

IOM KENYA COUNTRY STRATEGY

2021-2025



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 operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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2021-2025



FOREWORD



Following the presentation of the IOM Strategic Vision to Member States in November 2019, IOM launched its Continental Strategy for Africa 2020-2024 in November 2020 and subsequently its East and Horn of Africa Regional Strategy 2020-2024 in December 2020. These documents reflect the Organization's view of how it will need to develop over a five-year period, in order to effectively address complex challenges and seize the many opportunities migration offers to both migrants and society. It responds to new and emerging responsibilities – including membership in the United Nations and coordination of the United Nations Network on Migration – as we enter the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

These strategies are centred around the human rights of migrants, the strategic priorities of our

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Member States and the mobility dimensions of the regional integration agenda of the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities. For the East and Horn of Africa, as for Kenya, particular attention is given to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the East African Community (EAC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). The strategy for the East and Horn of Africa provides a gender-sensitive framework for engaging with partners to facilitate mobility; promote inclusion; provide assistance and protection to people at risk or affected by crisis; mitigate drivers of, and promote durable solutions to, displacement and irregular migration; reduce the incidence of irregular migration; and promote improved governance of migration in the region and beyond.

It is my great pleasure to see that, after close consultations with the Government of Kenya, the IOM Kenya Country Strategy 2021 – 2025 is aligned with the country's development priorities and builds on the priorities outlined above.

It is my hope that it becomes a useful and living tool for IOM for supporting the Government of Kenya and migrants in leveraging migration for sustainable development and ensuring that “no one is left behind”.

Mohammed Abdiker

Regional Director, East and Horn of Africa

January 2021

FOREWORD



Kenya is affected by all facets of migration and mobility- regular, irregular, refugees, human trafficking, cross border migrant smuggling and others. Over the last three decades, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Kenya has supported the Government of Kenya to ensure the orderly and humane migration management, promote international cooperation on migration issues, assist in the search for practical solutions to address migration challenges and crises and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants and other vulnerable (mobile) population and their families.

The Kenya Country strategy was drafted at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and takes into consideration the new challenges presented by the pandemic such as strained health system, challenging border management, impact on migrants including

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job losses and abrupt return and huge impact on the overall socio-economic development.

The situation has heightened the need for IOM to not only adapt in its response to a myriad of new challenges and emergencies but also to remain at the forefront of assisting the government and the people of Kenya to develop resilience and fulfil its role in protection of migrants and other vulnerable people affected by mobility dimensions of crises. The pandemic has exacerbated the challenges posed by geopolitical dynamics, rising inequality, changing human aspirations inter alia, which have resulted in multi-faceted migration patterns and issues. This needs new thinking and holistic programming around migration.

In this regard, I am pleased to present the IOM Kenya Country Strategy for 2021-2025. The document provides a strategic direction for IOM Kenya for the next 5 years and sets out the different priority areas based on the priorities of the country. The strategy development process was robust with a vast review of available literature and consultations with a different set of stakeholders. Through the implementation of the strategy, IOM Kenya intends to contribute to a migration system and process that safeguards dignity, ensures protection to migrants and benefits migrants, communities and society.

I would like to thank the Government of Kenya, development partners, my IOM colleagues both at the Regional Office and IOM Kenya Country Office for their contribution in the development of the IOM Kenya country strategy. I am sure, with the regular guidance from the Government of Kenya and generous support from all our development partners, IOM Kenya will be able to realize the objectives enshrined in this strategy.

Sharon Dimanche

Chief of Mission IOM Kenya

January 2021

FOREWORD



I wish to congratulate The International Organization for Migration (IOM) Kenya Country Office for launching its first country strategy 'IOM Kenya Country Strategy 2021-2025', a comprehensive framework that will guide IOM's work in the next five years.

This strategy has been developed in consultation with the Government of Kenya's Ministries, Departments and Agencies steered by the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM), partners as well as other stakeholders. These

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The strategy captures emerging migration trends, the impact of migration, migration management, challenges, and gaps to identify seven country priority areas.

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deliberations have ensured that the strategy captures emerging migration trends, the impact of migration, migration management, challenges, and gaps to identify seven country priority areas.

The Government of Kenya wishes to thank IOM for its continued and efficient support and partnership in the areas of improving the immigration border management processes and infrastructure; service delivery through the digitalization of migration related processes and travel documents; the stabilization of communities to counter violent extremism and promotion of safe and ethical recruitment of labour migrants.

This transformative strategy when implemented through the 'whole of government', 'whole of society' approach will make migration in Kenya a lever for development.

To IOM, the hard work continues. The Government of Kenya welcomes the continued engagement with IOM in the next five years and even beyond.

Alexander Muteshi, CBS, OGW, ndc' (k)

Director General, Directorate of Immigration Service & Chair, National Coordination Mechanism on Migration

January 2021





CONTENTS

Foreword	4	4.2 Programmatic Principles	32
Acronyms	8	4.3 Intervention Approaches	33
1. Introduction	10	4.4 Cross-cutting Themes	34
2. Context Analysis	12	5. Thematic Areas	35
2.1 Country Background	12	5.1 Migration Governance	36
2.2 Regional Dynamics and Kenya	13	5.2 Labour Mobility & Human Development	38
3. Situation Analysis: Migration and Human Mobility in Kenya	19	5.3 Migrant Protection and Assistance	41
3.1 Migration Overview and Trends	19	5.4 Migration, Environment and Climate Change	44
3.2 Migration Management in Kenya	22	5.5 Emergency Preparedness, Response and Stabilization	46
3.3 Migration and Mobility Related Issues Challenges and Gaps	23	5.6 Immigration and Border Management	48
3.4 Cross-cutting Themes	26	5.7 Migration Health	50
4. Strategic Objectives, Approaches and Principles	28	5.8 Resettlement and Movements Management	52
4.1 Strategic Objectives	29	6. Partnerships and Cordination	55

ACRONYMS

AfCTA:	African Continental Free Trade Area	IGAD:	Intergovernmental Authority on Development	OECD:	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
ASALs:	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands	IHR:	International Health Regulations	OKWs:	Overseas Kenyan Worker
AU:	African Union	IMIS:	Integrated Migration Information System	PEAs:	Private Employment Agencies
AVRR:	Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration	IOM:	International Organization for Migration	PoEs:	Point of Entry(s)
BLAs:	Bilateral Labour Agreements	KISIDEP:	Kalobeyei Integrated Socio-economic Development Programme	PSEA:	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
BLMAs:	Bilateral Labour Migration Agreements	KCO:	Kenya Country Office	RCP:	Regional Consultative Process
CCA:	Country Common Assessment	LNOB:	Leaving No One Behind	REC:	Regional Economic Communities
COMESA:	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	LHD:	Labour Mobility and Human Development	RMM:	Resettlements and Movement Management
CSOs:	Civil Society Organizations	MCOF:	Migration Crisis Operational Framework	SME:	Small to Medium-sized Enterprises
CTiP:	Counter Trafficking in Persons	MECC:	Migration, Environment and Climate Change	SDGs:	Sustainable Development Goals
DRM:	Disaster Risk Management	MG:	Migration Governance	SRA:	Strategic Result Area
DRR:	Disaster Risk Reduction	MH:	Migration Health	SoPs:	Standard Operating Procedures
DTM:	Displacement Tracking Matrix	MoH:	Ministry of Health	TB:	Tuberculosis
EAC:	East African Community	MoU:	Memorandum of Understanding	TiP:	Trafficking in Persons
EHoA:	East and Horn of Africa	MoICNG:	Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government	UAMSC:	Unaccompanied Minors and Separated Children
EOC:	Emergency Operations Centre	MICIC:	Migrants in Countries in Crisis	UHC:	Universal Health Coverage
EPRS:	Emergency, Preparedness, Response and Stabilization	MMIS:	Migration Management Information Systems	UN:	United Nations
GCC:	Gulf Cooperation Council	MPA:	Migrant Protection and Assistance	UNCT:	United Nations Country Team
GCM:	Global Compact for Migration	MTP:	Third Mid-Term Plans	UNCERF:	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
GDP:	Gross Domestic Product	NCF:	National Consultative Forum on Migration	UN-Habitat:	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
GNI:	Gross Domestic National Income	NCM:	National Coordination Mechanism	UNHCR:	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
GoK:	Government of Kenya	NCSCs:	National and Country Security Committees	UNDAF:	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
HDI:	Human Development Index	NCTC:	National Counter Terrorism Centre	UNSDCF:	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (formerly known as UNDAF)
HDPN:	Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus	NEA:	National Employment Authority	USA:	United States of America
HIV:	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	NFIs:	Non-Food Items	VE:	Violent Extremism
IBM:	Immigration and Border Management	NGOs:	Non-Governmental Organizations	VoTs:	Victims of human trafficking
ID:	Identity Document	NRB:	National Registration Bureau		
IDPs:	Internally Displaced Persons	NRM:	National Referral Mechanism		





1. INTRODUCTION

ABOUT IOM

Established in 1951, IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental partners. IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. With 173 member states¹ as of March 2019 and offices in over 100 countries, IOM officially joined the United Nations as a related organization in September 2016, further underscoring the role that IOM plays in the field of human mobility.

IOM IN KENYA

Following the signing of a cooperation agreement between IOM and the Government of Kenya in 1983, Kenya became the first African country to join IOM as a Member State in 1985. The office in Nairobi was established in 1993 and since then, the cooperation has expanded to a wide range of migration-related areas including, but not limited to: border management, refugee resettlement, emergency response and migrant protection.

As per January 2020, IOM Kenya has ten offices in Kenya². Besides the head office in Nairobi, which also hosts the regional office for the East and the Horn of Africa and the Migration Health Centre, there are sub-offices in Kakuma, Dadaab and Mombasa and satellite offices in Kilifi, Kwale and Lamu. The mission in Kenya has over 230 staff members of which 50 per cent female and 50 per cent male, based in the different offices and locations.

¹ There are 8 more states with observer status.

² IOM has a total of 10 office in Kenya including Regional office for East and Horn of Africa and IOM Somalia Support office in Nairobi.

IOM AT A GLANCE



IOM KENYA





2. CONTEXT ANALYSIS

2.1 COUNTRY BACKGROUND

Kenya is a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious country, with a population of over 47.5 million people (2019)³, situated in East-Africa. With its geographical position along the Indian Ocean and bordering Ethiopia, Somalia, South-Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda, Kenya has historically been part of global migration and trade networks and continues to play an important role in intra continental and transnational migration. Intractable conflicts, political and communal violence, peacebuilding setbacks and increasing impact from environmental change and disasters have resulted in the displacement of millions in Eastern Africa, with most countries in the sub-region affected⁴. Kenya hosts a total of 1 million international migrants⁵ with slightly over 50 per cent being refugees⁶. Kenya's important role in regional stability, its efforts in peacebuilding and its continuous economic growth are important drivers of migration to the country. Between 2015 and 2019, Kenya's economy grew by an average of 5.7 per cent annually making it one of the fastest growing economies in Sub-Saharan Africa⁷. However, income inequality, poverty, climate change, the vulnerability of the economy to both internal and external shocks and the impact of violent extremism remain great challenges. There has been an increase in the number of low-skilled international migrants, whilst education and work opportunities fuel the movement of Kenyan skilled migrants⁸.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic as well as climate-induced disasters, floods and a locust invasion, greatly affected public health, education and access to food and employment opportunities. Kenya's economic pillars, agriculture and tourism, were significantly impacted and the slowing down of the global economy affected private sector investment hampering infrastructural growth, the manufacturing sector and the building and construction industry that had been marked as important drivers of Kenya's economy.

³ Kenya Population and Housing Census 2019, Kenya National Bureau of statistics.

⁴ IOM 2020, World Migration Report

⁵ IOM 2020, Africa Migration Report: Challenging the Narrative

⁶ UNHCR, 2020 <https://www.unhcr.org/ke/figures-at-a-glance>

⁷ World Bank 2020, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/kenya/overview>

⁸ Kenya migration profile 2018, https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mp_kenya_2018.pdf

It is expected that Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth would be decelerated to 5.2 per cent in 2021⁹. The United Nations has been a crucial and reliable development partner to Kenya and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018 – 2022 is anchored in Kenya's economic blueprint for development, Vision 2030 and the national priorities as outlined in the Medium Term Plan (MTP)111, the Big 4 transformative agenda and the UN sustainable Development (SDGs) goals. The UNDAF has three Strategic Result Areas (SRA); 1) Transformative governance focusing on respect for the rule of law, improved security, and effective implementation of devolution; 2) Human capital development in the areas of education, health, access to safe water and sanitation, social protection, gender-based violence, access to adequate housing and strengthening capacities for addressing disaster and emergencies; and 3) Sustainable Economic Growth focusing on an increasingly resilient, green, inclusive, equitable, economy creating decent jobs and quality livelihoods¹⁰. IOM in its programming continues to play an important role in supporting the Government across all the SRAs. IOM plays a critical role in the area of improved security with its programming in the prevention and countering violent extremism; improving health outcomes for migrant communities and along transport corridors, as well as creating decent jobs by promoting the ethical recruitment of Kenyan migrant workers.

In 2020, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) conducted a Common Country Analysis (CCA) to update the country context and identify the short-, mid- and long-term objectives for United Nation Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSCDF) taking into account the COVID-19 pandemic. IOM contributed to the CCA, and mainstreamed migration into the different CCA chapters so that migration could be considered as an integral part of development planning in Kenya.

⁹ World Bank 2020, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/kenya/overview>

¹⁰ <https://kenya.un.org/en/resources/publications> UNDAF 2018 - 2022.

2.2 REGIONAL DYNAMICS AND KENYA

Regional Framework and Initiatives

Kenya is a middle-income country and remains a dominant player in the various regional forums and mechanisms such as the African Union (AU), and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the East African Community (EAC), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). In January 2018, Kenya was one of the signatories to the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons in Africa which aims to foster greater intra Africa trade and labour mobility. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the Free Movement of Persons in Africa and the African Passport are flagship programs of the African Unions Agenda 2063 whose aspiration to see Africa as a continent with seamless borders, free movement of people, capital, goods and services, as well as an increase in trade and investments among African countries¹¹. Whilst Kenya has not yet ratified the protocol, due to conflicts with its national legislation, it has stated its intentions to implement visa liberalization policies for African visitors¹².

Kenya ranks first in both COMESA and EAC¹³ measures on the African Regional Integration Index¹⁴ underlining its commitments towards regional integration. Since September 2017, Kenya transitioned its passport to the new East African Format – E passport, a significant step to the adopted East African Common Market Protocol of 2010, the framework and protocol related to the

¹¹ https://au.int/sites/default/files/newsevents/reports/37472-rp-pa25606_e_original_004_ff.pdf

¹² <https://migrationdataportal.org/regional-data-overview/eastern-africa>

¹³ Africa Regional Integration Index <https://www.integrate-africa.org/rankings/country-profiles/kenya/>

¹⁴ The Africa regional integration index is designed to measure the extent to which each country in Africa is meeting its commitments under the various pan-African integration frameworks, such as Agenda 2063 and the Abuja Treaty. The index, which is a joint project of the African Development Bank, the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa, covers the following dimensions: free movement of persons, trade integration, productive integration, regional interconnections and infrastructure, and macroeconomic policy convergence.

free movement of goods, capital, services persons and labour and establishing the social, economic and human rights of migrant workers, women, men, girls, and boys, migrating within the East Africa community. While the passport fostered a degree of mobility within the region, other key elements of the protocol are yet to be achieved such as harmonizing the issuance of national Identity Documents (IDs), a qualification recognition system, and streamlining of labour and social security policies. Within the IGAD region, Kenya has actively participated in consultations for the advancement of the ratification of the protocol towards the Free Movement and Transhumance in the IGAD region. Whilst the process has been slow due to funding constraints and security concerns, significant progress was made in Khartoum in February 2020 with the endorsement of the protocol which advanced to the ministerial



level¹⁵. In the COMESA region, a visa regime and an Action Plan on Migration are part of the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, Labour, Services, Rights of Establishment and Residence. Kenya is one of the four countries out of nineteen that signed the Protocol but is yet to ratify the document. Ratification of the COMESA Protocol is envisaged to accelerate economic integration and achieve a common market¹⁶.

The ratification of the free movement protocols will have a significant impact on the migration dynamics within Kenya and with other African countries in the region. Ease of movement within Africa is envisaged to have a significant impact on trade, labour mobility and labour markets, as it will ease the demographic pressure in sending countries as people move for work. Free movement is also expected to reduce irregular migration which often leaves migrants at the mercy of smugglers and traffickers.¹⁷ Indeed, within the East African Community, the common passport and East African Visa have had a positive impact on tourism and trade as tourists can move freely within the region with a single visa and trade is enhanced where businesses do not have to contend with visa hurdles and strict entry requirements. However, concerns still abound on the impact of free movement on security concerns caused by violent extremist groups such as Al-Shabaab.

As a key regional player in East and Horn of Africa (and beyond), in January 2020, Kenya hosted a High Level Regional Ministerial Forum on “Harmonising Labour Migration Policies in East and Horn of Africa: A United Approach on Safe, Regular and Humane Labour Migration” (RMFM). RMFM is guided by the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular migration, the Africa Union (AU) Agenda 2063 and the AU, EAC and IGAD Free Movement

¹⁵ <https://ethiopia.iom.int/iom-welcomes-historic-endorsement-free-movement-protocol-igad-region>

¹⁶ IOM 2020, East and Horn of Africa regional strategy 2020 - 2024

¹⁷ <https://medium.com/@UNmigration/free-movement-of-persons-in-africa-what-are-the-benefits-and-challenges-f096c1ef6149#:~:text=At%20the%20sub%2Dregional%20level,mercy%20of%20smugglers%20and%20traffickers.>

Protocols. Ministers of Labour of the participating EHoA Member States signed a “Communique and a Call to Action Priorities 2020-2023” in order to further strengthen cooperation in the areas of:

- (a) Regulation and enforcement.
- (b) Regional cooperation.
- (c) Labour migration governance and policy.
- (d) Addressing the protection needs of migrant workers.

Priority Actions for effective labour migration policy development and drafting, negotiating and implementing Bilateral Labour Migration Agreements (BLMAs) for the protection of human, social, economic and labour rights of migrant workers, women and girls men and boys, are at the core of the RMFM’s policy and programmatic interventions.

Regional Development Priorities and Kenya

In its strategy for the East and Horn of Africa, IOM has identified five key development priorities in the region based on an analysis of national development plans as well as similar documents from the United Nations, the African Union and Regional Economic Communities:

- Transformative, inclusive economic growth, including access to jobs, urbanization, and women and youth empowerment.
- Regional integration.
- Governance, conflict prevention, peace and security, and rule of law.
- Crisis preparedness and response, resilience, climate change, and natural resource management.
- Human development, social inclusion and social services, including health and education.

Based on these development priorities, the regional strategy outlines the following seven strategic priorities for the organization in the East and Horn of Africa:



These strategic priorities also provide overall guidance to the Kenyan country strategy 2021 - 2025.



3. SITUATION ANALYSIS: MIGRATION AND HUMAN MOBILITY IN KENYA

3.1 MIGRATION OVERVIEW AND TRENDS

Kenya is a source, transit and destination country for migration (regular, irregular and forced). An estimated 4 million Kenyan nationals live and work abroad.¹⁸ They are present in various African countries, Europe, the United States, Asia and Oceania as well as in the Gulf Cooperation Countries in the Middle East. The engagement of diaspora is an important priority for the Government of Kenya as they contribute about 2.9 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) through remittances (2019)¹⁹. Remittances to Kenya remained positive during the COVID-19 pandemic²⁰ with Kenya receiving 337 billion shillings (approximately 3 billion USD) in remittances in 2020²¹. Kenya's economic blueprint Vision 2030 considers diaspora remittances as one of the flagship projects under the financial sector. Both the Kenya Foreign Policy and Diaspora Policy underscore the significance of the Government's engagement with the Kenyan diaspora. The diaspora has individuals with professional skills and experience earned abroad that could benefit the country economically as well as remittances which, whether invested, deposited or donated by Kenyans abroad, are one source of foreign currency inflows into the Kenyan economy. The political contribution of the Kenyan diaspora is also greatly valued and in 2017, the Kenyan diasporas in select African countries were able to vote in the general elections.

As a destination, Kenya is estimated to host around one million international migrants, which makes it one of the three countries hosting the highest number of international migrants in the region in 2019²².

18 Kenya Ministry of Labour and Social Protection internal reports
19 World Bank Migration and Remittances Data, October 2019 - <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/migrationremittancesdiasporaissues/brief/migration-remittances-data>
20 <https://citizentv.co.ke/business/kenyan-diaspora-defies-covid-19-keep-dollars-flowing-340603/>
21 <https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/business/article/2001400229/kenyans-in-diaspora-defy-corona-to-send-home-sh337b>
22 Migration data in Eastern Africa – Migration Data Portal https://migrationdataportal.org/data?i=stock_abs_&t=2019&cm49=404

KENYA MIGRATION OVERVIEW



47.5 Million
National population (2019)

1 Million
International Migrants
Estimated in the country

5.7%
Annual GDP growth rate
(2019)

2.9%
Remittances Contribution
to the GDP (2019)

8 Arid Counties
*Baringo, Garissa, Isiolo,
Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu,
Tana River, Turkana, Wajir.*

16 Semi-Arid Counties
*Embu, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale,
Laikipia, Lamu, Makuani, Meru,
Narok, Nyeri, Taita Taveta,
Tharaka Nithi, West Pokot.*

Migration

4 Million
Kenyan workers overseas

Kenya is part of a transit Country of the Southern Migration Route: From the Horn of Africa to South Africa via East Africa.

Many recent trends show young Kenyan migrant workers going to the Gulf Countries, the Middle East and Asia.

Refugees

504,849
(Registered) Refugees and Asylum seekers.

44%
Daadab
40%
Kakuma
16%
Urban areas

From: Somalia, South Sudan, DRC, Ethiopia, Burundi, Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, Eritrea and other countries.

Kenya hosts one of the four permanent United Nations Offices as well as many continental and regional headquarters for multinational companies attracting various categories of skilled migrants. As a hub of trade and business the country attracts a diverse set of economic migrants evidenced by the over 188,000 business visas issued in 2016²³. The dynamism and number of international migrants in Kenya is rapidly increasing and this trend is likely to persist in the near future.

Forced migration is linked to conflict, natural disasters and instability in the region. Due to its relative stability compared to some of the neighbouring countries, Kenya is home to one of the largest refugee populations in Africa and some of the world's oldest refugee camps: Dadaab and Kakuma, which have been hosting refugees since the early 1990s. Kenya hosts 504,849 refugees and asylum seekers mainly from Somalia, South-Sudan and the Great Lakes Region as of 31 December 2020²⁴. In 2019, the country also hosted additional 75,800 new Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) outside these refugee camps²⁵, mainly due to crisis, both induced by natural disasters and man-made conflict.

Forced migration is linked to conflict, natural disasters and instability in the region.

Irregular migration takes place along national, regional and transnational routes, often due to poverty and lack of livelihood opportunities, and is also linked to human trafficking and smuggling. Kenya is a known transit country for irregular migration towards South Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, West Africa, Europe and North America²⁶.

²³ Migration in Kenya: A country profile 2018, available https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mp_kenya_2018.pdf

²⁴ UNHCR: Statistical Summary as of 31 December 2020: Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Kenya

²⁵ Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, Global Report on Internal Displacement, 2020

²⁶ In Pursuit of the Southern Dream: Victims of Necessity: Assessment of the irregular movement of men from East Africa and the Horn to South Africa – IOM,

Other types of migration can be tied to cross-border migration linked to pastoralism and cross-border trade between communities living at the borders. Pastoralists looking for pasture, for example in the Pokot/ Karamoja area at the border with Uganda and local entrepreneurs' who exchange goods and services.

In 2020, IOM Kenya conducted a flow monitoring study at four key land border points of Malaba, Busia, Namanga and Lunga Lunga in Kenya to assess the impact of the pandemic on cross border activities.

Border closures and mandatory COVID-19 tests put a strain on the transport corridor and caused significant delays to the movement of goods across the borders severely impacting livelihoods of thousands of families that rely on cross border trade.

Migration Trends

IOM's regional strategy has identified five migration and mobility trends which influence migration in the region and which also have an impact on migration dynamics within Kenya:

(a) The promise of peace and regional integration: The effects of the promise of peace within the region have already seen to the return of some refugees from Daadab refugee camp and eVisa and policy change to effect free movement protocols have resulted in increased mobility within the region.

(b) The increasingly protracted nature of crises, fragility and potential ruptures: This has led Kenya to adopt home grown durable solutions such as the Kalobeyi Integrated Settlement that seeks to integrate long term refugee communities with the host communities.

(c) The increasingly entrenched nature of transnational organized crime: Trafficking and smuggling remain a serious challenge for the Kenyan government and one of the key Government priorities.

April 2009.

(d) The persistent vulnerability of migrants in an irregular situation. The abuse of migrants in smuggled and trafficked situations, as well as reports of abuse of migrant workers, remain important challenge in Kenya and of Kenyan migrants abroad.

(e) The continuous re-emergence of epidemics, pandemics, zoonotic diseases and other public health threat. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to greatly impact migration and mobility and other developmental indicators of Kenya.



Five migration and mobility trends that influence migration in the region which influences migration dynamics within Kenya

- The promise of peace and regional integration.
- The increasingly protracted nature of crises, fragility and potential ruptures.
- The increasingly entrenched nature of transnational organized crime.
- The persistent vulnerability of migrants in an irregular situation.
- The continuous re-emergence of epidemics, pandemics, zoonotic diseases and other public health threat. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to greatly impact migration and mobility and other developmental indicators of Kenya.



3.2 Migration Management in Kenya

In Kenya, migration is managed through the Department of Immigration Services under the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government. Kenya has also adopted a 'whole of government' and 'whole of society' approach in the coordination of migration functions through the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM) that was established in 2016. NCM is a Government led inter-agency migration coordination body comprising of 45 government entities. NCM is guided by IGAD and its approach has served as a best practice example for the region with African countries visiting Kenya to benchmark on how the NCM coordinates its functions. Civil society organizations are often formally engaged in agenda-setting and the implementation of programmes on migration-related issues through the National Consultative Forum on Migration (NCF) which contributes to a whole-of-society approach to migration policy.

On 10 December 2018 in Marrakesh, Morocco, the Government of Kenya participated in a series of Global Compact for Migration (GCM) consultations through a high-level delegation. Kenya was one of the member states that adopted GCM. The adoption of GCM significantly altered migration governance architecture globally and within Kenya, where GCM automatically became a reference point for good migration governance practice. Kenya has sought to implement GCM aspirations through strengthening existing migration institutions and policy frameworks as opposed to establishing new ones²⁷. To support the Kenyan Government's efforts in implementing GCM, the Kenya UN Network on Migration was set up in March 2020. With a membership of 18 UN agencies, the core mandate of the network is to provide policy and programmatic support to the Government of Kenya in the implementation, follow-up and review of GCM.

²⁷ NCM Report 2021, National Voluntary Review Report on GCM.

Kenya has made progress in migration management with a sound legal framework with the Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act. The Kenya Diaspora Policy and the National Migration Policy and Labour Migration Policy and Labour Migration Management Bill are also under process. Kenya's immigration reforms have adhered to the East Africa Community Protocol on Free movement of goods and services. Notable achievements include citizens of the East African countries with machine readable national identification cards can use them as travel documents within the region. The eVisa system that can be used across all East African countries is another key immigration reform that complies with the protocol.

Kenya has also adopted a 'whole of government' and 'whole of society' approach in the coordination of migration functions through the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM) that was established in 2016.

Key additional achievements include, the Child Protection Integrated Information System, the Refugee Act (2012)²⁸ and Children's Act (2012), which include provisions for family reunification for refugees, asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors.

There are also some Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with key-partners in Migration and Reintegration of Former Combatants. Bilateral Labour Migration Agreements (BLMA's) with some of the key destination countries for Kenyan migrant workers such as Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Qatar have improved the policy environment for the protection of migrants and indicate the intent of

²⁸ At the time of publishing, 2012 Refugee Act was gazetted and Bill pending enactment - http://kenyalaw.org/kl/fileadmin/pdfdownloads/bills/2016/TheRefugeesBill_2016.pdf

Government of Kenya in ensuring safe, regular and dignified migration of Kenyan nationals.

A key priority area for the Government of Kenya is to enhance its migration data governance, data sharing protocols, data collection and management to ensure evidence-based policy formulation and governance. The Government of Kenya's continual participation in the review of its Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) acts as an important step in establishing a baseline for its legislation and policies.



3.3 Migration and Mobility Related Issues, Challenges and Gaps

Despite the achievements mentioned in the previous section, there are still areas that require further attention. Instability in the region, new migration trends, porous borders and transnational crimes, as well as violent extremism, are some risks that have the potential to destabilize the national and regional security and development. The legal framework and regulations will be relevant if they are reviewed from time to time to reflect changing migration dynamics. Moreover, the implementation and adherence to the legal and policy frameworks are challenging in Kenya. The most prevalent transnational **borderland crimes and security threats** in the 21 borderland counties are human trafficking, irregular migration, smuggling of migrants, border-point corruption, cross-border robbery/ theft of motor vehicle/cycle, violent extremism, cattle rustling and smuggling of counterfeit goods. Mombasa and Mandera counties have the highest number of transnational organized crimes²⁹.

Kenya is affected by displacements because of conflict, natural disasters, climate change and environmental degradation, and forced evictions. Due to its geographical location amidst countries in the East and Horn of Africa, which have suffered instability in the last decades, Kenya as a peaceful country has become one of the biggest hosts of refugees and asylum seekers in Africa.

As of 31 December 2020, Kenya hosts 504,849 registered refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons who reside in refugee camps Dadaab and Kakuma (82%) and urban areas (16%)³⁰. The main countries of origin are Somalia, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia.

²⁹ Kenya National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) as presented in the 2019 NCM conference

³⁰ UNHCR: Kenya Global Focus, <https://reporting.unhcr.org/kenya>

Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps are situated in environmentally fragile locations, and the presence of large refugee populations presents both **ecological and resource challenges** for the refugees, asylum seekers and host communities. Since the 1990s, the Government implemented an encampment policy, which restricted refugees to leave designated camps without a special permit. However, as instability in the region remained, Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps grew quickly and are now comparable to cities; hosting families that are second or third-generation refugees.

The Nairobi Declaration on Somali Refugees in 2017 paved the way for voluntary returns of refugees from Dadaab and since then, a total of 87,016 Somali refugees have returned through this process¹⁹. In 2018, the Kalobeyi Integrated Socio-economic Development Programme (KISIDEP) was launched. The Kalobeyi Integrated Settlement has been adopted under the leadership of the Turkana County Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to integrate refugees with local communities as part of durable solutions. Resettlement of refugees to third countries has been adopted as another durable solution. Resettlement has been implemented over the last three decades with the United States, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, as well as nine other European countries being the main destinations. However, due to changes in refugee admissions by the government of the United States of America (USA), the number of resettlement cases have significantly gone down globally and as is the case in Kenya. At the peak of resettlement, in 2016, a total of 28,947 refugees were resettled from Kenya³¹.

Kenya is also affected by **climate change and environmental degradation** and ranked as the 31st most vulnerable country and the 37th least ready **country when it comes to climate change** - meaning

that it is very vulnerable, yet unprepared to combat climate change effects³². Rainfall is likely to become more intense and less predictable and extreme events such as droughts and floods are projected to become more frequent. The increase of these extreme weather events will present major challenges in terms of food security, water availability, infrastructure, displacement, and livelihoods as well as the local economy. Most prone to these events are the **Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs)** in the north and east of the country due to historical marginalization, poverty, high illiteracy, youth unemployment and poor infrastructure. In 2018 alone, 186 floods related deaths were recorded and estimated 800,000 people affected by climate-related disasters in the ASALs, including 336,000 **new displacements**³³.



³² Climate Change Profile Kenya – 2018, Government of the Netherlands

³³ Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre – Kenya Country Information - December 2018, <https://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/kenya>

Pastoralists in the ASALs are particularly affected as they have to move further from traditional grazing areas and for longer periods of time to find pasture and water for their livestock. Others are forced to completely abandon their traditional livelihoods and migrate to settled communities in search of work. Other causes of displacement are linked to **conflict and instability** in the form of **intercommunal clashes**, conflict spill-over from bordering countries, and **boundary disputes**. In 2018, an estimated 162,000 people were internally displaced due to conflict and violence³⁴. Displaced populations are in great danger as they are often more vulnerable to climate-related disasters, have limited opportunities for accessing durable solutions and risk being displaced for protracted periods.

Political and economic instability in the neighbouring countries continues to contribute to transnational crimes in Kenya, including **violent extremism** and risk of youth to be recruited into violent extremist groups. Kenya has faced the fear of having hundreds of its nationals especially the youth, being radicalized and/or recruited into violent extremist groups. The drivers can be various starting with marginalization, lack of opportunities for employment, distrust in the government, victimisation by the police among their unmet expectations, especially in the North-East and Coastal regions. These challenges threaten not only the safety and security of Kenya and its citizens but also hampers the development of the country. Increased lack of access to socio-economic opportunities put already at-risk youth in vulnerable situations as it is used as a recruitment tactic by violent extremist groups. In response to the emerging needs, the Government of Kenya (GoK) has established the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC), which is a multi-agency instrument primarily of security agencies to strengthen coordination in countering terrorism. Since the creation in 2004, NCTC has been taking leadership in coordination, developed a national strategy on countering terrorism and assisting all 47 County Governments in implementing

their respective County Action Plans.

Kenya has been identified as a source, transit, and destination country for **human trafficking**. Various reports have reported hundreds of victims exploited in Kenya, as well as Kenyans, exploited abroad. Victims trafficked into Kenya come from Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda as well as India and Nepal. Victims of human trafficking (VoTs) face severe limitations in access to services, particularly outside of urban centres, and very little effort is made to proactively identify and investigate cases of human trafficking. Kenya also plays as a transit for migrants, victims of trafficking, and smuggling migrants from Ethiopia heading to South Africa; Uganda, Burundi heading to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. These vulnerable migrants sometimes end up in Kenyan key cities where they are exploited.

The Kenyan victims of trafficking and exploitation have been returned from multiple places such as Europe, the Middle East and Asia, more specifically the GCC countries, India, Thailand and Iraq. Recently, there was a renewed debate in Kenya on human trafficking issue when local media stations aired a documentary³⁵ on the trafficking of thousands of women and girls to India. Low levels of education, limited livelihood opportunities, conflict, displacements, and gender inequalities including early and forced marriages linked to harmful social and cultural practices are contributing to human trafficking. Furthermore, terrorist networks have reportedly recruited Kenyans with false promises of lucrative employment and trafficked them to hideouts and training camps in Kenya and Somalia. Internal trafficking occurs within Kenyan borders for purposes of domestic labour and sexual exploitation; women are by far the largest number of victims (70 per cent³⁶).

³⁵ <https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/nairobi/article/2001353366/ordeal-of-kenyas-1000-sex-slaves-trapped-in-indian-city>

³⁶ <http://crimeresearch.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Human-Trafficking-in-Kenya.pdf>

Children have been subjected to forced labour in domestic service, agriculture, fishing, cattle herding, street vending, street begging and sexual exploitation. Children between 4 and 17 years old have also been reported as victims of trafficking with girls between 11 and 17 years old the most vulnerable for child prostitution.

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the vulnerability of migrants to smuggling and trafficking. The socio-economic realities of the pandemic have created an opportunity for traffickers and unregistered private employment agencies to recruit desperate migrants with the hope for better economic opportunities to assist their families.

According to the US Trafficking in Persons (TiP) report for 2020, Kenya remains ranked as a second-tier country as it does not meet its minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking in persons³⁷. However, the Government has made significant efforts to address the problem of trafficking. The government launched a national referral mechanism, issuing new registration requirements and a code of conduct for private labour recruitment agencies, including training on the issue in its police training curricula, and assigning labour attachés to Kenyan missions in key destination countries.

The Government of Kenya has assented to the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; and its domestication in terms of national anti-trafficking legislation and National Plan of Action for Combatting Human Trafficking. The national law also provides for a victim assistance fund (not yet operational) and the National Referral Mechanism for Assisting Victims of Trafficking.

However, the **lack of effective implementation** at the national and county levels has resulted in the limited implementation of the national legal

³⁷ Trafficking in Persons Report 20th Edition, Department of State, United States of America, June 2020

policy framework particularly the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), and as a result, victim assistance and access to justice (prosecution) component remain ineffective.

Lack of effective implementation at the national and county levels has resulted in the limited implementation of the national legal policy framework particularly the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), and as a result, victim assistance and access to justice (prosecution) component remain ineffective.

Due to factors such as high unemployment rate especially among the youth (7.3%)³⁸ and women (9.2%)³⁹, weak institutional capacity and a mismatch between the number of graduates and available job in the labour market, many Kenyans opt to work abroad. It is estimated that there are about **300,000 Kenyan workers in the Middle East alone**. Majority of these workers are engaged in **low-skilled occupations** and are exposed to numerous challenges, especially relating to the terms and conditions of the employment. During the pandemic, approximately 5,000 migrants returned to Kenya after they lost their jobs in GCC countries. The flow of migrants to the Middle East and other destinations was also greatly affected due to the airport closures and the reduced opportunities abroad as the global economy contracted. With fewer persons migrating for work, and an increasing number of migrants returning, the unemployment crisis and poverty among Kenyan youth has further aggravated.

³⁸ Trafficking in Persons Report 20th Edition, Department of State, United States of America, June 2020

³⁹ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.FE.NE.ZS?locations=KE>

The **overcrowding of migrant enclaves** is a critical problem in major cities in Kenya with migrants pushed to the periphery in the most deprived areas with inadequate health, water and sanitation facilities. For example, in Eastleigh in Nairobi, migrants are at-risk of high levels of unemployment, lack of proper immigration documentation, fear of deportation, fear of authorities due to stigma and discrimination as well as language barriers. These factors discourage migrants from seeking proper health, social and legal services. As a result, urban migrants are critically vulnerable. The COVID-19 pandemic brought to evidence the above-mentioned vulnerabilities and showed how quickly the factors resulted in serious public health concern. The Eastleigh population was heavily hit by the COVID-19 pandemic at the early stages of its emergence, leading to the enclave being put under immediate lockdown for 15 days at the height of the first wave of the pandemic due to increased cases within the migrant populations residing in the area.

The unique geographical and climatic conditions of Kenya led to exposure to a wide range of diseases and associated health risks, with the disaster-prone environment in the arid and semi-arid regions of the country (food insecurity and malnutrition), flash flooding (water-borne diseases), and malaria-prone regions in other parts. The country's 2010 constitution, Vision 2030, and other relevant global commitments, all inform the Kenya Health Policy 2014–2030, which aims to attain the highest standard of health that responds to the needs of the population. The Kenya health policy embraces the rights-based approach to health services delivery, as the 2010 Kenyan constitution outlines that every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, (in line with SDG 3.8 of achieving Universal Health Coverage), that no person shall be denied emergency medical treatment, and that appropriate social security shall be provided by the State to persons who are unable to support themselves and their dependents. Kenya is currently rolling out Universal Health Coverage and the inclusion of

migrants is paramount to achieve this commitment. Therefore, there is a need to mainstream migrant-responsive health service including health promotion, access to basic and specialized care, immunization, sexual and reproductive services, mental health and psychosocial services, and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Tuberculosis (TB) case detection and treatment. The COVID-19 pandemic has further underlined the importance of universal health coverage whilst at the same time strained overstretched health services within Kenya, impacting continuity of primary health care and specialized services including regular health programmes within the country further impacting health outcomes for migrant communities.



3.4 Impact of COVID-19 on Migration and Mobility

Since the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Kenya in March 2020, the Government has enacted measures to contain the spread of the virus including the establishment of a COVID-19 National Task Force and an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) run by the Ministry of Health. Due to the nation-wide restriction of movement and gathering of people, the local economy was heavily hit by the pandemic.

Kenya has recorded 99,162 cases with 1731 deaths as of 18th January 2021⁴⁰ and the government has imposed strict measures to prevent and mitigate the impact of the outbreak. Despite the huge impact on health, the COVID-19 pandemic is far more than a health crisis as it is affecting societies and economies at their core. The pandemic has affected the movement of people and goods, access to livelihood opportunities as well as increased violence against vulnerable persons in Kenya. Whilst the whole economy has been hard hit by the pandemic, tourism and agricultural industries were hardest hit. Inflation has increased due to the containment measures that slowed growth in production, there was also reduced household consumption and slow investment. This was particularly difficult for migrant communities for whom confinement measures and the high inflation resulted in their inability to make ends meet as many of them depend on small scale trading to survive.

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Kenya has published a UN Framework for the Immediate Socio-economic Response to COVID-19 in April 2020 and there is a collective and unified approach to provide socio-economic support under the emergency conditions.

⁴⁰ East and Horn of Africa COVID-19 Situation Report, #28, International Organization for Migration, 2020



Five streams of work that constitute this framework

1. Ensuring that essential health services are still available and protecting health systems.
2. Helping people cope with adversity, through social protection and basic services.
3. Protecting jobs, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, and informal sector workers through economic response and recovery programmes.
4. Guiding the necessary surge in fiscal and financial stimulus to make macroeconomic policies work for the most vulnerable and strengthening multilateral and regional responses.
5. Promoting social cohesion and investing in community-led resilience and response systems.

The socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable migrant communities is huge and require a focused response. Most of the migrant communities are involved in the small-scale business and lost their source of livelihoods and have been left destitute during the pandemic. The demand for migrant protection services during the pandemic has been high and revealed a gap in referral and assistance for migrant protection. There is a need to review earlier developed structures to cater for future emergencies to ensure that at-risk groups receive adequate assistance. The pandemic has also revealed an emergence of new abuse trends with an

increase in child trafficking, domestic violence, and early marriages within the general population and the migrant populations. Some of these sources of abuse were not factored in the country's protection structures and are posing a significant challenge as the country grapples with how to protect victims. Communities initially perceived to be safe havens have fallen into the vulnerability realm due to the socio-economic effects of COVID-19 such as increased poverty due to the loss of jobs and sources of income. These communities need social safety nets programs to cushion them on the possibility of trafficking and smuggling for economic gains.

Kenyan migrants abroad have also been impacted by the loss of economic opportunities and at the height of the pandemic, many were left stranded and destitute while many were repatriated back to the country.

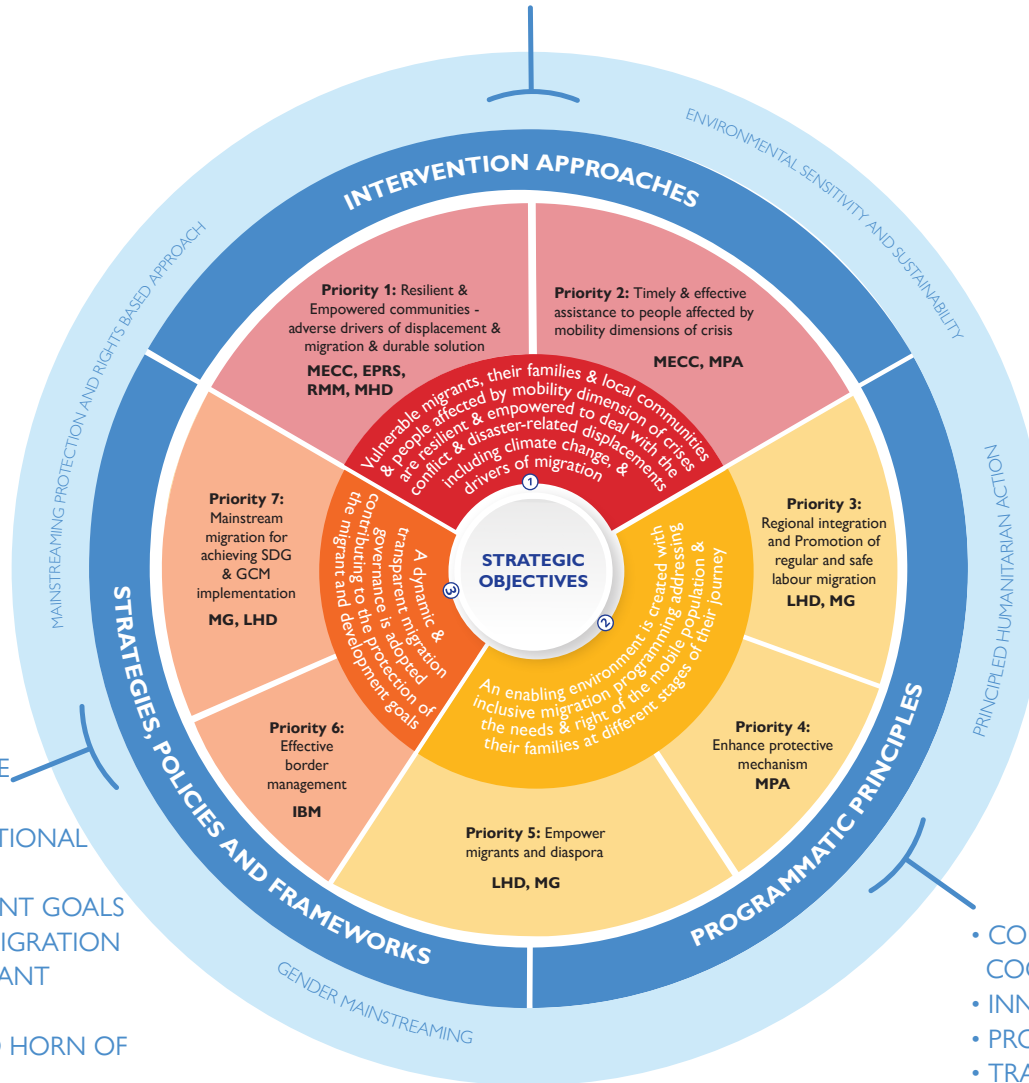
The support of the Kenyan Government to offer better consular services and the facilitation of dignified return and reintegration of migrants has been identified as an important area of focus for the Government and IOM during the pandemic.

The closure of international borders as a preventative measure to reduce COVID-19 infections has had an impact on Kenya's trade and clearance processes, notably the lower trucking volumes. A number of shortcomings were brought to light when borders were officially opened that is, the land entry points witnessed long delays and congestion by the trucks which required continuous COVID-19 testing for truck drivers to keep the infection under check and allowing the economy to slowly come back to normal. The enhancement of integrated border management, the establishment and capacity development of joint migrant and port health facilities and systems along all Kenyan borders, the improvement of identity management, digital registration and identification along border posts are some of the key government priorities that have emerged during the pandemic.



4. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, APPROACHES AND PRINCIPLES

- KNOWLEDGE BASED PROGRAMMING
- THEMATIC PROGRAMMING
- AREA BASED PROGRAMMING
- HUMANITARIAN, DEVELOPMENT & PEACE NEXUS



- MIGRATION GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK
- MIGRATION CRISIS OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK
- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
- GLOBAL COMPACT FOR MIGRATION
- UN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT FRAMEWORK
- IOM REGIONAL EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA STRATEGY

VISION

IOM becomes a catalyst in bringing transformative changes in migration dynamics in Kenya

MISSION

To contribute to migration system which safeguards dignity and protection to migrants and benefits migrants, communities and the society.

KEY

- MECC** - MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
- EPRS** - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND STABILIZATION
- RMM** - RESETTLEMENT AND MOVEMENT MANAGEMENT
- MHD** - MIGRATION HEALTH
- MPA** - MIGRANT PROTECTION ASSISTANT
- LHD** - LABOUR MOBILITY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
- MG** - MIGRATION GOVERNANCE
- IBM** - IMMIGRATION AND BORDER MANAGEMENT

- COLLABORATIVE & COOPERATIVE
- INNOVATIVE
- PROGRESSIVE
- TRANSFORMATIVE



4.1 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

IOM Kenya country strategy (2021-2025) has three strategic objectives, and each objective is aligned to the three pillars articulated in the IOM's vision which will be operationalized through the objectives under the Global Strategic Result Framework (SRF). Other frameworks that have informed this strategy include the Migration Governance Framework, AU Agenda 2063, the Government of Kenya (GoK) priorities, UN common priorities under UNDAF 2018-2022 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, regional commitment and the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) priorities, Migration Crisis Operational Framework and IOM Regional East and Horn of Africa Strategy.

The strategy identified seven priority actions after a thorough review of the GoK strategies including Vision 2030, priorities and action plans of relevant ministries and donors. The priority actions are aligned to and fall under each strategic objective and as well as the IOM East and Horn of Africa regional strategy.

Kenya Mission Strategy further considers United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework guiding principles, giving huge impetus to principles such as Leave No One Behind (LNOB), Human Rights Approach to Development, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Resilience, Sustainability and Accountability each of this is reflected in the strategic objectives, priorities and thematic interventions in this chapter and the next chapter.



MISSION

To contribute to migration system which safeguards dignity and protection to migrants and benefits migrants, communities and the society.



VISION

IOM becomes a catalyst in bringing transformative changes in migration dynamics in Kenya

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1 (SO1)⁴¹

Vulnerable migrants, their families and the local communities and people affected by mobility dimension of crises in Kenya are resilient and empowered to deal with the conflict and disaster-related displacements including climate change, and adverse drivers of migration.

Priority 1: Build resilient and empowered communities through addressing adverse drivers of displacements and irregular migration and providing durable solutions⁴². The programming for this priority action will fall under *Emergency, Preparedness, Response and Stabilization (EPRS), Migration Environment and Climate Change (MECC), Resettlement and Movement Management (RMM) and Migration Health (MH)* thematic areas of KCO strategy. Increasingly it is realized that humanitarian responses if not coupled with long term developmental interventions and without addressing underlying causes of conflict may not yield desired result. Therefore, humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus (HDPN) will mainly guide the programming under this priority action.

Priority 2: Provide timely and effective assistance to people affected by mobility dimensions of crisis including climate migrants⁴³. The programming for this priority action will fall under *Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) and Migrants Protection and Assistance (MPA)*. Applying LNOB principles, the priority area will focus on the most vulnerable migrants and their families using evidence gathered through vulnerability assessments.

41 Strategic objective 1 is aligned with pillar one (resilience) of the IOM's global vision. It corresponds to objectives one (Humanitarian assistance and protection saves lives and responds to needs) and two (Individuals and communities are empowered and resilient) of the IOM Strategic Results Framework (SRF). It contributes to SDG 3, 6, 13, 15, 16, UNDAF 2018 – 2022 strategic priority 2 and GoK Vision 2030 priorities

42 The priority action corresponds to priority 1 and 3 of the IOM regional strategy for East and Horn of Africa

43 The priority action corresponds to priority 2 of the IOM regional strategy for East and Horn of Africa.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2 (SO2)⁴⁴

Kenya creates an enabling environment with inclusive migration programming addressing the protection needs and risks of migrants and other vulnerable (mobile) population and their families at different stages of their journey.

Priority 3: Facilitate regional integration and promote regular labour migration of skilled population through ethical recruitment practices⁴⁵. The programming for this priority action will fall under *Labour Mobility and Human Development (LHD) and Migration Governance (MG)* thematic areas of KCO strategy. IOM will support GoK in meeting the commitment of regional integration and facilitate safe and dignified migration by promoting ethical requirement principles.

Priority 4: Enhance protective mechanism for vulnerable migrants including victims of trafficking (VoTs)⁴⁶. The interventions for this priority action will fall under *Migrant Protection and Assistance (MPA)* thematic area of the Kenya Country strategy. The programming under this priority action will promote victim centred protective mechanism through application of human rights-based approach.

Priority 5: Promote a conducive environment to empower migrants and diaspora for sustainable and inclusive development⁴⁷. The programming for this priority action will fall under *Labour Mobility and Human Development (LHD) and Migration Governance (MG)* thematic areas of Kenya Country strategy. For inclusive growth and sustainable development, IOM Kenya will develop and implement knowledge based innovative programmes to empower migrants and engage diaspora into Kenyan developmental mechanism.

44 Strategic objective 2 is aligned with pillar two (mobility) of the IOM's global strategic vision, IOM SRF objective 3 (Migrants and societies benefit from a safe orderly and regular human mobility), and contributes to SDG, 8 and 10, UNDAF 2018 – 2022 priority two

45 The priority action corresponds to priority 4 of the IOM regional strategy for East and Horn of Africa

46 The priority action corresponds to priority 2 of the IOM regional strategy for East and Horn of Africa

47 The priority action corresponds to priority 5 of the regional strategy for East and Horn of Africa

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3 (SO3)⁴⁸

Kenya adopts a dynamic and transparent migration governance framework contributing to the protection of the migrants and development goals of Kenya in line with Kenya's commitment to facilitate mobility and support regional integration.

⁴⁹Priority 6: Build effective border management system to address the incidence of irregular migration, including smuggling of migrants and trafficking of persons⁵⁰. The programming for this priority action will fall under *Immigration and Border Management (IBM)* thematic areas of Kenya Country strategy. IOM will collaborate with other UN agencies to support GoK in strengthening border management systems to address transnational and cross border crimes including migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

Priority 7: Mainstream migration through robust policy framework to achieve SDGs and effective GCM implementation⁵¹. The programming for this priority action will fall under *Migration Governance (MG) and Labour Mobility and Human Development (LHD)* thematic areas of Kenya Country strategy. IOM Kenya with support GoK in meeting the global commitments by facilitating evidence-based policy development on migration issues.

48 Strategic objective 3 contributes to improving migration governance in Kenya. It is aligned to the third pillar (governance) of IOM's strategic vision, objective 4 of the IOM SRF (Migration is well-governed at all levels and across sectors) as well as SDG 10 and 17.

49 Strategic objective 3 contributes to improving migration governance in Kenya. It is aligned to the third pillar (governance) of IOM's strategic vision, objective 4 of the IOM SRF (Migration is well-governed at all levels and across sectors) as well as SDG 10 and 17.

50 The priority action corresponds to priority 7 of the regional strategy for East and Horn of Africa

51 The priority action corresponds to priority 6 of the regional strategy for East and Horn of Africa

4.2 PROGRAMMATIC PRINCIPLES

IOM Kenya country strategy will follow four principles in designing its interventions.

Collaborative and Cooperative

IOM Kenya will collaborate with other UN agencies international and national organisations with shared goals and objectives, including participation in the UN Delivering as One with a principle of “leave no one behind”. Through the UN Network on Migration and other UN agencies who are not members of the Network, IOM Kenya will cooperate with all the agencies working in migration and mobility-related issues.

Innovative

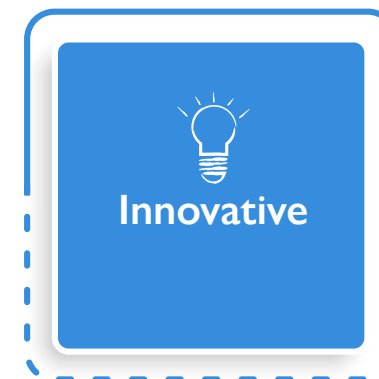
IOM Kenya will aim to have innovative practices and processes for effective programme operations. The focus will be more on process innovation to improve the programme implementation such as cross-thematic programme design and implementation to maximize the available resources to achieve bigger impact. IOM Kenya will also bring in policies and practices which will ensure quality programme delivery.

Progressive

Through its programming, IOM Kenya will bring in progressive changes in the programme design and implementation. The programming will focus on bringing progressive behaviour changes among the stakeholders by contemplating the issues and challenges, analysing them, identifying/ strategising solution to solve them and taking necessary actions. The progressive behaviour changes will create more demand for quality migration services in Kenya and will guide the safe migration behaviour programming for IOM Kenya.

Transformative

IOM Kenya’s programming will aim to challenge the status quo and would contribute to bringing transformative changes in migration and mobility environment.



4.3 INTERVENTION APPROACHES

IOM Kenya will establish a programme development, programme support and knowledge management division within the country office to spearhead the IOM's programming in Kenya.

Knowledge-based programming

In the next five years, IOM Kenya will focus on knowledge-based programming by identifying new learning areas in Kenya; creating more knowledge in the existing learning areas, supporting GoK, UN Network on Migration and other stakeholders with regular evidence generation on migration and mobility-related issues; and strengthening and harmonising migration and mobility-related data in Kenya with the help of regional data hub.

Thematic Programming and Cross Thematic Programming

The country strategy has eight thematic areas:

(1) Migration Governance, (2) Labour Mobility and Human Development, (3) Migrant Protection and Assistance, (4) Emergency, Preparedness, Response and Stabilization, (5) Migration, Environment and Climate Change, (6) Immigration and Border Management, (7) Migration Health, and (8) Resettlement and Movements.

To move away from the project-based programming, IOM Kenya will focus on developing long term programmes based on the above thematic areas. The thematic areas are identified based on the priorities and are in line with IOM's internal governance structure. The strong added value of IOM is also to intervene with cross-thematic approaches and programming to address multiple factors in an integrated and innovative manner.

Area-based programming

Some counties and urban areas in Kenya deal with multiple challenges and issues, which requires a comprehensive intervention. Hence, wherever relevant, IOM Kenya will adopt an area-based approach in coordination with relevant organisations to respond to migration/ mobility/ displacement related challenges. To start with, IOM Kenya will focus on the urban settlements in Nairobi and expand the work of its sub-offices in Kakuma and Mombasa. IOM's existing presence in these areas will facilitate pilot programming. IOM will also expand collaboration beyond the UN migration Network members to work with agencies including the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) for such programming.

Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus (HDPN)

Addressing the multiplicity of natural and climate-induced disasters, pandemics and epidemics and conflicts in different countries, IOM Kenya will adopt HDPN "contiguuum" designing its programme⁵². Aligning with the Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF), the Migrants in Crisis (MICIC) and the IOM Regional Strategy, such programmes will focus on simultaneously addressing immediate life-saving needs, long term recovery needs and development of peace and security through social cohesion programming.



⁵² As the IOM East and Horn of Africa Regional Strategy cites, HDPN practitioners tend to speak of a "contiguuum" to indicate that the process is not linear – i.e. starting with humanitarian response, followed by development and then by peace. Rather, there are overlapping simultaneous and reinforcing efforts, which can be described as contiguous and, thus, the term "contiguuum".

4.4 CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

IOM Kenya will integrate cross-cutting themes and approaches into the thematic as well as area-based programming. IOM Kenya will ensure that the cross-cutting themes are integrated into programme design and implementation.

Mainstreaming Protection and Rights-Based Approach (RBA)

As the UN Migration Agency, IOM is mandated by its constitution and the policy documents adopted by its member states to contribute to the protection of migrants. In line with this mandate as well as international, regional and national legal and normative frameworks, IOM Kenya will promote and protect the human rights of migrants and ensure that its interventions do no harm, promotes non-discrimination, promotes meaningful access, safety, dignity, participation, empowerment and accountability measures. Equally IOM will support the implementation of the UN Network on Migration Policy Brief on the Global Compact for Migration “Well Governed Migration as an Essential Element of Effective COVID-19 Response”, which is an important policy document given IOM’s important role as the coordinator and secretariat of the Network⁵³. IOM Kenya will integrate RBA into all its interventions, and the internal governance systems to contribute to the protection of migrants, displaced populations and other mobile population. Furthermore, IOM Kenya will dedicate resources to build the capacity of its staff, government and non-governmental partners on protection mainstreaming and ensure its application in programme and project development and implementation, policy and advocacy work.

Gender Mainstreaming

Gender dynamics of mobility will be mainstreamed in all the programming. This would mean that in every stage of programme design and implementation, gender-related impacts will be analysed and incorporated to ensure that all IOM programmes address the needs and participation of all beneficiaries, regardless of gender. IOM Kenya will put special emphasis on mainstreaming gender and protection in the emergencies, transition and post-crisis recovery programming. Moreover, IOM is committed to “Zero Tolerance on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse” and actively participates in the Inter-Agency Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network.

IOM will ensure that the policies of gender mainstreaming and PSEA and reporting of misconducts are shared and learned not only by IOM staff but also by the implementing partners and the programme beneficiaries.

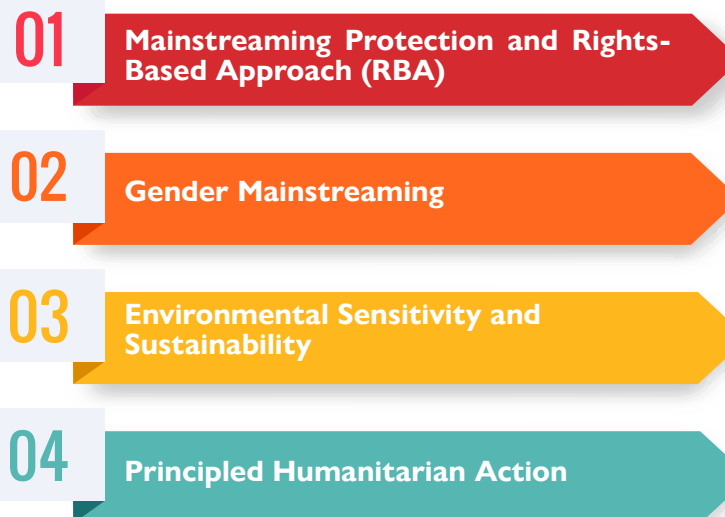
⁵³ UN Network on Migration, The Global Compact for Migration (GCM): Well Governed Migration as an Essential Element of Effective COVID-19 Response. Available at https://migrationnetwork.un.org/sites/default/files/docs/policy_brief-gcm_and_well_governed_migration_as_an_essential_element_of_effective_covid-19_response_1.pdf

Environmental Sensitivity and Sustainability

Adhering to ‘Do No Harm’ principles, IOM Kenya will factor in environmental and climate change-related concerns into its programming. Programme interventions and their implementation should not cause or contribute to environmental degradation or natural resources depletion. This is of particular importance for the programmes under the thematic area of Emergency Preparedness, Response and Stabilization. IOM Kenya will actively assess opportunities for climate change mitigation throughout its programming such as using natural over artificial structures in disaster risk reduction.

Principled Humanitarian Action

All humanitarian responses in Kenya will follow humanitarian principles: Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality and Independence. These principles will be applied to all the operating context identified under MCoF: Human-made, protracted, natural disaster and crisis triggered by migration flows.



5. THEMATIC AREAS



1. Migration
Governance
(MG)



2. Labour Mobility &
Human Development
(LHD)



3. Migrant
Protection and
Assistance (MPA)



4. Migration, Environment and
Climate Change (MECC)



5. Emergency Preparedness,
Response and Stabilization
(EPRS)



6. Immigration and
Border Management
(IBM)



7. Migration
Health (MH)



8. Resettlement
And Movements
Management
(RMM)



5.1 Migration Governance (MG)

IOM works closely with governments in promoting migration governance that ensures a safe, orderly and regular migration. IOM Kenya will support the Government in the development of global strategies, legal norms, laws, regulations and policies as well as in the development of organizational structures (subnational, national, regional and international) and the relevant processes that shape and regulate Kenya's approach regarding migration in all its forms, addressing rights and responsibilities and promoting international cooperation.

COUNTRY PRIORITIES

Institutionalize the Regional Ministerial Forum on “Harmonization of Labour Migration Policies in the East and Horn of Africa: A Unified Approach on Safe, Regular and Humane Labour Migration” (RMFM) A Regional Consultative Process (RCP) on Labour Migration Governance in the East and Horn of Africa region, and other regional initiatives.

Periodic Labour market assessments and survey to explore new destination countries.

Support the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and Ministry of Foreign Affairs develop Bilateral Labour Migration Agreements (BLMAs).

Labour migration policies and legal framework including regulation of private recruitment agencies in addressing ethical recruitment and protection of human, social and economic rights of migrant workers.

Implementation of Global Compact for Migration (GCM)

Migration Data Statistics: the production, harmonisation, and management of migration data including labour migration.

Review current migration and labour policies in view of lessons learned in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.

THEMATIC OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTION AREAS

- **Thematic Objective:** Contribute to a well-coordinated, migration management system that ensures safe, orderly and dignified migration, in Kenya.
- **Intervention areas:** Evidence-based policy and legal framework, capacity strengthening; advocacy, the whole of government and whole of society approach, and mainstreaming migration.

KEY RESULTS

- A functional national plan of action for the implementation of GCM.
- A functioning UN Network on Migration in Kenya and relevant technical working groups under the network.
- Inclusion of migration agenda in the operational county and national development plans.
- Support the government in monitoring and reporting mechanisms on migration-related SDGs and GCM.
- Harmonised migration data management system.

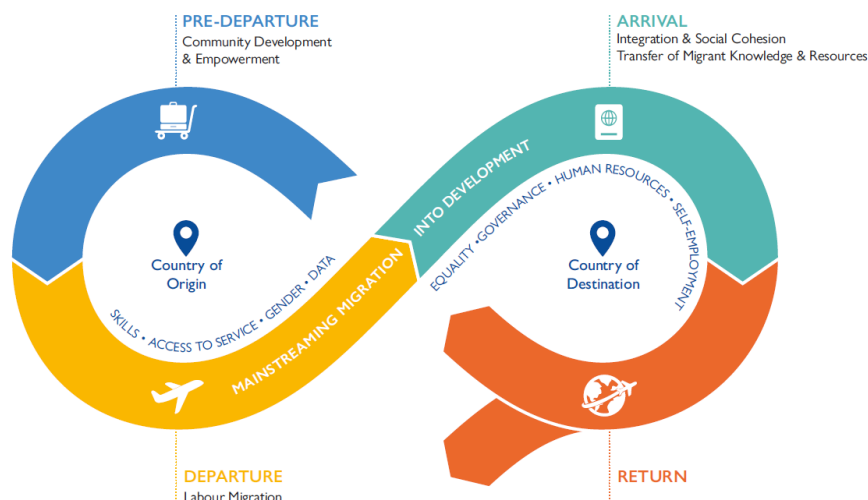
INTERVENTIONS

- Support the Government through the NCM and its secretariat in developing the national plan of action for the implementation of GCM as well as the implementation monitoring and reporting on migration-related SDGs and their respective targets.
- Establish the UN Network on Migration to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to the Government on migration related matters.
- Capacity enhancement of the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM) to develop, review and ensure relevant and coherent migration policies and legislation and coordinate migration programming in Kenya.
- Support GoK in operationalisation of road map and communique related to RMFM and regional and continental initiatives.
- Advocate for inclusion of migration agenda in national and county development plans through production and dissemination of policy briefs, consultation and association with various stakeholders.
- Support the Government in expanding BLMA with more destination countries and review existing BLMAs to ensure human rights-based protection provisions.
- Engage with the Government in advocating in negotiation, with other member states for common labour migration policy within the EAC; by formulating the EAC Situational Analysis and Regional Labour Migration Policy, the regional harmonization of labour migration data collection procedures and the establishment of regional joint training programmes on the ethical recruitment.
- Support the government in the production, harmonisation and analysis of migration statistics and advocate for inclusion of migration-related indicators in the national and sub-national Government led surveys.
- Support the government in using the second phase of the Migration Governance Indicators to establish a baseline of existing legislation and policies.



5.2 Labour Mobility & Human Development (LHD)

Labour Mobility & Human Development will focus on the safe, orderly and regular labour migration and will adopt the migration cycle approach. LHD interventions are closely linked to interventions of Migration Governance and Migrant Protection and Assistance thematic work. LHD will support GoK in realising migration related commitments to various regional and continental frameworks, protocols and road maps (RECs, and AU).



COUNTRY PRIORITIES

- Integrated Migration Management Information System (IMMIS) and user-friendly website/mobile app to disseminate information regarding available jobs in countries of destination.
- Stakeholder mapping on the foreign country employment towards 'one country team approach' on labour migration policy.
- Expansion of pre-employment, pre-departure and post-arrival training programmes for prospective and returning Overseas Kenyan Worker (OKWs)
- Diaspora engagement.

THEMATIC OBJECTIVE AND INTERVENTIONS AREAS

- **Thematic Objective:** Support the GoK, private sector and migrant communities in developing and implementation of policies, guidelines and SOPs that will create an enabling environment in ensuring safe, orderly and regular migration facilitated by ethical recruitment contributing to the well-being of migrant families and communities.
- **Intervention areas:** Capacity strengthening; advocacy, the whole of government approach, private sector engagement, skill for migration, ethical recruitment.

KEY RESULTS

- Capacity strengthening strategy and implementation framework for Labour Attaché, members of NCM, labour ministry and other relevant GoK officials.
- IMIS assessment report and a roll-out plan.
- Migration cycle based migrant orientation module is endorsed by GoK.
- Committed PEAs to promote ethical recruitment in Kenya.
- Diaspora engagement policy and implementation plan is available.

INTERVENTIONS

- Support inter-state collaboration on diplomatic and consular services and expansion of labour attaché offices with expanded scope and enhanced capacity in countries of destinations.
- Support GoK in enhancing consular protection and cooperation in the region to support vulnerable migrants as stipulated in the RMFM.
- Enhance capacities of Private Employment Agencies (PEAs) in Kenya to promote ethical recruitment and safe labour migration.
- Build capacity of PEAs and overseas employers for the protection of migrants and ethical recruitment.
- Expansion of pre-employment, pre-departure and post-arrival training programmes for prospective overseas Kenyan Workers in new destinations.
- Advocacy with GoK, and select destination countries governments, for accreditation and approval of IOM's pre-departure health screening services to migrant workers.
- Build the capacity of the Government in ensuring the establishment and full operationalization of a joint working committee for the effective implementation of the current and future BLAs including capacity strengthening initiatives of Labour Attachés to monitor the implementation of BLAs and dealing with, among others, the protection of the legal, human rights and labour rights of OKWs.

- Establishment of the Integrated Migration Management Information System, which gives accurate and reliable labour market data, updated skills inventory, migration services and linkages for OKWs.
- Provide support in the creation of a working group with the multi-agency committee on labour migration bringing together the main institutions responsible for matters relating to labour migration with the National Employment Authority (NEA) taking the coordination role.
- Support the Government in developing a holistic communication strategy to provide accessible accurate and reliable information to migrants.
- Collaborate with the National Industrial Training Authority in developing training programmes for skills development aligned to foreign labour market need.
- Develop guidelines for the portability of social security benefits for the migrants.
- Advocate with the Government and relevant financial institutions on reducing the cost of remitting money by developing policy briefs and creating evidence.
- Provide technical support to the Government in diaspora engagement by conducting research, developing policy briefs, diaspora engagement strategies as well as guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs).
- Structural and technical support to the Government in improving the protection of migrant workers through established monitoring/ oversight management systems.
- Address challenges of migration of workers due to COVID-19 through support and evidence-based advocacy for social inclusion including access to remediation measures, health and retirement benefits.
- Engagement with the private sector/ actors on the development of key policies, guidance notes and implementation of laws protecting migrant workers from abuse of human rights in light of COVID-19.





5.3 Migrant Protection and Assistance (MPA)

Migrant Protection and Assistance will focus on strengthening the protection environment for migrants and vulnerable populations through evidence based programming in identifying migrant protection needs and risk; supporting law and policy development and implementation; provision of direct assistance and specialized protection services to vulnerable migrants including migrant victims of human rights violations such as victims of human trafficking; victims of labour exploitation solutions including exploring alternatives for regularization of stay and return and reintegration; protection of vulnerable migrants including children at risk (UAMSC); addressing socio-economic vulnerabilities to reduce irregular migration and prevent violent extremism; capacity building as well as dialogue and advocacy with relevant governmental and non-governmental stakeholders on migrant protection and assistance. To achieve these strategic thematic priorities, IOM Kenya will promote a whole of government and whole of society approach by engaging various governmental and non-governmental stakeholders/partners at national and sub-national levels in order to address short term and recurring protection needs as well as longer term initiatives to impact lasting change in the lives of migrants and other vulnerable populations.



COUNTRY PRIORITIES

- Regular protection analysis and reporting of migrant needs and risks through monitoring, assessments and surveys.
- Support law and policy development and implementation to ensure inclusion of protection considerations for migrants and the Return and reintegration policy and national framework.
- Mechanism to facilitate provision of assistance and services (medical, legal, psychosocial, safe shelter, family tracing and reunification, material assistance and voluntary return and reintegration) to vulnerable migrants and migrant victims of human rights violations including victims of human trafficking in Kenya and abroad and support implementation of solutions including integration, return and reintegration.
- Comprehensive programming on counter-trafficking while ensuring the implementation of the 4 Ps of counter- trafficking initiative: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnership.
- Address socio-economic vulnerabilities of communities and youth at risk as a means to prevent irregular migration, and destructive engagements including violent extremism, drug trafficking among others.
- Safety nets programmes in light of COVID-19 impact for the victims of trafficking/ smuggled migrants and other vulnerable migrants exposed to abuse and exploitation.

THEMATIC OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTION AREAS

- **Thematic objective:** In line with established standards, contribute to comprehensive and sustainable protective prevention and response interventions and solutions for vulnerable migrants, migrants victims of human rights violations including victims of human trafficking as well as communities at-risk of abuse, violence and exploitation through improved protection needs/risk analysis; direct assistance; solutions including regularization of stay and voluntary return and reintegration; capacity building; advocacy and dialogue with relevant stakeholders.

- **Intervention areas:** law and policy development and implementation; strengthening evidence base through data collection, research and analysis; provision of direct assistance and specialized protection services; awareness raising; capacity building, thematic guidance, advocacy and dialogue.

KEY RESULTS

- Improved knowledge and understanding of protection needs and risks of migrants and vulnerable populations informs IOM KCO programming, policy and advocacy efforts.
- Migrant sensitive laws, policies, guidelines and action plans developed to facilitate migrant protection and assistance.
- Improved access to comprehensive, quality and timely prevention, remedial and response protection interventions and services.
- Improved awareness among migrants and vulnerable population on their human rights, reporting/complaints mechanisms, available protection assistance and services and risks associated with irregular migration.
- Improved capacity of service providers and duty bearers on migrant protection issues.
- Improved social cohesion between migrants and host communities.
- Reduced vulnerability and productive engagement of communities and youth at risk.
- Integrated media and community-based awareness-raising campaign strategy and implementation module on safe migration.

INTERVENTIONS

- Facilitate provision of assistance and services (medical, legal, psychosocial, safe shelter, family tracing and reunification, material assistance and voluntary return and reintegration) to vulnerable migrants and migrant victims of human rights violations including victims of human trafficking.
- Strengthen the capacity of service providers through training and technical co-operation to ensure provision of services in line with established standards.
- Enhance reporting and protection data collection mechanisms aimed at identifying migrant protection needs and risks and conduct analysis on a regular basis.
- Conduct assessments and establish community-based interventions to address socio-economic vulnerabilities of communities and youth at risk as a means to prevent irregular migration, and destructive engagements including violent extremism, drug trafficking among others.
- Capacity building of the relevant Government institutions and other stakeholders on mainstreaming migrant protection and assistance in government initiatives/national structures/mechanisms.
- Protect children at risk including UAMSC including through establishing sound child protection processes and provision of specialized child protection services.
- Support the government to develop and reform laws and policies relating to immigration detention and share best practices; provide technical assistance to enhance understanding of migrants rights and the international legal framework relating to detention; promote alternatives to detention; advocate for improved conditions in detention and provide assistance, services and referrals to migrants in detention.
- Joint programming, partnership and inter-agency coordination with agencies and other stakeholders (private sector, CSOs) to address migrant protection issues.
- Capacity enhancement of relevant stakeholders to develop SoPs and regulations on migrant protection and assistance in both countries of origin and countries of destination.
- Provide technical support in the implementation of the National Plan of Action including National Referral Mechanism (NRM), the victim assistance fund and regular research and assessment on trafficking in person, migrant smuggling and irregular migration.
- Strengthen and operationalize existing laws, policies and action plans on human trafficking by bringing the victim-centred approach in the Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnership process.
- Maintain strong, results-focused integration, reintegration and social cohesion programmes, including post-arrival reintegration assistance for voluntary returns, assisting in family tracing and reunification.
- Support GoK in developing a sustainable and integrated migrant return and reintegration policy in Kenya.
- Develop and implement COVID-19 economic and social protection recovery programmes by targeting VoTs, smuggled migrants and at-risk populations including women, youth and children.





5.4 Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC)

Migration, Environment and Climate Change addresses the migration, environment and climate nexus. The focus of this thematic area is to work with key stakeholders (government as well as civil society organisations) to provide evidence-based knowledge on migration, environmental degradation and climate change dynamics in Kenya and utilize the evidence in local or national planning, programming or decision-making.



COUNTRY PRIORITIES

- Research and innovations for enhanced environmental sustainability.
- Enhance climate change resilience and low emission development pathway in all economic sectors for sustainable development.
- Mainstream climate change adaptation into County Integrated Development and National Action Plans on disaster risk management and other county plans.

THEMATIC OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTION AREAS

- **Thematic objective:** Support and strengthen the inclusion of environmental degradation, climate change dynamics and enhanced environmental sustainability in programming and policy frameworks in consideration of migration pattern in Kenya.
- **Intervention areas:** Policy intervention, innovative MECC programming, evidence and data; environmental sustainability, partnership and collaboration, humanitarian development approach, nature-based DRR and DRM solutions.

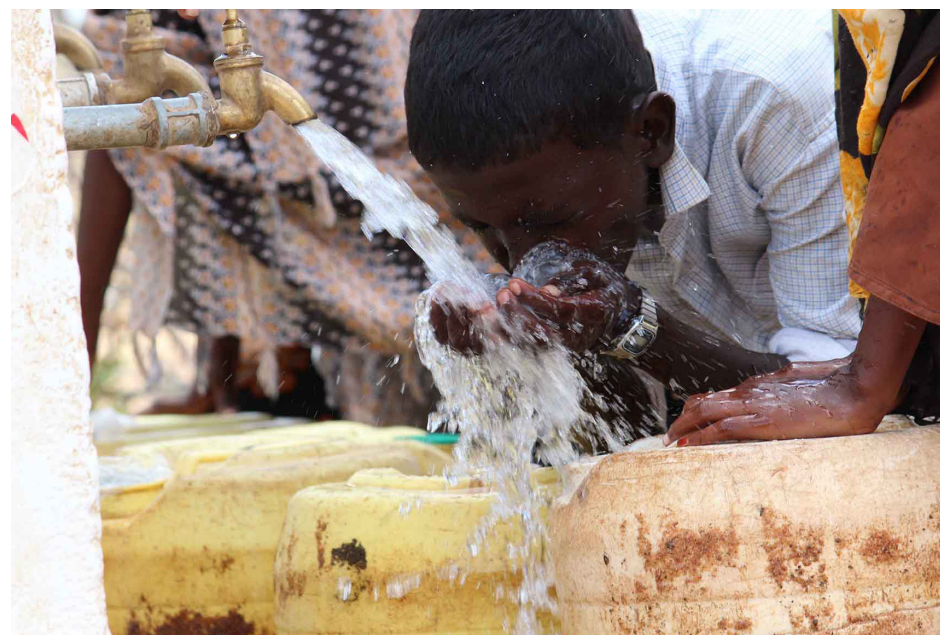
- Address human mobility challenges associated with environmental factors and climate change through comprehensive and innovative humanitarian-development programming.
- Foster partnerships and networks that build capacity in addressing migration, environment and climate change challenges and opportunities.
- Develop effective sustainable strategies on the use of both land and ocean natural resources while preserving the health of the environment ecosystem.
- Focus on the urban dynamic of migration and displacements due to climate change.
- Strengthen the DRR and DRM work with nature-based solutions in coordination with EPRS and MPA.

KEY RESULTS

- Research and policy briefs on climate migration.
- GoK has Policy framework on MECC.

INTERVENTIONS

- Support the Government to formulate and/or enhance policies that address the adverse impacts of climate change-related displacements and migration.
- Focus on research and knowledge development through promoting evidence-based knowledge on MECC in Kenya.
- Harness the benefits of migration to promote sustainable development through the effective use of natural resources.
- Take up knowledge dissemination initiatives on MECC.





5.5 Emergency Preparedness, Response and Stabilization (EPRS)

Emergency Preparedness, Response and Stabilization will adopt a targeted intervention in the country, especially in the areas which are environmentally and/or politically fragile by providing both humanitarian and durable solution support to those who are affected by either human-made or natural disasters. This thematic area will also support the provision of durable solutions for the person in displacement, building their resilience as well as increasing the capacity of the Government, both at the national and local level, in the preparedness and response to disasters and in the refugee context, will also adopt resettlement strategy.



COUNTRY PRIORITIES

- Accelerated and socio-economic development in ASAL.
- Humanitarian-development and peace nexus in response and resilience building of the most vulnerable groups.
- Integration of sequenced approach from emergency response to the transitional and durable recovery from disasters.
- Enhance organisational capacity and improve information management on mobility and flow monitoring of displaced population who are affected by natural and human-induced disasters.

THEMATIC OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTION AREAS

- **Thematic objective:** Contribute to transforming communities and the local governments through resilience and peacebuilding programmes, provision of gender-responsive life-saving humanitarian support to the vulnerable population, local capacity building and support refugees operation, including the promotion of durable solutions to displacement situations.
- **Intervention areas:** Mainstream protection in emergency/humanitarian settings, the whole of government and whole of society approach, policy intervention, innovative humanitarian-development programming, refugee support, durable solutions, research, evidence and data.

KEY RESULTS

- Kenya specific Migration Crisis Operational Framework
- Information management through the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)
- Assessment/research reports and policy briefs on drivers of violent extremism (VE), conflict mapping and root causes of inter-communal conflict

INTERVENTIONS

- Support GoK in enhancing disaster risk management systems for preventing, preparing, mitigating, and responding to the most vulnerable displaced population caused by the natural and human-induced disasters at national and county level especially in ASAL and Semi ASAL as well as big urban centres.
- Support sustainable and climate-smart livelihood diversification and disaster risk reduction at the community level.
- Research and policy briefs on drivers of violent extremism.
- Community-centred programme design on mitigating adverse drivers of VE, including in cross-border areas and through cross-border programming.
- Support GoK in the development and implementation of a reintegration framework for former combatants, including at-risk and vulnerable youth of recruitment and radicalization to violent extremism.
- Research root causes of inter-communal conflict and conflict mapping; engage communities in mechanisms for inclusive community governance and planning supporting strategic community stabilization projects.
- Build the capacity for inclusive and traditional conflict resolution mechanisms.
- Collaborate in refugee response plans including facilitating durable solutions (resettlement, relocation, repatriation and local integration).





5.6 Immigration and Border Management (IBM)

Immigration and Border Management will support GoK to enhance its border management systems and structures through building capacities, which will allow right balance between policies that would facilitate cross border mobility of bona-fide travelers, licit goods and services while maintaining the security of national borders.

COUNTRY PRIORITIES

- Safety and security of the people and property.
- Maintain a credible civil registry and vital statistics system.
- Universal coverage of identity document.
- Integrated and well-coordinated border management.
- Enhanced regional and international cooperation on border management.

THEMATIC OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTION AREAS

- **Thematic Objective:** Contribute to ensuring that the state can effectively manage immigration and movements across their borders and through their territories in accordance with regional dynamics and international good practice, by observing the rights of migrants and facilitating safe, orderly and regular channels of migration while addressing irregular, exploitative and criminal abuse.
- **Intervention areas:** Good border and immigration governance, partnership and collaboration, capacity building, system strengthening, human rights, protection sensitive practices.

KEY RESULTS

- Strengthened international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration.
- Enhanced availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration and provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration.
- Managed borders in a secure and coordinated manner and availability of accurate and timely information at all stages of migration.
- Periodic border assessment reports and risk analysis.
- Enhanced response capacity on the border-related risks and challenges with an early warning system.

INTERVENTIONS

- Partner with relevant government agencies such as the Department of Immigration Services and Border management secretariat to provide technical assistance and support for the institution development including enhancement of infrastructure.
- Promote intra and inter-agency collaboration and coordination for regular information exchange, joint operations for customs, health, veterinary and phytosanitary areas.
- Support in capacity enhancement of border management committees on document examination and fraud document detection at gazetted borders in Kenya.
- Engage border communities on border policing, migration management outreach activities with a focus to irregular border crossings, smuggling and trafficking of migrants.
- Support coordination efforts among government agencies such as Border Management Secretariat, Department of Immigration Services, National Registration Bureau, National Police Service and Civil Registration Services responding to challenges of border management related risks, threats and crimes in Kenya.
- Support GoK in expanding the identity management document initiative through developing SoPs and creating awareness on document integrity and the benefit of possessing an identity document.
- Share knowledge on the impact of irregular border crossings, cross border criminality on Kenya's national security.
- Support in family reunification and refugee resettlement by engaging with GoK on the issuance and provision of documents to migrants and providing accurate and timely information on document processing.
- Support the Government in enhancing the facilitation of migration and supporting the trade nexus along the maritime routes as well as improving maritime security.
- Support the Government in developing stronger border management systems and structures that will enhance the blue economy in Kenya.



5.7 Migration Health (MH)

Migration Health oversees, supports and coordinates the organization's provision of migration health services globally. In emergency context, this thematic area will support GoK in reinforcing their effort in mitigation of infectious diseases and other health concerns. This thematic area will also support GoK in realising their commitment to universal health coverage by advocating the inclusion of migrants in all health policies and strategy.



COUNTRY PRIORITIES

- Achieving Universal Health Coverage.
- Incorporate the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) in order to enhance the Global Health. Security Agenda as the very porous Kenya border areas remain a serious public health concern.
- Urban health.
- Improve the quality of life for all Kenyans.
- Ensure safe and dignified mode of movement through migration health assessment.
- Improve emergency preparedness and response in the health sector.

THEMATIC OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTION AREAS

- **Thematic objective:** Health-related vulnerabilities of refugee and migrant populations and communities affected by migration are reduced through increased access to quality health services and awareness.
- **Intervention Areas:** Increase accessibility to health services for all, health system strengthening, capacity building, emergency health services, health assessment, digitalisation of health-related data, research, risk communication.

KEY RESULTS

- Migrants and mobile populations are progressively and effectively included in concerning the national health system plans (towards achieving SDG 3.8 on Universal Health Coverage (UHC)).
- Health services to vulnerable populations and mobility pathways are strengthened and services improved.
- Disease outbreak preparedness and response is enhanced, including in the context of pandemics.
- Better health of refugees, IDPs, migrants and their communities are promoted.
- Health-related data is digitalized and shared for better informed decision making and health-related intervention by GoK and partners.
- Awareness towards health-related risks among vulnerable populations is increased.

INTERVENTIONS

- Expand the clientele-base of Migration Health Assessments and Travel Health Assistance services through targeted engagement with relevant destination countries' government entities in Kenya.
- Contribute to the decrease of health inequalities through the delivery of migration-inclusive integrated primary health care services to migrants and vulnerable members of the host communities including in urban settings (such as Eastleigh Community Wellness Centre, and other refugee/ migrant settings).
- As part of achieving UHC, advocate for national and sectoral policies and programming that address migration health concerns and mainstream migration health.
- Facilitate dialogue with financing institutions to assure health coverage for migrants in a non-discriminatory approach.
- Upscale and improve access to basic and specific/ specialized services (such as HIV, TB and sexual and reproductive health, mental and psychosocial health) in the areas where migrants are exposed to risks such as points of entry (PoE), cross-border communities, along transport corridors and urban settlements.
- Contribute to strengthen IHR core capacity of the Ministry of Health (MoH), policymakers and programme managers in key areas such as PoE and global health, particularly in emergency context such as COVID-19, Ebola and other public health threats to create a better understanding of migrants vulnerabilities, cross-border issues and diseases of public health concerns through approaches of prevention, surveillance, risk reduction, and health resilience.
- Continue raising awareness on migration health through risk communication and community engagement, as well as providing migrants with health education to create migrant-sensitive services and promoting better health of refugees, migrants and their communities.
- Enhance data collection and database management on human mobility trend among migrants and host communities, which leads to enhanced disease surveillance and response in vulnerable areas, PoE and major transit centres.
- Provide technical expertise for the development of SoPs for border officials at PoE, roll-out of COVID-19 vaccination and testing.



5.8 Resettlement And Movement Management (RMM)

Resettlement and Movement Management directly oversees and coordinates IOM's resettlement work and transport programmes. This thematic area will ensure that rights and dignity of refugees and migrants are protected in the movement process.



COUNTRY PRIORITIES

- Protection and welfare services to all refugees, asylum seekers and reunifying and returning migrants in Kenya.

THEMATIC OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTION AREAS

- **Thematic objective:** Upholding the humanitarian principles of migration through the promotion of beneficiary-centred approach in refugee resettlement, family reunification, and assisted voluntary return.
- **Intervention Areas:** Mainstream protection, effective service delivery, partnership and collaboration.

KEY RESULTS

- Feedback from the complaint and feedback mechanism.
- Periodic beneficiary satisfaction surveys.
- Periodic reports from the resettlement database.

INTERVENTIONS

- Regular engagement with the Government, partners, and receiving countries to strengthen partnerships and collaboration to promote the quality of movement management for all beneficiaries in Kenya.
- Mainstream accountability to the affected populations and the protection of all refugees and migrants throughout the movement continuum.
- Outreach and advocacy to promote IOM's services for the family reunification and mitigating negative migrant stereotypes through the establishment of strategic partnerships.
- Commitment to supporting the search for durable solutions for stranded/vulnerable migrants including refugees using the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) model to promote safe and dignified return and reintegration of the affected population.





6. PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

In Kenya, stakeholders range from governmental, non-governmental, and international partners. IOM is recognized as a key partner to the Government in strengthening the capacities of relevant stakeholders in managing migration, whilst also increasing the resilience of vulnerable migrants. To foster the whole-of-government and whole of society approach, IOM closely works with the National Migration Coordination Mechanism (NCM) as the Government-led interagency coordination. NCM is comprised of key stakeholders in migration management and nonstate actors, which are in charge of national migration issues, and is tasked with facilitating interagency coordination, collaboration and information-sharing on migration concerns at the national level. In early 2017, IOM concluded a cooperation memorandum of understanding with the newly established NCM in order to guide current and future IOM programming in addressing migration challenges in Kenya. In addition to NCM, IOM will continue working with the National Consultative Forum on Migration (NCF), which includes non-governmental organisations, civil society organisations and other entities interested in and involved in migration issues thus promoting a whole-of-society approach.

IOM will also continue to closely coordinate with the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government (MoICNG). In 2016, IOM signed an MoU on community policing with MoICNG. Under MoICNG, IOM will specifically coordinate with the Department of Immigration Services to counter security threats through capacity building on immigration and border management procedures; the National Registration Bureau; Civil Registration of Persons (NRB) on matters on identity management; the National and Country Security Committees (NCSCs), and the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) to reintegrate and prevent Kenyan citizens to be radicalized or join violent extremist groups. In 2017, IOM signed an MoU with the NCTC for cooperation on matters relating to prevention and combating of violent extremism in Kenya.

IOM continues to work with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, as well as the National Employment Authority (NEA) to ensure the safety of labour migrants departing from and coming to Kenya and protection of

migrants in the country. IOM will work closely with the Kenya Counter Trafficking in Persons Secretariat (CTiP) to promote the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for assisting the victims of human trafficking at the county level and providing technical support to establish government-run shelter houses for the victims of human trafficking. IOM will support the Ministry of Health to contribute to decreasing health inequalities through the delivery of basic health services to migrants and vulnerable members of host communities in urban and other migrant settings. IOM will continue to work in close cooperation with all relevant Government agencies, building upon long-term partnerships fostered over the years, building on the structures and policies in place.

At the regional level, IOM closely coordinates with AU, EAC and IGAD to support harmonization efforts ensuring that national initiatives are consistent and aligned with regional commitments.

IOM AND THE UN

On 19 September 2016, IOM joined the United Nations (UN) as a related organization. The entry of IOM into the UN system is the culmination of progressively stronger collaboration and coordination efforts since IOM's establishment. The inclusion of IOM in the UN reflects a growing recognition of the importance of migration and human mobility in international cooperation. As the UN Migration Agency, IOM looks forward to continuing and deepening its work with the member states and specifically the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Compact on Migration.

In Kenya, IOM is part of UNDAF 2018-2022 transitioning soon to United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and most active under the Political Pillar regarding the migration-related outputs and the Social Pillar under Health and Protection. IOM is also the cluster lead for the Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs) coordinating agencies for a collective response. UNDAF is the most important instrument for planning and implementation of UN development activities at country level supporting the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. IOM is also committed to multilateral partnership by close coordination with other inter-governmental organizations, such as the World Bank, AU and the African Development Bank.

IOM AND NGO'S/ CSO'S

IOM works in coordination with a number of NGOs/CSOs in Kenya, in outreach efforts, referral for direct assistance, enhancing access to networking mechanisms amongst migrant workers, and facilitating participation in skills development training for migrant workers. The Mission will look to expand its work with these organizations leveraging from local knowledge, cultural guidance, and trust engendered within hard-to-reach communities, whilst serving to empower these organizations and enhance the scope and sustainability with which they can independently provide quality and tailored services to vulnerable groups.

IOM AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The private sector has been playing a key role in emergency response and preparedness at the global level and they have demonstrated that their expertise is not only financial contribution but also technical and policy-related. Despite the state's rights and responsibilities to manage and control their borders, the private sectors also have potential to reduce state fragility – and thus address one of the root causes of migration, such as by promoting investment, stimulating economic growth, expanding tax collection, and empowering local populations.

Furthermore, the United Nations acknowledges the potential contributions from the private sectors to SDGs and established the UN Global Compact in 2000 to promote and increase the engagement of the private sectors. As of 6 November 2020, there are 11,593 private entities and other institutions who signed up the Global Compact, 156 of them are registered in Kenya¹.

The private sector is broad as it ranges from multinational corporations through small to medium enterprises (SMEs) to local and sole-owned enterprises. According to OECD, 95 per cent of the private sector consists of SMEs. In Kenya, there is quite large representation of SMEs and/or sole-owned enterprises, engaging them into humanitarian and development policies and programmes is essential.

¹ <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

Under the IOM Private Partnership Strategy 2016- 2021, IOM Kenya will advocate for capacity building of the private sectors and their contributions in migration management. To achieve this goal, the mission will:

- Work with the UN Global Compact-Kenya Country Network to promote the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact to encourage national and local private enterprises to comply with Human Rights, Labour standard, Protection of Environment and Anti-Corruption.
- Consult and engage the private sectors from different types of private entities in programme development.
- Promote engagement of SMEs and sole-owned enterprises in programmes.
- Identify mutual benefits with the private sectors as an equal partner to IOM rather than solely relying on the philanthropic contribution from the private sectors.
- Engage the private sectors in the discussion on policy advocacy for migration management and provide necessary capacity development for the private sector.







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