



## Who are we?

Based on the principle of partnership, IOM mission in Namibia is to build on the expertise of the GRN and its partners to strengthen national capacity in the area of migration, aligned to national development priorities and goals.

IOM Namibia's portfolio consists of eight initiatives: Counter trafficking, Labour Migration, Migration and Health, Refugee resettlement, Disaster Risk management and capacity-building, Migration Profile, ACP-EU migration initiative and UKTB. The office implements these projects within the framework of its 2013-2017 strategy, aligned with the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) National Development Plan (NDP) and the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPAF) in Namibia. In 2016, IOM Namibia intends to build on the recent achievements and existing initiatives to further support the GRN towards enhanced migration management in the country, climate change adaptation and environmental migration as well as migration for development.

## Namibia validates Migration Profile Findings



Namibia's Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration (MHAI) and IOM Namibia organized a meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December that led to the official validation of the key recommendations of the Migration Profile for Namibia.

Since the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) started the consultative process to lay the foundation of a comprehensive migration policy in May 2013, the need to mainstream migration into the country's policies by enhancing the collection, analysis and management of migration data has become one of the Government's key priorities. The elaboration of the Migration Profile, under the lead of the Ministry of Home Affairs and funded by the IOM Development fund, is a direct response to the request advanced by the Government in 2014. As a country of origin, transit and destination, Namibia faces multiple migration challenges, including irregular and forced migration, coupled with a lack of migration statistics and coordinated approach to migration management. The country has one of the highest percentages of international migration in the Southern-African region (over 6% of the country's population) and at the same time experiences an increasing internal migration paired with a rapid urbanisation rate. Yet, the country is committed to convert these challenges to its benefit by scaling up data collection efforts to inform its policies and recognising migration as a phenomenon contributing to the national

development priorities. The validation of the Migration Profile was preceded with regular meetings, extensive consultations as well as capacity-building activities to ensure the sustainability of the Profile. The special commitment demonstrated by the inter-sectorial and government-led Technical Working Group during the elaboration of the Profile as well as during the three-day workshop on the essential points of migration management, attended by various representatives of the Government and UN agencies in June 2015, was a clear demonstration of the importance of this process.

***"The elaboration of the Migration Profile is a process where the collaborative engagement of various institutions, capacity-building initiatives and subsequent exchange of information and priorities are as important as the profile in itself to ensure its sustainability."***

The validation meeting of the Migration Profile was chaired by MHAI Minister Hon. Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana and allowed representatives from various ministries, institutions and UN agencies to discuss and build consensus on priorities for migration management and the development of a comprehensive migration policy. They discussed 15 recommendations listed in the Profile, including better management of remittances, diaspora engagement and skills development. UN Resident Coordinator in Namibia Kiki Gbeho said that the Migration Profile will help Namibia in terms of achieving its Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction goals. "It can contribute to development by identifying population movement trends and gaps, in addition to forming the evidence base for an action plan to address challenges that may arise. In the longer term, a Migration Profile spurs dialogue and collaboration amongst various Ministries and agencies dealing with migration-related portfolios," she said.

The Migration Profile is a country-owned tool that was prepared in consultation with government and non-government stakeholders. The Namibia Migration Profile will be officially launched in 2016.

## ACP-EU migration action in Namibia

As a direct response from a request made by the MHA to the ACP-EU Migration Action, a program supported by the Secretariat of the African Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Secretariat) and the European Commission (EU), facilitated by IOM, to provide technical assistance for the Harmonization of the Visa Manual with the Immigration Control Act, a baseline assessment took place in September 2015 to contribute to the definition of the overall situation in the visas sector as requested by the Republic of Namibia and to identify relevant stakeholders within the sector. The assessment was followed by kick-off meetings in early December 2015, leading to the development of a plan to carry out the six weeks technical assistance. The Action is also looking at providing direct funding to Non-State Actors to support the government request under the visa thematic area. Consequently, the Action provides an opportunity for migration experts to share their expertise by applying to the Migration Expert Roster available at [www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int](http://www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int)

## Assistance to migrants and refugees

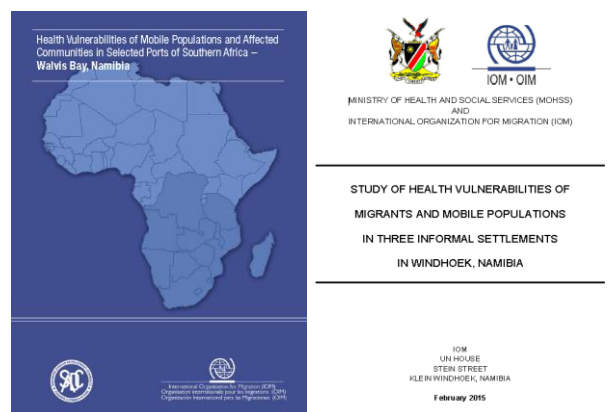
From January to December 2015, IOM Namibia assisted with the resettlement of 534 refugees to countries of resettlement, mainly to the United States of America, Australia and Canada. IOM also supports resettlement to countries for medicals and family reunification, such as Denmark and France. The support provided by IOM includes pre-departure, medical screening, cultural orientation and travel assistance to refugees accepted for resettlement. This process is paired with capacity building activities and within the framework of a close collaboration with the MHA and UNHCR. Under the request of the MHA and in order to facilitate the resettlement process, IOM Namibia organized awareness trainings targeting Immigration Authorities at the airport in July 2015 to sensitize on the documentation needed by refugees, their situation and the entire resettlement process.



In support to the UNCT in Namibia, IOM took part in the various events celebrating the UN 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the launch of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in Namibia, in 2015. These are of particular relevance as migration is an integral part of the SDG. In particular, **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**, **SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries**, **SDG 11: Make Cities and human settlement inclusive, resilient and sustainable** and **SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development**, directly refer to migration.

## Migration and Health

IOM's strategic objectives on migration and health are derived from the 2008 World Health Assembly Resolution on the Health of Migration. In the framework of the country implementation of the Partnership on Health and Mobility in East and Southern Africa Phase II (PHAMESA II) regional project, with financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), IOM continued its collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS). After the successful implementation of the SADC *Ports Study on Health Vulnerabilities of Mobile Populations and Affected Communities at selected ports of Southern Africa* in four countries; namely: Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, and Namibia, as well as the *Study of Health vulnerabilities of migrants and mobile populations in three informal settlement in Windhoek, Namibia*, the MoHSS and IOM organized a dissemination workshop in early 2015 to reflect on the study findings. This laid the path to inform the next steps towards the development of a national migration and health strategy. In collaboration with the MoHSS, IOM has been supporting the integration of migration indicators into Health Systems and supports Health related working groups in the country.




## IOM Namibia starts a three years intervention to combat human trafficking








In October 2015, IOM Namibia started a three years initiative funded by the U.S Department of State through the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. The initiative aims at contributing to the Government and civil society efforts to coordinate anti-trafficking responses, protect victims of trafficking (VoT) and prosecute traffickers. First, by strengthening coordination and providing institutional and technical support to the national coordinating body and key national partners. Second, by ensuring a victim-centered response of criminal justice system and supporting the development of a formal mechanism to define roles and responsibilities in cases of trafficking in Person (TiP). Thirdly, by supporting social service providers to enhance protection and response to VoT. Finally, by launching awareness activities. The project will work in collaboration with the Government through the establishment of a coordinating body which is led by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare (MGECW). The induction meeting took place in January and set the first step towards the development of a coordinated action for the project.

## Reflecting on Camp Coordination / Camp Management and Disaster Risk Management capacity-building programme in Namibia

Namibia is one of the *Southern African Development Community* (SADC) countries frequently affected by floods, droughts, and bush/veld/settlement fire and outbreak diseases. To respond to these challenges, several efforts have been undertaken to enhance national resilience to disasters, through the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management (DDRM). From 2011 to 2015, DDRM and IOM rolled out a Camp Coordination & Camp Management (CCCM) capacity-building intervention and a Disaster Risk Management (DRM) programme, in all 14 regions. The model – building on the key principles of partnership, country ownership, leadership, participation, and sustainability – has been recognized as a good practice globally and other countries embarked on similar capacity-building approaches for enhanced national disaster management capacities. Tools developed over the years include a contextualised CCCM training package, inclusive of coaching and CCCM Manuals, tools and awareness materials; Minimum standards in Humanitarian assistance and Disaster Information User Manuel and Minimum Standards Calculator tool; A country contextualised DRM training package, inclusive of tools and manuals for communities; Guiding principles for safe shelter construction and relocation; Awareness campaigns on Safe Shelter and Natural hazards (flood, fire, and drought) translated in six local languages; Refresher training Manuel; Modules on Infant feeding in Emergency developed with UNICEF and MoHSS, and posters; Booklet on preparedness in schools with UNICEF and the Ministry of Education (MoE).

In 2015, the programme activities, funded by USAID, included the conduction of refresher trainings for 92 key disaster risk management actors on relevant topics tailored to the Namibian context and fitting their needs, including new modules on Infant Feeding in Emergency. Additional materials include the development of an awareness campaign on natural hazards, such as flood, fire and drought, translated into six vernacular languages; as well as the development of materials and modules targeting schools, such as the *Emergency Preparedness and Response Booklet* in schools, the subsequent training of 90 teachers in collaboration with UNICEF and the sensitization of 2,219 students. The trainers rolled out trainings and targeted 4,332 individuals during this last phase.



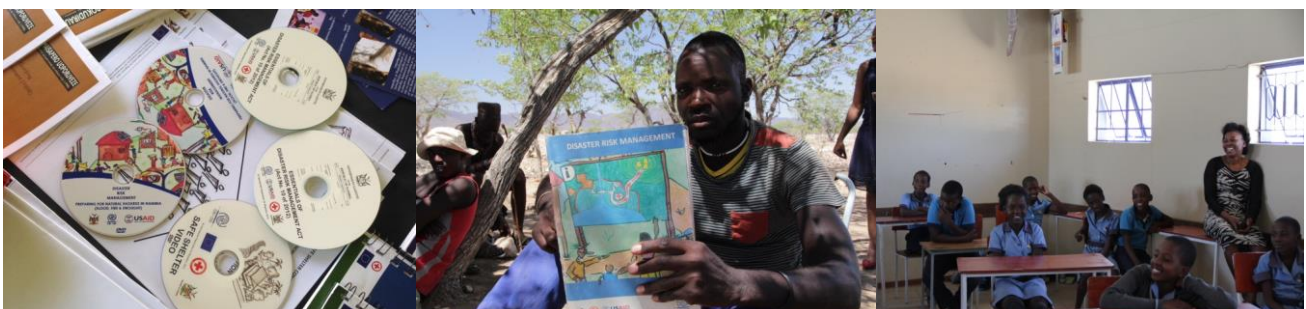
-  85 certified trainers on DRM
-  37 trainers on CCCM
-  92 trainers refreshed
-  207 roll out trainings
-  8,426 individuals from vulnerable communities trained / sensitized
-  90 teachers trained on the EPR Booklet in schools (UNICEF/IOM/MoE)
-  2,219 children sensitized on DRM by the trainers

**2012-2015:**  
**Building capacities in 14 regions**

*The Director for DDRM, Japhet Itenge and IOM Namibia representative, Rafaëlle Robelin, showcase the tools developed over the years during the celebration of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, 13 October 2015.*

### **Towards the development of the program exit strategy road map**

As a result of the successful achievements demonstrated during the different phases of the program, IOM and DDRM embarked into a reflection to develop an exit strategy road map to ensure the sustainability of the program, under the lead of the GRN. The first step towards the development of the exit strategy was initiated during an inter-regional workshop in Johannesburg, in July 2015, where various Government officials working on the program met to reflect on the next steps to define strategic priorities. Under the direct guidance of a Technical Committee led by DDRM, an action plan was designed. Field consultations took place in November and December 2015 in order to receive feedbacks from the trainers and various institutions involved in the programme in 14 regions, such as regional representatives, the trainers, the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT), the MoE and partners such as the Namibian Red Cross Society (NCRS). DDRM and IOM are currently consolidating the data to inform the country specific exit strategy road map, to be finalized in early 2016. These activities are paired with the continuation of trainings, on a need-basis, such as the CCCM and Gender-Based Violence Training of Trainers organized by the Global CCCM Cluster and IOM, in September 2015 in Tanzania, leading to the certification of a DDRM senior official on these issues. Additionally, IOM Namibia continues to assist the GRN in providing community-based trainings, such as a three day training on disaster risk management for the ELCIN Church leader, in October 2015. IOM also works closely with the DDRM led Working Group on the National Strategy to Mainstream Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, to ensure the integration of environmental migration into development plans.



## Enhanced labour migration management in Namibia

In response to a request from the GRN, IOM Namibia and the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation (MLIREC) launched a regional project, funded by the IOM Development Fund (IDF). It aims at developing a model to bring together SADC Member States in order to facilitate South-South labour mobility arrangements. This will help to ensure the protection of the fundamental human, labour, and social rights of migrant workers, their families, and associated communities of origin and destination, as enshrined in the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families. In this regard, IOM aims to comprehensively support the GRN to better regulate, manage, and monitor labour migration by identifying gaps in the institutional framework, legislation, data, and policies and identifying proposed solutions in the country. In response to this expressed need and in line with the objectives laid out in the new regional project, IOM carried out an initial training designed to enhance the Ministry's capacity to manage labour migration in June 2015 on the specific topic of circular migration. In November 2015, SADC countries and government counterparts involved in this regional IOM supported labour migration initiative met in Mozambique, Maputo, to discuss and develop an action plan.

This initiative is complemented by a national labour migration project in Namibia to support the GRN in developing and implementing a Labour Migration Policy within the context of existing regional frameworks. In order to achieve this aim, the GRN seeks to establish an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism in order to gain a greater understanding of the current labour migration situation and needs within Namibia. It is envisaged that this will also contribute to the development of the very first labour migration policy in Namibia. Ultimately, this national labour migration project will help address critical labour migration challenges confronting the GRN, by responding to the need for strengthened data collection and analysis, improved inter-ministerial coordination, and enhanced capacity to develop and implement labour migration programmes. The first training on labour migration in Namibia will take place during the first quarter 2016.

IOM's regional and national activities implemented in Namibia are led by the Government of Namibia and supported by:



IOM Development Fund  
DEVELOPING CAPACITIES IN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT



*Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading inter-governmental organisation in the field of migration. With 162 member States, a further 9 States holding observer status and offices in over 100 countries, IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants. IOM works to help ensure the 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. For more information: <https://www.iom.int>*

### Online resources

***The World Migration Report 2015: Migrants and Cities, New Partnerships to Manage Mobility*** – the eighth report in IOM's World Migration Report (WMR) series – focuses on how migration and migrants are shaping cities and how the life of migrants is shaped by cities, their people, organizations and rules.

***Migration initiatives:*** Migration Initiatives 2016 presents the Organization's regional strategies and initiatives. These strategies provide an overview of the regional context, capacity, partners, key trends and challenges.

***The Environmental Migration Portal: Knowledge Platform on People on the Move in a Changing Climate*** seeks to provide a one-stop service website to promote new research, information exchange and dialogue, intended to fill the existing data, research and knowledge gaps on the migration-environment nexus.

***The IOM Development Fund (IDF)*** - The IDF was established in 2001 to support Member States in their efforts to strengthen migration management capacity. The Fund contributes to the harmonization of migration management policies and practices with national development strategies through priority projects that are identified by Member States in coordination with IOM offices worldwide. In recent years, IDF has supported a number of projects in Southern Africa, ranging from facilitating South-South labour migration, combatting human trafficking, and increasing migration management capacity and protection of vulnerable migrants.

***I am a migrant*** - In order to fight xenophobia and change the lens through which people view migrants and migration, IOM launched the campaign *I am a migrant* to celebrate the International Migrant Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December.

***The Missing migrant project*** - draws on a range of sources to track deaths of migrants along migratory routes across the globe.

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