457,250,000)<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to the complete crisis portfolio of IOM and indications in relation to the HRP 2018-2020 for Afghanistan.

## BANGLADESH

***\*INFORM measures Bangladesh's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster to be high, at 5.8/10. Bangladesh's exposure to hazards is of particular concern, at 7.5/10.***

The speed and the magnitude of the influx since August 2017, when tens of thousands of Rohingya began fleeing violence in the Norther Rakhine State of Myanmar has resulted in a critical humanitarian emergency. The majority arrived with little or nothing, joining an estimated 300,000 that had fled in earlier waves of displacement. The total Rohingya population in Cox's Bazar now exceeds 880,000, putting a severe strain on the district's host community and local government, particularly in Teknaf and Ukhia upazilas, where the Rohingya now constitute at least a third of the total population. IOM, at the request of the Government of Bangladesh, is actively engaged in the Inter Sector Coordination Group and sits on the Strategic Executive Group (SEG), which is coordinating the humanitarian response to the influx of Rohingya refugees.

IOM's most pressing funding requirements in the Rohingya refugee response in Bangladesh are in relation to site development and management, Shelter, Health, and WASH. The camps require planning and support to upgrade sites, build roads and bridges damaged by the monsoon season, install drainage systems, and provide soil protection earthworks to avoid further landslides and mitigate additional risks.

Existing sites are also in dire need of site management and development support to ensure that the affected population has access to the appropriate level of assistance and protection. In addition, the current WASH infrastructure in existing sites requires consistent and rapid maintenance in order to prevent the outbreak and spread of communicable diseases. All sites are in urgent need of WASH and infrastructure to enable sector control and restore basic human dignity. IOM is leading the site management and site development sector as well as the shelter sector in Cox's Bazar. Due to its sector-specific responsibilities, IOM plays a vital role in meeting the urgent needs and service gaps highlighted above, and assumes the role of the provider of last resort within these sectors.

Support allowing IOM to continue its efforts and action its responsibilities in Bangladesh are of utmost importance to IOM.

**Budget (USD): 60,000,000 (approx. SEK 548,700,000)<sup>2</sup>**

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<sup>2</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to the average between IOM's crisis portfolio in 2018 and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process for 2019, that has yet to be finalized.

## BURUNDI

***\* Burundi is ranked 185 out of 189 on the Human Development Index, 17 out of 178 on the Fragile States Index, 156 out of 156 on the World Happiness Report, 3 out of 10 on CARE's Most Under-Reported Humanitarian Crises of 2017***

Burundi is located in an earthquake-prone zone in the Great Lakes Region and is often affected by extreme weather and catastrophic natural events. Burundi's climate-related events, combined with a socio-political and security situation in decline since 2015, have resulted in mass displacement within the country. Limited access to land and food scarcity are two critical issues faced by Burundi's displaced population. Poor rainfall, rising costs of food staples and inflation have contributed to the lack of access to food by the most vulnerable populations. In general, the humanitarian situation of IDPs continues to deteriorate and humanitarian assistance is critically important, particularly following the occurrence of natural hazards or other emergency events, complemented by early efforts to transition into development-orientated interventions.

Furthermore, Burundian nationals are returning from the United Republic of Tanzania where 25% of returnees do not have access to land upon their return. 55% of returnees do not have access to adequate shelter, including those whose houses are partially damaged. The majority are living in tents, being accommodated by host community members, or living in damaged houses. Many of the returnees state that their houses and land has been occupied by members of the host community during their absence. In such cases, returnee households must share or find a vacant house and/or land. Sharing resources, especially the land which is used for subsistence agricultural production, creates and adds stress within communities, and results in fostering other underlying tensions. As a result, returnees are often exposed to a wide range of human rights violations and protection risks, including child marriage and other gender-based violence (GBV) threats. IOM is working to respond to the rising needs of returnees.

IOM works with the National Platform for Natural Disaster and Catastrophes, which represents the ministries that cover assistance to IDPs, and implements the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) which includes conducting trainings in close collaboration with Burundian Red Cross volunteers. As part of the inter-agency Joint Response Plan to facilitate the safe, dignified and orderly return of Burundians from Tanzania (Sept 2017 – Dec 2018), IOM prioritizes assistance to displaced Burundians to voluntarily return, taking into account the needs and concerns of local communities. Over 52,000 Burundians have returned the past year through IOM's Voluntary Repatriation (VolRep) from Tanzania to Burundi. IOM considers this fragile situation a priority that must be urgently addressed through rehabilitation of shelters, hosting and rental grants, or construction of new shelters in addition to targeted reintegration assistance.

**Budget (USD): 20,000,000 (approx. SEK 182,900,000)<sup>3</sup>**

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<sup>3</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to average between the complete crisis portfolio of IOM in 2018 and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process for 2019, that has yet to be finalized at this point in time.

## CHAD

***\*INFORM measures Chad's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster to be very high, at 7.8/10. Chad's lack of coping capacity is of particular concern, at 8.9/10.***

Surrounded by regions in turmoil, such as the Central African Republic, Darfur, Southern Libya and the Lake Chad region, the Republic of Chad remains an anchor of stability. With an estimated population of 14 million inhabitants, Chad hosts almost 600,000 displaced people. Years of extreme drought, paired with the disintegration of oil prices and an ongoing economic crisis, have led to the declaration of a food security crisis for Chad in April 2018. Receding water levels of the Lake Chad basin are further contributing to loss of livelihoods and displacement.

Displacement dynamics remain complex and continuous, with refugees and returnees arriving from the Central African Republic, Chadian returnees arriving from southern Libya, ongoing insecurity in the Lake Chad region linked to Boko Haram resulting in continuous movements within the zone and an increasing number of migrants seeking to cross Chad towards the gold mines in the border zone with Libya or towards Europe. Furthermore, climate change induced displacement in the lake region requires holistic responses to build community resilience and coping mechanisms, and with a particular focus on youth at risk.

Chadian returnees and Third Country Nationals (TCN) in the Lake Chad region, the south, and along the border with Libya are in urgent need of shelter, protection, and socio-economic integration opportunities for the population returning to their areas of origin. Psychosocial support to both host communities/communities of origin and displaced populations remains one of the most pressing needs in the Lake region in particular.

IOM Chad is the co-lead of the CCCM/NFI/Shelter Cluster and is active in data collection and analysis through the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) and migration flow monitoring in the border zone with Libya. The underfunded humanitarian response in Chad heavily relies on the provision of displacement data shared through IOM's DTM, which has been active since 2014. Urgent funding support is required to continue gathering data on ongoing displacement in the Lake Chad region and the southern areas bordering the Central African Republic. The role of DTM in supporting evidence-based and accountable service provision by IOM and partners in Chad makes its continued implementation and expansion in 2019 a priority.

**Budget (USD): 10,000,000 (approx. SEK 91,450,000)<sup>4</sup>**

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<sup>4</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to the average between IOM's complete crisis portfolio in 2018 and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process for 2019, that has yet to be finalized.

## THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)

***\* INFORM measures DRC's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster to be very high, at 7.1/10. Lack of coping capacity is of concern, at 8/10 as well as vulnerability at 7.3/10.***

Armed conflict and general insecurity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has created one of the world's most complex and long-standing humanitarian crises. Since 2016, the country has experienced an increase in armed conflict following the spike of violence in the Kasai and Tanganyika provinces and the continued armed clashes and attacks in North and South Kivu. As a result, an estimated 4.5 million individuals are currently displaced and humanitarian partners estimate that 13.1 million Congolese require humanitarian assistance and protection. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health declared a new outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in North-Kivu Province in August 2018, affecting the north-eastern provinces along the border with Uganda, Rwanda, and South Sudan.

In addition more than 250,000 Congolese migrants and other nationalities have been expelled from Angola since the start of October 2018. The affected people are crossing the border and returning into DRC through the Kasai province, adding to the existing humanitarian needs in the country. Substantial assistance gaps in the Kasai province have resulted due to the increasing number of expelled migrants from Angola. The deterioration of the security situation, coupled with an acute funding shortfall, have increased the humanitarian needs of the country. This is compounded by deepening levels of vulnerability such as malnutrition and food insecurity; a lack of access to health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), shelter and NFI assistance; and a need for transportation assistance to accompany affected populations to their areas of return.

Due to its responsibilities as the co-lead of the CCCM sector and lack of funding across all sectors of assistance, IOM continues to provide multi-sectoral assistance including protection, access to WASH, health, shelter, and NFIs in displacement sites in North-Kivu province while scaling up their operations in new areas, such as the Kasais, Tanganyika, and Ituri. DTM has been active in DRC since December 2012 and was activated in the Kasai and Tanganyika provinces in July 2017 and in Ituri and South-Kivu in 2018.

IOM stands ready to fulfill its responsibilities and scale up in order to meet the growing needs of the Congolese population expelled from Angola, but it is in urgent need of financial support to continue its operations. People forced into displacement and those returning the country face intense levels of vulnerability and are in urgent need of multi-sectoral assistance, particularly in the sectors of protection (gender-based violence, GBV), WASH, shelter, education, food security, and health services. The DTM, established in Kasai, is currently the main source of information for monitoring the flow of people crossing the border from Angola into DRC. The role of IOM in providing evidence-based information and access to humanitarian services in DRC, especially in the Kasai, makes its expansion and continued implementation in 2019 a priority.

**Budget (USD): 45,000,000 (approx. SEK 411,525,000)<sup>5</sup>**

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<sup>5</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to average between the complete crisis portfolio of IOM in 2018 and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process for 2019, that has yet to be finalized at this point in time.

## DJIBOUTI

***\*INFORM measures Djibouti's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster to be high, at 5.2/10. Djibouti's vulnerability (5.9/10) and lack of coping capacity (6.5/10) are of concern***

Irregular migration from the Horn of Africa to the Gulf countries has been a steadily increasing phenomenon and Djibouti has become the epicentre of complex, bi-directional migratory flows across the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Since May 2017, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has tracked no fewer than 150 migrants transiting through Djibouti every day.

Migrants cite a myriad of reasons for their movements including limited economic prospects, political instability, and environmental degradation in their countries of origin. The migrants, who primarily comprise Ethiopians and Somalis, transit through Djibouti en-route to Yemen, where they make their way overland with the ultimate objective to arrive in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and other countries in the Middle East. Most of these migrants endure long, overland journeys to arrive in Djibouti, where they rely on smugglers to facilitate the sea crossing to Yemen. During these extended journeys, migrants are exposed to thirst, hunger caused by the extreme environment and temperatures, and lack of shelter, medical assistance and physical and sexual abuse. Migrants in transit to Yemen require life-saving humanitarian assistance in Djibouti, as well as counselling, support and information-sharing to make informed decisions on the dangers of irregular migration. This assistance includes medical services, water, shelter and food.

The bi-directional nature of the movement means that Djibouti also receives migrants and refugees from Yemen. Stranded vulnerable migrants, primarily Ethiopians, have continued to seek assistance in Yemen to return home, given the instability and conflict-related violence in country. Through the Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) programme, IOM facilitates travel to Djibouti where identity verification is conducted by consular officials, and where migrants

they receive lifesaving humanitarian assistance. The migrant population returning from Yemen have often experienced severe physical abuse and acute stress. In addition to protection and transportation assistance, these populations are in need of immediate medical and psychosocial assistance, family reunification for those who have been separated, and travel documentation to ensure legal transit and return back to their countries of origin.

IOM provides this critical assistance to vulnerable migrants returning from, or attempting to travel to/through Yemen via Djibouti at the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Obock. Resources to maintain and upgrade the Obock transit centre, as well as expand existing MRCs and transit sites to be able to respond to the needs of migrants, is urgently needed. Such measures also serve to increase the preparedness efforts along migration routes to support migrants in transit in Djibouti. The overwhelming needs of the affected population as well as IOM's capacity and role in-country make continued response efforts a priority to that of IOM.

**Budget: USD 3,000,000 (approx. SEK 27,435,000)<sup>6</sup>**

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<sup>6</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to average between the complete crisis portfolio of IOM in 2018 and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process for 2019, that has yet to be finalized at this point in time.

## LIBYA

***\*The Inform Risk Index currently scores the indicator for 'Projected Conflict Risk' at 9.9 out of 10, and the indicator for 'Current Highly Violent Conflict Intensity' at 10 out of 10 for Libya.***

Conflict, insecurity and lack of rule of law continues throughout Libya, alongside a crumbling public sector, unable to meet the needs of persons across the country and a dysfunctional economy affecting livelihoods and incomes. As a result, many remain in need of humanitarian assistance, including internally displaced persons, returnees, non-displaced conflict affected people and host communities as well as approximately 669,000 migrants across Libya, who face horrendous conditions. As of IOM's latest DTM report (August 2018), approximately 194,000 persons continue to be displaced across the country and there were some 382,000 returnees. Of the 669,000 migrants and refugees identified across the country, approximately 6,000 are detained across official detention centres. At any one time there may be between 5,000 – 10,000 migrants held indefinitely in detention. These figures exclude the needs of host communities and the non-displaced conflict affected persons.

Key humanitarian needs across Libya for all population groups are protection, access to critical services such as health care and access to basic needs including food, safe drinking water and non-food items (NFIs). Protection needs are primarily driven by exposure to conflict and violence, human rights abuses, contamination from explosive hazards in urban centres and major challenges related to impediments to access critical services and essential goods and commodities. Due to their irregular status in Libya, migrants often face heightened risks of discrimination; arbitrary arrest and prolonged detention; human trafficking, labour or sexual exploitation; and ill treatment. The risk of abduction, kidnapping, extortion, robbery, sexual exploitation and abuse, forced labour, slavery, arbitrary detention and human trafficking remain high. Lack of appropriate shelter and lack of access to NFIs including clothing, bedding, and hygiene negatively affects all the population groups (Libyan and non-Libyan) regardless of their age (children, young adults, vulnerable adults and elderly) and gender (men, women, boys and girls) exacerbated pre-existing risks including health and protection. Over 290,000 people in Libya are presently in need of shelter and NFI support. The ongoing conflict has also affected the inability of public sector to provide adequate services to all populations, including health care, education and access to water, hygiene and sanitation.

The fluid and protracted context in Libya requires sustained humanitarian response efforts across all sectors of assistance, including through protection monitoring and services, provision of basic needs, including non-food items, cash and shelter and enhanced access to health care, water and sanitation, and education. IOM is currently responding to immediate needs in the country, but further support is needed allowing the organization to efficiently fulfill its responsibilities and reach those in need, assisting migrants who are most vulnerable.

**Budget (USD): 27,000,000 (SEK 246,915,000)<sup>7</sup>**

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<sup>7</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to initial indications in relation to the HRP development process for 2019, that has yet to be finalized at this point in time.

## NIGERIA

**\* *INFORM* measures Nigeria's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster as 'high', 6.3/10. Nigeria's hazard exposure is of particular concern, at 6.9/10.**

The North-eastern part of Nigeria has witnessed an increase in violence since the beginning of 2015, causing a major humanitarian crisis. The intensification of attacks, as well as the counter activities of the Nigerian Government, have resulted in prolonged insecurity and endemic violations of human rights, exacerbating the plight of vulnerable civilians and triggering waves of forced displacement. More than two million individuals have been displaced as a consequence of the conflict, and displacement will continue to be a significant factor in 2019, with the highest number of displacements currently taking place in Borno and Yobe states. More than four years after this phase of the crisis began, and despite the fact that some Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) have started to return home after relative security has been restored and more areas are now accessible to humanitarian actors, the situation on the ground remains dire and most of the affected populations have yet to receive humanitarian assistance.

In September 2018, the Nigerian National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) declared a national disaster in the six states affected by flooding. 129 Local Government Areas (LGAs) across 12 States in the South and Middle Belt regions of the country have been impacted by severe flooding, with an estimated 2,321,592 people affected so far. Out of these, 722,741 people have been internally displaced and 384,700 are in need of immediate humanitarian assistance, including shelter, food, medicines, and Non-Food Items (NFIs) (mosquito nets, mats, hygiene kits, and family kits) as high priority needs in the affected states.

In Nigeria, IOM provides short- and longer-term programming, including Mental Health and Psycho-social Support, Livelihood Support, CCCM, Shelter/NFI, and DTM (activated in 2014). The DTM has become the main source of data for the humanitarian community and a key reference for all strategic inter-agency documents. The data collected through its emergency tracking tool are used to implement the inter-agency Rapid Response mechanism which provides rapid assistance to the affected population. Apart from its direct service provision and role in providing data, IOM is managing Humanitarian Hubs in deep-field locations in Borno State. The managing and establishment of these hubs expand the reach of the life-saving activities of IOM and partners which are providing life-saving services to IDPs in the north-east.

The sustainable expansion and continuation of IOM's CCCM/Shelter/NFI programming, as well as displacement tracking is critical in Nigeria, given the acute needs. Similarly, IOM considers support for the flood response to address urgent needs of affected populations in Kogi, Niger, Delta, Anambra, Rivers and Bayelsa states a priority in Nigeria.

**Budget (USD): 40,000,000 (approx. SEK 335,450,000)<sup>8</sup>**

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<sup>8</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to the complete crisis portfolio of IOM and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process, that has yet to be finalized at this point in time.



## SOMALIA

***\*INFORM measures Syria's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster to be very high, at 9.1/10. Somalia's vulnerability and lack of coping capacity are of concern***

The humanitarian crisis in Somalia is among the most complex and longstanding emergencies in the world. In 2018, an estimated 6.2 million people, half of the population, continue to need humanitarian assistance and protection, of whom 3.3 million require urgent life-saving assistance. More than one-third of those in need are internally displaced persons (IDPs). Somalia's migration and mobility environment remains multifaceted and complex, characterized by internal and external displacement due to conflict and natural disasters, as well as irregular labour migration. Severe drought conditions continue in much of the country due to four consecutive failed rainy seasons, increasing the risk of famine for many already vulnerable individuals.

Regional issues also pose a threat to the humanitarian situation in Somalia with the continuing conflict in Yemen, necessitating the return of tens of thousands of Somalis and stranded migrants to return to their country of origin, often with little money and in need of assistance. For those who have made the informed decision to voluntarily return to Somalia, assistance is provided to ensure that their return takes place in safety and dignity. Onward transportation and reintegration support is needed for Somalis who have returned from conflict-torn Yemen, either through facilitated travel or those who have spontaneously returned on their own. Within this context of recurring droughts and continuing insecurity the focus is, besides humanitarian aid provision, shifting to durable solutions, resilience, recovery and stabilization to enhance the capacities of the Somali population to cope with shocks in the future.

In Somalia, IOM prioritizes life-saving interventions, including protection services for the most vulnerable, basic services, data collection, strengthened resilience and durable solutions as well as data collection and analysis for evidence-based decision making. If the needs of these individuals fail to be met, worsening disease outbreaks, displacement, loss of livelihoods and human rights violations are likely to continue. Based on humanitarian needs in 2018, and with prioritized support, IOM will continue to address these needs and deliver on its responsibilities to provide urgent life-saving and life-sustaining assistance. An emphasis on integrated, multi-sectoral service provision needs to continue. Bringing assistance closer to affected people and integrating provision of services remains central for the organization to tackling the causes of malnutrition, disease outbreaks and protection concerns. Immediate support would be also needed for (onward) transport of migrants in transit to final destinations and reintegration support for Somalis returning from Yemen – both facilitated and spontaneous returns.

**Budget: USD 40,000,000 (approx. SEK 367,315,200)<sup>9</sup>**

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<sup>9</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to the complete crisis portfolio of IOM and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process, that has yet to be finalized at this point in time.

## SOUTH SUDAN

***\*INFORM measures South Sudan's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster to be very high, at 9/10. South Sudan vulnerability is of particular concern, at 9.4/10.***

South Sudan continues to experience substantial displacement and associated challenges amidst ongoing conflict, and the country remains one of the world's most insecure and fragile. Forced migration due to conflict and other crises has resulted in a high number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) seeking protection in UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites (PoCs) and collective centres or creating informal settlements. Displacement trends across geographic regions remain dynamic, and nearly 2 million people are internally displaced, with some 200,000 people living in UNMISS Protection of Civilians Sites and many more in collective centres across the country. In addition, there are more than 2.4 million South Sudanese refugees. Under the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan, 7.1 million people are in need, with IOM and humanitarian partners aiming to respond to the life-threatening needs of 5.7 million people.

IOM delivers an integrated and multi-sector approach that emphasizes complementary, mutually reinforcing actions at individual, household, community and systems levels, with a focus on three pillars of intervention namely meeting humanitarian needs, enhancing stability, and building national ownership. Within these efforts, IOM contributes to saving lives, providing dignified living conditions, and reducing vulnerability through a comprehensive response that incorporates CCCM, Shelter/NFI, Health, Psychosocial Support, WASH, Protection, and GBV interventions. IOM ensures that all activities meet the needs of IDPs, host communities and returnees across South Sudan, for which DTM is a critical resource in delivering targeted programmes informed by reliable and regularly updated information.

It is hoped that the revitalized peace process will lead to new opportunities in 2019. It is expected that returns may increase, and IOM is already supporting efforts to promote and sustain the resilience of communities, as well as efforts to address the root causes of conflict and drivers of displacement, which can provide the basis for further returns and stability. However, it is important that support is provided to continue addressing the needs of crisis affected populations, including displaced populations, migrants and host communities, who remain in dire need of humanitarian assistance and protection.

With over 2,350 staff operating in nine static locations, alongside front-line responses, IOM has one of the largest operational footprints of the UN agencies operating across South Sudan. Furthermore, IOM's strong presence across the Clusters allows integrated, holistic programming. IOM is the Shelter/NFI Cluster co-lead, CCCM Cluster co-lead; has activated and leads the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Co-ordination Group; and manages the S/NFI core supply pipeline and a percentage of the WASH core supply pipeline. IOM also operates the Common Transport Service for the Logistics Cluster and three Humanitarian hubs, which provide accommodation and office space to over 400 humanitarian workers, to enable partners to provide static and front-line responses. Support allowing IOM to continue its efforts and action its responsibilities in South Sudan are of utmost importance.

**Budget (USD): 103,698,356 (SEK 948,321,465)<sup>10</sup>**

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<sup>10</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to average between IOM's crisis portfolio in 2018 and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process for 2019, that has yet to be finalized.

## SYRIA

***\*INFORM measures Syria's risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster to be high, at 6.9/10. Syria's vulnerability and lack of coping capacity are of concern.***

The scale, severity, and complexity of needs across Syria remain overwhelming. Over 13 million people in Syria require humanitarian assistance, including 6.1 million internally displaced (IDPs). Almost 1.2 million people are living in hard-to-reach areas. In addition, over 5.6 million Syrians have taken refuge in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt.

IOM provides multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance to vulnerable groups inside Syria including people living in hard-to-reach areas, IDPs living in camps and collective centres, newly-displaced populations fleeing active hostilities, spontaneous returnees, and over-burdened communities hosting a large concentration of IDPs and/or spontaneous returnees. IOM's assistance includes the provision of essential non-food items (NFIs) and shelter assistance, Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) services, provision of emergency health care, community and individual-based protection interventions, and the enhancement of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure. In addition, IOM focuses on early recovery and livelihoods support at the individual and community level in areas where the intensity of conflict has decreased but where competition over access to services and economic opportunities may exacerbate existing tensions and instability.

IOM is an active member of all sectors and clusters activated under the Whole-of-Syria coordination structure. IOM currently leads the Whole-of-Syria (Syria, Turkey, Jordan) efforts on Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), and is the leading agency on needs assessments and monitoring in coordination with OCHA. IOM also supports the response efforts of partners by managing emergency contingency stocks in northern Syria and providing a common transport service in southern Syria. IOM is committed to continue meeting the needs of the Syrian population and requires prioritized support.

**Budget: USD 98,000,000 (approx. SEK 896,210,000)<sup>11</sup>**

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<sup>11</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to average between IOM's crisis portfolio in 2018 and initial indications in relation to the HRP development process for 2019, that has yet to be finalized.

## VENEZUELA RESPONSE (Affected Countries outside Venezuela)

With over 2.6 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela, Latin America and the Caribbean is experiencing the largest exodus in its modern history. The ongoing political instability, deteriorating socio-economic situation, as well as growing insecurity and violence are expected to result in further pressure on an already stressed population, leading to continued outflow of refugees and migrants. More than 1.9 million Venezuelans have left since 2015, with about 70% (1,848,000) in South American countries; Brazil (75,000), Colombia (935,000), Ecuador (215,000) and Peru (414,000) are the most affected countries by the migration outflow. Yet, these figures are likely to be higher as most data sources do not include Venezuelans with irregular status.

Receiving countries have largely maintained a commendable open-door policy and have demonstrated considerable solidarity with refugees and migrants from Venezuela, however, some are reaching a saturation point and a few are beginning to institute restrictive measures. The continued outflow expected in 2019 will further challenge the capacity of host governments to respond to the influx and will impact the absorption capacity of local communities. Access to water, health, education, and shelter are some of the identified immediate needs of Venezuelans on arrival. In addition, considering that a number of Venezuelans in some countries will remain without a durable regular status, without documentation, or unable to apply for asylum or access regular migratory status, they are vulnerable to forms of exploitation and abuse, violence and discrimination.

IOM is currently working in the region to respond effectively to the needs of those impacted by this human mobility, including on reception conditions, providing general assistance and services for persons with specific needs, and facilitating access to documentation. IOM has also strengthened its presence along key borders to assist governments in mitigating risks, in particular in the areas of data collection; access to territory; interventions to address GBV, trafficking, and smuggling; and direct assistance to Venezuelans. Furthermore, a Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform has been set up to steer the operational response, under the co-leadership of IOM and UNHCR, as tasked by the UN Secretary General.

IOM's role in the response and its holistic approach to the short- and longer-term needs of the Venezuelan population is of great importance to the Organization, as well as the overall response effort. A scale-up of humanitarian assistance is urgently required to complement governments' efforts and to ensure communities continue to accept Venezuelans in a safe and welcoming environment. With prioritized support, IOM is committed, as co-lead of the Regional Interagency Platform, to strengthen and improve a coordinated operational response facilitating strategic planning and a harmonized operational response at both the regional and national levels.

**Budget: USD 107,000,000 (approx. SEK 978,515,000)<sup>12</sup>**

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<sup>12</sup> The tentative budget requirement pertains to the initial indications in relation to the RMRP development process for Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Regional Coordination for 2019, that has yet to be finalized.