



IOM works in partnership with governments, the United Nations system, international and non-governmental organizations, the private sector and development partners on all aspects of counter-trafficking responses – prevention, protection, and prosecution.

Since the mid-1990s, IOM and its partners have provided protection and assistance to close to 100,000 men, women and children who were trafficked for sexual and labour exploitation; slavery or practices similar to slavery; servitude; or for organ removal. Agriculture, fishing, domestic work and hospitality, commercial sexual exploitation, pornography, begging, construction and manufacturing are some of the sectors in which victims were exploited.

IOM takes a comprehensive approach to addressing human trafficking. Respect for human rights, the physical, mental and social well-being of the individual and his or her community, and the sustainability of our actions through institutional capacity development and partnerships are at the centre of all of IOM's counter-trafficking efforts.

IOM encourages the entire international community to engage in the fight against trafficking. It does so by participating in, and leading, a number of regional and international multilateral processes, like the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), and Alliance 8.7. IOM also works with the humanitarian community to ensure that the risk of trafficking is mitigated and addressed from the earliest stages of humanitarian responses.

IOM believes that migration which takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner is beneficial for migrants, governments and societies.

IOM's Migrant Protection and Assistance Division (MPA) provides protection and assistance to migrants in need, including trafficked persons, smuggled migrants with protection needs, (rejected) asylum seekers, migrants in irregular situations, stranded migrants, unaccompanied and separated migrant children, and migrants subjected to violence, exploitation or abuse.

Together with its partners MPA has:

- *Helped more than 1.5 million migrants return voluntarily to their countries since 1979.*
- *Supported returning migrants to reintegrate within their communities.*
- *Assisted close to 100,000 victims of human trafficking since 1994.*
- *Assisted more than 60,000 vulnerable migrants in 2017 alone.*



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

IOM aims to support governments, civil society organizations, international organizations, and the private sector in combatting human trafficking. This includes strengthening policies and procedures to facilitate the identification, referral, protection and assistance of trafficked persons; improvements to anti-trafficking legislation/regulations and their implementation; and advisory services to private sector entities aiming to eliminate exploitation from their operations and supply chains. This includes actions to promote the ethical recruitment of migrant workers, for example through IOM's International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS), which is a due diligence tool for businesses, governments and workers.

PREVENTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND PROTECTING VICTIMS

Through information campaigns and outreach, IOM seeks to equip vulnerable populations with the information they need to migrate safely and access assistance when necessary. IOM also aims to address the root causes of vulnerability to trafficking through programming at the household, community, and structural levels.

IOM provides protection and assistance to victims of trafficking. Ensuring freedom and a chance at a new life, IOM's assistance can include safe accommodation, medical and psychosocial support, and assisted voluntary return and reintegration.

In addition to its country-level programming, IOM employs an emergency support mechanism, the Global Assistance Fund, which, since its establishment in 2000, has helped 2,700 victims of trafficking and other migrants vulnerable to violence, exploitation and abuse.

STRENGTHENING THE EVIDENCE BASE

IOM's programming provides a unique source of primary data on human trafficking. IOM maintains the largest database of victim case data in the world, which contains case records for over 50,000 trafficked persons who were assisted by IOM. In 2017, IOM launched the [Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative](#) which is the first global, open-access data hub on human trafficking. The platform hosts not only data from IOM, but also victim case data from other anti-trafficking organizations, combined into one centralized, harmonized, and anonymized dataset. It currently includes case records of over 80,000 trafficked persons from 171 countries who were exploited in 170 countries.

Through its Displacement Tracking Matrix, IOM routinely collects data on human trafficking and associated forms of exploitation and abuse in situations of humanitarian crisis, displacement, and large-scale migration. For example, IOM monitors flows along the Eastern and Central Mediterranean migration routes and has collected data from over 26,000 migrants. Data includes information on migrants' experiences that may be associated with human trafficking or other exploitative practices during their journey to Europe.

IOM's victim case data is used to inform policy and programming, including for estimating prevalence and measuring the impact of anti-trafficking interventions.

CAMPAIGNS

What is the Price of a Human Being?

This campaign was launched in Finland. It aims to educate the public about human trafficking, and inform people about how to be responsible consumers in order to reduce demand for goods and services produced by trafficked persons.



IOM X

This campaign encourages safe migration and public action to stop exploitation and human trafficking across Asia and the Pacific. It leverages the power and popularity of media and technology to inspire young people and their communities to act against human trafficking.



Ojo a la Trata

Launched together with the Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this campaign seeks to raise awareness of warning signs of trafficking to facilitate identification of potential trafficking situations. It targets Colombians both at home and abroad.



KEY PUBLICATIONS



- 1) IOM Handbook of Direct Assistance for Victims of Trafficking
- 2) Remediation Guidelines for Victims of Trafficking in Mineral Supply Chains
- 3) Caring for Trafficked Persons – Guidance for Health Providers