IOM – UNHCR Draft Framework
for the Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to Facilitate the Protection and Assistance of Trafficked Persons

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1. Agenda

(2) Project Overview – Impetus, Objectives, Methodology

(3) Identification Framework

(4) Protection Framework

(5) Conclusion
Project Impetus

1. Specific cases of trafficked persons who were falling through gaps in existing protection and assistance framework, incl.
   - Identified VoTs who may be eligible for asylum.
   - Refugees who may be in need of special VoT-tailored support.
   - Other (eg. VoTs in need of resettlement)

2. Realization that both organizations could improve the range of protection and assistance options available to victims of trafficking by developing stronger cooperation framework.
Project Objectives

Overall Objective
Enhance protection for trafficked persons by combining available expertise, capacities, and potential of both agencies.

Specific Objective
Encourage the development of SOPs between IOM and UNHCR at regional/country mission level in order to provide the best possible protection and assistance to trafficked persons.
Project Methodology

- Project funded by US State Department’s Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM).
- IOM and UNHCR convened a workshop in Malta in November 2008, involving key organizational experts to draft a *Framework for the Development of SOPs*.
- Training workshops held/to be held to build:
  - cooperation at national/regional levels, and;
  - our own capacities and cooperation.

**AGENDA**

1. 2. PROJECT OVERVIEW
2. 3. IDENTIFICATION
3. 4. PROTECTION
4. 5. CONCLUSION
Principles of Cooperation

1. Commitment to ensuring best available protection and assistance for VoTs.
2. Self-determination of trafficked persons.
4. Respect for each other’s mandates, expertise, roles, capacities and internal processes.
5. Transparent collaboration and cooperation.
6. Respect for data protection and responsible information-sharing.
7. Inclusive consideration of the role and function of other partners.
Key Areas for Cooperation

1. Identification of trafficked persons
2. Protection of and assistance to trafficked persons
Coordination for the Identification and Protection of Trafficked Persons
Identification

Initial screening

- Referral indicates other agency’s involvement may be required
- Referral does not indicate other agency’s involvement may be required
- Contact other agency to see if also involved and if planning to interview

In-depth interview

- Situation may be conducive to in-depth interview taking place at the same time
- Make joint decision on who should conduct initial screening

Briefing of other agency

- Follow-up interview by second agency if required

Initial Assessment / Status Determination
Protection

IC is a VoT* and refugee

IC is a VoT; is not a refugee

IC is not a refugee nor a VoT but is especially vulnerable: referred to appropriate IOM programme and/or appropriate state or non-state entities

(Joint) Determination of appropriate long-term solution

Voluntary Repatriation, Return & Reintegration
1. Refugee
UNHCR leads process; IOM contacted before repatriation for availability of specialized support
2. VoT, not a refugee
IOM leads process; UNHCR provides support if statelessness issues arise

Local Integration
1. Refugee
UNHCR & local partners provide support; check with IOM for specialized support
2. VoT, not a refugee
Access to IOM assistance programs
Negotiation with host country to allow long-term stay as required

Protective Relocation / Resettlement
1. Refugee
UNHCR leads process, processing resettlement submission as required, including refugee VoTs
2. VoT, not a refugee
As necessary, IOM to bring case to attention of UNHCR for jointly identify possibilities for protected entry procedures, humanitarian evacuation, etc.
Conclusion