The IOM Development Fund is committed to building the capacity of Member States to achieve and benefit from effective and sustainable migration governance.

Since 2001, the IOM Development Fund has served as a unique global resource for eligible Member States with developing economies and has helped offer rapid and flexible responses to important migration challenges.

Joint government-IOM Development Fund initiatives have successfully addressed the needs of Member States in various areas of migration management by providing seed funding for innovative projects.

The IOM Development Fund was established with an initial allocation of USD 1.4 million. As of 2021, the Fund has an annual budget of USD 15 million, thanks to the support of Member States and successful project outcomes.

IOM Development Fund projects address the following thematic areas:

- Counter-trafficking
- Labour Migration
- Migration and Development
- Migration Health
- Migration, Environment and Climate Change
- Border Management
- Integration and Social Cohesion
- Policy and Legal Framework Development
- Migration Research
- Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR)¹

Emergency operations and migrant return schemes are not eligible under the Fund.

¹ On an exceptional basis, for projects focusing on government capacity building activities.
UN Sustainable Development Goals most often reflected in IOM Development Fund projects

Contributing to the IOM Development Fund:

Recently, significant growth in IOM membership has resulted in a remarkable increase in demand for assistance in developing migration management capacities by eligible Member States. The number of requests for worthwhile initiatives does not cease to increase, the Fund is therefore seeking continuous support from IOM’s generous donors.

The vast majority of funding received goes to project implementation, while programme management and administration for the Fund accounts for less than 5 per cent of expenditure.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE:

• Member States can support the Fund through annual earmarked contributions.
• Private organizations and foundations can support the Fund through single donations or annual contributions.
• Individuals can contribute to the Fund online via the “Donate Now” menu on the IOM Development Fund web home page.
• In-kind donations are also welcome and their scope can be discussed with the Fund management.

Applying for IOM Development Fund Funding:

Project proposals may be submitted by eligible Member States directly to the IOM Development Fund for consideration.

STEP I:
• Identify an eligible thematic area where IOM’s technical expertise can improve the migration management capacity of your government.

STEP II:
• Approach your local IOM office (or the Fund directly) and discuss the viability of your project idea.

STEP III:
• If your project idea is considered viable by the Fund management, the local IOM office can begin putting together a project proposal in coordination with you.
• Projects must be presented using the IOM Development Fund templates, and include complete budgets.
• Projects should also receive endorsement from the relevant regional IOM office.

STEP IV:
• Your project proposal must be supported by a written endorsement and request for funding from your capital to the IOM Development Fund.
• You must assign a focal point for the project prior to beginning implementation.

STEP V:
• Once the complete and regional office endorsed project proposal is submitted, it will be evaluated by the Fund. If approved, your government will benefit from the Fund’s support!

For more information:
Please contact the IOM Development Fund at iomdevelopmentfund@iom.int, or
Visit the IOM Development Fund website: https://developmentfund.iom.int/