THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION AND TRAINING FOR BORDER AND MIGRATION MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS

Training in border management primarily refers to the training of immigration officers or other border officials who have a direct role in movements processing and the management and operations of a border check point. Training is a core element of IOM’s capacity building work and is often integral to projects of the Immigration and Border Management (IBM) Division.

As the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration, IOM is increasingly called upon by States to assist in addressing complex border management challenges, including helping to provide increased capacity in the specific area of training. The IBM Team, consisting of a core group of specialists with substantial technical expertise and strong border management experience, posted to strategic locations in the field as well as in IOM headquarters, has been established to offer guidance and expertise to governments aspiring to improve their migration and border management and operational procedures.

IOM offers “foundation training” that aims at increasing awareness of migration issues and focuses on several thematic areas, such as international law, labour migration, migration and health, gender training and integrated border management, as outlined in IOM’s two foundation training tools - the Essentials of Migration Management for Policy Makers and Practitioners (EMM) and the Essentials of Migration Practice for Immigration Officers (EMP).

IOM also delivers “thematic training” that focuses on specific IBM topics and is designed to support immigration practitioners in carrying out their tasks and duties in a professional, efficient and ethical way. Comprehensive modules have been developed to provide in-depth training in communication at border check-points, border procedures, passport examination procedures, countering document fraud and international organised crime (trafficking in persons and people smuggling), interviewing techniques and intelligence analysis for immigration and border officers. IBM thematic training is backed by several IOM-developed training manuals, such as the Passport Examination Procedure Manual (PEPM), the Counter-Trafficking Training Modules and Capacity Building Workbook, and the Personal Identification and Registration System (PIRS) manual and training curriculum that is inclusive in any PIRS installation.

OUR OBJECTIVE

”REINFORCE THE SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES OF BORDER AND IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL, ETHICAL AND EFFICIENT BORDER MANAGEMENT”
FOSTERING GOOD MIGRATION GOVERNANCE
A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE DEDICATED TO
THE AFRICAN CAPACITY BUILDING CENTRE:

In order to address the concern of several IOM African Member States that were predisposed to support capacity building on the African continent, IOM established the African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC) in Moshi, Tanzania.

Since its inception in 2009, the ACBC is committed to availing technical expertise to requesting African States on all topics along the migration management spectrum and to delivering training programmes to the African actors of migration management. The centre facilitates expertise and training areas such as migration policy, legislative and administrative reform, labour migration or health issues, and has a strong focus on immigration and border management. ACBC’s trainers have delivered dozens of border management on- and off-site training courses, thereby reinforcing the skills of several hundred of border and immigration officials in passport examination procedures, document fraud, investigation, interviewing techniques and intelligence, as well as people smuggling and counter-trafficking.

The ACBC is also the cornerstone of PIRS (Personal Identification and Registration System) implementation in Africa (IOM’s Border Management Information System) and has deployed its experts to train PIRS end users in more than ten African countries.

ENHANCING MIGRATION MANAGEMENT IN JORDAN THROUGH TRAINING OF BORDER OFFICIALS
An example of a recently implemented initiative with an extensive training component was the European Commission funded “Capacity Building to Enhance Migration Management in Jordan” project. This 18-month, 1 million euros action, involved our experts implementing a series of Training Needs Analyses across five front line agencies in Jordan to assess learning and development requirements against the job specifications of selected positions. Upon completion of the needs analysis, the assessment’s results were shared and coordinated with the training departments of all agencies and an extensive training programme drawn up and delivered. The courses focused on countering document fraud, interviewing skills and risk management, and were complemented by the delivery of Training of Trainers sessions, which aimed at enabling officers to pass on newly acquired skills within their respective agency, therefore ensuring sustainability.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR MIGRATION MANAGEMENT (CBMM) IN CHINA
With China rapidly developing its institutional capacity, IOM works in close cooperation with the government and partner ministries to foster international best practices and improved skills management. In this context, this CBMM project aims at strengthening the development of Europe-China cooperation on migration management issues through the targeted exchange of personnel, expertise and information. Trainings, study tours and staff exchanges are organized for relevant officials on border management models, travel document inspection, biometrics, migration law and victims of trafficking identification. From 2007 to 2010, the project reached nearly 400 senior public officials; it will focus on the training of both central and provincial-level officials from 2011 to 2013. This 4.5 million euros initiative is funded by the European Commission, with co-funding from IOM, the International Labour Organization, Italy, United Kingdom, and the United States. Seven EU Member States and Frontex are lending their technical support.

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