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Availing life-saving and early recovery assistance post Typhoon Wutip

Only days before Typhoon Wutip hit the Federated States of Micronesia, communities in Yap and Chuuk state had completed IOM-supported disaster management plans, rehearsed hazard drills, and schoolchildren had participated in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction lessons.

With winds of 80 mph and gusts up to 100mph, Typhoon Wutip passed over Pohnpei, Chuuk, and Yap states between 19 and 22 February 2019. Wutip hit the outer islands of Chuuk State, including the ‘Northwest’ islands and the ‘Lower’ and ‘Middle’ Mortlocks islands, and neighbouring islands of Yap before continuing southwest of Guam and slowly dissipating.

In the immediate aftermath of Wutip, community groups and state governments were able to assess and convey the situation on the ground through the completion of Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) forms, an exercise practiced under IOM’s PREPARE project. Based on these assessments, on 11 March, President H.E. Peter M. Christian issued a Declaration of Disaster, thereby officially requesting international assistance. Consistent with the USAID/ FEMA Operational Blueprint for Disaster Relief and Reconstruction in FSM, a Joint Damage Assessment (JDA) was carried out by representatives of USAID/OFDA, FEMA



The IOM barge carrying supplementary food assistance arrives at the affected island of Faichuuk, Chuuk, FSM © IOM Micronesia/ Lee Arkhie Perez

and the FSM Government from 18 March to 4 April, with assistance from IOM. The JDA found Wutip had caused damage to the infrastructure and agricultural production of 30 islands, leaving 11,575 persons food insecure, 40 public infrastructure buildings, and 247 houses either damaged or destroyed. In response to the results of the JDA, the President of the United States authorized a Presidential Disaster Declaration for FSM on May 10, authorizing U.S. federal funding for immediate emergency relief and reconstruction assistance. IOM distributed relief items such as tarps, ropes and reverse

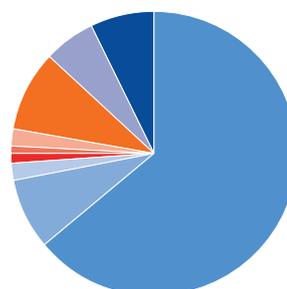
osmosis (RO) Units from IOM warehouses to affected communities. With funding from USAID/OFDA, New Zealand Embassy, and Australian Aid, IOM mobilized approximately USD 450,000 to purchase food baskets for distribution to affected populations. Complete supplementary food baskets have been delivered to 23 islands that endured major damage to agriculture thereby benefiting 9,295 people. A further 2,280 people living in areas that suffered moderate crop damage will also receive supplemental food to ensure their needs are fully met. IOM staff will also participate in post-event assessments.

TOTAL PACIFIC FUNDING

USD \$81.5m

Member states: **15** | Number of active projects: **57**

IOM FUNDING PER SECTOR



- Post-Disaster Reconstruction and Recovery **64%**
- Emergency Response and Assistance to Displaced Populations **8%**
- Emergency, Shelter and NFI **2%**
- Facilitating Migration **1%**
- Immigration and Borders **1%**
- Migration Environment and Climate Change **2%**
- Regulating Migration **9%**
- Return and Reintegration Assistance **6%**
- Other (less than 1%) **7%**

Migration and Sustainable Development

IOM works to facilitate safe, orderly, 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. Through programmes that aim to protect the rights and wellbeing of migrants, IOM is implementing long-term sustainable development projects in migration-affected communities.

Target 3
Ensure well-being through monitoring migrant health, strengthen migrant friendly health systems.



Target 5
Advocate for equal gender rights, combat discriminatory migration practices including human trafficking and gender-based violence.



Target 8
Protect migrant workers and their rights, counter forced labour and human trafficking.



Target 9
Promote resilience to natural disasters with the aim to reduce the drivers of vulnerable and forced migration.



Target 10
Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration to reduce inequalities within and among countries.



Target 13
Prevent forced migration resulting from environmental factors, provide assistance to displaced populations.



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



Contributing to Evidence-based policy and programming

Since 2018, IOM has been working closely with the Government of Tonga to develop Tonga's first Migration and Sustainable Development Policy in addition to developing the first Migration Profile in collaboration with the Government of Fiji.

Both of these projects have been funded by the IOM Development Fund. Based on research and informed by interviews with stakeholders at the government and community level, Tonga's Policy and Fiji's Migration Profile aim to document and analyse international and internal migration and its multi faceted economic and societal impacts, including as they relate to the economy,

education, healthcare, workforce and climate change. To facilitate a government-owned and led process, Technical Working Groups (TWG) have been established in each country to guide the discussion, priorities, and steps towards developing the key documents. The TWGs are comprised of government ministries working across various sectors as migration is a cross-cutting topic, which requires broad representation and exchange of ideas. As a direct result of the TWG meetings as well as the ongoing consultations with key stakeholders in both Fiji and Tonga, synergies and opportunities are already being identified. A number of ministries have started to make accelerated progress on migration-related policies.



The Tonga Policy TWG includes ministerial representation from across Tongan government © IOM Tonga

Pacific Climate Change Migration and Human Security programme launched in Suva

In March, IOM and key partners launched Pacific Climate Change Migration and Human Security.

PCCMHS is a three-year regional programme in Suva, Fiji aiming to enhance the protection and empowerment of migrants and communities affected by climate change and disasters in the Pacific region. The program will support Pacific Island governments address multi-faceted challenges associated with climate change and disaster-related migration, displacement, and planned relocation across the region. The programme received seed

funding from the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) and will target Fiji, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Vanuatu. The Fiji Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Civil Service and Communications, Aiyaz Sayed Khaiyum, welcomed the programme. "We have a global phenomenon called climate change that is affecting people in a very tangible, direct and practical manner, and we have to be able to deal with this issue head on," he said. The PCCMHS program intends to do just that by supporting a regional human security-based response to climate change and disaster related



The PCCMHS partners include UNESCAP, ILO, OHCHR, PIFS, and PDD © IOM Fiji/Lee Yacouris

migration, displacement and planned relocation so as to ensure migrants and communities benefit from safe labour migration where appropriate, and contribute to the evidence base of good practices in these areas.

IOM Research reveals the extractive industry in Solomon Islands puts women and girls at risk

A research report commissioned by IOM and the Solomon Islands Ministry for Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs (MWYCF) found that logging operations and related mobility dynamics combined with pre-existing localized factors create risks of human trafficking, sexual exploitation and forced marriage for local women and girls. The dynamics created by logging camps in remote areas, along with limited industry accountability and few formal protective policies, as well as restricted access to service provision and protective services, leads to an environment where the drivers of vulnerability can go

unchecked. At the launch of the report in May, MWYCF Minister Freda Belinda Adeline Tuki said the report and its recommendations will be used to inform policies and programmes in a concerted effort to improve the situation for women and children in the Solomon Islands, particularly those impacted negatively by logging operations.

"MWYCF will work with all stakeholders, communities, chiefs, representatives of organizations supporting women and girls, and the whole Government of Solomon Islands, to respond to the findings of this report," she said. "One finding of the research shows that

community members are still reluctant to report forms of gender-based violence such as forced marriage and human trafficking to the police. A key area for partnership can be working together to address potential barriers to reporting these crimes," she added.

This research report is complemented by another related project, Protecting the Rights of Women and Children, Particularly Girls, In Migration-Affected Communities, that aims to increase community awareness of human trafficking and gender-based violence in the Solomon Islands. The project is funded by the European Union.

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.

Celebrating the launch of the 45th Community-Based Disaster Risk Management Plan in Papua New Guinea



Kendata villagers celebrated the launch of their CBDRM Plan with much fanfare ©IOM PNG/Peter Murorera

Kendata, like many other communities in Papua New Guinea, is prone to natural hazards including flooding, strong winds and volcanic activity.

To address this, IOM and the Government of PNG has been coordinating closely with community members to develop the Kendata CBDRM Plan. Funded by USAID, IOM supported the development of the Plan through the facilitation of a community-based process and technical input where local leaders and government stakeholders helped mobilize community members. The inclusive process meant community members themselves were involved in the design of the Plan as they identified actors and initiatives that could help reduce the risk of disasters and promote sustainable development. At the launch, Higaturu Local Level Government (LLG) Vice President, Willie Paul, praised the community, "I congratulate you all for your hard work in developing this plan and preparing for the launch. This is your plan and the [government] will support you to address disaster risks and development initiatives identified in it." The Plan is now being operationalized and will help communities, government actors, and key partners to address disaster risks and work towards resilient development initiatives in Kendata.

Expanding Public Information and Early Warning Delivery in Pohnpei

Pohnpei's V6AH Radio Station plays a vital role in keeping communities informed with news, public service announcements, and early warning messages ahead of hazards such as typhoons and droughts.

In June, a property acceptance ceremony was held to celebrate the newly installed solar power panel system at the V6AH Radio Station. The solar power panels are the latest of technical upgrades IOM has been providing to the radio station since 2018 with an aim to increase the coverage, clarity of messaging including to outer island communities, and sustainability of operations.

Prior to IOM starting work in July last year, the station's 12 kW AM transmitter was operating at less than half capacity due to high costs of operations. To address this, IOM installed a 10-kW grid-tied solar panel system. The electricity generated by this solar panel system offsets the operational cost of transmission through renewable energy technology.

The June ceremony celebrated the installation of the solar panels at V6AH Radio Station. The Keynote speaker, Pohnpei State Governor Hon. Marcelo Peteron expressed his gratitude to IOM and NZ Embassy for making the technical upgrade possible, and emphasised the importance of infrastructure and communication systems. Clear and reliable information is key to effective preparation and resilience building where natural disasters pose significant threat.



Pohnpei State Governor Hon. Marcelo Peteron delivers the keynote speech at the ceremony, while ceremonial sakau is prepared in the foreground. ©IOM Micronesia/Bridgette Hogan

Target 5
Advocate for equal gender rights, combat discriminatory migration practices including human trafficking and gender-based violence.



Target 6
Deliver Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) assistance and coordinate WASH assistance in internally displaced person (IDP) sites.



Target 10
Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration to reduce inequalities within and among countries.



Strengthening Vanuatu Capacity to Manage Displacement

To strengthen the capacity of key stakeholders in Vanuatu to manage displacement induced by natural disasters and climate change, IOM trained the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO), provincial authorities, and NGOs. Funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the training focused on evacuation centre as well as camp management, coordination, and operation.

This training on Evacuation Centre Management, Coordination and Operation is the first of its kind in Vanuatu. While based on global practices the training was contextualized based on Vanuatu's experience in responding to displacement situations and in supporting displaced population, particularly after the Ambae emergency response. The training modules were developed based on inputs from NDMO, Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation, Department of Local Authorities under which all provincial authorities fall, as well as local NGOs involved often in disaster response and registration of displacement such as the Vanuatu Red Cross Society. IOM has completed four provincial level trainings on evacuation centres and camp coordination and camp management, five technical trainings on displacement tracking matrix (DTM), information management and GIS, and one national-level training with United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) on Mainstreaming of Environmental Protection in Displacement context. Jamesly Tavuti, the Tafea Provincial Planner, appreciated the training and expressed how it would help coordinate and better prepare the evacuation center in the future.



Participants at the Ambae evacuation training ©IOM Vanuatu/Sonya Syafitri

Building Back Safer across the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea



IOM delivered the Build Back Safer training of trainers (TOT) to 29 men and 7 women from Endela, Yalanda, Kekero and Isup in the Southern Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea.

The training focused on enhancing knowledge on safe shelter construction techniques to support communities build more resilient shelters. The context specific training focused on using traditional techniques and locally sourced materials that celebrates indigenous knowledge. By including 25% female participants, the training also helped shape cultural perceptions of women's role in construction. "This training is useful to us and we now know how to select a good site to build a house," said one female participant. Alongside the 36 community members, the TOT was also attended by four male and five female staff from the Oil Search Foundation and Community Development Initiatives.

As the participants arrived from communities that are remote where access is limited to walking or helicopter, IOM also distributed 370 Shelter/Non-Food Items tool kits. The toolkits were made possible through the support of the Government of New Zealand, Emergency Controller's Office in the Government of Papua New Guinea, and the Oil Search Foundation. The toolkits include claw hammers, hand saws, nails, pad bolts and solar lights, which can be used by 370 households to fortify their residences.

The Build Back Safer shelter TOT targeted communities in the Moro South Highlands affected by disaster and internal displacement © IOM Papua New Guinea/ Peter Muraerera

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 and Disaster Risk Reduction Education program in Palau

IOM continues to assist schools and communities to build disaster risk reduction capacity in Palau, as part of the alii Climate Adaptation & Disaster Risk Reduction Education (alii CADRE) project.

The CADRE team worked with the Palau National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) and Ministry of Education (MOE) to assess the rehabilitation needs of identified evacuation shelters. From this assessment, the 6,000 square foot Ngaremlengui State Office, which is the largest shelter with 200 beneficiary capacity, will soon have typhoon shutters, a new water system, and updated electrical wiring installed. A water system will also be installed at the Aimeliik Elementary School.

Water quality management and conservation initiatives are a major part of alii CADRE activities across Palau. In 2018, ten schools received water catchment

systems and each now has a Water Quality Management Team (WQMT) to assess and treat collected water. Alii CADRE staff have been leading training on system maintenance, result collection, and data reporting with WQMTs. Focus group discussions have been held at eight different schools in Palau to assess if WQMTs have increased the knowledge and awareness of water quality management among students. Results of the study will be presented to the Ministry of Education to assess the value of establishing more WQMTs in schools.

Alii CADRE has also delivered fifteen fire extinguishers and emergency medical kit content cards, to complement previously distributed emergency medical kits, to schools through the MOE. Nine schools received forty water filters. The alii CADRE project, funded by USAID/OFDA, is now in its final cycle and will close in September of this year.



Alii CADRE staff member Dale Jenkins shows a WQMT team leader how to check water levels by manually measuring temperature. ©IOM Micronesia

Alleviating menstrual health issues in times of natural disaster in the Republic of Marshall Islands

Since its inception in 2016, The Cookhouse Confidential working group has met regularly to discuss the impact of menstrual cycles on the lives of Marshallese women and girls, especially during times of disaster.

The group has identified a number of issues surrounding menstrual, sexual and reproductive health that could benefit from further research. Out of these discussions, this current Menstrual Health Management (MHM) research project was born. The participatory project will run over a period of nine months from January to October 2019 and aims to uncover how Marshallese women understand their own menstrual health, MHM practices, menstrual product preferences, and how MHM differs depending on geographical location, socio-economic status, stage of life, and context (e.g. during natural disaster). The project involves over 100 participants, aged from 13-50 years old.

In February, the first focus group workshops kicked off in Majuro and Ebeye. Groups

were introduced to the project, before each received individual research journals, information on reproductive health and five different menstrual products to trial. Participants are trialling five different sanitary products and will record the level of effectiveness and appropriateness in relation to their lifestyle, location, and context. Information gathered from the journals and focus group workshops will be used to design disaster response kits tailored to the needs of Marshallese women and girls and inform a range of MHM developments in RMI.

IOM is conducting this research project in conjunction with Cookhouse Confidential - a group of women from multiple organizations and agencies who regularly meet to discuss and tackle women and girl's menstrual health issues in the Marshall Islands. A report on the research findings will be completed later this year. The MHM research project is funded by OFDA, Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, Youth to Youth in Health, and Ez Price.



A participant receives products to trial during the first Cookhouse Confidential MHM research project workshop. ©IOM Micronesia/Laura Freeman

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.

Supporting 101 Bangladeshi Victims of Trafficking in Vanuatu

IOM has been providing assistance to 101 Bangladeshi victims of trafficking (VOT) stranded in Vanuatu. The VOTs arrived in Port Vila between March and April 2018. Since their arrival they were housed in poor, overcrowded accommodation and forced to work in exploitative conditions, which included confinement, physical abuse, psychosocial abuse and threats, extortion, as well as the withholding of food, medical treatment, identify documents and wages. In October 2018, twelve of the VOTs escaped and presented themselves to the Vanuatu Transnational Crime Unit (TCU). Since coming to the attention of authorities who rescued the remaining VOTs by November 2018, the New Zealand High Commission in Vanuatu rapidly deployed supplies to meet the needs of the VOTs. The government of Vanuatu provided accommodation and private citizens made donations.

As of early 2019, IOM along with the Bangladesh High Commission (in Canberra, Australia) have been working closely together with the Government of Vanuatu to provide information on IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) assistance as well as counselling sessions. AVR is a form of assistance IOM offers, which provides return assistance to a migrant's home country based on their informed and voluntary consent. IOM has supported the voluntary returns of 75 VOTs, who will receive a comprehensive assistance package based on their specific needs. This may include but is not limited to emergency medical assistance, reintegration assistance and food/shelter if necessary. One man who has opted to be returned says, "I would not want anyone else to experience what I experienced as a victim of trafficking and I am grateful with the support that we got. I am looking forward to return safely to Bangladesh and to seeing my family again."



The voluntary returns were possible through the close coordination between IOM missions across Australia, Vanuatu, and Bangladesh as well as the Government of Vanuatu, and the Embassy of Bangladesh © IOM Vanuatu/Janet Jack

Of the remaining 26 Bangladeshi citizens some have been identified as witnesses in the ongoing trial against the perpetrators. They can also choose to voluntarily return with IOM's assistance. There are a handful of victims who do not wish to return. IOM does not conduct forced removal or deportation. IOM continues to partner with the Governments of Vanuatu and Bangladesh to ensure that all those victims who wish to return can in a voluntary, safe and dignified manner.

From Eastern Sudan to Western Australia

Adam (not his real name) recently arrived in Australia through the Community Support Program (CSP), facilitated by IOM. This private sponsorship program allows communities, businesses, families, and individuals to support humanitarian migrants like Adam resettle in Australia. Adam had been seeking asylum in Sudan since violence erupted in his native Eritrea that forced him to suspend his medical studies at Asmara University and to flee to Kassala in eastern Sudan.

After two years in the Shagarab Refugee Camp in Sudan, he reached out to his cousin in Western Australia who agreed to nominate him and become his Australia CSP supporter. As pathway to employment strengthens CSP applications and given Adam's academic and professional background, Adam's cousin was able to secure him a position at Chemist Warehouse. Since arriving in Australia in early 2019, Adam is not only working full time as a pharmaceutical assistant, but also pursuing the Certificate in Community Pharmacy. "I am excited to start a new life – and looking forward to my new job and furthering my studies in the field of medicine over the coming years".

Regional Engagement and Consultations

Integrated border management system for the Pacific

In June, IOM and UNCTAD made a joint presentation at the Pacific Immigration Development Community (PIDC) Regular Annual Meeting in Cook Islands. During the session on Integrated Border Management Systems of the Future, IOM and UNCTAD presented on the key concepts of Integrated Border Management, discussed current Border Management System technologies, provided examples and case studies from other parts of the world as well as recommendations for establishing border management systems in the Pacific. An emphasis during the presentation was on being able to share information and analyse data. PIDC members agreed on the need to facilitate the flow of both people and goods, ensure information exchange between government agencies, prevent and detect transnational organized crime such as people smuggling and human trafficking, and the need for consolidated and comprehensive evidence to inform policy and decision making. A key outcome of the discussions was for Pacific countries to explore the possibility of creating a system that will nurture interoperability between the computerized system of Immigration and Customs departments.

Implementing Australia's Modern Slavery Act – Knowing Your Supply Chain

IOM participated in the Australian Government's forum for business on the reporting requirements for the new Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2019. Over 450 representatives from diverse

Australian businesses and civil society were in attendance. While the panel subjects ranged from Understanding Your Supply Chain and Identifying Modern Slavery Risks to Lessons Learned from the UK Modern Slavery Act, the vast majority of the presenters were from business. In this way, the forum was highly tailored to provide practical advice to business on how to move forward.

A significant difference between the UK Modern Slavery Act and the Australian Modern Slavery Act is that the Australian Act also applies to the public sector (this will soon be true in the UK as well). This means that the Australian Government is also going to have to publish a report outlining their efforts to address Modern Slavery in their supply chains. This inclusion of the public sector means that many large non-profit organizations (such as faith-based organizations and other charities) were also participating in order to learn how best to move forward.

Pacific Resilience Meeting and the 3rd Climate Action Pacific Partnership Meeting

The IOM Chief of Mission for Australia and Coordinator for the Pacific, Mr. Pär Liljert, moderated a session on climate security issues at the 3rd Climate Action Pacific Partnership Meeting (CAPP) held in Suva from 13-14 May. Panellists in the session emphasized the unique security challenges climate change poses in the Pacific. Displacement and planned relocation were seen as key interventions that require the attention and priority of all actors.

Target 8
Protect migrant workers and their rights, counter forced labour and human trafficking.



Target 10
Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration to reduce inequalities within and among countries.



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



IOM Migrant Assistance Service

IOM provides a number of migration services to humanitarian entrants, refugees and migrants:

Refugee Resettlement Program for Australian and New Zealand government-funded refugees and special humanitarian program entrants (SHP).

No-Interest Travel Loan Fund, availed by the Australian Government, can assist proposers meet the travel costs of SHP visa holders. The fund provides up to 75% of the travel costs, to be repaid after their arrival in Australia.

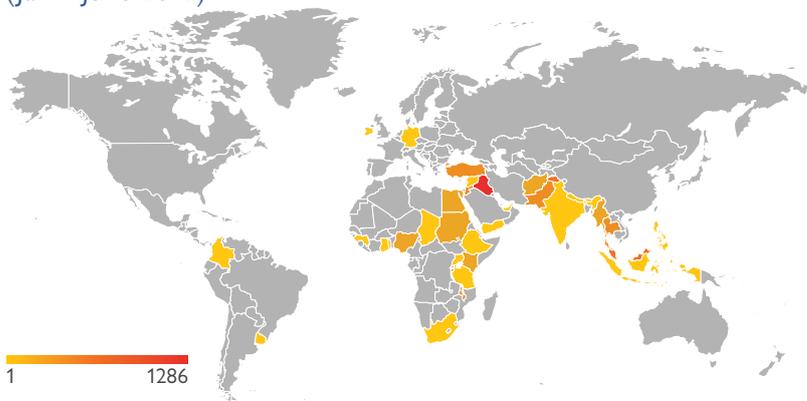
Migration Services to Australia, a fee-paying service, provides migration advice and visa application assistance to individuals and businesses through Registered Migration Agents.

The Community Support Programme enables communities, businesses, families and individuals to collaborate in sponsoring persons to arrive in Australia, integrate and achieve financial independence.

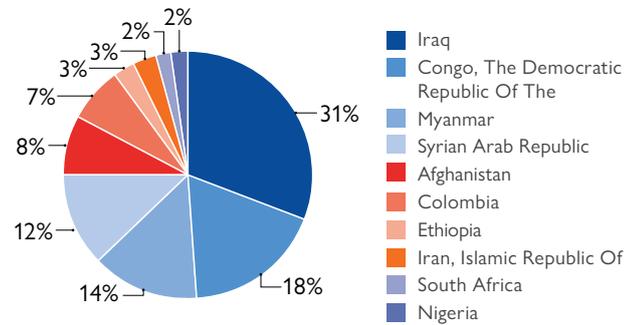
Self-Payer Travel Assistance through which IOM can offer a range of discounted fares and concessional baggage allowance with carriers operating to Australia and New Zealand for migration as a humanitarian entrant, a family visa holder or skilled visa holder.

In the January to June 2019 period, a total of 10,160 movements to Australia were assisted and 1,306 to New Zealand.

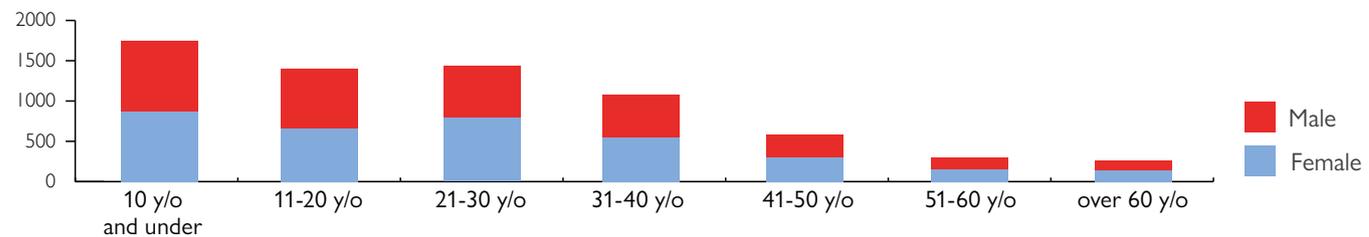
IOM Australia-managed migration movements to Australia (Jan – June 2019)



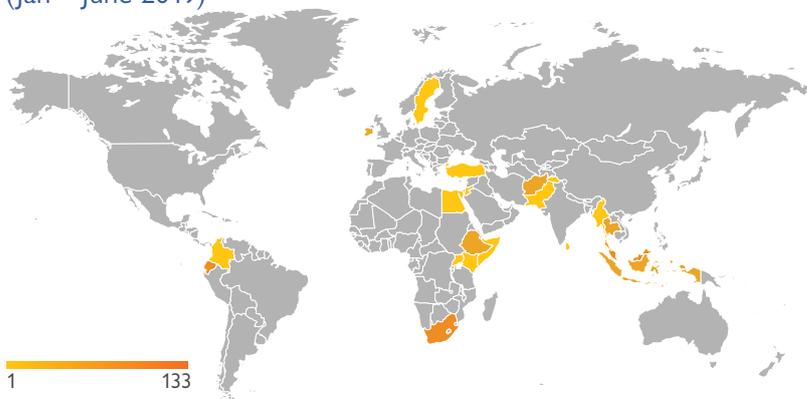
Top 10 Origin Countries – Migration to Australia (Jan-June 2019)



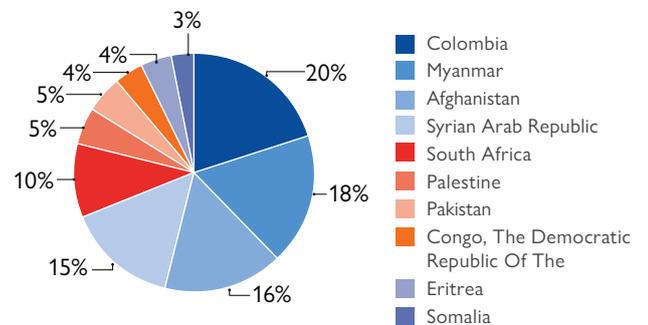
Gender and Age Group of Migrants who arrived in Australia (Jan-June 2019)



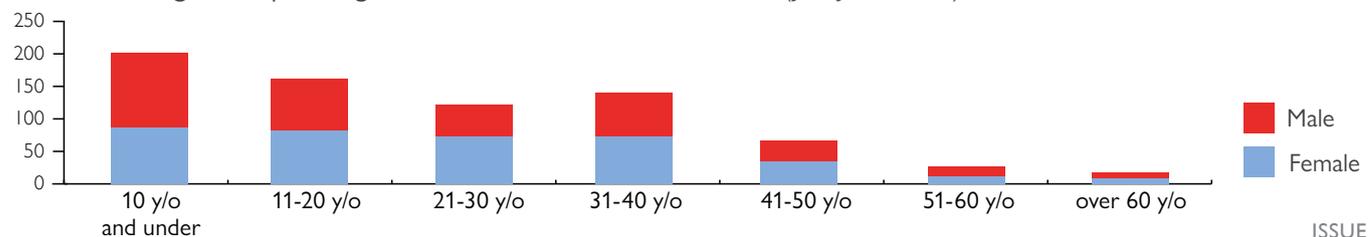
IOM Australia-managed migration movements to New Zealand (Jan – June 2019)



Top 10 Origin Countries – Migration to New Zealand (Jan-June 2019)



Gender and Age Group of Migrants who arrived in New Zealand (Jan-June 2019)



African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) and the European Union's 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 government. Find all Pacific interventions here: <http://www.aceumigrationaction.iom.int>

Key technical assistance interventions in the Pacific include:

TONGA

IOM officially handed over a key output of the ACP-EU Migration Action, a review of the Immigration Division's regulation. The revised regulations were handed to the Acting Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As per the request of the Government of Tonga, the regulations were revised with an aim to facilitate the entry of travellers and investors so as to generate economic growth and employment opportunities.

VAUATU

IOM held a regional thematic meeting to discuss visas, regulated mobility, and ways to strengthen national migration management policies in the Pacific region. The meeting brought together 40 participants from Pacific countries, the European Union, representatives of international and regional organizations and NGOs, as well as experts in the field of visas and mobility.

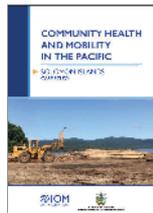
MSG

At the request of the Melanesian Spearhead Group MSG, the Assessment of the Contribution of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) Diaspora and Development of an MSG Remittances Policy is ongoing. The assessment is aimed at developing a common policy on remittances. In the January to June period the four member states of the MSG, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu and PNG, have been consulted.

Key Publications

Community Health and Mobility in the Pacific: Solomon Islands Case Study

With increasing rates of mobility and the expansion of extractive industries such as forestry, mining and commercial fishing in the Pacific, it is of particular importance to understand potential community health challenges and vulnerabilities that may impact the affected populations and communities. Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a worldwide public health issue, and emerging evidence from Solomon Islands has demonstrated that migration-affected communities face particular challenges in relation to community health and VAWG, including increased risk of sexual exploitation, trafficking and abuse. Despite the high number of anecdotal reports on this issue, little evidence or data currently exists that specifically addresses the nexus of gender, mobility and health in the Pacific. IOM's Community Health and Mobility in the Pacific (CHAMP) project has been established to address this gap. This report focuses on this nexus in the Solomon Islands context.



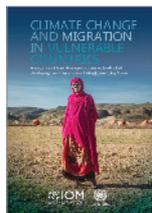
The role of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

This review revisits the role of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration (ISCMs) in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration with the aim to identify their potential contribution in attaining the global compact commitments and the potential complementarity and added value of ISCM engagement in the Global Compact for Migration, recognizing the ISCM's mostly regional and interregional nature. The review is based on a desktop research of existing documents and ISCMs' positions on the Global Compact for Migration, as well as survey and telephone interviews among ISCMs. While the review is not exhaustive of all ISCMs' opinions, it nonetheless reveals a snapshot of where ISCMs see themselves in the Global Compact for Migration after its adoption. Building on the findings of the Seventh Global ISCM Meeting, this review highlights certain good practices of the surveyed ISCMs, which together cover a total membership of 160 States and include all regions of the world.



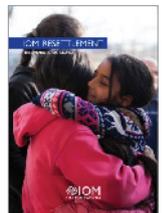
Climate Change and Migration in Vulnerable Countries

The least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS) are among the most vulnerable groups of countries in the world. They are disproportionately affected by the negative impacts of climate change due to their structural constraints and geographical disadvantage. The migration and climate change nexus is present across all three groups of countries. The programmes of action of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, namely the Istanbul Programme of Action, the Vienna Programme of Action and the SAMOA Pathway, point out the vulnerability of these countries to external shocks, including climate change, and recognize the role of migrants in the development of their communities through remittances, as well as transfer of skills and knowledge. This paper aims to inform policymakers of the complex dynamics of climate-induced migration in LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS. It provides an overview of the migration and climate change nexus in each group of countries and proposes ways forward to address it.



IOM Resettlement: The UN Migration Agency

Providing essential support to States in resettling refugees and other humanitarian entrants is a fundamental purpose and among IOM's largest ongoing activities. At the earliest opportunity prior to departure, it is important that each beneficiary is well informed and empowered, proper attention is given to their health and well-being, and necessary arrangements are in place for their safe travel and meaningful integration. These equally important and specialized areas of work support people with significant vulnerabilities who have fled from conflict, violence and disaster and who may have been living in exile for years with interrupted health care, work and education. Resettlement is a protection tool to meet the specific needs of refugees, and a durable solution and demonstration of international solidarity and responsibility-sharing. In 2018, around 95,000 persons travelled under IOM's auspices through these programmes, with significant operations out of Afghanistan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Sudan, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine and the United Republic of Tanzania.



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