



IOM MEDICAL STAFF PERFORMING MEDICAL TESTING ON REFUGEES PREPARING TO BE RESETTLED TO THIRD COUNTRIES. © IOM 2015

## HEALTHY MIGRANTS IN HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Migration is now a global phenomenon with 258 million international migrants (IOM, 2017) and must be recognized as a social determinant of health; mobility not only impacts upon an individual's physical vulnerability, but also on mental and social well-being. Within its Migration Health Division (MHD), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) delivers and promotes comprehensive, preventive and curative health programmes which are beneficial, accessible, and equitable for migrants and mobile populations. Bridging the needs of both migrants and IOM member states, MHD, in close collaboration with partners, contributes towards the physical, mental and social well-being of migrants, enabling them and host communities to achieve social and economic development.

## HEALTH ASSESSMENTS AND TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

Migration health assessments are among the most well-established migration management services offered by IOM. At the request of receiving country governments, IOM provides an evaluation of the physical and mental health status of migrants prior to their departure for the purpose of resettlement, international employment, enrolment in specific migrant assistance programmes, or for obtaining a temporary or permanent visa. Migration health assessments involve a review of the migrant's medical history, a physical examination, additional investigations, such as imaging studies, laboratory tests and specialist referrals, if required, documentation of findings and confidential transfer of relevant information to appropriate immigration or public health authorities. Related services include preventive and/or curative treatment or referral for treatment, counselling, health education, public health interventions, including, but not limited, to surveillance, outbreak response, vaccinations, and travel assistance.

Travel assistance serves to address individual health and safety and to manage conditions of public health concern as individuals move across geographical, health system and epidemiological boundaries. Within health assessments programmes, pre-embarkation checks and pre-departure medical screenings are performed in order to assess a migrant's fitness to travel and provide medical clearance. These measures also ensure that migrants are referred to appropriate medical services once they arrive at their destination countries. Migrants who need medical assistance and care during travel are escorted by health professionals to avoid complications during transit. Pre-departure treatment, vaccinations and other public health interventions are also tailored to meet the needs of migrants and immigration authorities.

## MIGRATION HEALTH ASSESSMENT CENTER IN KIGALI

IOM Rwanda's migration health assessment center (MHAC) in Kigali is the medical clinic that is providing health assessment and travel assistance services for migrants and refugees traveling temporarily or permanently to the United States, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Sweden. The health assessments are conducted by highly trained and experienced migration health physicians and migration health nurses based on the protocols defined by the receiving countries. From 2012 to September 2019, IOM Rwanda has medically assessed 27,142 refugees and has done 10,015 pre-departure medical screenings.

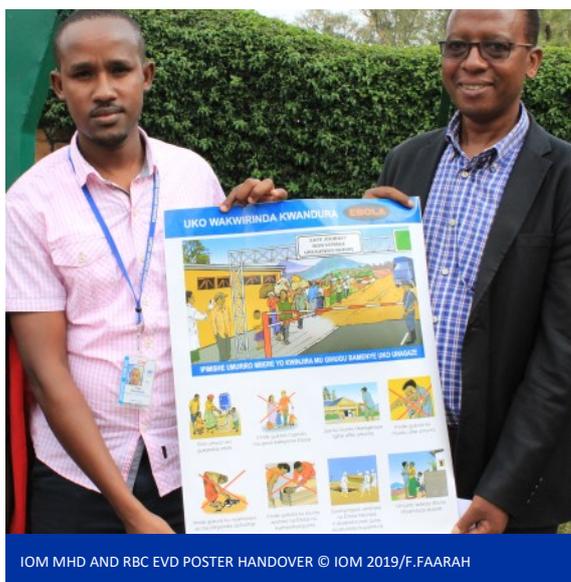
The United States Refugee Admissions Programme (USRAP) activities in Rwanda started in 2013, where the MHAC in Kigali conducts health assessments for Congolese refugees going to the United States. During the period 2015-2019, 13072 United States bound refugees have been vaccinated in order to bridge the gap between the Rwandan national vaccination programme and the United States vaccination project, which is part of the USRAP.



VACCINATIONS AT MEDICAL CLINIC KIGALI © IOM A.NERO/2017



RESETTLEMENT OF CONGOLESE REFUGEES TO THE US © IOM E.MASABO/2018



IOM MHD AND RBC EVD POSTER HANDOVER © IOM 2019/F.FAARAH

## IOM RWANDA'S EFFORTS IN EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD) PREVENTION

As part of IOM Rwanda's efforts in the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) prevention, preparedness and response, IOM has partnered with the Rwanda Biomedical Center to create 2000 EVD prevention posters. These posters have been distributed across the country, illustrating the various prevention measures that Rwandans can take to avoid the spread of EVD. In addition, IOM Rwanda has provided UNHCR Rwanda with 30 Personal Protective Equipment Kits in order to enhance the preparedness UNHCR transit centers in refugee camps.

IOM Rwanda is committed to supporting the Government of Rwanda in its national mandate on EVD preparedness, prevention and response.

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