KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

Migration and Sustainable Development: Data collection exercise for the IOM Development Fund supported project Community Health and Mobility in the Pacific. Pg. 2

Preparedness, Response and Recovery from Disasters in the Pacific: IOM improves access to potable water in remote Lagui community, Morobe Province in Papua New Guinea. Pg. 3

Promoting Safe and Orderly Migration: Migration and Border Capability Improvement in Vanuatu. Pg. 6

Protecting the Rights of Women and Children, Particularly Girls, in Migration-Affected Communities

IOM, Save the Children and the Immigration Division of the Solomon Islands Ministry for Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration partnered to deliver a three-day Trafficking in Persons (TIP) workshop for service providers, law enforcement and other key stakeholders last July, followed by a half-day high-level roundtable discussion for key government stakeholders.

The workshop and roundtable were organised as part of the IOM and Family Support Centre Project “Protecting the Rights of Women and Children Particularly Girls in Migration-Affected Communities” supported by the European Union (EU). IOM Senior Migrant Protection Specialist Jonathan Martens from the IOM Regional Office for Asia Pacific facilitated sessions on victim identification and protection, key concepts related to TIP, and best practice referral mechanisms. Interactive sessions included participants role playing to practice interviews with Victims of Trafficking (VOTs) and analysing case studies to determine who is a VOT.

IOM in the Pacific

TOTAL FUNDING PORTFOLIO IN THE PACIFIC

USD $76.8m

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of offices</th>
<th>Member states</th>
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<td>9</td>
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IOM FUNDING PER SECTOR

- Camp coordination and management: 0.39%
- Community stabilisation: 65.10%
- Disaster risk reduction: 0.79%
- Durable solutions: 1.32%
- Emergency response and assistance to displaced populations: 1.90%
- Emergency, shelter, and NFI: 19.15%
- Facilitating migration: 8.43%
- Migration health: 0.44%
- Regulating migration: 0.27%
- Resettlement assistance: 2.21%
Migration and Sustainable Development

IOM works to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people. IOM works in the Pacific equipping governments with knowledge, skills and tools to develop and operationalise labour migration policies and programmes. IOM is implementing programmes to protect the rights and wellbeing of migrants implementing long-term sustainable development projects in migration-affected communities.

Data collection exercise for the IOM Development Fund (IDF) supported project Community Health and Mobility in the Pacific

Research was undertaken in the Solomon Islands in Makira and Isabel Provinces focusing on the social impacts of mobility linked to logging.

With increasing rates of mobility and the expansion of extractive industries such as forestry, mining and commercial fishing in the region, it is important to understand potential community health challenges and vulnerabilities that may impact the populations and communities affected by these changes. Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a worldwide public health issue, and emerging evidence from the Solomon Islands has demonstrated that migration-affected communities face challenges in relation to community health and VAWG, including increased risk of sexual exploitation, trafficking and abuse. Despite a high number of anecdotal reports on this issue, little evidence or data currently exists that specifically address the intersection nexus of gender, mobility and health. Field research in Makira and Isabel Province was undertaken to start addressing this gap.

Research findings present a bleak picture on the perceived impact of logging and related mobility on affected communities in the study sites, and the Solomon Islands more broadly. This study also confirms that heightened mobility dynamics related to project-induced in-migration in logging-affected communities of the Solomon Islands is linked with increased VAWG, particularly in regard to the occurrence of transactional and exploitative sexual relationships, child and forced marriages.

A number of respondents noted that it was helpful to have an opportunity to raise these points, with one respondent saying to the team, “I'm really glad you came – I wanted to talk about these things.” The report will be available in April 2019.

Pacific Adaptation through Labour Mobility (PALM)

Facilitating safe and dignified labour mobility (LM) is a priority for a number of Pacific Island countries as it provides an opportunity for both sustainable development and climate change adaptation. However, data gaps limit the capacity of governments to develop evidence-based LM programmes.

To respond to this need, IOM launched in February 2018, the PALM project which has completed a research mission for Tuvalu, Kiribati, and the Republic of Marshall Islands. The project continues to deliver support to these Pacific Island Nations’ Governments with research and data analysis of the current labour mobility situation, and to support policy and national decision-making processes. For all three countries, more than 25 government agencies and stakeholders including training institutions, pension funds, finance institutions, NGOs and the private sector offered to provide data and support.

Key partners of labour mobility programmes were consulted on labour market information system needs in Tuvalu and Kiribati, and key partners are being consulted on initiatives for the Marshall Islands. PALM also completed the development of the Labour Market Information system software for Tuvalu and Kiribati and delivered technical training. The project is making good progress in its focus to include labour mobility in National Development Plans and policies.

IOM Fiji launches a Project to Develop a National Migration Profile

As the regional hub in the Pacific, Fiji is considered as an origin, transit and destination country in the context of international migration.

According to government officials, the lack of reliable data on migration is a priority issue for the country. The Government of Fiji and relevant ministries have requested IOM’s support to standardize tools and methodology to collect comparable and reliable data that can be used to formulate appropriate and effective policies.

Funded by the IOM Development Fund, the objective of this project is to contribute to good migration governance in Fiji by promoting evidence-based migration policy and contributing to the mainstreaming of migration throughout government policy in all relevant, complementary areas with the development of a “migration profile” for the Republic of Fiji. The main partner of the project is the Fiji Bureau of Statistics, which will also ensure the continuing of data management and regular updates after its completion.
Preparedness, Response and Recovery from Disasters in the Pacific

IOM continues to support partners to address displacement related challenges by helping to build capacities to ensure displaced populations are protected from and resilient to the impact of natural disasters in the Pacific. Programmes in the Pacific are utilising IOM’s Global tools and methodologies in the areas of preparedness, emergency response and resilience building.

IOM works to Strengthen Management of Displacement Induced by Climate Change and Natural Disasters

IOM has been working closely with the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), the Department of Local Affairs, the Civil Registry and the Vanuatu National Statistics Office to respond to displacement caused by volcanic eruptions on Ambae island, Vanuatu.

Funded by the Government of New Zealand, IOM is supporting the Ambae and Ambrym volcano evacuation response through assisting the NDMO with the registration of internally displaced persons (IDPs).

IOM has supported on-the-ground and at the National Emergency Operations Center through the registration of IDPs, training for government, civil society and community leaders on displacement management, community service mapping, intentions surveys and ongoing displacement tracking, which is circulated to response partners, government and donors.

In late 2018, volcanic activity on Ambrym island increased, requiring partial island evacuation for which IOM is also responding with displacement management activities. In partnership with the United Nations Environmental Program and through the Vanuatu Ministry of Climate Change, IOM has been working to track the environmental impact of displacement through field assessments, desk research and consultative workshops.

Inaugural Tabletop Exercise for the Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response (PREPARE) Program in RMI

On November 2018 the Republic of the Marshall Islands held an inaugural Typhoon Response Tabletop Exercise (TTX) at the University of the South Pacific (USP) Long Island Campus in Majuro.

Over 50 active role players from government and public sector agencies, civil society and the private sector worked together in response to a simulated typhoon designed and facilitated by IOM in support of the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) strategic plan. By the end of the two-day exercise, role players produced a situation report, an initial response plan with budget and made a request for international assistance. On the afternoon of the second day the exercise concluded with a presentation on the USAID Operational Blueprint for Relief and Reconstruction. This exercise was the first for the RMI and contributes to IOM’s support in the development of standard operating procedures for disaster risk reduction and disaster management in the RMI.

Community Vulnerability Mapping (CVM) and Internal Migration Survey

Funded by the World Bank, the Internal Migration Survey is a part of the Community Vulnerability-Mapping Project.

The objective is to collect and analyse the motives/push-pull trends for internal migration of outer island born Marshallese moving to the capital, Majuro. The project was carried out from July – November 2018. A total of 1,217 surveys were collected from participants aged between 18 – 75 years. The surveys were carried out in the villages of Laura, Woja, Ajetake, Long Island, Delap, Uliga and Rita. Results are currently being analysed with assistance from the University of Waikato’s data entry system.

Drone footage collected from the Ambae Island post-volcanic activity ©IOM 2018

Participants gather at Majuro to attend RMI’s first Typhoon Response Tabletop Exercise. Credit: Laura Freeman ©IOM 2018

Nenol Aferene Kaminaga and Ann Chong Gum from the Majuro Sub-Office, conduct Internal Migration Surveys in local communities across Majuro. Credit: Ronald Jorthan ©IOM 2018
IOM improves access to potable water in remote Lagui community, Morobe Province in Papua New Guinea

Lagui village is a coastal community in the Salamaua Local Level Government in Morobe Province. The village is located south of Lae city and sits on a strip of little land mass that stretches out into the open sea just below the edge of Huon plate in the Huon district. The village is characterized by its long stretch of white sandy coconut beach-front with tropical rainforest that spreads from the coast towards inland.

Despite its beautiful coastal setting, the community is prone to natural hazards such as strong winds, king tides, flooding, coastal erosion and sea level rise. Access to potable water has in the past been a major challenge for the community resulting largely in women and girls walking distances exceeding one kilometer to fetch water for household use from the nearby river.

IOM has been working closely with the community to minimize the risks of disaster-induced migration. During a community-based disaster risk management planning process facilitated by IOM in close cooperation with Morobe Provincial Administration, the women of Lagui identified the need for access to potable water as one of their community driven projects. Funded by USAID, IOM supported the identified community-led water project and provided rehabilitation materials.

Rehabilitation of the water supply system is now benefiting a total of 609 Lagui villagers. "I am very much happy to receive safe and clean water right at my doorstep," said Fredah Alester, a beneficiary in Lagui. "This has stopped us as mothers, and the young girls to walk long distances to fetch water from the river, which is unsafe for drinking and cooking," she added. Fredah expressed her gratitude towards the partnership between IOM, Morobe Provincial Disaster Center, Morobe Provincial Health and the Salamaua Local Level Government in working together to rehabilitate the gravity fed water supply system in Lagui.

Lagui community members can now access clean and safe drinking water and within a very short walking distance.

IOM supports the Disaster Coordinating Office (DCO) of Pohnpei by Restoring Equipment for Emergency Transmissions

The outer islands of Pohnpei do not have much in terms of dependable long-distance communication equipment and rely almost solely on high frequency (HF) and very high frequency (VHF) radios for communications. Because of their remote locations and limited resources and disaster response capabilities, communication is vital for the communities of the Outer islands of Pohnpei.

DCO in the Division of Fire and Emergency Services (PDFES) is the agency responsible for responding to emergency transmissions from the outer Islands as well as the main Island of Pohnpei.

Winds had knocked down the antenna for the DCO radio and completely crippled the office’s communications capabilities and limiting their ability to efficiently respond to emergency situations. The Disaster Coordinating Officer and Chief of the PDFES, Patrick Carl, approached IOM for assistance in erecting a new radio tower. With the help of USAID, IOM took on the project and was able to complete constructions in little over a month.

IOM started by surveying the damage of the original antenna and coordinating with the DCO to assess more ideal locations for a new tower. After the initial information gathering, IOM then vetted and hired a local vendor that would be responsible for erecting the new tower. Patrick Carl explained to the local press that the range of the newly constructed tower would have over quadruple the range of the old one, extending original 5-mile range to over 20 miles. There are plans to extend the range even further by placing installing repeaters on the nearby outer Islands.

IOM also acquired materials for rust proofing for the tower in order to extend its lifespan and bright red and white paint as a safety measure for aircrafts.
Target 13  
Prevent forced migration resulting from environmental factors, provide assistance to displaced populations.

Target 16  
Ensure displaced populations, migrant and communities are more resilient. Counter xenophobic rhetoric and racism.

Target 17  
Improve access to technology and data on global migration and contribute to more effective migration policies.

Climate Adaptation, Disaster Risk Reduction and Education (CADRE) in the Republic of Palau

The focus of CADRE lies in developing the resilience and capacity of communities, and the project also recognises the role that reliable infrastructure and equipment plays in keeping schools and communities safe.

CADRE works to identify critical gaps in infrastructure, material and equipment and select target schools and communities based on hazard vulnerability criteria and outfit them with needed improvements. Ten schools throughout Palau have received water catchment systems, with the goal of providing clean and safe drinking water during school hours, as well as provide clean water supply for the community during times of emergency, as schools are often designated as shelters. In November 2018, ali CADRE staff conducted a series of trainings and monitoring visits in Palau. One day was spent visiting five of the schools that received water catchment systems, meeting with the principals, and talking with some of the students that serve on the Water Quality Management Teams. CADRE staff conducted a training on Evacuation Shelter Management for 32 community members. On the last day, 42 community members and school counsellors attended an IOM training on Psychological First Aid.

Water tank at Aimelik Elementary School in Palau which was cleaned and repaired through the ali CADRE project, increasing water storage by 1,000 gallons. ©IOM 2018

Joint post-earthquake situation assessment for Yalanda villagers in the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea’s highlands region was struck by a 7.5 earthquake on the 26th February 2018, which heavily impacted several communities in Hela, Southern Highlands and Western Provinces.

Yalanda community located in Pimaga District, Kutubu Local Level Government, Southern Highlands Province is one of the most affected communities impacted with six reported dead and several injured. An assessment into the needs of disaster and displacement affected Yalanda villagers was carried out jointly by the Emergency Controller’ Office (ECO), Papua New Guinea Defence Force (PNG DF), Oil Search Foundation (OSF), World Vision (WV) and IOM on the 6th of November 2018. The objective of the assessment was to get more clarity on the actual situation of Yalanda community members in terms of their basic needs and durable solutions to displacement.

The mission concluded that there is need to establish a coordinated intervention in Yalanda to address immediate to long-term needs including food security, livelihood, health, shelter as well as other recovery interventions. Recommendations were provided in the report for actions grouped into immediate, and mid to long-term.

Yalanda community members displaced to Endela, Southern Highlands Province ©IOM 2018
IOM IN THE PACIFIC

Promoting Safe and Orderly Migration

IOM implements integrated border management training and the rollout of border management tools and systems. IOM contributes to durable solutions for migrants who are unable or unwilling to remain in host countries by providing assisted voluntary return and reintegration in line with international human rights principles.

Migration and Border Capability Improvement in Vanuatu

IOM supported the Government of Vanuatu to develop a Border Control Operations Standard Operating Procedures Manual for operations at airports and seaports of Vanuatu with the help of Australia’s Department of Home Affairs.

The document comprised detailed descriptions of the procedures, including step-by-step guidelines, which serve as instructions to border control officers to follow the correct procedure and the applicable law reference. Key trainings were delivered for passport examination procedures training of Trainers sessions at national and provincial level.

IOM also established a Document Examination Laboratory and Document Examination Library providing training, equipment, office furniture and capacity building resources to ensure that they are fully operational and prepared to provide capacity support to Vanuatu Immigration Services and Customs officers in passport examination procedures.

Resources provided include:

- 50 copies of IOM’s Passport Examination Procedures Manual
- A comprehensive and practical resource of security features contained in passports to support the passport examination process and build capacity.
- Reports and newsletters developed by IOM’s Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific on trends in travel document and identity frauds and a data collection template to record travellers.
- 100 copies of the ‘Essentials of Passport Examination Procedures’ developed by IOM’s Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

Vanuatu Immigration Services staff warmly thanked IOM for supporting the department to efficiently manage services at the border.

Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) Immigration and Border Management Training and Passport Examination course completed

In November 2018, a total of 12 RMI Officers, 9 from the Division of Immigration, passed the testing and received their certificates of completion for the Immigration and Border Management (IBM) training and Passport Examination Procedure courses in preparation for the country’s new Border Management System, MIDAS.

The 15-day comprehensive training, facilitated by IOM’s Senior Regional IBM Specialist, covered a foundation course on Immigration and Border Management as well as the first two out of three modules for Passport Examination Procedures.

Deputy Director of the Division of Immigration, Mercyba Balos commented, “It was my first ever in-depth training on Passport Examination Procedures. From participating in the training, I now feel more confident in carrying out my duties at the borders as well as examining travel documents. Before the training I had little knowledge of what makes a secured document secured but now I understand what to examine and look out for. The training was intensive while at the same time very exciting – I enjoyed it very much!” Immigration Officer, Michael NOTE, summed up the IBM training with a take home message from the Senior Regional IBM Specialist, “Better learning by mistakes now during the training, than tomorrow and in the future when you are at the border.”

Australia Community Support Programme (CSP):

The programme enables Australian supporters, businesses, families and individuals to sponsor eligible humanitarian entrants arriving in Australia under the subclass 202 Global Special Humanitarian Visa.

IOM is one of eleven Approved Proposing Organisations who operate in Australia and has already lodged visa applications on behalf of 34 applicants since May. The IOM CSP team has been proactive in strengthening relations with community organisations and employers in farming, pharmaceuticals, retail and hospitality throughout the country to facilitate seamless resettlement of prospective arrivals. The CSP team has also established focal points in a series of IOM country offices to coordinate the safe and orderly departure and passage of applicants. IOM look forward to welcoming the first arrivals under CSP within the next few months.
IOM Migrant Assistance Services

IOM provides a number of migration services to humanitarian entrants, refugees and migrants. A total of 10,160 movements to Australia were assisted and 1,306 to New Zealand. Anyone being issued a visa to migrate to Australia could use IOM self-payer services to book their travel, organise wide range of pre-departure assistance and transit assistance en route. IOM holds global agreements on concessional fares and generous baggage allowances with various airlines operating to Australia. IOM can avail those fares to migrants settling to Australia for the first time.

Additionally, Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration is available for those who are eligible to return under this program. IOM provides returns counselling and travel assistance. IOM has provided assisted voluntary return services in Australia since 2006 to more than 7,600 beneficiaries returning to 132 countries. During 2018, IOM supported 821 beneficiaries to return and USD 1.2 million was distributed to eligible beneficiaries as Reintegration Assistance.
National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement

Vanuatu is vulnerable to natural hazards including extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and tropical cyclones as well as to seismic activity such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions which all pose risks to the internal displacement of vulnerable communities. In 2018, Vanuatu launched its National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement with support from the IOM Development Fund.

IOM worked with Vanuatu’s National Disaster Management Office and Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation in a participatory process to develop the policy, based on the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement.

Shelter Post Assistance Monitoring

In 2018, Papua New Guinea was hit by a 7.5M earthquake. IOM worked closely with the government in delivering build back safer trainings prior to distributing shelter kits.

IOM conducted a shelter Post-Assistance Monitoring (PAM) survey in beneficiary communities in Southern Highlands Province to verify that the correct recipients received the correct shelter items, determine effectiveness of the shelter assistance in relation to addressing the needs of the affected population and improve on future distributions to meet the needs of the most vulnerable persons.

Global Migration Indicators 2018

The Global Migration Indicators 2018 report is a snapshot of what we know about migration today. The data is organized along 17 key migration themes and based largely on data taken from Global Migration Data Portal – IOM’s one-stop-shop for international migration data.

The report aims to provide a baseline for objectives in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and migration-related targets included in the Sustainable Development Goals.

Remittances in ACP Countries: Key Challenges and Ways Forward

Remittances play an important role in development as they are a steady, reliable source of investment that helps millions of individuals and households to raise living standards, improve health, education, entrepreneurship and in many instances can foster financial inclusion. This is especially true for ACP countries, which present some of the highest remittance dependency ratios in the world. Despite multiple efforts and international commitments, challenges still remain. This book focuses on the main challenges that ACP countries faces in relation to remittances today.

ACP-EU Migration Action

The ACP-EU Migration Action supports activities in the areas of strategic interest to the ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration and Development through the provision of on-demand technical assistance requested by ACP governments. Find all Pacific interventions here: http://www.acpeumigrationaction.iom.int

Key interventions in the Pacific include:

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

With this Technical Assistance, the Action wants to support the Papuan Government in a TIP project. Training materials will be developed and trainings are to be conducted as to improve the capacity of the law enforcement agencies to identify victims of human trafficking, successfully investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases under the PNG Penal Code Act.

**TONGA**

To facilitate the entries of travelers and investors and consequently generate growth and employment generation in the Kingdom of Tonga, the Government has requested support in developing a visa policy that responds appropriately to the emerging needs of the country. In order to do so, a migration expert will review the Immigration Regulation of the Immigration Division, allowing it to work more efficiently and effectively.

**VANUATU**

Through its Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Government of Vanuatu requested support for a new visa policy and processes that support the national Vanuatu development process through a report including recommendations on a new visa policy.

**Featured Stories:**

“Australia impressed me for its peace and multicultural society, I was very excited to be faced with these different circumstances.”

– Roman

“I believe compassion is the perfect antidote to our fears.”

– Mala

“When I was a little girl, this island was much bigger. But we have to adapt to climate change because we have no choice.”

– Selena

**Key IOM Publications**

**National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement**

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