



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

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TOWARDS AN IOM STRATEGY
MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT



Towards an IOM Strategy

Migration and Development

I. Introduction

Over the last 35 years, the number of persons living outside their country of birth has more than doubled, and amounts today to over 175 million people.¹ Worldwide, one in every 35 persons is a migrant. This trend can be expected to continue in the coming decades.

While the majority of international migrants originate from developing countries, it is not exclusively a “South-North phenomenon”. There are also strong migration flows between developing countries, in particular between low- and middle-income countries.²

Apart from the magnitude of migration flows, the patterns of migratory movement have changed considerably. With globalization – especially in relation to trade liberalization, global economic integration and electronic communication – has come a heightened awareness of life and work opportunities in other parts of the world. Coupled with developments in international transport, this has led to greater population mobility. Although progress in liberalizing the movement of persons has not proceeded at the same pace as the liberalization of trade in goods and capital, regular and irregular labour migration plays an important role in the international economy.

Migration, which historically has been relatively uni-directional and permanent, is now increasingly temporary and circular, although more recently the movements have been somewhat slowed and constrained by the increased security and control measures in place since the September 11 terrorist attack. More nationals of more countries are on the move and more countries are affected by migration than ever before. The standard categorization that distinguishes between countries of origin, destination and transit is increasingly proving inadequate as more countries present characteristics of all three.

The growing relevance to international migration of the feminization of migration has been widely reported.³ While the implications of this for policy-makers have not yet been fully developed, it has been demonstrated that migration can empower and help to emancipate migrant women who are increasingly migrating as independent economic actors. Migration offers new opportunities and financial independence abroad as well as status within their family and home community.

Migration and Development – a Renewed Priority

A priority task of policy-makers is to adjust migration policies to both influence and respond to these changing patterns. Areas of intervention include familiar issues such as border control, labour migration, international protection, and the management of irregular migration. Increasingly, however, attention is being focussed on the nexus between migration and development. In this last policy field, the task at hand is not simply a matter of doing a bit more or a bit less of what has been done before. Rather, the challenge is to **redefine in fundamental ways the management of migration for the benefit of both developing and developed countries, for the benefit of individual migrants and societies, consistent with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).**⁴

While the nexus between migration and development has been recognized for some time, the emphasis is changing. Traditionally, focus has been on the negative effects of migration on development and has followed two main themes:

¹ IOM, *World Migration 2003: Challenges and Responses for People on the Move*, World Migration Report Series Vol.2, Geneva.

² Ibid.

³ According to global estimates 47.5 percent of all migrants today are female. Migrant women, particularly from Asia, have become a force for development through their remittances. In many countries, women constitute a majority of migrants, for example 65 per cent for Sri Lanka (1999) and 70 per cent in the Philippines (2000). IOM, *World Migration 2003*.

⁴ Under the auspices of the UN, 191 states adopted the Millennium Declaration in September 2000. The MDGs draw on targets that have been set out [in international conferences and summits during the 1990s](#).

- Addressing root causes of migration linked to underdevelopment (poverty, socio-economic instability, population pressures) with a view to preventing migration/creating conditions so that people do not want to migrate.
- Addressing negative aspects of migration related to development (brain drain, depletion of the labour force, rural exodus) primarily through measures aimed at restricting migration with this effect.

Increasingly, however, the international community is recognizing and emphasizing the positive effects of international migration for home country development. In December 2003, the General Assembly, at its 58th Session adopted resolution A/C.2/58/77 urging Member States and the UN to continue strengthening international cooperation in international migration and development with a view to integrating migration issues more coherently within the broader context of implementing agreed economic and social development goals. The resolution calls for a High-Level Dialogue on International Migration in 2006, and for the “exceptional” inclusion of “migration and development” in the agenda of the 59th session of the General Assembly in 2004, thus breaking the pattern of considering the item only every two years.

Today, migrants are considered as potential agents of development who strengthen cooperation between home and host societies. Migrants contribute to development through remittances, investment and expenditure and can contribute as well through the application in their home country of newly-developed skills, entrepreneurial activities, and support for democratization and human rights.

Remittances, until recently, had been considered relatively insignificant in volume and used primarily for consumption. New methods of measuring remittances resulting in improved data quality as well as a shift in remittances from informal to formal channels indicate that remittances are, in fact, more substantial than previously believed and have a statistically important impact on reducing poverty in the developing world.⁵ Attention is now being placed on reducing transfer costs, encouraging and facilitating transfer through formal financial institutions (e.g. banks, credit unions), and encouraging investment of remittances into activities contributing to development.

More attention is also being given to the potential benefits of diaspora involvement in home communities. While a few governments have a long history and a sustained vision of enhancing diaspora engagement in home country development, **most governments have only recently begun to examine policies and articulate strategies to enhance these positive linkages.**

International migration has fostered the development of transnational networks, which facilitate important cultural, political and economic exchanges that span across borders, and ensure sustainable links between countries of origin and destination.

All of these factors (remittances, diaspora and transnationalism) have caused the relationship between migration and poverty to be re-examined.

Although migration can be an effective tool in the fight against poverty and in promoting development in less developed countries, this is not always the case.⁶ Poverty can be alleviated as well as exacerbated by migration.⁷ Research is on-going to better determine the real and potential impact of migration on poverty reduction.

To harness the possibilities migration can offer, it is necessary to create an appropriate policy and programme environment to maximize the chances for migration to alleviate poverty in countries and regions of origin. The challenge for governments is to **facilitate migration that is most likely to lead to a reduction of poverty by providing new economic and social links and**

⁵ Devesh Kapur: “Remittances: The New Development Mantra?”, Paper prepared for the G-24 Technical Group Meeting, August 2003.

⁶ Richard H. Adams, Jr. and John Page: “The Impact of International Migration and Remittances on Poverty”, Poverty Reduction Group, World Bank. Paper prepared for DFID/World Bank Conference on Migrant Remittances, London, October 9-10, 2003.

⁷ Ronald Skeldon: “Migration and Poverty”, Asia-Pacific Population Journal, December 2002.

opportunities between migrants and societies, while also acting to protect migrants from abuse and exploitation.

Over the next decade the international community will work towards the achievement of the eight Millennium Development Goals set as a UN frame of reference for development. The role of migration in relation to these goals has not yet been clearly defined, particularly as concerns the reduction of poverty, and there is seldom any specific reference to the contribution migration can make to development. It is desirable, therefore, to **integrate migration management approaches more explicitly and coherently within a broader context of economic and social development frameworks.**⁸

It is within the context of this complex relationship between migration and development that governments are being challenged to make migration more orderly as well as more productive, providing a national and multilateral framework that establishes the most effective balance among the interests of all.

New Forums of activity

While a variety of institutions and international organizations, including IOM, have been alert for decades to the fact that there is a link between migration and development, activity in this area has recently multiplied, as has the range of actors and forums involved.

Numerous UN and related agencies are active in specific topic areas of migration and development. The following list is illustrative only.⁹

- The **Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)** is working on issues of remittances through its Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF). Projects focus on the banking of remittances;
- The **International Labour Organization's (ILO)** work on issues of migration and development is, in the first instance, anchored in its normative function to improve the situation of migrant workers and on its goal to increase employment and reduce poverty. Research is conducted in support of its advisory work in these areas;
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** is collecting and analyzing data on remittances and patterns of remitting;
- The **International Organization for Migration's (IOM)** involvement in migration and development is found in the organization's 1) international policy dialogue; 2) policy-oriented research; and 3) operational programmes to build the administrative and managerial capacity of governments and develop and implement strategies to more effectively link migration and development. (See Annexes for more details);
- The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** includes development of human capital among the work of its 'Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs';
- The **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)** looks at migration and development through the lens of the trade sector – in particular Mode 4 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services and the "movement of natural persons". The organization's focus is to find an approach to the trade and development discussion that would enable developing countries to realize their comparative advantage in terms of their labour supply;
- The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** has conducted research on the relationship between brain drain and capacity development, and implements the TOKTEN programme to help qualified expatriates return to their countries of origin;
- The **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO)** work on migration and development falls within the activities of the human and social sciences sector. Activities are coordinated by the International

⁸ "Migration and Development: Current Policy Challenges", IOM, January 2004.

⁹ For more complete details see "International Migration and Development: Report of the Secretary-General", A/58/98 1 July 2003.

Migrations and Multiculturalism Section, through the 'Management of Social Transformations' (MOST-Programme);

- The **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** provides funds for policy-oriented studies on international migration including conferences aimed at strengthening cooperation among governments;
- The **World Bank** has undertaken considerable research on migrant remittances and is moving into policy development and capacity-building in this area; and
- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** is particularly concerned with the brain drain of health professionals and the impact on developing countries of origin.

Migration and development is also on the agendas of a number of **regional consultative processes on migration**. In the South American Conference on Migration¹⁰, the Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process), the Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean ("5+5")¹¹, the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA), and the Migration Dialogue for Western Africa (MIDWA)¹², *migration and development* is a key theme of inter-state discussion.

The **Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM)** has included addressing the relationship between international migration and economic development and poverty alleviation within its 18 month mandate.¹³

II. Migration and Development within IOM

The International Organization for Migration's (IOM) overall goal with regard to migration and development is to substantively contribute to the work of the international community to harness the development potential of international migration for individual migrants and societies consistent with the Millennium Development Goals.

For over half a century, IOM has worked with migrants and governments worldwide to establish humane responses to migration challenges. IOM believes that, in spite of many controversial aspects of the issue, international migration presents opportunities for cooperation and development.¹⁴

IOM has recognized the complexity of the relationship between migration and development since its very early years. Indeed the Resolution, adopted in 1951, to establish a Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe, as IOM was initially called,¹⁵ underlined the existence of "a close relationship ... between economic development and immigration". In the 1960s ICEM, as IOM was then known, developed specific "Migration for Development programmes" to enhance development through migration.¹⁶ The relationship between migration and development has for decades been an important focus for activities of the organization.

The key premise of IOM is that international migration, if effectively managed, can contribute to the growth and prosperity of individuals and of both countries of origin and destination. In this sense,

¹⁰ For details see the South American Meeting on Migration, 1999, Lima Declaration; Second South American Conference on Migration, 2001, Final Declaration; and Third South American Conference on Migration, 2002, Plan of Action.

¹¹ For details see the Dialogue on Cooperation in the Western Mediterranean, Ministerial Conference, 2002, Tunis Declaration.

¹² For details see the West African Regional Meeting, 2000, Dakar Declaration; and West African Regional Meeting, 2000, Implementation and Follow-up.

¹³ See the GCIM website for more information: www.gcim.org.

¹⁴ IOM's constitution recognizes "that a relationship exists between migration and the economic, social and cultural conditions in developing countries".

¹⁵ PICMME would change its name to the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), then the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM) and finally, in 1989, to IOM.

¹⁶ For more details, see chapter 3, Ducasse-Rogier, M., The International Organization for Migration 1951 – 2001.

migrants are considered as potential agents of development who strengthen cooperation between home and host societies. The focus of IOM activities, therefore, lies in the strengthening of the positive aspects of migration and in migration management. The organization's approach to the achievement of this goal in relation to migration and development can be broadly clustered into three areas:

- 1) international policy dialogue;
- 2) policy-oriented research; and
- 3) operational programmes to build the administrative and managerial capacity of governments and develop and implement strategies to more effectively link migration and development.

Specific areas of activity depend greatly upon local need and developments and vary amongst IOM's more than 150 Field Offices, but currently include knowledge transfer of diasporas through enhancement of transnational networks and provision of specific opportunities for "brain circulation"; economic and community development through technical cooperation and remittances management programmes; human capital building through comprehensive temporary labour migration programmes; return and reintegration of qualified nationals and capacity building for governments to maximize economic and social development through migration management including migrant health, empowerment of migrant women and gender equality.¹⁷

Lessons learned

Through IOM's experience in migration and development, a number of important lessons have been learned:

Migrants as Agents of Development

- Migration management helps to realize the full potential of individual migrants through education, training, skills acquisition, empowerment of women and the protection of migrant's rights, thus enabling individual migrants to be agents of development.

Research

- Carefully targeted research is essential for the identification of effective new modes of intervention.

Cooperation, partnerships, dialogue

- Dialogue between developing and developed countries has proven to be an effective instrument to explore innovative options for migration management for the benefit of all parties concerned.
- Coordination and partnership between international organizations and NGOs need to be promoted and strengthened, and effective practices shared more widely and readily.

Labour Migration

- Labour migration facilitation programmes have proven to be of benefit, among others, to individual livelihood building including through micro-credit schemes for small enterprise businesses.
- Successful social and economic integration of migrants in countries of destination increases the migrants' potential to contribute to the development of their country of origin.

¹⁷ See Annex 2 for more details on principal areas of IOM activity.

Remittances

- Experience shows that apart from consumption and savings, remittances are often also invested in human and other productive capital, such as in health and education and to finance the construction of houses and the operation of businesses.
- Project activity in the area of remittances should promote incentives to reduce transfer costs and increase the development impact of remittances. This includes analysis of the contribution of remittances for alleviating poverty; the share of household income attributable to remittances, and organizations and projects in the communities receiving remittances.

Diaspora

- Governments can successfully establish lasting links with their diaspora and provide support to their nationals abroad at different stages of the migration process, for instance on preparation, return, dual citizenship, or foreign direct investment.
- Diaspora members are interested in participating in projects for development, provided that opportunities offered are credible, that proactive participation of the government of the country of origin is ensured, and that solutions that allow diaspora members to keep their jobs in the host country are provided.
- Governments, the public administration and the private sector of countries of origin are not always aware of the potential of their diasporas. At the same time, the capacities of home countries to identify needed skills and implement necessary management structures are often insufficiently developed. Therefore, capacity-building programmes that target the public administration of countries of origin should complement these programmes.
- Qualified returnees can contribute in major ways to capacity building within national priority-sectors, as well as to national reconciliation of post-conflict countries. The implemented projects have proven that members of the diaspora of developing countries possess skills and expertise valuable to countries of origin.
- Programmes that help potential returnees find job opportunities in their home countries have proven to harness the potential benefits of return of qualified nationals for sectoral development. Specific assistance programmes can successfully support an effective reintegration of returnees. Challenges in encouraging such return still exist in situations where the economic differential is too great, and insufficient incentives to return exist. Temporary or virtual return may provide a viable alternative in such situations.
- Projects that seek to realize diaspora potential should ideally be developed on a longer-term basis. They can be complemented by extensive information and advertising strategies targeting the diasporas as well as potential beneficiaries/communities in the countries of origin.

Economic and Community Development

- There is a direct relationship between poor economic opportunity and sub-standard social services, and the desire to move from, or lack of desire to return to, such a location.
- Establishing specific programmes to improve conditions in areas prone to high emigration can reduce the need for emigration and increase the proclivity for return by émigrés, providing durable solutions to problematic migration situations.
- These programmes also create a larger common space for migration management programming between the more- and lesser-developed countries.

Health

- Providing access to health services for migrants irrespective of their legal status, length of stay, voluntariness or phase of the migration process (whether in country of origin, transit or destination), benefits the health of migrants, of hosting communities as well as of communities of return.

- Good health greatly benefits a migrant's ability to be economically, educationally and socially active and find positive ways to integrate and contribute to society. Addressing health of migrants means addressing their physical-, social-, mental- and cultural- well-being.

Gender

- Migration can have an empowering impact on women through physical and financial independence, and the self-esteem gained by being perceived as family providers by their community. Education, work experience and economic independence abroad can release women from traditional roles and enable them to exercise their rights more effectively.
- Migrant women are important agents of change, helping to devise strategies for the transition between the norms and values of their societies of origin and those of the society of destination. Women migrants thus play an important role in promoting universal values and human rights.

III. Key Elements of IOM's Migration and Development Strategy

The present strategy¹⁸ sets the framework for IOM policies and activities related to migration and development and includes several key elements:

IOM's migration and development goal is:

to substantively contribute to the work of the international community to harness the development potential of international migration for individual migrants and societies consistent with the Millennium Development Goals.

Key elements:

- 1. Enhancing understanding of the migration and development nexus** through targeted research¹⁹ as well as through facilitating cooperation and dialogue amongst States through IOM's International Dialogue on Migration, regional processes on migration and other platforms providing venues for intergovernmental exchange and cooperation.²⁰
- 2. Building and strengthening partnerships to encourage coordinated and complementary activities.** This includes cooperation among international organizations, government development agencies, research institutes, non-governmental organizations and others.²¹
- 3. Working with governments to integrate migration management into development frameworks** to identify common priorities between migration management and the MDGs and the potential contribution of migration management to the achievement of these goals.²²
- 4. Promoting greater consistency between migration policies and development policies** through increased awareness of the priorities of each sector and co-operation to develop mutually beneficial policies and programmes.²³
- 5. Building capacity at national, regional and international levels and promoting individual migrants as agents of development** in key areas of activity²⁴ based upon local needs and developments.

These elements will help to define specific paths of activity that contribute to the realization of the Organization's overall goal in the field of migration and development. This approach is consistent with the Millennium Development Goals. There are strong linkages between the various elements of this strategy which, in fact, are mutually dependent and reinforcing.

¹⁸ The present strategy refers to one out of four key areas related to effective migration management as identified in the "Note on IOM Strategy: Current and Future Migration Realities and IOM's Role" of 11 June 2003 (MC/INF262). It is part of IOM's overall strategic approach as enunciated in document MC/INF1842 "IOM Strategic Planning: Toward the Twenty-First Century" of 9 May 1995 and is the first of the 4 boxes in the 'Managing Migration' four box chart.

¹⁹ See Annex 5.

²⁰ See Annexes 1 and 3.

²¹ See Annexes 1, 2, 3 and 4.

²² See Annexes 1, 3 and 5.

²³ See Annexes 1, 3 and 5.

²⁴ See Annex 2 and 4.

Annex 1

IOM's operational experience

IOM's **overall goal** with regard to migration and development is to substantively contribute to the work of the international community to harness the development potential of international migration for individual migrants and societies, consistent with the Millennium Development Goals.

The organization's approach for the achievement of this goal in relation to migration and development can be broadly clustered into three areas 1) international policy dialogue; 2) policy-oriented research; and 3) operational programmes to build the administrative and managerial capacity of governments to develop and implement strategies to more effectively link migration and development.²⁵

Specific **areas of activity**²⁶ depend greatly upon local need and developments and vary amongst IOM's more than 150 Field Offices, but currently include

- knowledge transfer of diasporas through enhancement of transnational networks and provision of specific opportunities for "brain circulation"
- economic and community development through technical cooperation and remittances management programmes
- human capital building through comprehensive temporary labour migration programmes
- return and reintegration of qualified nationals
- capacity building for governments to maximize economic and social development through migration management
- training and promotion of migrants as genuine agents of development
- migrant health
- empowerment of migrant women and gender equality

Through its different activities, some of which date back to the early 1960s²⁷, IOM assists countries in policy formulation and in establishing and strengthening legislation, administrative measures, structures and practices for effective migration management.

IOM's experience also includes **research, publications and forum activities**.²⁸ Over half of IOM's **research studies** since 2002 have been conducted in developing countries. The most important research that IOM has sponsored in this context was the global study on "Emigration Dynamics in Developing Countries", initiated in the early 1990s with financial support from UNFPA and published as four volumes in 1998. IOM has conducted more than 40 country studies on trafficking, many of these in transit or developing countries.

Additionally, three special issues of the research journal "International Migration" between 1992 and 2002 and three of the Migration Research Series (MRS) publications since 2001 focus on migration and development. A collection of research articles assessing the state-of-the-art with regards to the linkages between migration and development was released in September 2003 with the title "Migration and Development Nexus".

Also in the context of research, IOM has recently concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Sussex University Development Research Center, funded by the British Department for International Development (DFID) as well as an MOU with the Asia-Pacific Migration Research Network, to foster co-operation, consultation and exchange of information between the respective organizations and institutions.

²⁵ Over the course of the last four years alone, IOM has implemented over 80 projects related to migration and development in more than 30 countries in Africa, Central America, Central Asia, the Caucasus, South Asia, South East Asia and South East Europe. See Annex 4 for a selection of ongoing and recently completed IOM projects in the field of migration and development.

²⁶ See Annexes 2 and 4 for more information on IOM's areas of activities.

²⁷ In 1964, IOM launched the Selective Migration to Latin America-programme. The project aims to assist Latin American States in enhancing their national development strategies.

²⁸ See Annexes 3 and 5.

In the area of **forum activities**, IOM launched in 2001 the International Dialogue on Migration, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the organization. The purpose of the International Dialogue is to contribute to a better understanding of migration and to strengthen cooperative mechanisms between governments to comprehensively and effectively address migration issues. The International Dialogue on Migration works through the IOM Council and regional dialogues and pursues cooperation and partnership between governments and with UN and other international and regional organizations and stakeholders.

In the framework of the IOM Council **International Dialogue on Migration**, IOM sponsored in 2002 a workshop for policy makers from over 100 countries on effective practices to enhance support for development from migrant communities abroad. Participants shared and exchanged diverse ideas on the role of diaspora in facilitating the development of countries of origin. This was followed in 2003 by an inter-sessional workshop on data collection and data management that included two half-day sessions specifically on data collection related to migration and development.

In addition, together with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank, IOM organized an inter-sessional seminar of the International Dialogue on Migration on trade and migration for the membership of IOM, OECD and The World Trade Organization (WTO) in November 2003. This first meeting of the trade and migration communities explored the links between these groups with particular reference to facilitating progress on Mode 4 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) a key priority of the Doha Development Round. This meeting will be followed-up in 2004 with a further workshop on trade and migration which the developing world sees as critical to its development goals.

In response to a request from the IOM membership and their view of the importance of this subject, the first inter-sessional workshop in 2005 of IOM's International Dialogue on Migration will be on Migration and Development. We are looking to partner with the World bank and other organizations in the preparation and sponsorship of this event.

IOM organizes **conferences and workshops** both independently and in cooperation with other organizations. In 1998, IOM and UNFPA organized the "UN Technical Symposium on Migration and Development" in The Hague as part of the follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). In 2000, IOM and the International Development Research Center (IDRC) jointly hosted the "Regional Conference on Brain Drain and Capacity Building in Africa" in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Moreover, representatives of the organization are contributing actively on a regular basis to conferences and workshops organized by other institutions. In April 2003, IOM organized Labour Migration Ministerial Consultations for countries of origin in Asia. For the upcoming Metropolis Conference in September 2004, IOM has been invited to co-organize and co-chair a panel on Migration and Development.²⁹

At the field level, IOM offices regularly facilitate and organize seminars and conferences on migration and development. As an example, IOM Dhaka is actively involved in the recently initiated Bangladesh Migration and Development Forum. The IOM Dhaka office also hosted an associated session on "Linking International Migrant Remittance with Micro-Enterprise Initiatives in Bangladesh: Possibilities and Potentials" during the Asia-Pacific Region Microcredit Summit Meeting of Councils held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 15-19 February 2004.

IOM places great emphasis on providing technical assistance and support to **Regional Consultative Processes on Migration**, several of which have included in their plans of action direct emphasis on migration and development. The most recent of these was the regional workshop on "Migration and Development" in Zanzibar, Tanzania, organized by the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) in March 2004. Similarly, the topic is taken up within other Regional Consultative Processes, such as the Regional Conference on Migration in North America (Puebla Process) and the Western Mediterranean Cooperation Process (5+5 Process).

²⁹ For a list of current and planned activities on migration and development, see Annex 3.

Many governments and institutions are now acknowledging the inter-linkage between migration and development. In 2003, the British government invited IOM to give written and oral evidence to its inquiry into Migration and Development. Bilateral consultations with IOM are increasingly being requested by governments to assist them with their policy thinking on the issue.

Annex 2

Areas of Activity

The following areas of activity are illustrative of current IOM activities based upon local needs and developments. Each of these areas of activity supports the key elements of IOM's migration and development strategy.

1. Knowledge transfer of diasporas through transnational networks and promotion of "brain circulation"

IOM implements projects (such as MIDA) that allow experts in the diaspora to make their knowledge and expertise available to their home country. These projects are organized in close cooperation with governments of countries of destination and origin. Emphasis is placed on sector-specific activities, including health and education. IOM also works with governments to establish a network of transnational organized communities and diaspora organizations. The aim of these networks is to exchange knowledge, and to facilitate the access of international migrants to information and opportunities.

2. Economic and community development through technical cooperation and remittances management programmes

In strengthening capacities on migration and development, IOM seeks to complement and enhance national, bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation efforts, and to enable and expand dialogue and planning. Activities include fostering ties between hometown associations (HTAs) abroad and communities of origin as well as enhancing employment opportunities.

IOM is developing, initially on a pilot basis, in cooperation with international financial institutions, remittances management programmes to reduce transfer fees, to build the confidence of migrants, to offer attractive investment opportunities and to channel part of the remittances into productive investments, especially in underdeveloped (rural) areas.

3. Human capital building through comprehensive temporary labour migration programmes

Comprehensive temporary labour migration programmes in developing countries that are jointly developed by countries of origin and destination are an important tool to promote both individual livelihood building and human capital development in countries of origin. They can include the following elements:

- pre-departure information, such as skills training and assistance with administrative requirements
- language training, cultural and civic orientation
- investment opportunities in productive community projects
- micro-credit schemes for starting small enterprise businesses in countries of origin

4. Return and Reintegration of Qualified Nationals

In addition to the skills that returning qualified nationals bring with them, returning migrants are vital to shaping a new social environment in the country of origin, and serve as a catalyst in encouraging others who are considering return. IOM develops programmes that include recruitment, job placement, transport and employment support for highly skilled and qualified nationals.

5. Capacity Building for Governments to maximize economic and social development through migration management

Through its programmes, IOM offers advice and assistance to governments on questions arising in the migration and development field. The organization assists countries in policy formulation and in establishing and strengthening legislation, administrative measures, structures and practices for effective migration management. Projects include the establishment of migration observatories and migration research units in the government structure of both countries of origin and destination.

Annex 3

Current and Planned Activities – 2004

Activity	Date	Place	Organization
Migration and Development Workshop	2004 (tbc)	Geneva	IOM, UK Department for International Development
Bangladesh Forum for Migration and Development	2004	Bangladesh	DFID, ActionAid and IOM
House of Commons, International Development Committee Inquiry into "Migration and Development"	January, 2004	London, UK	UK Government, IOM (written evidence)
Seminar on Migration and Development	27 January, 2004	Brussels, Belgium	European Policy Centre (EPC)/King Baudouin Foundation (KBF); IOM (panelist)
IV Round Table on Remittances	12 February, 2004	Nicaragua	IOM Guatemala (organizer)
"Linking International Migrant Remittance with Micro Enterprise Initiatives in Bangladesh: Possibilities and Potentials" during the Asia Pacific Region Microcredit Summit Meeting of Councils	15-19 February, 2004	Dhaka, Bangladesh	IOM (workshop), Microcredit Summit Campaign and PKSF
Expert meeting on the draft strategic framework for migration policy in Africa	29-30 March, 2004	Addis Ababa	AU/IOM
Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) Workshop on Migration and Development in Southern Africa	17-19 March, 2004	Tanzania	IOM Pretoria
Inter-agency meeting on Migration and Development	01 April, 2004	Geneva	ILO, IOM (organizer), UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, WHO, World Bank
Regional Consultative Workshop – Labour Migration/MIDA EAC	April, 2004	Nairobi	IOM/EAC/UNDP
Norwegian Government Meeting on Migration, including a session on "Migration & Development"	11 May, 2004	Norway	IOM, Norwegian Government
2 nd Inter-agency meeting on Migration and Development	29 June (tbc)	Geneva	ILO, IOM (organizer), UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, WHO, World Bank
Labour Migration Ministerial Consultations for Countries of Origin in Asia	July, 2004	Manila	IOM, Philippines Government
World Congress "Human Movements and Immigration: A Challenge for the 21 st Century", Workshop: "Cooperation on Migration Management: Regional vs. Global"	1-5 September, 2004	Barcelona, Spain	Institut Europeu de la Mediterrania, IOM, UNHCR, UNESCO, ILO, European Commission
9 th International Metropolis Conference: "Co-operative Migration Management: International, National and Local Answers", Workshop on Migration and Development	27 September - 01 October, 2004	Geneva	Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies (SFM), IOM, International Metropolis Project

Annex 4

Selection of ongoing and recently completed IOM Projects in the field of Development—in correspondence with IOM’s areas of activity (Annex 2)

1. Knowledge transfer of diasporas through transnational networks and promotion of “brain circulation”	
Project Name	Region/Targeted Countries
African Diaspora in Belgium for the Development of the Countries of Origin (MIDA)	Belgium and Great Lakes
MIDA: Micro-Enterprise Development for Guinean Women through the Provision of Micro-Credits and Mobilization of Women from the Diaspora	Guinea and selected ECOWAS states
Migration for Development in Africa Programme: General (MIDA-GEN)	Africa, Europe and USA
Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals (TOKTEN) in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnia and Herzegovina and host countries
Support for Selective Migration	Peru
Options for a Ghanaian Diaspora Involvement from the Netherlands in Mitigating Brain-Drain in the Health Sector in Ghana (MIDA-GHANA-NL)	Ghana and The Netherlands
Diaspora for Development Study Tour (DDST), Africa and the Middle East	Africa, Middle East
Database Enhancement on Kosovo Refugees Hosted in Italy Under Temporary Protection	Italy
Migration For Development In Africa (MIDA) Italy	Italy, Ethiopia and Ghana
Migration for Development in Africa Programme Conceptualization Workshop, Libreville, Gabon (MIDA)	Africa, Europe, USA
Manpower Deficiency Study in Bangladesh	Bangladesh
Research and Skills Bank Development for Linking Qualified Somaliland Nationals Residing in Nordic and EU Countries with Manpower Needs in Somaliland	Nordic Countries, Nairobi, Somaliland
Establishment of an Observatory of the Moroccan Community Living Abroad	Africa, Middle East
Survey on Highly Qualified, Qualified and Skilled Burundian Nationals Currently Living in Belgium	Belgium and Burundi
Survey and Skills Bank on Qualified Iraqis Residing in Norway (IRNO)	Norway, Iraq
2. Economic and community development through technical cooperation and remittances management programmes	
Inter-Regional Meeting on the Participation of Migrants in the Development of their Country of Origin	Senegal
Micro-Enterprise Development in Armenia (MDAR)	Armenia
Economic Opportunity Enhancement in Nakhichevan through Community Mobilization and Micro-credit Schemes	Azerbaijan
Integral Programme of Development for the Communities (PRODIC)	Americas
Programme for Infrastructure Development Post Mitch	Americas
Femme Rurale: Actions Innovatrices et Succès Entrepreneurial (FRAISE)	Africa, Middle East
Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (CIREP) - Phase II - Rehabilitation of Chaheriz Water Supply System in Nakchivan	Asia and Oceania
Promotion for Development of Emigration Zones in Tunisia (PROCHE) - Pilot Programme	Tunisia
Community Stabilization Initiative for Minority Communities (CSP) II	Kosovo
IOM/EAR Programme on Support for Enterprise Development in Minority Regions (SEDMIN) II	Kosovo
Integrated local socio-economic development project in a region with important migration dynamics in Morocco (Tétouan)	Morocco

Strengthening Re-integration opportunities for returned refugees in Timor-Leste	East Timor
Decentralized Programme for Young Persons with Labour Problems in Uruguay (YLUR)	Uruguay
Institutional Cooperation between UDENOR and IOM (ICIU)	Ecuador
Agreement on Technical Services for the Projects of Reform in the Province of Rio Negro	Argentina
Institutional Cooperation between UDENOR and IOM and UDENOR (ICIU) Phase II	Ecuador
Family Remittances in Colombia	Colombia
Household-Survey on Impact of Remittances	Guatemala
Integrated Migration information system -IMIS	Egypt

3. Human capital building through comprehensive temporary labour migration programmes	
Capacity Building in Labour Migration Management Programme in the Southern African Development Community (SADC): Improving data collection systems on labour migration and assessment of national legislation for policy harmonization	Member States of Southern African Development Community (SADC):
Capacity Building on Labour Migration Management	Thailand
Labour Migration from Ecuador to Spain	Ecuador, Spain
Guatemalan Labour Migration Flows to Canada	Canada, Guatemala
Upgrading of English Language Training for Migrant Workers of Bangladesh	Bangladesh
Labour Migration Ministerial Consultations for Countries of Origin in Asia	Asia and Oceania
Guatemalan Temporary Migrant Workers	Guatemala, Mexico
Migration Health Pre-departure Orientation (MHPO)	Bangladesh
Institutional Strengthening of Migration Management Capacities of Tunisian Trainers for a better Socio-professional Integration of Tunisian Emigration Candidates	Tunisia
Information for the Labour Regularization of Border Migrants	Argentina

4. Return and Reintegration of Qualified Nationals	
Return and Reintegration of Qualified Afghan Nationals in the Health and Primary Education Sectors (RQAFGN)	Selected rural areas in Pakistan and Afghanistan
Return and Reintegration of Qualified Ugandan Nationals: Bridging Phase (RQUGN)	Uganda
Management of Funds to Transfer Qualified Human Resources and Humanitarian Mobilization (QHMH)	Peru
Selective Migration to Latin America (SMLA)	Worldwide; and Latin American countries
Voluntary Return of Refugees from the Former Republic of Yugoslavia to Bosnia and Herzegovina or Croatia (VRFY)	Belgrade, Sarajevo and Zagreb
Research Project for a Return Programme for Qualified Cape-Verdians (RQCV)	Cape Verde
Return of Qualified Nationals to East Timor	East Timor
Psychosocial and Trauma Response in Kosovo (PTR Kosovo) - Phase I	Kosovo
Production of a Video to Promote the Return of Afghan Female Doctors (VideoRAD)	North-West Frontier Province and Balochistan, Pakistan, and Afghanistan

Return and Reintegration of 270 Qualified Rwandan Nationals	Rwanda, Western Europe, Africa, North America
Programme for the Return and Reintegration of Qualified Jamaican Nationals for Development, Phase II	North America, Europe, Jamaica
Return, Reintegration and Development in Somalia (RRDS)	Somalia including Somaliland and Puntland
Reconstruction, Capacity Building and Development Through the Return of Qualified Nationals to Bosnia (RCDB)	Europe, North America, Australia and Arab countries
Return of Judges and Prosecutors to Minority Areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnia and Herzegovina

5. Capacity Building for Governments to maximize economical and social development through migration management	
Capacity Building for the East African Governments on Labour Migration Management and related MIDA Matters (MIDA)	Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda
Haitian Technical Assistance Project (HTAP)	Haiti
Establishment of a Permanent Observatory for International Migration in West Africa (POIM/WA)- Phase I	France, Gabon, Germany, Italy, Spain, South Africa, USA, West Africa
Strengthening Management System of Lima's Town Hall (LTH)	Lima, Peru
Establishment of a Migratory Research Unit in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Investigation Support for the Formulation of Programmes for Ecuadorians Living Abroad National Plan (MEC)	Ecuador
Maximizing the positive Effects on the National Developments of Maghreb countries from current and future migration trends (MPEM)	Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia
Technical Assistance in the Restructuring of Social Services (PROS)	Argentina
Expert and Voluntary Programme for Italian for Assesory and Training in Humanity, Science, Technology for Peruvian Universities	Peru
Migratory Situation between Costa Rica and Nicaragua: An Analysis of the Economic and Social Impact	Costa Rica and Nicaragua
Technical Programme of the Presidency (PTP) and the Technical Programme of the Vice Presidency (PTV)	Americas
Strengthening Migration Management Capacities in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka: Targeted Preparatory Actions (SMBSL)	Sri Lanka and Bangladesh

Annex 5

Selection of recent IOM Publications in the field of Development

Books and Reports

- ❑ Migrants, Refugees and International Co-operation. A joint IOM, ILO and UNHCR contribution to the International Conference on Population and Development – ICPD, in Cairo, 1994.
- ❑ Foreign Direct Investment, Trade, Aid and Migration. UNCTAD & IOM (1996).
- ❑ Gains from Global Linkages: Trade in Services and Movements of Persons. By Bimal Ghosh, IOM – Macmillan Press, 1997.
- ❑ Report of the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development, 29 June – 3 July 1998, The Hague, The Netherlands, IOM & UNFPA, 1998.
- ❑ Emigration Dynamics in Developing Countries. IOM/UNFPA Project, Appleyard R (ed.), 1998/9.
 - Volume I – Sub-Saharan Africa.
 - Volume II – South Asia.
 - Volume III – Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.
 - Volume IV – The Arab Region.
- ❑ Temporary Labour Migration of Women: Report of an Expert Group Meeting, 30 – 31 August 1999, Geneva, Switzerland. IOM & INSTRAW, 1999.
- ❑ Temporary Labour Migration of Women: Case Studies of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. IOM & INSTRAW, 2000.
- ❑ Return Migration: Journey of Hope or Despair? Bimal Ghosh (ed.), IOM, 2000.
- ❑ World Migration 2003: Challenges and Responses for People on the Move. Chapter 12: Linkages between Brain Drain, Labour Migration and Remittances in Africa. IOM, World Migration Report Series, Volume 2, 2003
- ❑ Labour Migration in Asia: Trends, Challenges and Policy Responses in Countries of Origin, IOM, 2003.
- ❑ The Migration-Development Nexus, IOM, 2003.

Special Issues of the IOM's Journal International Migration

- ❑ Migration and Development (papers from an IOM Global Seminar), International Migration, Volume 30 (3-4), 1992.
- ❑ Emigration Dynamics in Developing Countries (selection of papers prepared within the IOM/UNFPA project), Volume 33 (3-4), 1995.
- ❑ Migration and Development (papers from the 1998 Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development), International Migration, Volume 37(1), 1999.
- ❑ Understanding Migration between China and Europe, Volume 41(3), 2003.

IOM Migration Research Series (MRS)

- ❑ Harnessing the Potential of Migration and Return to Promote Development: Applying Concepts to West Africa. By Savina Ammassari and Richard Black, August 2001, MRS Series No.5.
- ❑ The Migration and Development Nexus: Evidence and Policy Opinions. By Ninna Nyberg-Sorensen, Nicholas Van Hear and Poul Engberg-Pedersen, June 2002, MRS Series No.8.
- ❑ Migration and Development: A Perspective from Asia, Hugo Graeme, MRS Series No. 14.

Special Reports

- ❑ Binational Study: The State of Migration Flows Between Costa Rica and Nicaragua – Analysis of the Economic and Social Implications for Both Countries. IOM, 2001.
- ❑ IOM (2002) – Series of Labour migration reports commissioned by IOM Dhaka, Bangladesh.
 - "Recruitment and placement of Bangladeshi Migrant Workers: An Evaluation of the Process"
 - "International Labour migration Institutions of Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and the Philippines"
 - "Are Migrants Chasing After the "Golden Deer"? A study on Cost Benefit Analysis of Overseas Migration by the Bangladeshi Labour"
 - "A study of Remittance Inflows and Utilisation"
 - "A contribution of Returnees: An analytical Survey of Post Return Experience"
- ❑ "Guatemalan Labour Migration Flows to Canada: Workers and Employers Assessment". IOM Guatemala, 2004.
- ❑ Siddiqui, Tasneem (2004). "Institutionalizing Diaspora Linkage: The Emigrant Bangladeshis in UK and USA". IOM Dhaka.