The IOM Joint Global Initiative on Diversity, Inclusion and Social Cohesion (DISC) is a flexible and demand-led initiative to elevate IOM’s programmatic and policy capacity to support Member States and relevant partners in the design, implementation and evaluation of interventions on migrant integration, inclusion and social cohesion.

Three Key Pillars

Creating a ‘Global Community of Inquiry and Innovation’
Creating a ‘Global Community of Practice’
Creating a ‘Unifying Narrative’

The DISC Initiative serves as a platform to share, learn, develop and implement innovative strategies and interventions that tap into the existing assets and potential of both migrants and communities. With a view to promoting a whole-of-society approach to migrant inclusion and social cohesion, the DISC resources below aim to develop capacities of policymakers and practitioners in their integration work and to foster evidence-based and effective approaches, facilitating the full inclusion of migrants in their new communities.

Countering Xenophobia and Promoting Social Integration

**Social Mixing**
This note draws from IOM’s emerging programming on migrant integration and social cohesion and extensive research on intergroup contact theory, which posits that increased interaction and mixing of people from different backgrounds can cultivate trust and decrease prejudice under the right circumstances.

**Countering Xenophobia and Stigma IOM Issue Brief**
This serves as an issue brief on how to tackle potentially xenophobic and stigma. It proposes potential solutions for states and relevant actors to tackle potential xenophobia and stigma, ranging from measures aimed at strengthening legal and policy responses to xenophobia and racism, to community-based models to address prejudices and promote social mixing.

**The Power of Films: GMFF Evaluation**
The IOM conducted a pilot study based on surveys from 40 countries around the world to study whether films can be a vehicle for promoting social cohesion among host communities and migrants. Overall, audience feedback was overwhelmingly positive. One in three participants felt that their perceptions regarding migrants changed.

**Xenophobia and Migrant Inclusion Issue Brief**
IOM under the DISC Initiative has developed policy recommendations and targeted interventions, as well as tools that address xenophobia and foster social cohesion to promote programmatic innovation and better support partners in their response and advocacy.

[Xenophobia Thematic Webpage]
Survey Bank
This survey bank contains questionnaires developed around the world to measure migrant integration and social cohesion in different contexts. It provides access to various surveys and questions that have been used before, giving a degree of comparability across studies. The institutions that have developed the surveys and survey questions include government agencies, universities, international and regional organizations, academic researchers and recognized consulting firms.

IOM / IPL Migrant Integration Index
International Organization for Migration (IOM) has developed a comprehensive multidimensional survey-based measurement tool called the "IOM / IPL Migrant Integration Index" to measure migrant integration outcomes in six key dimensions. The tool is currently being piloted in Brazil, Dominican Republic and Peru. In developing the index, IOM has successfully forged a partnership with the Immigration Policy Lab, a reputable research think tank with branches at the University of Stanford and ETH Zurich, with support from the Regional Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants of Venezuela (R4V).

Guide for Practitioners on the IOI Framework
This guide is co-developed by IOM UK to support capacity-building in local authorities (and regional statutory bodies with responsibility for integration) to effectively use the Indicators of Integration framework in integration strategy planning, implementation and evaluation. This handbook has been designed to support your exploration and familiarisation with the Home Office Indicators of Integration 2019 framework and tools.

Measuring Migrant Integration Brief
The brief includes resources that aim to provide guidance and tools to identify and measure the key factors that contribute to integration processes, and thereby help organisations at national and local levels designing more effective strategies. The brief also features a survey bank to encourage missions and other integration actors to use verified integration question from more regular data instruments in their baselines assessments, project monitoring and evaluation in order to improve availability and comparability of data on integration.
The Power of Digitalization in the Age of Physical Distancing

As the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, societies are witnessing first-hand how digitalization can help confront the crisis and keep migrants, their families and communities connected. Against this context, this digest explores the multi-faceted opportunities and risks that digital innovation can bring to social connections and community cohesion among migrants and host communities.

Digital Inclusion of Refugees resettling to Canada

This report provides insight into how refugees who participate in the Canadian Orientation Abroad (COA) programme are currently using digital tools in the pre-departure stage, and what challenges they face in doing so. Through a mixed-method approach of telephonic surveys and focused group discussions, the study elicited responses from over 300 refugees, in 22 locations, who were approved for resettlement in Canada.

Upcoming: Migrant E-inclusion Project

Within the broader framework of the DISC Initiative, this project aims to enhance IOM’s capacity to innovate and facilitate inclusive digital solutions in pre and post arrival programming to support migrant inclusion and social cohesion. It looks at ways on promoting digital inclusion of low-literate and low-skilled migrant and refugee populations at different stages of the migration continuum.

O-Canada (Orientation-Canada) App

A learning tool for refugees selected for resettlement to Canada that provides relevant and accurate information. Refugees can learn anytime, anywhere about Canada, supports and services available there and much more!

The O-Canada App is the United Nations Migration Agency’s digital tool for refugees selected for resettlement to Canada. It aims to empower refugees to transition and become active members of Canadian society.

Since 1998, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has been providing pre-departure orientation to selected refugees resettling to Canada through the Canadian Orientation Abroad (COA) programme. This tool will benefit refugees in circumstances where IOM is not able to provide in-person COA and will complement in-person COA.

The app is currently available in English and will later be available in other languages including French, Spanish, Arabic, Dari, Kiswahili, Somali, and Tigrinya.

When a user downloads the app, their privacy is ensured as the only information collected is a username.

The O-Canada App, which can be accessed offline, can be downloaded for free.
Mainstreaming Inclusion and Diversity Considerations in Integration Programming

Pre-Departure Orientation Facilitator's Manual
This guide presents the fundamentals of training and is primarily aimed at facilitators with limited experience. It also includes reflective questions at the end of each section; thus, providing more experienced facilitators with the opportunity to reflect on their practices and approaches.

1st & 2nd DISC Digests
The 1st resource covers IOM programming in the areas of migrant integration and training, inclusion and social cohesion, as well as relevant publications and articles globally. The 2nd focuses on private sector supported initiatives and partnerships for successful labor market integration.

3rd DISC Digest: No Social Exclusion in Social Distancing
This special edition of the global DISC Digest explores the multi-dimensional risks of social exclusion caused by inequities for different migrant groups in the COVID-19 response, including women and children, people living with disabilities and LGBTQI+ communities. This issue will also provide insight into the key challenges and concerns migrants face and showcase initiatives from the field that are responding to those challenges, as well relevant resources and tools.

DISC Resource Bank on Building Capacity for Diversity and Social Inclusion
IOM DISC has produced a Resource Bank compiling a wide range of IOM resources. The Bank provides practitioners and policymakers key capacity building approaches, tools and trainings that can guide mainstreaming of diversity and inclusion into IOM programming. By recognizing the intersectionality of migrants’ identities and addressing their diverse needs, IOM holds true to its commitment to serve and empower all migrants wherever they are in their journey.

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SharePoint DISC Collaboration Space

IOM Website
iom.int/migrant-integration-and-training

DISC Initiative
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