



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) at a glance

- IOM, the United Nations Migration Agency, 173 Member States
- Focus on policy advice, capacity building and technical assistance, service delivery and humanitarian assistance
- Solid capacity to implement large-scale technical assistance projects around the world also in developing, fragile and security-phased countries
- Scale of programming: around 2800 active projects with total budget USD 1.8 Billion (2018) – growing. 97 % of the budget consist of voluntary contributions by member states (the 28 EU MS and the EU, USA, Japan, others)
- Around 400 field locations worldwide, approx. 12'000 staff
- IOM's Immigration and Border Management (IBM) portfolio: yearly expenditure around US 125 million (around USD 220 million in active projects)

IOM's Immigration and Border Management (IBM) thematic portfolio

Border Management (BM) Policy and Practice (incl. BM information systems and other applications), Border Security and Counter Migrant Smuggling, Humanitarian BM in Crises Situations, BM and Development/Trade, BM and Gender, Regional Free Movement Agreements, Identity Management (traveller identification incl. biometrics), Community Policing, Immigration Detention and Alternatives to Detention, Readmission, Regularization

Immigration/Visa Policy Support, Visa/Permit Facilitation (incl. for family reunification), Immigration Document Verification Solutions, Citizens/Consular Services, Assisted Travel Support

African Capacity Building Center for Border and Migration Management (ACBC), Essentials in Migration Management (emm2.0)

Border Management: Challenges and Future Trends

Focus on the priorities as defined in the:

**GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR
MIGRATION (GCM)**

Marrakesh - New York, December 2018

<https://www.iom.int/global-compact-migration>

GCM Objectives

23 Objectives for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

- (1) Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
- (2) Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin
- (3) Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
- (4) Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation**
- (5) Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
- (6) Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
- (7) Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration
- (8) Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants

GCM objectives

- (9) Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
- (10) Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
- (11) Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
- (12) Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral
- (13) Use migration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
- (14) Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle
- (15) Provide access to basic services for migrants
- (16) Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion
- (17) Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration

GCM objectives

- (18) Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences
- (19) Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries
- (20) Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants
- (21) Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration**
- (22) Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits
- (23) Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration**

GCM objective 4

OBJECTIVE 4: Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation

We commit to fulfil the right of all individuals to a legal identity by providing all our nationals with proof of nationality and relevant documentation, allowing national and local authorities to ascertain a migrant's legal identity upon entry, during stay, and for return, as well as to ensure effective migration procedures, efficient service provision, and improved public safety. We further commit to ensure, through appropriate measures, that migrants are issued adequate documentation and civil registry documents, such as birth, marriage and death certificates, at all stages of migration, as a means to empower migrants to effectively exercise their human rights.

To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

- a) **Improve civil registry systems, with a particular focus on reaching unregistered persons and our nationals residing in other countries, including by providing relevant identity and civil registry documents,** strengthening capacities, and investing in information and communication technology solutions, while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data
- b) Harmonize travel documents in line with the specifications of the International Civil Aviation Organization to facilitate interoperable and universal recognition of travel documents, as well as to **combat identity fraud and document forgery, including by investing in digitalization, and strengthening mechanisms for biometric data-sharing,** while upholding the right to privacy and protecting personal data

GCM objective 4

- c) Ensure adequate, timely, reliable and accessible consular documentation to our nationals residing in other countries, including identity and travel documents, making use of information and communications technology, as well as community outreach, particularly in remote areas
- d) Facilitate access to personal documentation, such as passports and visas, and ensure that relevant regulations and criteria to obtain such documentation are non-discriminatory, by undertaking a gender-responsive and age-sensitive review in order to prevent increased risk of vulnerabilities throughout the migration cycle
- e) Strengthen measures to reduce statelessness, including by registering migrants' births, ensuring that women and men can equally confer their nationality to their children, and providing nationality to children born in another State's territory, especially in situations where a child would otherwise be stateless, fully respecting the human right to a nationality and in accordance with national legislation
- f) Review and revise requirements to prove nationality at service delivery centres to ensure that migrants without proof of nationality or legal identity are not precluded from accessing basic services nor denied their human rights
- g) Build upon existing practices at the local level that facilitate participation in community life, such as interaction with authorities and access to relevant services, through the issuance of registration cards to all persons living in a municipality, including migrants, that contain basic personal information, while not constituting entitlements to citizenship or residency

GCM objective 11

OBJECTIVE 11: Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner

We commit to **manage our national borders in a coordinated manner, promoting bilateral and regional cooperation, ensuring security for States, communities and migrants, and facilitating safe and regular cross-border movements of people while preventing irregular migration.** We further commit to implement border management policies that respect national sovereignty, the rule of law, obligations under international law, human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and are non-discriminatory, gender-responsive and child-sensitive. To realize this commitment, we will draw from the following actions:

- a) **Enhance international, regional and cross-regional border management cooperation**, taking into consideration the particular situation of countries of transit, on proper identification, timely and efficient referral, assistance and appropriate protection of migrants in situations of vulnerability at or near international borders, in compliance with international human rights law, by adopting whole-of-government approaches, implementing joint crossborder trainings, and fostering capacity-building measures
- b) **Establish appropriate structures and mechanisms for effective integrated border management by ensuring comprehensive and efficient border crossing procedures, including through pre-screening of arriving persons, pre-reporting by carriers of passengers, and use of information and communication technology, while upholding the principle of non-discrimination, respecting the right to privacy and protecting personal data**

GCM objective 11

c) Review and revise relevant national procedures for border screening, individual assessment and interview processes to ensure due process at international borders and that all migrants are treated in accordance with international human rights law, including through cooperation with National Human Rights Institutions and other relevant stakeholders

d) **Develop technical cooperation agreements that enable States to request and offer assets, equipment and other technical assistance to strengthen border management, particularly in the area of search and rescue as well as other emergency situations**

e) Ensure that child **protection** authorities are promptly informed and assigned to **participate in procedures for the determination of the best interests of the child once an unaccompanied or separated child crosses an international border**, in accordance with international law, including by training border officials in the rights of the child and child sensitive procedures, such as those that prevent family separation and reunite families when family separation occurs

f) Review and revise relevant laws and regulations to determine whether **sanctions** are appropriate **to address irregular entry or stay** and, if so, to ensure that they are **proportionate, equitable, non-discriminatory, and fully consistent with due process** and other obligations under international law

g) **Improve cross-border collaboration among neighbouring and other States relating to the treatment given to persons crossing or seeking to cross international borders**, including by taking into consideration relevant recommendations from the OHCHR Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders when identifying best practices

Border management challenges - 1

- Ensure balance between facilitation/development, protection and control/security – embrace safe, orderly and regular migration and cross-border mobility
- Address the risk of a growing divide in border management between the most advanced and the developing/least developed states
- Ensure state leadership and control while responsibly using private sector solutions

Border management challenges - 2

- Ensure that applicable legal frameworks take into account the realities on the ground
- Contribute to a balanced and facts-based public discourse regarding border management
- Invest in strengthening legal identity for people around the world, as an important tool to empower people, to protect and to ensure control and security for all

Florian G. Forster

Head, Immigration and Border
Management (IBM) Division

International Organization for
Migration (IOM) Headquarters

Geneva/Switzerland

fforster@iom.int