

## HUMANE AND ORDERLY MIGRATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) was established in 1951 and is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration. Since 2016, IOM has been part of the United Nations System, and currently has 174 member states and offices in more than 100 countries. IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people. The IOM Constitution recognizes the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as to the right of freedom of movement.

### IOM PANAMA

Since 2008, the Panama Country Office has worked together with key actors of the Government of Panama, as well as the United Nations System, civil society, academia and the private sector, in the development of projects that seek to strengthen the capacities of the State in the management of migration, and thus address related phenomena such as trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, the management of temporary shelters in situations of migration crisis, the relationship between migration and sustainable

development, and the promotion of access to services and the effective integration of migrants. Over the past five years, IOM has signed technical cooperation agreements with public institutions linked to migration management to facilitate closer collaboration on migration and violence prevention issues. The agreements have contemplated the establishment of working groups and mechanisms for the exchange of information for the development and implementation of migration policies.

IOM has a presence and field staff in the areas with the high proportions of migrant populations in the provinces of Panamá and Panamá Oeste, and in the border areas in Darién and Chiriquí IOM maintains permanent operations.

The Country Office's implementation strategy has included continuous training actions aimed at key actors through specialized training courses and workshops; technical assistance for the development of tools and information material, as well as direct humanitarian assistance for migrants in vulnerable conditions. Currently, the Mission in Panama implements 10 projects whose actions and results seek to contribute to the generation of comprehensive and sustainable solutions for migrants in vulnerable situations and host communities, which are financed by different donors.

In general, IOM provides its know-how to governments to continue actively supporting the implementation of strategies and initiatives that contribute to an orderly and safe migration management that guarantees the human rights of the migrant population.



## KEY INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

### MIGRATION GOVERNANCE

Migration governance is a process involving many public and private actors exercising authority over migration, mobility and nationality, including the government's ability to formulate and implement policies in these areas. The Migration Governance Framework presents an optimal juncture or suitable version of migration governance to which States can aspire to and for which IOM can offer support and assistance. IOM believes that a migration system promotes human migration and mobility that benefits migrants and society when: (a) it adheres to international standards and abides by the rights of migrants; (b) develops pragmatic and comprehensive standards; (c) collaborates with partners to address migration and related issues; (d) promotes the socio-economic well-being of migrants.

### MIGRATION IN THE 2030 AGENDA



Migration has been incorporated into the Sustainable Development Goals, set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Reference is made to migration in Goal 10 – Reduce inequality within and between countries, particularly in target 10.7 – Facilitate orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people through the implementation of planned and well managed migration policies. This target urges governments to adopt optimal migration policies to promote a dignified, orderly, and safe migration that benefits all.



### MIGRATION POLICIES

IOM provides advice and support to governments and partners with the overall objective of formulating effective migration strategies and policies on the national, regional, and global levels. IOM strives to maintain internal and external coherence with respect to its overall approach to migration governance — including protection and humanitarian policies — on migration and development.

### GLOBAL COMPACT



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is the first agreement negotiated at an intergovernmental level, prepared under the support of the United Nations, which covers all dimensions of international migration in a comprehensive manner. IOM initiated a series of activities to promote the participation of all governments in the process of developing the Global Compact for Migration, while ensuring that as many and diverse actors as possible had a voice in the process.



### GENDER

IOM's commitment to gender issues dates to 1995. A few years ago, the Organization joined the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, a framework for accountability designed to accelerate the achievement of these goals. IOM is also strengthening its policies and practices in all field operations to prevent and address gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse against women and men, girls and boys.

### FUNDING MECHANISM FOR MIGRATION-RELATED EMERGENCIES

IOM's Migration Emergency Funding Mechanism was established to enable rapid interventions in emergency situations in the critical period leading up to the receipt of funds.

### LAWS ON MIGRATION

IOM has experience in the field of international migration law, contributing to advocacy and compliance with international and regional standards. IOM facilitates the dissemination of legal knowledge on migration by assisting governments and other migration partners to strengthen their capacity to govern or contribute to migration management more effectively through training.

## KEY INFORMATION IOM PANAMA



### PROJECTS IN PANAMA

- Assistance for informed, safe and dignified voluntary returns of vulnerable migrants in participating countries of the Americas (WHA Regional AVR Program).
- Fostering Local Communities of Solidarity for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela.
- Integrated Response on Migration in Central America (IRM).
- Panama and Costa Rica: Strengthening Government Capacities to Respond to Protection Needs in Flows of Vulnerable Migrants Crossing Borders.
- Promoting ethical recruitment in the hotel and tourism industry (IRIS).
- Strengthening IOM's Engagement with the New UN Development System and the Global Compact for Migration in Central America, North America and the Caribbean.
- Supporting Basic Health Needs of Venezuelan Migrants in Darien, Panama.
- Venezuelan Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP).
- Western Hemisphere Program: Mesoamerica and the Caribbean (WHP).

### PUBLICATIONS



- Panama Migration Profile 2019-2020.
- Panama (Darién): Population Flow Monitoring (June-July 2022).
- Panama: Monitoring Venezuelan Population Flow - Darién (May 16 - June 13, 2022).
- Panama: Provinces of Panama and Panama Oeste Survey Report (August-September 2021).
- Costa Rica - Panama: Monitoring Flows of People on the move in the Americas #2 (January 2022).
- Migration Governance Indicators at the Local Level.
- Migration Trends in Central America, North America and the Caribbean - September 2022.
- DTM: Monitoring Migration Flows in Panama.
- Migration Governance Profile: Republic of Panama.

### COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGNS

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## IOM OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK IN CRISIS SITUATIONS

### IOM'S MIGRATION CRISIS OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

IOM's Migration Crisis Operational Framework is an analytical and operational tool to identify the Organization's support of Member States and their partners in order to improve preparedness, response and recovery in migration crisis situations.

Given the increase in incoming mixed movements of migrants and people in need of protection to Panamanian territory and the importance of guaranteeing respect for their human rights and peaceful coexistence, as well as providing accompaniment to the Panamanian State in the care and treatment of this population, the United Nations System has created the Group of Human Mobility, co-led by UNHCR and IOM, in which eight other agencies, funds and programs of the United Nations System participate. At the local level in Darién, the group coordinates with different non-governmental organizations with a presence in the area that provide humanitarian assistance and protection to migrants in vulnerable situations who enter through the Darién jungle. The Regional Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants of Venezuela (R4V) was established in 2018 with offices in Panama City. It is co-lead by UNHCR and IOM and coordinates the efforts of nearly 200 organizations under Venezuela's Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP) in 17 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The R4V National Platform in Panama is also co-led by UNHCR and IOM.

### CAMP COORDINATION MANAGEMENT

IOM leads the Global Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster. The group has developed guidelines and undertaken capacity-building activities through training initiatives at the national, regional and global levels. In this context, innovative approaches to the management of displaced persons are implemented through strategic partnerships with UN agencies, national authorities, the private sector and NGOs.



IOM provides orientation and information to vulnerable migrants at the migrant reception centers, as well as case management and referrals. IOM provides key support to government partners that coordinate and manage the migrant reception centers. In 2019, the Government of Panama approved the Camp Management Manual, which aims to technically support the management of temporary shelters, in order to provide assistance and protection to large groups of migrants in transit. To date, almost 500 civil servants have participated in training courses on the management of temporary shelters. In addition, IOM provides technical assistance to the Government of Panama in the development of protocols for the internal operation of the migrant reception centers.

### DISPLACEMENT TRACKING

IOM's displacement monitoring system is called the Displacement Tracking Matrix; The humanitarian community increasingly sees it as an operational tool of vital importance for the coordination and delivery of humanitarian aid.



In 2019, the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) was activated, which is a methodology to follow and monitor the displacement and mobility of the migrant population. It was designed to capture, process and disseminate information in order to provide a better understanding of the movements and changing needs of populations on the move. To date, IOM Panama has published nearly 50 DTM reports.

### Migration is inevitable, necessary, and convenient — but it must be properly managed.

Migration is **inevitable** due to demographic, economic and environmental aspects.  
Migration is **necessary** to meet labour demands and ensure the availability of people with specific skillsets, and the dynamism of economies and societies.  
Migration is **convenient** for both migrants and host communities – when it is managed fairly and humanely.

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