



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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Mission to the Arab Republic of Egypt



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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 the 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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cover photo: youth representing different migrant communities at an awareness raising event focused on the risks of human trafficking in sports. Cairo, Egypt.

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
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## Acronyms

<b>AFCON</b>	African Cup of Nations
<b>APA</b>	Africa Prosecutors Association
<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>AUC</b>	American University in Cairo
<b>AUC/CMRS</b>	American University in Cairo Centre for Migration and Refugee Studies
<b>AVRR</b>	Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration
<b>BAMF</b>	Federal German Office for Migration and Refugees
<b>CAPMAS</b>	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics
<b>CREST</b>	Corporate Responsibility in Eliminating Slavery and Trafficking
<b>DA</b>	Direct Assistance
<b>DTM</b>	Displacement Tracking Matrix
<b>EASO</b>	European Asylum Support Office
<b>EFMA</b>	Egyptian Forensic Medicine Authority
<b>ERC</b>	Egyptian Red Crescent
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EUROSTAT</b>	European Statistical Office
<b>FAP</b>	Family Assistance Programme
<b>FEI</b>	Federation of Egyptian Industries
<b>GCM</b>	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
<b>GMDAC</b>	Global Migration Data analysis Centre
<b>GMFF</b>	Global Migration Film Festival
<b>GRF</b>	Global Refugee Forum
<b>HIMS</b>	Household International Migration Survey
<b>IDPs</b>	Internally Displaced People
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agriculture and Development
<b>IFMS</b>	International Forum on Migration Statistics
<b>INGOs</b>	(International) Non-Governmental Organizations
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration
<b>ISSR</b>	Institute of Statistical Studies and Research
<b>LHD</b>	Labour Mobility and Human Development
<b>MENA</b>	Middle East and North Africa
<b>MHD</b>	Medical Health Department
<b>MiGOF</b>	Migration Governance Framework
<b>MoI</b>	Ministry of Interior
<b>MoJ</b>	Ministry of justice
<b>MoM</b>	Ministry of Manpower
<b>MoSEEA</b>	Ministry of State for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates' Affairs
<b>MoSS</b>	Ministry of Social Solidarity
<b>MoU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>MPA</b>	Migrant Protection and Assistance Unit
<b>MSMEA</b>	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Agency

<b>NA</b>	North Africa
<b>NCCM</b>	National Council for Childhood and Motherhood
<b>NCCPIM&amp;TiP</b>	National Coordinating Committee for Combating Illegal Migration and Trafficking in Persons
<b>NCJS</b>	National Centre for Judicial Studies
<b>NFIs</b>	Non-food items
<b>NGOs</b>	Non-Governmental Organizations
<b>OPG</b>	Office of the Prosecutor General
<b>PCEs</b>	Pre-embarkation checks
<b>PDMS</b>	Pre-departure Medical Screenings
<b>PRM</b>	Programme for Refugees and Migration
<b>RDPP</b>	Regional Development and Protection Pillar
<b>RSC</b>	Resettlement Support Center
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SDS</b>	Sustainable Development Strategy
<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual and Gender-based Violence
<b>StARS</b>	St. Andrews Refugee Services
<b>TOR</b>	Terms of Reference
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNCTAD</b>	United Conference on Trade and Development
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>UNU</b>	United Nations University
<b>USRAP</b>	United States Refugee Admissions Programme
<b>VoT</b>	Victims of Trafficking
<b>VTC</b>	Vocational Training Centre
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Program
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>WYF</b>	World Youth Forum
<b>3RP</b>	Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan





## Forward

2019 has been a year of increased outreach and activities for IOM Egypt. Both horizontally and vertically, we have been able to extend our reach to people, ensure the creation of strategic partnerships to implement our work at a high quality, and provide more services to those most in need.

IOM Egypt works to advocate for and promote the integration of migrant individuals and communities within the Egyptian host community. Both Egyptian nationals and migrants might share common difficulties and challenges such as poverty, unemployment and, in some areas, a lack of adequate basic services. However, being a migrant might mean dealing with severe hardships and vulnerabilities simply because of their nationality and movement into a country. Vulnerabilities and risks include difficulty to access to basic services such as healthcare, education, livelihood opportunities and other essentials of human security and development.

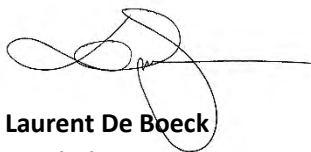
That having been said, I am determined to make 2020 a year in which we *consolidate* the progress of 2019 to make sure we move forward with what has been achieved as the new baseline. Then we look to *capitalize* on the achievements and scale-up our operations by making sure IOM Egypt does not only reach a lot of people in need, but those who are most vulnerable such as victims of trafficking, women, children, youth, elderly and people with disabilities, benefit the correct services.

Indeed, the focus for 2020 is to move:

*From Quantity to Quality: Enhancing Services, Leaving No One Behind.*

Specific programmatic pillars for the success and moving forward of our mission in Egypt include: promoting youth empowerment, enhancing gender equality and strengthening our multi-stakeholder participation approach through our partnership with the government of Egypt, the private sector, civil society organizations, international and inter-governmental organizations, national NGOs, Faith-Based Organizations migrant groups and associations.

This report is a testament to IOM's humanitarian and developmental actions, and showcases the activities carried out over the course of 2019. I believe it will be of use for those interested in the support of better migration governance in Egypt, and, to gain a hands-on understanding of the interventions taken by IOM to provide support to migrants. In this capacity, the report will also function as a platform to analyse and reflect on our progress and define new trends and current and emerging challenges based on a steady analysis of the past years' actions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laurent De Boeck". The signature is stylized and fluid.

**Laurent De Boeck**  
Chief of Mission

International Organization for Migration, Mission to the Arab Republic of Egypt



I O M



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## Executive Summary

For the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mission to Egypt, 2019 was a catalyst year for scaling up activities at a horizontal and vertical level. In line with identified priorities of the African Union (AU), IOM Egypt supported the Government of Egypt in cooperating with partners, economic and social development, peace and security, economic and regional integration. Over the course of 2019, Egypt has taken a leadership in migration governance in the region, as seen with the effective management of borders through the Central Mediterranean Routes, as well as hosting global large scale forums on migration related issues aiming at advancing the migration agenda on a regional and global level.

Vertically, IOM Egypt has expanded its cooperation with a diverse range of counterparts at all levels. At the governmental level, examples of such enhanced cooperation can be seen through IOMs involvement in the Aswan Forum and the World Youth Forum (WYF), which allowed IOM Egypt to increase its footprint continentally and globally. At the same time, increased relations with Ministries have also proven highly positive in 2019. Nationally, the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Egyptian Red Crescent marked IOM's strategic collaboration with valuable partners. Another example is the signing of the MoU with the African Prosecutors Association strengthening partnership to combat smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons. Moreover, 2019 was marked by the increased involvement of the private sector in migration governance in Egypt.

Throughout 2019, IOM Egypt's horizontal growth has been marked not only by the number of initiatives launched, but also by the diversity of beneficiaries reached through its programmes. The Organization has increased the provision of assistance and protection services to migrants, allowing IOM to reach more beneficiaries. Concretely, in 2019 IOM increased by 82.8 percent the number of migrants reached through its Assistance and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme (AVRR), increasing beneficiaries from 495 in 2018, to 905 in 2019. In total, IOM managed and handled 11,373 movement operations, covering resettlement as well as airport transits to over 20 countries. Furthermore, numerous training sessions were delivered on counter trafficking and counter smuggling practices; 632 Egyptian officials were trained from various authorities. Other courses on green business and sustainability to Egyptians and migrants were given, under which 36,133 migrants and Egyptians received online awareness raising sessions. Furthermore, health trainings for 126 community leaders and volunteers were given, as well as 6,878 health awareness rising session provided to migrants. At the same time, 2019 was a successful year in fostering dialogue on engaging Egyptian expatriate communities in Egypt's sustainable development.

Overall, the Organization grew in all levels throughout all its actions. 2020 will be focused on consolidating the large increase in actions and partnerships achieved, and capitalising on the increased activity that IOM Egypt can now deliver. This will not be limited to IOM's capacity; it will extend to the capacity of partners and counterparts to ensure the promotion of durable and self-sustainable migration governance. This report provides a detailed overview of the activities and interventions implemented by IOM Egypt in 2019, as well as the priorities for 2020, based on the achievement and challenges of the previous year.

## IOM Egypt Strategy

Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading United Nations (UN) agency working in the field of migration. IOM's mission is to promote and help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration for the benefit of all. In close coordination with its main governmental counterparts and in line with Egypt's national priorities, legislation and policy frameworks, IOM works to assist in meeting the growing needs by supporting the governmental and non-governmental efforts to provide support to migrants in vulnerable situations as well as Egyptians abroad and advance the socioeconomic well-being of hosting communities and migrants.

The Arab Republic of Egypt is a country of origin, transit and more often considered a country of destination for migration flows. Its geographical position at the crossroads of migratory routes from and across the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe have a shaping force in its course. Moreover, the country is also challenged by the rapidly changing demographic trends, the continued political instability of the region and global warming. These myriads of factors have highlighted, in some cases exacerbated, migration-related challenges for Egypt. In this context and through its Mission in Egypt, IOM has taken a comprehensive approach in the development of its strategy that takes into account the national state of affairs with special attention to the multifaceted migratory patterns present in the territory and the region. Through its work, IOM Egypt's overall strategic objective is to **support the Government of Egypt and relevant actors to govern migration to effectively maximize its positive impact while minimizing its potential costs on all migrants and society**. In doing so, it upholds Egypt's Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS): Vision 2030. At the same time, IOM's strategy is directed to the fulfilment of the Global Compact on Safe Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) objectives and is aligned with the global Sustainable Development Agenda.

There are five strategic objectives that IOM Egypt has established in support to the Government of Egypt and its partners:

1. The Government of Egypt develops **coherent, evidence-based, whole-of-government policies** regarding complex migration flows and socio-economic impact of migration;
2. The Government of Egypt builds **intra and inter-regional partnerships** on migration governance to enhance cooperation;
3. The Government of Egypt and its stakeholders effectively **maximize the positive impact of emigration** from and return migration to Egypt on the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society;
4. **Diversity sensitive mechanisms are in place** to address the needs of and provide protection to all migrants and relevant vulnerable groups even in the face of mass influxes;
5. The Government of Egypt ensures that **migration takes place in a safe, orderly, and dignified manner** while reducing the prevalence of irregular migration from, to, and through Egypt.

## Cooperation with the Government of Egypt

IOM collaborates closely with the Government of Egypt to operationalize the existing legal frameworks, further develop its national strategies and uphold the dignity and respect of human rights of migrants. It is through these numerous valuable partnerships that IOM Egypt is able to carry out long-lasting and sustainable implementation while strengthening the national strategies.

IOM Egypt and the Government of Egypt have continuously expanded their cooperation in new fields of concern encompassing a wide range of activities in many programmatic areas. Some of these areas span from the promotion of regular labour migration channels for Egyptians interested in working abroad, to the enhancement of livelihood opportunities in communities at risk of irregular migration through economic and labour market development programmes. IOM has also supported the endeavours of the Government of Egypt to produce timely and reliable migration data, mainly through strengthening the capacity of government officials on understanding the nexus of migration and development as well as collecting and reporting on migration.

In addition, IOM works with a wide range of stakeholders, from governmental and non-governmental bodies, to civil society, migrant communities and the private sector located throughout the entire country. Through its programmes, close collaboration has been achieved with several ministries, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Manpower, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Immigration and Expatriates Affairs, the Ministry of Health and Population, the Ministry of Investment and Internal Cooperation, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of State for Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Social Solidarity, the Ministry of Education and Technical Education and the Ministry of Planning and Administrative Reform.

In addition, IOM's different projects have greatly benefitted from the support and collaborations with other institutions such as the National Coordinating Committee for Combating Illegal Migration and Trafficking in Persons (NCCPIM&TiP), the Ministry of State for Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates' Affairs (MoSEEA), the Ministry of Local Development, the National Centre for Judicial Studies (NCJS) and the Office of the Prosecutor General (OPG). IOM is also in constant contact with other national administrations such as the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Agency (MSMEA), the National Center for Social and Criminological Studies (NCS), the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), the National Council for Women (NCW), the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS).

As per non-governmental partners, IOM Egypt works closely with the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC), Caritas, St. Andrews Refugee Services (StARS), Save the Children International in Egypt and Tadamon NGO, among a total of 119 other non-governmental organisations (NGOs).



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## Direct Assistance

IOM Egypt counts with a specialized unit that provides assistance to stranded migrants in Egypt. This assistance varies from medical services including social assistance, to financial and legal assistance, as well as education and housing support, depending on the needs identified. The Direct Assistance (DA) unit might also refer them to other local and international partners for specialised services. This multi-faceted approach builds local capacities to enhance durable solutions and responses while providing a safety net for those that struggle with accessing services.



### GCM OBJECTIVES

<b>Objective #7</b>	Addressing and reducing vulnerabilities in migration
<b>Objective #8</b>	Saving lives and coordinating efforts on missing migrants
<b>Objective #15</b>	Providing access to basic services for migrants

IOM supports Egypt’s efforts to address and reduce the number of stranded migrants in situations of vulnerability. Through a number of projects, the DA Unit aims to provide the necessary services and assistance to improve the lives of those migrants living in Egypt. In 2019, the total number of assistance services provided were 5,400 (see Figure 1 below). The **‘Consolidate Direct Assistance and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Services in Egypt (CARE I)’** cross-cutting project contributed with the provision of protection services for vulnerable migrants and capacity building for (and in collaboration with) partners streamlined and conducted through dedicated facilities to ensure better protection for migrants in Egypt.

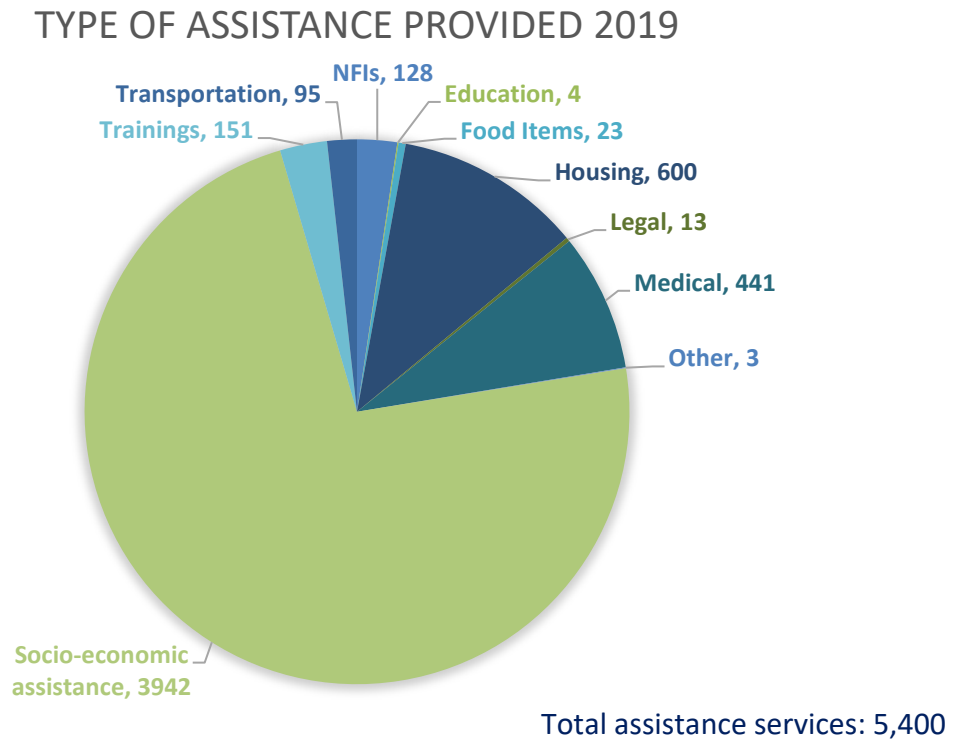
In addition, and complementing the work of the other project, **‘Consolidate Direct Assistance Services to Vulnerable Migrants along Migratory Routes in Egypt (RDPP)’** was an initiative which promoted sustainable and rights-based solutions, whilst preventing irregular migration from, to, and through North Africa to Europe, and contributing to the establishment of a holistic protection sphere for vulnerable populations.

Complementing the above-mentioned projects, the DA Unit implemented the project **‘Protection Service to Vulnerable and Stranded Migrants in Transiting through North Africa (PROTECT I)’**, though which IOM Egypt aimed to contribute to reducing the vulnerabilities of vulnerable and stranded migrants along mixed migration flows across North Africa. This project was carried out in collaboration with the government of Algeria and Tunisia as well as civil society organizations.

These three projects were awarded with a second phase for 2020 given the positive results obtained.

Migrant applicants seeking IOM direct assistance are often in urgent need for assistance addressing certain basic needs which include: socio-economic support, medical and healthcare services, housing assistance and training opportunities. The non-food items are given to families and individuals based on their specific need.

Figure 1 below illustrates the type of assistance and the number of times such assistance was provided by the DA unit during 2019.



**Figure 1.** IOM Egypt DA breakdown by type of assistance and times provided in 2019



# Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration

The Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programme is an indispensable part of a comprehensive approach to migration management aiming at orderly and humane return and reintegration of migrants who are unable or unwilling to remain in host or transit countries and wish to return voluntarily to their countries of origin. The programme also encompasses the reintegration phase, where returnees are provided with a series of services to help them start a life in the new location, such as cash, housing, medical assistance, education and microbusiness.



## GCM OBJECTIVES

<b>Objective #8</b>	Saving lives and coordinating efforts on missing migrants
<b>Objective #15</b>	Providing access to basic services for migrants
<b>Objective #21</b>	Facilitating return and reintegration

The implementation of AVRR programmes requires the cooperation and participation of a broad range of actors, including migrants, civil society and the governments in both host and transit countries as well as countries of origin. The partnerships created by IOM in Egypt with a diverse range of national and international stakeholders have been essential to the effective implementation of AVRR in Egypt.

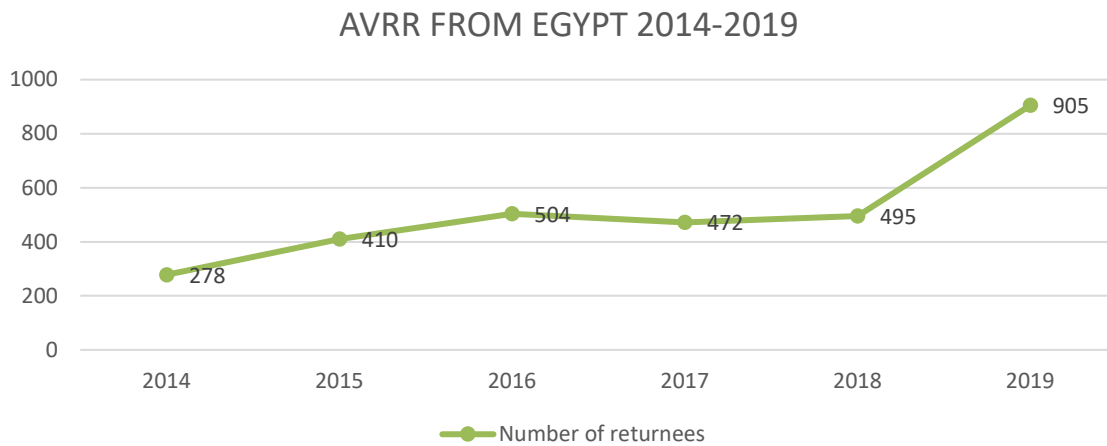
In 2019, IOM Egypt provided assistance to 905 migrants to return from Egypt to their countries of origin through AVRR activities. In addition, IOM supported the safe return of 97 Egyptians to Egypt. Building on experience and a world-wide network of offices and partners, IOM AVRR programmes aim to ensure that migrants in need are assisted to return voluntarily, safely and with dignity, and are supported in achieving sustainable reintegration, in full respect for human rights, regardless of their status. IOM AVRR related activities are guided by the [Framework for Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration](#). The Framework outlines seven principles and six concrete objectives applied throughout the process. These principles and objectives underpin IOM’s commitment to facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and to contribute to migrants’ socioeconomic well-being.

For migrants who need to return home but lack the means to do so, IOM AVRR programmes are often the only solution to their immediate plight. Beneficiaries of IOM assistance include:

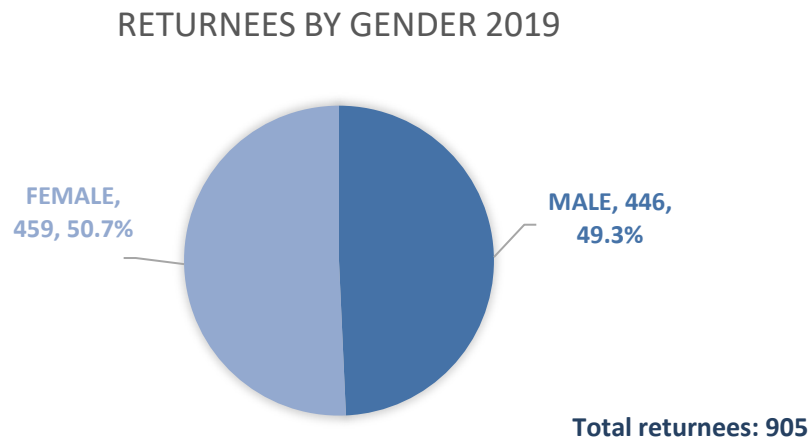
- Individuals whose application for asylum was rejected or withdrawn,
- Stranded migrants,
- Victims of trafficking, and,
- Other vulnerable groups, including unaccompanied migrant children, or those with health-related needs.

The cross-cutting project ‘**Consolidate Direct Assistance and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Services in Egypt (CARE I)**’ also had a division dedicated to AVRR. Through this initiative, the DA Unit assisted vulnerable and stranded migrants in Egypt by facilitating their access to sustainable return and reintegration mechanism in order to facilitate orderly, safe and regular migration management services.

The year 2019 represented the beginning of IOM Egypt’s expansion plan in terms of humanitarian interventions and protection services provided to migrants. As shown in Figure 2, the number of migrant applications accepted and assisted had more than doubled since the previous year. If compared to numbers in 2014 (278 returnees), data shows a huge expansion in terms of IOM AVRR services which got tripled in the matter of five years.

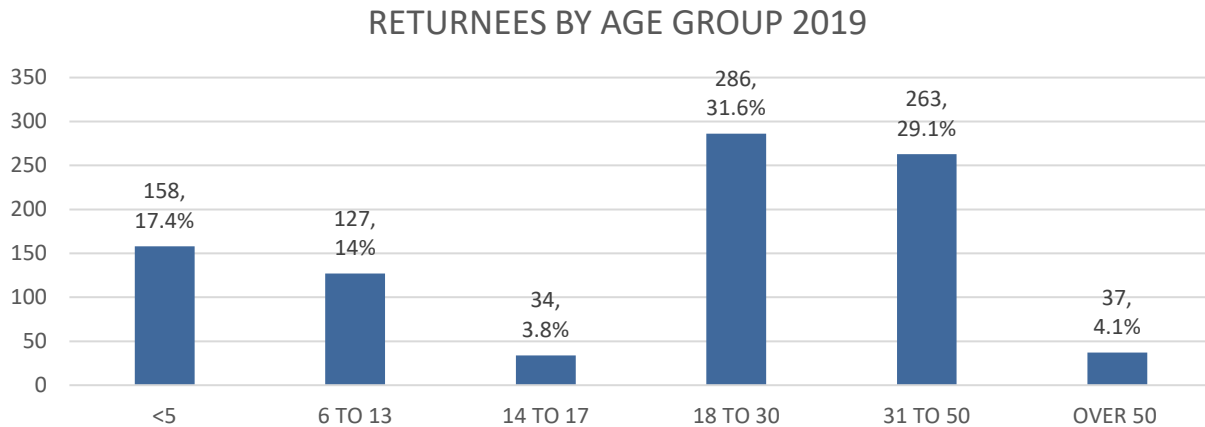


**Figure 2.** Tracking IOM Egypt AVRR numbers between 2014 and 2019



**Figure 3.** AVRR 2019: Returnees by Gender 2019

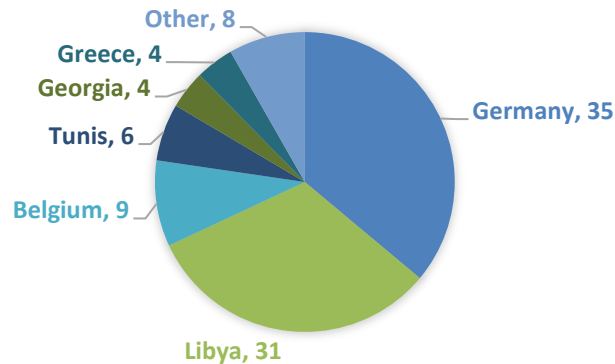
As per the beneficiaries of AVRR, the disaggregated data presented in Figure 3 shows that an almost equal percentage of males (49.3 percent) and females’ returnees (50.7 percent) benefited from AVRR services with a total number of 905 assisted returnees in the year 2019. This number illustrates the positive accessibility for both genders, regardless of their specific needs. In terms of age range of migrant returnees, Figure 4 below shows that migrant returnees between 18 and 30 years old represent the top age group with a total 286 migrants. The age group of 31-50 followed second with 263 returnees, before children (0-5) with 158.



**Figure 4.** AVRR 2019: Returnees by Age Group 2019

In terms of countries of return or origin for assisted returnees, Sudan stayed as the largest recipient country with 377 returnees, followed by Ethiopia (281), Nigeria (55), Guinea (38) and Senegal (30) representing top five countries of return.

### COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AVRR TO EGYPT 2019



**Figure 5.** Country of Origin AVRR to Egypt 2019

Moreover, IOM Egypt assisted 97 nationals to return to Egypt, among which 94 were men and 3 women. The top six countries of residence for those returnees were Germany (35), Libya (31), Belgium (9), Tunis (6), Georgia (4) and Greece (4). The returnees were provided with services such as cash, housing, medical, education and microbusiness.

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### IOM Holds Community Iftar for Migrants in Alexandria and North Coast

Alexandria – May 2019

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Save the Children International in Egypt hosted a community iftar for migrants in Alexandria and the North Coast. The iftar was attended by 150 participants from the Egyptian, Iraqi, Sudanese, South Sudanese, Syrian and Yemeni communities.



The event began with a Syrian Sufi band and presentations on the range of assistance services provided by both organizations to migrants in Alexandria and the North Coast, including IOM’s AVRR Programme. IOM staff also shared information and resources on identifying, reporting and countering human trafficking in communities, and discussed other issues brought forward by members of the community.

“IOM is proud to organize an iftar for members of the migrant communities and to share the enjoyment of the event during the holy month of Ramadan. An important part of IOM’s work with migrant and host communities is to capacitate them and build their role in identifying and responding to the needs of their members. This iftar event was held to celebrate Ramadan, to contribute to the cohesion between different migrant communities and to reinforce their role,” said Mr. Laurent De Boeck, IOM Chief of Mission to the Arab Republic of Egypt.





# Migration and Health

## Medical Health Assessment Centre for Refugees

In line with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals, The Medical Health Department (MHD) of IOM Egypt implemented projects in partnership with governments, NGOs, and the private sector to further improve the quality of health services provided to host and migrant communities in Egypt. IOM Egypt conducted Health Assessments within a Medical Health Assessment Centre with which it assists main countries of destination with the resettlement of migrants of different origins. This Centre conducted numerous projects with a wide range of partners, from governments to private sector partners.



### GCM OBJECTIVES

<b>Objective #6</b>	Facilitating fair and ethical recruitment and conditions for decent work
<b>Objective #7</b>	Addressing and reducing vulnerabilities in migration
<b>Objective #16</b>	Empowering migrants and societies for full social inclusion and cohesion
<b>Objective #18</b>	Investing in skills development and mutual recognition
<b>Objective #19</b>	Creating conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development

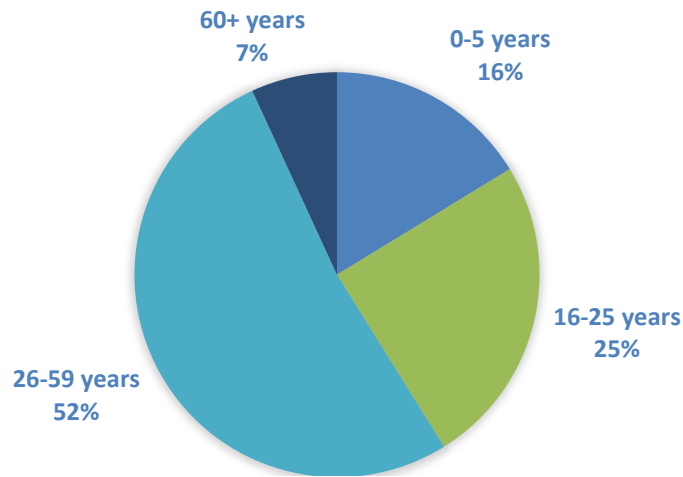
IOM’s medical team carried out the full range of health assessments required for the resettlement process of the six main destination countries: Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. Along with several other European countries, IOM ensured the safe, regular and healthy migration of refugees from Egypt.

The full health assessment provided under MHD’s auspices included registration, counselling, getting refugees’ consent for the assessment, nursing operations (including recording of the refugees’ medical history), physical examinations, phlebotomy/lab services, radiology imaging, and immunization. Additionally, pre-departure medical screenings (PDMS) and presumptive treatment were also administered for applicants based on each country’s relevant guidelines. In 2019, 16 individual projects included PDMS to 1,023 refugees, of which United States of America, Canada and United Kingdom received the largest numbers. In addition, a total of 4,300 pre-embarkation checks (PCEs) were also carried out, this included for people fully funded by IOM as well as for people whose travel was covered by their embassy or self-paid. The Unit also offered 87 medical escorts to those with vulnerable medical conditions and requiring medical assistance during the travel to the resettling countries.

In parallel, the Medical Health Assessment Centre provided immigrant health assessments for self-paying Egyptians travelling for education, marriage, business or permanent immigration to Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Furthermore, the MHD conducted a series of programmes that tackle preventive measures for the eradication of some diseases. These programmes provided with vaccinations to refugees of all age groups that have approached IOM for assistance. In 2019, a total of 11,364 applicants were given vaccinations against six different diseases, such as Hepatitis B, measles and polio. Figure 6 below portrays the disaggregated data by age groups of the number of people who received assistance by MHD in IOM Egypt during 2019.

### REFUGEES ASSISTED BY AGE GROUP 2019



Total number of refugees assisted: 11,364

Figure 6. Refugees Assisted by Age Group 2019



**87** medical escorts assigned for returnees



**1,023** pre-departure medical screenings (PDMS)



**4,300** pre-embarkation checks (PCEs)



**11,364** applicants received vaccinations

## Medical Health Assistance Unit for Migrants

IOM recognizes the rising health-related challenges in Egypt which include difficulties in preventing and treating transmissible diseases. In close cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Population and other relevant governmental and private healthcare providers, in 2019 IOM assisted migrants through the provision of medical assistance to migrants in Egypt.

The Unit assessed and followed up on migrants’ health status through medical examinations, as well as referring them to specialized services where appropriate. IOM Egypt also assumed the cost of medical bills, hospital stays and medication for migrants based on need.

First, under the section of Medical Direct Assistance, and in line with IOM objective of upholding the rights and dignity of migrants, the project **‘Fostering Health and Protection to Vulnerable Migrants Transiting through Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen (TRANSIT)’** provided medical direct assistance to migrants in need of medical assistance. It also included training to national authorities to respond to and manage the health needs of migrants and their host communities as well as enhance capacity building of governmental and non-governmental health structures to deliver quality, “migrant-friendly” and “psychosocially aware” health care services. In addition, MHD provided, through the AVRR programme, health screenings to migrants who wish to return to their country of origin. MHD assessed their fitness to travel, procured medication to returnees based on needs, and coordinates with the IOM Missions in the countries of origin to secure medical interventions, follow-ups, and surgical operations when necessary.

In 2019, as represented below in Figure 7, the number of migrant female applicants for IOM Egypt Direct Assistance represented 61 percent of total number of applicants. This number highlights the importance of gender mainstreaming in direct assistance and protection for more inclusive and gender sensitive humanitarian interventions that are responsive to specific vulnerabilities, adequately accommodating their needs. Migrant children and youth represented more than half (57 percent) of the total applicants. Accordingly, IOM thematic programming and protection schemes focused on child protection and customised its services to address more accurately migrant children’s needs and liabilities.

### DIRECT ASSISTANCE APPLICANTS BY GENDER AND AGE 2019

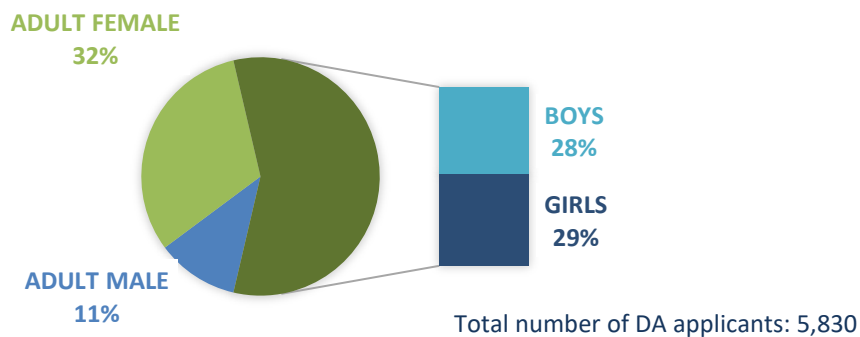


Figure 7. Direct Assistance applicants by gender and age 2019



In addition, MHD supported migrants availing themselves of IOM’s assistance under the auspices of AVRR who are in government holding facilities, providing them with dignity kits, non-food items (NFIs), and medication according to their specific needs. A total of 5,735 NFIs were distributed to migrant families. Another part of the medical pillar MHD are the outreach activities in host and migrant communities, including awareness-raising sessions on nutrition, basic hygiene, and infection prevention. Their community-level interventions addressed both migrant communities and healthcare providers. It included trainings for community workers, peer educators and medical caregivers to enhance their capacity to provide quality medical and psychological care.

For instance, the project ‘**Support and Increase Healthcare Access for Migrants and Vulnerable Egyptian Host Community Members (SIHA)**’ addressed to migrants residing in Egypt, aimed to increase the access of vulnerable members of migrant and host communities to quality migrant-friendly health care. IOM, in coordination with Ministry of Health and Population, organized a series of health awareness events where medical screenings were carried out as part of a national campaign for early detection and management of Virus C, reaching a total of 5,371 migrants. This project was specifically focused on the prevention of health-related issues, promotion of migrant-friendly health services, and the provision of migrant-friendly health care in concert with community-based organizations.

Under the TRANSIT and SIHA projects, various beneficiaries received different types of trainings. These included 7,480 migrants receiving medical assistance, 6,878 migrants receiving health awareness sessions and 1,745 migrants’ children receiving school awareness sessions. Additionally, 456 healthcare providers were given training sessions, and 126 community leaders and volunteers were also trained on health practices.



**456** healthcare providers trained



**5,735** NFIs distributed to migrant families



**7,480** migrants received medical assistance



**6,878** migrants attended health awareness sessions



**1,745** migrants’ children attended school awareness raising sessions



**126** community leaders and volunteers trained

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### ‘100 Million SIHA’ – The Ministry of Health and Population with WHO, UNHCR and IOM organize screenings for Hepatitis C for migrants and refugees in Egypt

Cairo - September 2019

Under the Umbrella of ‘100 Million SIHA’, the Ministry of Health and Population of Egypt in coordination with the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and IOM are organizing and leading several health awareness sessions together with multiple medical screening campaigns for early detection and management of Virus C for migrants and refugees in several governorates. Hepatitis



C is an infectious disease that affects the liver causing acute and chronic illnesses, and in some cases even death.

The Support and Increase Healthcare Access for Migrants and Vulnerable Egyptian Host Community Members’ (SIHA) campaign aims to educate on Virus C through the establishment of 8 screening points in Cairo, Giza, Alexandria, Damietta and Al Qalyubia. This campaign is directed to migrants and refugees and is the largest national campaign in Egypt and the largest hepatitis-focused campaign worldwide, being carried out for over five days. By the end of September 2019, 5,371 migrants had been already screened for early detection of the virus. From the total, 3,171 migrants were screened at IOM, 286 migrants received medical assistance and almost 2,200 got screened for hypertension, diabetes, body mass index and Hepatitis’s C during IOM events.

Dr. Alaa Osman, Undersecretary Head of Ministry of Health in Alexandria, stated; “The Ministry of Health in Egypt joining efforts to provide high quality health services to migrants and refugees in the country, not only for virus C campaign but to be included in every preventive and therapeutic health services provided by Ministry of Health.

Mr. Laurent De Boeck, IOM Egypt’s Chief of Mission stated: “Every day, Egypt ensures more and more exceptional care and commitment for everyone present in Egypt. Such successful campaign is mapping the road to the Egyptian Universal Healthcare”. Dr John Jabbour, WHO Representative in Egypt stated: “ We congratulate Egypt for the successful campaign of “100 Million SIHA” and we are thankful for integrating Egypt in this campaign, we ensure the continuous support of WHO to Egypt and willingness to cooperate with all partners for the benefit of Egyptian citizens’ health”.

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# Labour Mobility and Human Development

IOM provides positive alternatives to irregular migration from Egypt and enhances the linkages between the mobility of Egyptian and Egypt’s development. It does so by supporting the Government of Egypt foster regular mobility channels for Egyptians, providing positive life alternatives to Egyptian youth, and fostering dialogue and engaging Egyptian expatriate communities towards Egypt’s development. In addition, IOM supports the integration of non-Egyptian populations in the country by addressing their needs as well as those of the hosting communities.



## GCM OBJECTIVES

<b>Objective #6</b>	Facilitating fair and ethical recruitment and conditions for decent work
<b>Objective #7</b>	Addressing and reducing vulnerabilities in migration
<b>Objective #16</b>	Empowering migrants and societies for full social inclusion and cohesion
<b>Objective #18</b>	Investing in skills development and mutual recognition
<b>Objective #19</b>	Creating conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development

## Harnessing the Positive Impact of Migration

IOM built on the strong collaboration with the Government of Egypt to harness the positive impacts of migration to, through and from Egypt. In this regard, IOM worked towards three thematic pillars in the fulfilment of this collaboration and goals:

**1. Labour Mobility**

IOM strives to promote and protect migrant workers as well as to optimize the benefits of labour migration for the countries of origin and destination, employers and private sector interests, as well as for migrants themselves.

**2. Migration and Development**

IOM aims to contribute to a better understanding and to a greater impact of the reciprocal effects of migration on development and of sectoral development policies on migration, and to encourage mainstreaming migration considerations into development policy and development considerations into migration policy.

**3. Community Cohesion and Human Development**

IOM aims to ensure that migration is a decision voluntarily and that, in cases where migrants are instead driven by crisis or conflict, they have to opportunity to fulfil their basic human rights.

These objectives directly contributed towards the first objective of the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF); to advance the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society. To this end, IOM supported

the relevant authorities to establish labour migration schemes and increase the employability of youth at risk of irregular migration through the strengthening of vocational training centres. At the same time, IOM partners provided soft skills, technical and entrepreneurship training to migrants and Egyptians to cover the immediate livelihood needs of marginalized sending and returnee receiving communities as well as those in border areas.

Within this context, the Labour Mobility and Human Development (LHD) Unit implemented the project '**Initiatives for Local Development of Egypt through the support of Egyptians Abroad (ILDEA)**', focusing on three main objectives:

1. Strengthening the capacities of national authorities to effectively engage Egyptian expatriate communities in local development initiatives;
2. Establishing the necessary communications channels/networks between the Government of Egypt authorities and Egyptian associations in Italy to facilitate collaboration on development initiatives;
3. Piloting small-scale local community development projects, jointly implemented by local communities and Egyptian expatriates that respond to specific development needs of the targeted communities whilst also serving as concrete examples for broader policy development and further joint collaboration on local development initiatives.



*“Today’s signature stands in the framework of the long-lasting, multi-faceted and successful cooperation between Italian and Egyptian Authorities in the field of migration”*

H.E. Mr. Giampaolo Cantini, Ambassador of the Republic of Italy to Egypt

In April 2019, based on the formal request and validated need of MoSEEA, IOM established a Unit of qualified expert staff to oversee expatriate engagement and migration governance issues during the second Steering Committee held on 17 April 2019. IOM handled all details of the implementation, including the drafting of Terms of Reference (TOR) for the three positions of the Head, Marketing and Outreach Officer, and Administrative Assistant of the Ministry. Moreover, IOM developed the National Policy on Migration Governance. The policy aimed to capture the main areas of focus in migration governance in Egypt, while drawing on approaches highlighted in the GCM. The policy, which also built on previous lessons learned and workshop results under ILDEA, was submitted in March 2019 as a final document along with the final translated version of the Egyptian Expatriate Engagement Strategy and Action Plan.

In December 2019, IOM Egypt finalized the refurbishment of the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) in Housh Eissa in the Beheira Governorate. The refurbishment process followed a thorough evaluation and site assessment. Once finalized, a construction company was selected, through a competitive process, to carry out the necessary upgrades and renovations for the VTC. IOM also contracted an engineering company to oversee the construction and ensure timely implementation and high-quality work.

The centre was equipped with computer devices as well as high-end furniture and equipment, making it the first of its kind in Egypt. IOM enlisted renowned artist Nourine Hammad to produce a mural to brand the centre. Hammad's brand and portfolio will serve to enhance the final look and visibility of the centre and increase the value added of this infrastructure. The VTC will serve to provide the required infrastructure for accessible vocational training services to Egyptian youth. Beneficiaries of the VTC will be provided with technical and soft skill trainings to enhance their employability; then, they will be matched with decent job opportunities in local markets.



Furthermore, IOM in partnership with the European Union started a long-term project titled the '**Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP)**', which focus is on establishing migrant-friendly inclusive services fostering social cohesion and employment opportunities at the community level. Additionally, as part of the efforts of this project, focus was put on enhancing advocacy, research and knowledge-sharing of both displaced populations and their host communities. This approach has three specific objectives:

1. Ensure that sustainable systems are established and enhanced to effectively deliver inclusive services, support social cohesion, and address potential tensions between host and displaced communities;
2. Provide members of migrant and host communities with greater economic and livelihood opportunities within the local community; and,
3. Build the capacity of governments, the private sector and local actors to adopt good practices at policy, legislative and institutional level, as well as evidence-based programmes and service delivery methods that respond to the protection, socioeconomic, and labour market inclusion needs of displaced groups.

Through the '**Entrepreneurship Education Programme**', the RDPP team and Youththinkgreen group were able to deliver an environment entrepreneurship education intervention that covered topics related to

sustainability, waste management, SDGs and global environmental trends. The education phase concluded with the ideation dynamics and establishing the basics of a start-up. A total of 161 beneficiaries attended the six-day entrepreneurship programme, with attendees from: Egypt, Eritrea, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen. Men and women represented 46% and 54% of the attendees respectively. The programme included sessions on Sustainability 101, cultural dialogue, identification of business opportunities, start-up roadmap, marketing 101 and pitching, delivered by five experts contracted by Youththinkgreen. By the end of the entrepreneurship camp, 23 teams had been formed.

Moreover, IOM Egypt launched the ‘Green Business and Environment Entrepreneurship Programme’ for migrants and Egyptians with the aim of educating and incubating undiscovered entrepreneurs in their communities. The programme started with raising awareness in the fields of sustainability, green businesses, zero-waste concept, SDGs and global ‘green’ initiatives. IOM Egypt delivered these sessions to 36,133 migrants and Egyptians through online sessions, and 165 migrants and Egyptians through on-the-ground sessions.



**36,133**

**migrants and Egyptians received online awareness raising sessions on sustainability and green businesses**



**165**

**on-site awareness raising sessions delivered to migrants and Egyptians**



**161**

**migrants attended entrepreneurship programmes**

Under the framework of the ‘Preventing and Responding to Irregular Migration in Egypt (PRIME)’ project, IOM organized and delivered a two-day workshop for 21 senior officials from different government counterparts on irregular migration data at the CAPMAS. The workshop took place in February 2019 and was coordinated in collaboration with the IOM’s Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC). Participants represented different organizations including MoSEEA, NCCPIM&TiP, the Institute of Statistical Studies and Research (ISSR) at Cairo University, and NCS.

The workshop tackled the methodologies on data collection and analysis for policy development, theories and definitions of irregular migration, international sources for migration data, introduction to IOM’s

Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), and data trends in the MENA region. In line with the SDGs 10: Reduced Inequality, 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and 17: Partnerships to achieve the goals, the workshop aimed to increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data<sup>1</sup> in order to help shape policy and intervention schemes.

**‘Strengthening the Protection for Victims of Trafficking and Vulnerable Groups in Egypt (SPHERE)’** is a joint project covering both human development and migrant protection as per counter trafficking. In the context of SPHERE and under the auspices of the labour migration pillar, IOM Egypt delivered a training workshop at the CAPMAS premises in September 2019. The workshop aimed to train the CAPMAS specialists on the technicalities and the methodologies of designing a Household International Migration Survey (HIMS) for Egypt, with the aim of overcoming data shortage problem on international migration to and from Egypt. CAPMAS has successfully designed a HIMS proposal for Egypt, which has been submitted to the Government of Egypt for reviewing and subsequent sharing with the European Commission (i.e.: the EUROSTAT).

Furthermore, in relation to the ‘SPHERE’ project and in cooperation with the Corporate Responsibility in Eliminating Slavery and Trafficking (CREST), IOM’s Internal Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) and the Federation of Egyptian Industries (FEI), IOM Egypt organized a roundtable discussion with prominent Egyptian private sector representatives to exchange knowledge on corporate responsibility, ethical recruitment and business practices. The stakeholders included large-scale labour-intensive companies in Egypt from several sectors such as textiles, infrastructure, energy, transportation, food and beverages, cement and agro-food. Participants agreed on the significant role that businesses can play to support the employability and employment of youth while promoting ethical recruitment practices to contribute to the welfare of the workers, and the community at large including migrants. This initiative was in line with the SDGs 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and 10: Reduced Inequalities. It was also a steppingstone for upcoming series of events to be jointly organized with the FEI to promote the concepts of responsible and ethical recruitment practices within the Egyptian private sector.

Through the project **‘Safeguarding the Workers on the Move’** in the MENA region, IOM Egypt, alongside its missions in Jordan and Morocco, focused on looking into the recruitment practices in a number of key destination and transit countries in the MENA region, and used the findings of such research/consultative fora and trainings to promote ethical recruitment. Moreover, this initiative sought to mobilize the government and the private sector to provide solutions to exploited migrants, both victims of trafficking and modern-day slavery.

Under this project, Egypt held a two-day workshop titled ‘The Role of Civil Society Dialogue in the Reinforcement of Labour Migrant Issues’ in Alexandria, in cooperation with the General Union for Workers in Construction and Wood. The aim of the workshop was to shed a light on the unethical recruitment practices that mostly exploit vulnerable working groups as migrant workers through engaging employers in a dialogue with employees. The workshop was attended by 35 (11 females, 24 males) members from

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<sup>1</sup> By income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, and geographic location.



the General Union, private sector representatives, and migrant community leaders and workers of Sudanese and Yemeni nationalities. The dialogue was informative for both parties and great interest was conveyed in the topic.

Lastly, within the community cohesion pillar, IOM Egypt successfully carried out the project **‘Promoting Community Cohesion for Syrian Female Refugees and members of their Hosting Communities (3RP)’**, which included a number of workshops and trainings aimed to promote social cohesion between Syrian female refugees and other females of the hosting communities in Egypt. This overall objective was achieved by increasing their access to quality and migrant-friendly health care, education, and livelihood opportunities as well as by reducing gender inequalities within the targeted communities. The project primarily targeted Syrian female refugees and other female members of the hosting communities. Over 14,320 Syrian women benefited from it. This project also indirectly benefits male members of the targeted communities, who were expected to engage and benefit from community cohesion events.

Some of the deliverables of the project include the refurbishment of five community-based schools, benefitting more than 1,550 Syrian children refugees that attend them. Additionally, other three youth centres in Alexandria were refurbished with furniture and sports equipment. More than 6,000 individuals profited directly and indirectly from it. Other events under the project involved mental wellness – such as capacity building and awareness raising workshops were provided for children and their mothers.

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### ‘We Complete Each Other’ Promoting Social Cohesion Between Migrants and Egyptians

Cairo – July 2019

IOM in partnership with the Embassy of Switzerland, the Swiss Cooperation Office and with the support of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Youth and Sports, launched a Click funding campaign called #WeCompleteEachOther to support the integration of migrants in Egypt with a focus on the economic benefits of migration.

The online campaign has been developed by the award-winning Egyptian social start-up Bassita, which is a social start-up specialized in awareness and fundraising for positive initiatives. The campaign reached 1.28 million people.



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## PRESS RELEASE

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### IOM Organizes Community Event in Alexandria to Mark International Women's Day

Alexandria - March 2019



In celebration of International Women’s Day, IOM with the support of Caritas and the Arkan Center, organized a community event in Alexandria, bringing together members of the Sudanese, South Sudanese and Yemeni communities to discuss women’s rights and empowerment.

Building on the “I Know My Right” photography exhibition, IOM organized an interactive session about women’s rights, in which the participants discussed how they protect themselves from abuses and exploitation. The event also included the distribution of baby boxes with blankets, sessions on women’s health, adult nutrition, and child nutrition by CARITAS.

During the sessions, children engaged in active learning games featuring children’s rights, such as the right to play, the right to education, and the right to have a say in decisions affecting them.

This community day reflected the needs and vulnerabilities of the communities identified by the Migrant Protection and Assistance Roving Team, which operates in Alexandria and the North Coast. The activities were made possible with the support of Italy, the Kingdom of Netherlands and the European Union (EU). This event was held under the 'Regional Development and Protection Programme for North Africa (RDPP NA) – Development Pillar' funded by the EU.

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### IOM Egypt Hosted a CEO Roundtable with Leaders from the Private Sector to Discuss Challenges and Opportunities of Migration

Cairo - January 2019



With the objective of informing and fostering discussion and partnership with the private sector, IOM Egypt, in collaboration with the UN Global Compact Network, invited representatives from a diverse set of companies, including Nestle and Orange Egypt, for a CEO Roundtable.

A variety of sectors were represented during the roundtable including academia, food production, travel and leisure, general industries, construction and materials, retail and distribution, community development, financial services, media, telecommunications and investment.

The first half of the meeting focused on informing the attendees on migration at large, IOM's role aiding migrants and defining who is a migrant. Considerable attention was also given to identifying the challenges that migrants are facing and the opportunities they bring to countries and the private sector in the form of labour force and as consumers.

The second half of the meeting was dedicated to the Q&A session, which led to an interactive discussion from the attendees. Many of the comments addressed the actions the private sector can take to collaborate with IOM and promote the employment of migrants. Special attention was given to the capacity of private companies to reach a large audience and shape the discourse. Discussion mostly focused on what tangible actions private companies can take to help the reintegration of migrants in Egypt.

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تسجيل ذالك السفر  
Check-in  
Enregistrement

7 8 9 10  
All Passengers With Tickets  
Tous les Passagers Avec Billets



## Resettlement and Movement Operations

Organizing safe, humane and orderly migration movements has been part of IOM’s core mandate for 65 years. In Egypt, a team of dedicated office, and airport staff ensure that movements from Egypt are organized in a timely and efficient manner, making use of IOM’s global airline agreements, in-house movement management applications and protocols.



### GCM OBJECTIVES

<b>Objective #5</b>	Opening wider legal pathways for migrants
<b>Objective #7</b>	Addressing and reducing vulnerabilities in migration
<b>Objective #16</b>	Empowering migrants and societies for full social inclusion and cohesion
<b>Objective #23</b>	Strengthening international cooperation and global partnerships

Services provided as part of movement operations usually involve the following activities:

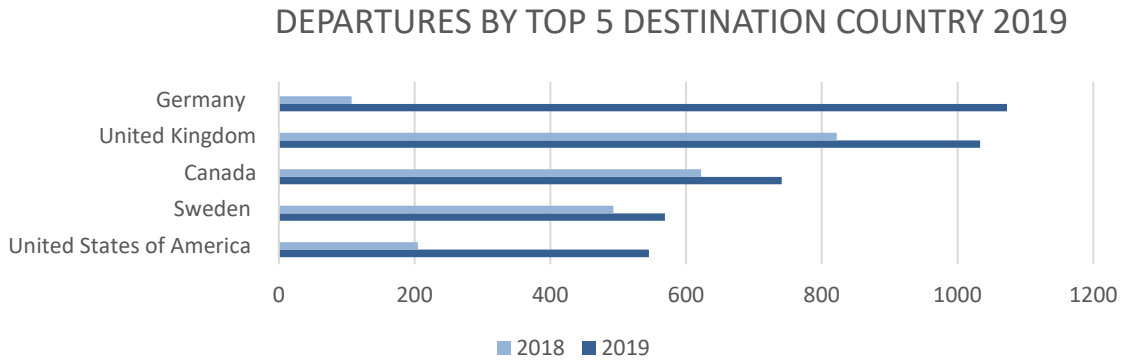
- Assistance in obtaining travel documents and visa and exit permits;
- Travel briefings to inform refugees of flight arrangements, luggage allowances and air-port assistance;
- International travel arrangements from Cairo to destination country with reduced airfares and preferential luggage allowances;
- Airport assistance at check-in, security checks and immigration formalities and boarding;
- Assistance at transit and arrival airports;
- Operational or medical escorts for refugees with special needs and/or for group movements.

IOM Egypt uses both scheduled commercial and chartered flights to facilitate refugee movements from Cairo, depending on the number of refugees, in coordination with the destination country. Movements on commercial flights are organized for individuals to groups of up to 70 refugees.

Cairo constitutes a hub for regional resettlement and movement operations given that a number of IOM missions operating in gulf countries and Algeria do not have operational structure and movement management capacities yet. Over the past three years, IOM has helped resettle about 10,000 migrants and refugees from Egypt and covered mission from the region such as Algeria, and Gulf area to over 20 different countries. Migrant and refugees resettled were from various nationalities accepted for resettlement by third countries.

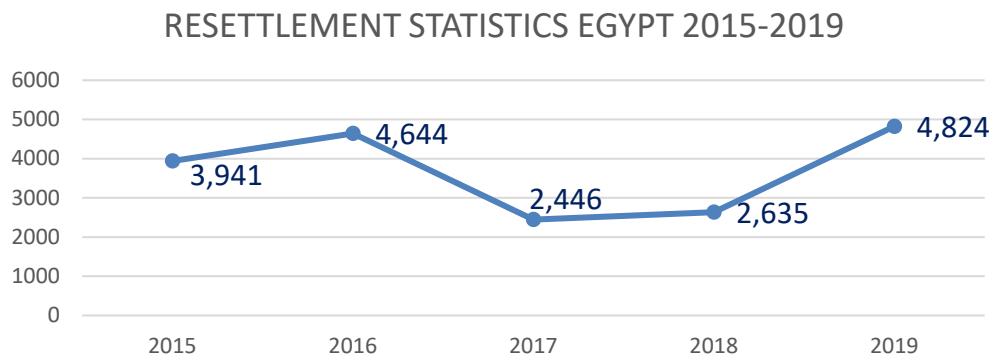
Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Grand Total
<b>Egypt, Arab Rep</b>	5,940	8,924	4,700	4,123	4,362	28,049

IOM Egypt has also provided assistance for refugees being resettled and transiting through Cairo airport. Table 1 above shows the number of refugees receiving assistance from IOM Egypt in their transit for the past five years.



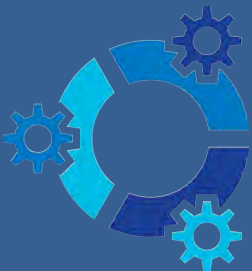
**Figure 8.** Departures by Top Five Destination Country 2019

In 2019 a total of 4,824 refugees were resettled from Egypt, demarking a large increase from 2018, where in comparison only 2,635 were resettled. As can be seen in Figure 8 above, Germany is the country receiving the most refugees. 2019 has been the year with the most resettlement cases, as can be seen in Figure 9.

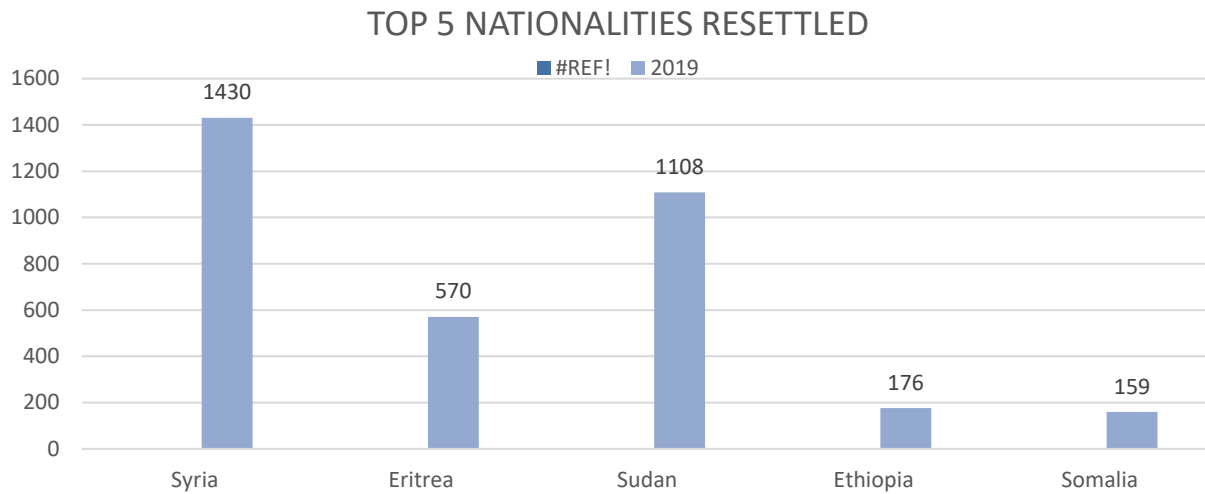


**Figure 9.** Resettlement Statistics - Egypt 2015-2019

Considering the nationalities of the people being resettled, the majority were comprised of Syrian refugees, as seen in Figure 10 below.



**11,375** movement operations were managed and handled by IOM Egypt in 2019. This figure includes **4,824** refugees resettled, **905** voluntary migrant returnees, **4,362** refugees in transit through Cairo and movement management of **1,284** (Resettlement and AVRR).



**Figure 10.** Top five nationalities resettled by IOM Egypt in 2019

## Telephone Interviews

In 2017 IOM started a pilot project for the UK Home Office to facilitate interviews via telephone calls for refugees who are in the process of resettlement to the United Kingdom. The interviews are conducted by IOM staff and have proven to be an efficient way to gather more information about the refugees and their specific needs prior to resettlement, enabling receiving authorities to identify appropriate settlement locations and provide tailored services. Between January and March 2019, there have been 39 telephone interviews conducted by IOM movement operations team in coordination with immigration offices at countries of destination. Since April 2019, the resettlement and movement operations team have been using video interviews to make the process more efficient. Around 136 video interviews have been conducted since April 2019.

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### 259 Resettled Refugees from Egypt arrive in Germany



Hannover, Germany - October 2019

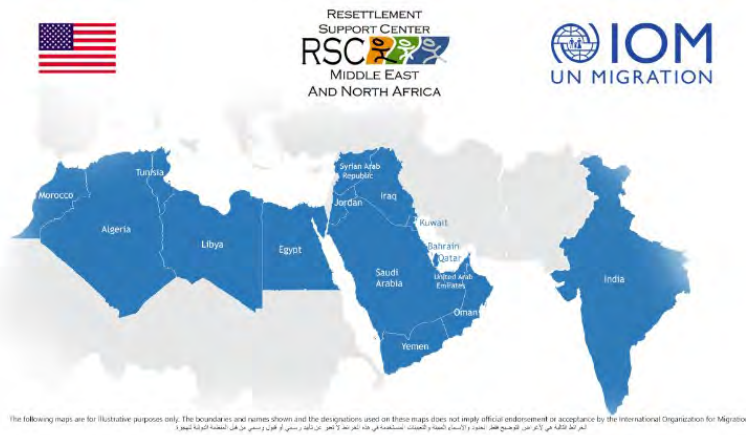
On 10 October 2019, 259 refugees departed from Cairo, Egypt, to Hannover, Germany, on a charter flight with support by IOM. This is the second charter flight arranged to Germany – with the first charter taking place on 11 September 2019 with 246 refugees on board.

The process of resettlement involves the cooperation between various actors. In this case, IOM worked closely with the Federal German Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF), UNHCR, the Government of Egypt and Caritas Germany. After their arrival in Germany, the refugees travelled to another location in Germany where accommodation and integration courses were provided while they settle in the country.



## Resettlement Support Center

IOM operates the **Resettlement Support Center (RSC)** for the Middle East and North Africa (RSC MENA) which conducts resettlement processing for the United States Refugee Admissions Programme (USRAP) in 16 countries throughout the MENA region.



### GCM OBJECTIVES

<b>Objective #5</b>	Opening wider legal pathways for migrants
<b>Objective #7</b>	Addressing and reducing vulnerabilities in migration
<b>Objective #16</b>	Empowering migrants and societies for full social inclusion and cohesion
<b>Objective #23</b>	Strengthening international cooperation and global partnerships

RSC MENA conducts resettlement processing activities on behalf of the US State Department, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) under the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP). RSC has a permanent processing site in Cairo, Egypt.

RSC processing activities consist of pre-screening interviews with refugees, logistical support to US Immigration Officers, case consultations and cultural orientation. Persons of special humanitarian concern who can demonstrate persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, may be considered for admission to the United States as refugees. All resettlement services are free of charge. Since 2015, RSC has managed and operated resettlement support for 5,878 refugees who resettled in the United States.

## Migrant Family Reunification

The Family Assistance Programme (FAP), funded by the German Federal Foreign Office, has been operating in IOM Egypt since October 2018. FAP has multiple offices around the Middle East and in Africa to support the family reunification process of vulnerable migrants who are compelled to leave their country, with a person who holds protection status in Germany. The key factor of this programme is to provide families with accurate information on the German family reunification visa process, as well as assist in preparing their files and submit them to the German Embassy in Cairo. It is forecasted that in 2020 FAP Cairo office will reduce its operations due to the low family reunification caseload compared to other locations. IOM Egypt will keep a focal point to assist any remaining caseload as well as to take on new cases and embassy referral cases.





— WORLD DAY —  
AGAINST TRAFFICKING  
IN PERSONS 2019  
ENGAGE | EMPOWER | PROTECT

## Counter-Trafficking and Counter-Smuggling

In line with relevant international standards, IOM Egypt advances the protection of vulnerable and stranded migrants within migration governance and builds national capacity to counter related offences. IOM Egypt maintains a longstanding cooperative relationship with the NCCPIM&TiP in all areas of counter-smuggling and counter-trafficking programming; having helped draft and now supporting the realization of the 2016-2026 National Strategy on Combating Illegal Migration, the 2016-2021 National Strategy on Combatting Trafficking in Persons, and the related Action Plans.

IOM Egypt worked to support the Government of Egypt to implement national laws, strategies and action plans, including the Sharm El Sheikh Statement in relation to the AU-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants (2014) and the Valletta Political Declaration and Action Plan (2015). This was in addition to the realization of the SDGs number 9, 10 and 15. It was also in accordance with the 2014 Egyptian Constitution, namely Article 62 and 63 on Mobility, Article 88 on Egyptian Expatriates, Article 89 on Human Trafficking, as well as Articles 12, 51, 55, 80 and 93 on Children and Human Rights, the Right to Work, as well as with the international frameworks already ratified by Egypt.

IOM Egypt's work is also in support of the Palermo Protocols.<sup>2</sup> Efforts to tackle smuggling and trafficking are thus framed by the internationally recognized **3P +1** paradigm, and organized around four key pillars: **Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnerships.**

### GCM OBJECTIVES

<b>Objective #9</b>	Strengthening the transnational response to smuggling
<b>Objective #10</b>	Preventing, combating and eradicating trafficking in persons
<b>Objective #15</b>	Providing access to basic services for migrants

In 2019, the Migrant Protection and Assistance Unit (MPA) delivered 24 trainings on counter trafficking and counter smuggling and migrant protection related issues to 632 different beneficiaries, as part of its capacity building objectives.

Within the counter trafficking pillar, the project '**Strengthening Egyptian Governmental Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking in Persons (STRENGTH)**' contributed to combating trafficking in persons in Egypt in line with the National Strategy on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking 2016-2021. Through this initiative, national agencies were enabled to update the evidence-base on trafficking in persons in Egypt through research and data analysis. In parallel, 'STRENGTH' supported national efforts

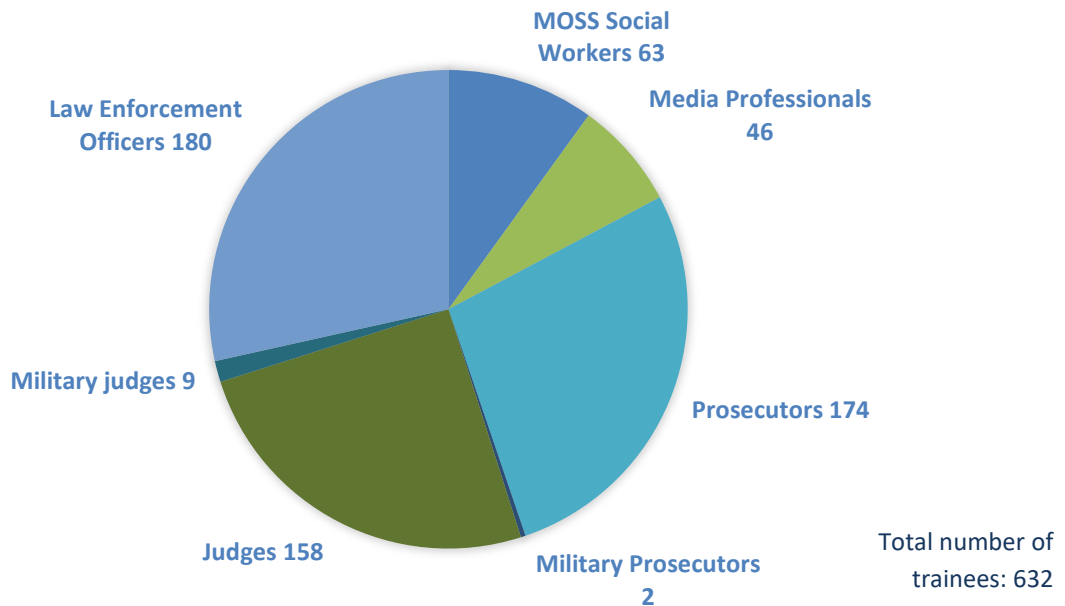
<sup>2</sup> the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.

to strengthen the investigation, prosecution and trial of human trafficking cases in Egypt through the development of an interactive training curriculum for judges and prosecutors.

Under the umbrella of this project, IOM has committed to support both laws on ‘Illegal migration and anti-smuggling’ no. 82/2016, and on ‘Combatting Human Trafficking’ no. 64/2010, in collaboration with the NCJS and the OPG through the organization of trainings for judiciary on the implementation of the laws. Additional efforts have been in placed to develop comprehensive training curriculum to institutionalize training courses for public prosecutors and judges.

Furthermore, the previously mentioned ‘**Strengthening Protection Sphere for Victims of Trafficking and Vulnerable Groups in Egypt (SPHERE)**’ project was, within the counter trafficking pillar, aimed to the contribution of the strengthening of protection services for Victims of Trafficking (VoT) and vulnerable migrants in Egypt, while preventing irregular migration and human trafficking. With this initiative, IOM established a shelter for VoT, provided legal assistance and expertise for relevant national stakeholders, as well as VoT, and trained governmental officials involved in combatting trafficking in persons on migration governance.

### NUMBER OF TRAINEES ON COUNTER TRAFFICKING AND COUNTER SMUGGLING TRAININGS 2019



**Figure 11.** Number of trainees on counter trafficking and counter smuggling trainings 2019

Over the course of 2019, and through its work with these projects, IOM has continued to work on capacity building while strengthening relations with key stakeholders in the matter. Some of these partners are the NCCPIM&TiP, Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), Ministry of Manpower (MoM), Ministry of Interior (Mol), and Ministry of Justice (MoJ).

IOM remains a strong advocate for the furtherance of alternative and temporary interventions for protection of vulnerable migrants exploited or at risk of exploitation.

Through the **‘African Regional Migration Programme’ (ARMP) North African Component**, IOM Egypt has strengthened its ongoing partnership with Mol through the organization of two trainings for 38 law enforcement officials during the project. The trainings were carried out with the objective of enhancing technical skills of officials on document examination and identification and investigation of cases under Egypt’s counter migrant smuggling and trafficking laws. Building on the successful collaboration with the Egyptian Forensic Medicine Authority (EFMA) on advanced passport examination procedures and effective identification of irregular deceased migrants, an advanced training of trainers and four trainings on examination of travel and identity documents were organized during the project. The trainings enhanced the knowledge and capacity of 109 (40 female and 69 male) forensic experts on.

Furthermore, together with the IOM MENA regional office, IOM Egypt organized in September 2019 an Expert Meeting on Search and Rescue Practices. The event gathered 18 (7 women, 11 men) key international stakeholders from Austria and Italy, Government Representatives from Egypt, Sudan and Tunisia, and IOM experts. The two-day meeting facilitated technical discussions between relevant authorities in responding to the dynamic migratory flows in the region. The workshop enabled exchange of best practices between key national actors and fostered and harmonized national capacities to coordinate search and rescue operations in the region.

In December 2019, IOM and the APA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen their partnership on issues of mutual interest. In particular, those related to enhancing capacities to combat smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons.



The agreement provided with the framework for strengthened cooperation and joint initiatives between the two organizations, with a focus on improving technical capacities and cross-border cooperation as well as knowledge sharing and exchange of best practices in the fight against smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons. The specific joint actions planned to be initiated under the framework of the MoU include:

1. Development of harmonized regional training curricula on combating smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons;
2. Organization of regional participatory knowledge sharing trainings tailored on the identified needs and aimed at enhancing the knowledge and capabilities of judicial authorities of African countries that would be fundamental to devise or update national legislative frameworks and to strengthen the implementation of laws;
3. Provide technical support to the APA on its online knowledge management platform.

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### IOM Egypt Trains 48 Forensic Experts on Passport Examination Procedures

Cairo – April 2019

IOM Egypt organized two trainings on passport examination procedures for the Egyptian Forensic Medicine Authority (EFMA). The training accommodated 48 Forensic Experts from six governorates.

The six-day trainings were facilitated by Mr. Nelson Goncalves from IOM’s African Capacity Building Centre in Tanzania. Participants acquired in-depth and hands-on experience on passport examination, using verification equipment to identify forged and counterfeit documents.



IOM Egypt ©

“IOM is committed to supporting the Government of Egypt to ensure orderly, safe and humane migration. This includes the activities intended for strengthening the capacities to identify and detect unlawful activities related to migration. The training for the Forensic Medical Authority follows similar trainings already conducted with law enforcement officers” said Mr. Andrea Dabizzi, Head of MPA Unit at IOM Egypt.

In line with the above, IOM Egypt supports the provision of equipment to detect fraud and manipulation of passports, in addition to chemicals for DNA sampling and sequencing. The training programmes and equipment were funded by the United States as part of the IOM intervention “Africa Regional Migration Programme”. The intervention supports the Government of Egypt in achieving the SDGs, particularly goal 10.7: “Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”, and goal 16.3: “Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all”. The training is also in line with the objectives of Egypt’s SDS: Vision 2030.

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### IOM Holds a Training Workshop for Egyptian Media Personnel on Reporting on Trafficking in Persons

Cairo – June 2019



IOM, in coordination with the Government of Egypt’s NCCPIM&TiP, organized a two-day training in Cairo for media personnel on journalism and reporting on trafficking in persons, co-organized and hosted by the Administrative Control Authority of Egypt. The two-day training intends to improve the knowledge of media professionals on the thematic issues and ethical considerations for reporting on trafficking.

The training, conducted by members of NCCPIM&TiP, IOM and an expert media professionals, covered migration and trafficking concepts, terminology, anti-trafficking and smuggling laws in Egypt, and reporting practices. IOM emphasized the role of the media as both a source of information and an influence on migration and trafficking in persons, including the ability of the media to dispel misconceptions, misinformation, and negative rhetoric, while disseminating correct and effective information. “The role of the media in mobilizing and informing the public is essential. An informed and thoughtful media can change the tide of trafficking in persons. IOM counts on the Egyptian stakeholders and partners to take this information forward in a proactive way”, said Mr. Laurent De Boeck, IOM Egypt’s Chief of Mission.

The training was supported by the Government of the Netherlands’ programme ‘Strengthening Egyptian Governmental Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons (STRENGTH)’, through which IOM collaborates with the Government of Egypt in implementing the 2016-2021 National Strategy to combat trafficking in persons. The trainings support the achievement of the UN’s SDGs, particularly goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions and goal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. The initiative is also in line with ‘Egypt SDS: Vision 2030’ for a fair interdependent society characterized by equal economic, social, political rights and opportunities realizing social inclusion.



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## PRESS RELEASE

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### A Symposium for African Prosecutors Organized in Cairo

Cairo – July 2019



IOM Egypt in collaboration with the Egyptian Office of Prosecutor General organized a Symposium for Enhancing Knowledge and Cross Border Cooperation among African Prosecutors on combating human trafficking and migrant smuggling in Cairo on 24 – 25 July, 2019.

The symposium was attended by twenty Prosecutors, representing fourteen countries in addition to technical experts. The discussions focused on enhancing regional cooperation among public prosecution offices of African countries to curb migration related crimes, with particular emphasis on best practices in cross-border cooperation, investigations and evidence collection in the digital era, financial investigations and improving migration data management and analysis.

The Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy in Cairo, Dorothy Shea, addressed the participants and emphasized the commitment of the Government of the United States to continue to support efforts to effectively combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

The participants deliberated on challenges they face as practitioners and put forward key recommendations to enhance cross-border cooperation in prosecuting perpetrators of human trafficking and migrant smuggling while ensuring protection of vulnerable migrants. The recommendations included advocacy for ratification of relevant international conventions, concluding bilateral and multilateral agreements to enhance cross-border cooperation and establishing more time efficient channels of communications between public prosecution authorities, amongst others



IOM·OIM

# Migration Governance

IOM has supported the endeavours of the Government of Egypt to produce timely and reliable migration data, mainly through strengthening the capacity of government officials on the nexus of migration and development, as well as collecting and reporting of migration data. IOM’s capacity building activities are aimed at supporting Egypt to report on migration related indicators, as part of the country’s commitment towards achieving the SDGs. In that matter, the CAPMAS, the MoM, and the MoSEEA have been the main national counterparts for IOM Egypt on matters of migration governance.



## GCM OBJECTIVES

<b>Objective #1</b>	Improving migration data and research
<b>Objective #3</b>	Providing accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
<b>Objective #11</b>	Managing borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
<b>Objective #23</b>	Strengthening international cooperation and global partnerships

## Certificate in Migration Governance

The MENA region hosts 34 million migrants, including more than seven million registered refugees and 15 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). Egypt is widely recognized as an important origin, transit and destination country for migration. It is also a key country in terms of geographic position, along different migratory routes from the Horn of Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa. IOM Egypt, in



partnership with the American University in Cairo’s Centre for Migration and Refugee Studies ([AUC/CMRS](#)), designed an eight-day training certificate in migration governance to build the capacity of the governmental and non-governmental actors working on migration related issues in the MENA region.

The Certificate aims at providing different stakeholders dealing with migration with a comprehensive and shared knowledge on how to effectively and efficiently govern and manage this phenomenon. Moreover, the courses allow participants to realize areas of possible synergies and future partnership. The geographic coverage of the course is primarily focused on the Egyptian context, with reference to best practices and lessons learnt from other countries in the MENA region, as well as worldwide. The certificate is structured into six main courses as illustrated below.

A regional curriculum for officials from MENA countries was developed to acquire knowledge and learn tools on migration governance. This practical and comprehensive curriculum supports a whole-of-government approach towards efficient and effective migration governance.



### Regional Certificate in Migration Governance

<b>1. Introduction to Migration</b>	Basic terms and definitions on migration.
<b>2. International Migration Law</b>	Introduction to the international legal framework around migration.
<b>3. Migration and Development</b>	Migration policy implications for development and vice versa. Ways of integrating migration into development strategies.
<b>4. Labour Migration and Human Mobility</b>	Relationships between migration policy, labour market and economic development.
<b>5. Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants</b>	Identification and assistance of victims. State obligations under the relevant international legal frameworks criminal proceedings and strategies to combat trafficking in persons.
<b>6. Migration Management in Crisis</b>	Stages of human or nature-induced disaster situations and its relationship with migration management.

Based on the positive feedback and the success of the first two editions of the Regional Certificate in Migration Governance, IOM Egypt has expanded this initiative to cover the three levels: local, regional and continental (AU). The regional certificate was partially funded through the ARMP I project. The fourth local edition was funded through STRENGTH, which also co-funded the AU union, together with the project SPHERE.

By the end of the programme participants were able to:

- Learn the different aspects of migration and to understand its correlation with other fields;
- Understand the different migration dynamics in the region;
- Apply an academic and practical approach to migration governance;
- Make use of new insights in the day-to-day practical work.

## The Regional Certificate in Migration Governance (2nd Edition)

7-12 September 2019 – Following the great success of the first edition of the Regional Certificate in Migration Governance that took place in 2018, IOM Egypt and AUC/CMRS concluded the second edition of the certificate. Twenty-six governmental and non-governmental officials working on migration-related topics took part in the six-day training.



Participants were representing the following institutions: Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Algerian Ministry of Solidarity, Algerian Ministry of Interior, Algerian Ministry of Health, Egyptian Armed Forces, Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egyptian Ministry of Manpower, Egyptian Ministry of Immigration, Egyptian Administrative Regulatory Authority, Egyptian Radio host and journalist, Labour Market Regulatory Authority of Bahrain, Bahraini Ministry of Interior, Supreme Council for Planning and Development of Kuwait, Sudanese Ministry of Welfare and Social Security and Sudanese NGO (People Legal Aid Centre) and IOM in Libya and Algeria.

## The Certificate in Migration Governance (AU Edition)



10-14 November 2019 – The African Union (AU) Edition for the Certificate in Migration Governance supported Egypt’s Chairmanship of the AU and the Government of Egypt in its commitment to “elaborate and implement a comprehensive national and regional strategies on migration and mobility”<sup>3</sup> as well as

<sup>3</sup> Action Plan of the Valletta Summit on Migration, Nov. 2015.

to become “a fair interdependent society characterized by equal economic, social, political rights and opportunities realizing social inclusion”<sup>4</sup> by 2030.

IOM, in coordination with the Institute of Diplomatic Studies of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, organized a five-modules training on migration governance targeting officials from the AU State Members to foster migration governance at local, national, regional and interregional level. The lectures were conducted by experts from IOM, the Institute of the Diplomatic Studies and selected academic partners. The training hosted 17 participants from the AU State Members and 15 participants from Egypt.

### The Certificate in Migration Governance (Local Edition)



As part of its capacity building portfolio, which includes trainings for Egyptian officials from governmental and non-governmental agencies, IOM Egypt and the AUC/CMRS celebrated the closure of the third edition of the Certificate in Migration Governance, which started in October 2018.

Thirty-three Egyptian officials representing six ministries, ten governmental institutions and one NGO, successfully completed the learning programme. The programme modules were delivered by AUC professors and IOM experts. The programme was supported by the Kingdom of Denmark, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

*“The programme made us realize that the topic of migration is very close to us as professionals and individuals, we realized that we are all migrants or potential migrants”*

Stated by one of the participants

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<sup>4</sup> Egypt’s Sustainable Development Strategy: Vision 2030, Social Justice Pillar.



# Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development

Aswan, Egypt. 11-12 December 2019.

Africa’s potential is both unmatched and untapped. Today, the continent is home to at least half of the fastest growing economies of the world. It is rich in resources and is riding a wave of urbanization, industrialization and economic diversification. Its importance in the global economy is expected only to rise, both as a market and as an engine of global growth. Moreover, the continent is the youngest region of the world. By 2030, one in every five people in the world will live in Africa.



As the Chairman of the AU, Egypt took the initiative to launch this conversation. The Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development provided the first of its kind platform to address these inseparable issues. The Forum brought together heads of states and governments, leaders from national governments, regional and international organizations and financial institutions, the private sector, and civil society, as well as visionaries, scholars, and prominent experts for a context-specific, action-oriented, and forward looking discussion on the threats and challenges, as well as opportunities, ahead.

IOM was honoured to participate as a close partner of the Aswan Forum through the provision of technical expertise on migration related subjects during the preparatory workshops organized by the Forum’s secretariat, the Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding. The outcomes of these workshops were used for the preparation of the “Aswan Peace and Development Report”, which was published before the Forum.



A high-level delegation composed of IOM’s Senior Regional Adviser for Sub-Saharan Africa, Ms. Aissata Kane, Senior Regional Adviser for MENA, Mr. Othman Belbeisi together with IOM Regional Director for MENA, Ms. Carmela Godeau and IOM Egypt’s Chief of Mission, Mr. Laurent De Boeck, were present during the two-day Forum.

Equally important was IOM’s participation as panel members of the session on “Forced Displacement and Mixed Migration in Africa: Time for a Paradigm Shift?”. The dialogue focused on ‘durable solutions’ such as return, local integration, and resettlement and the need for a paradigm shift from crisis management towards prevention and resolving situations of forced displacement. In celebrating the ‘Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa’, and in the lead up to the Global Refugee Forum (GRF), this session investigated the contours of this paradigm shift, and presented actionable recommendations to advance the operationalization of a comprehensive and coherent approach to forced displacement and mixed migration in Africa along the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, including through the operationalization of the African humanitarian architecture.



## World Youth Forum 2019

Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. 14-17 December 2019

The WYF is a youth platform that was first launched in Sharm El-Sheikh in November 2017 through the direct support of H.E President Abdelfattah Al Sisi. It sends a message of peace, prosperity, harmony, and progress to the entire world. It engages youth from around the globe in an enriching set-up, allowing them to exchange views and recommend initiatives to decision-makers and influential figures. The forum is a chance for youth to engage with top policymakers, network with promising youth from the region and the world that are determined to make our world a better place for everyone. With over 8,000 attendees, WYF covers all expenses for youth attending from around the globe and offers a series of panels on diverse pressing issues (from artificial intelligence to food security), as well as hosting open spaces for networking and dialogue, and promoting culture and diversity through art exhibitions and performances.



Senior Regional Advisor for Middle East and North Africa to the Director General of IOM, Mr. Othman Belbeisi, participated at the Panel Discussion on Fostering Mediterranean Regional Cooperation. The session was held behind closed doors with only select audience attending, due to the attendance of Egypt's President. The session discussed how to develop the policies of Mediterranean countries and restructure the regional dialogue platforms in a participatory way, that engages both regional and international organizations as well as governments, civil society, private sector and all relevant parties. The topic of this session is of a great importance, given the current regional challenges imposed on the agenda of the Mediterranean region, such as

terrorism, combating unregulated migration and maritime security challenges, along with other various challenges that are of priority to the Mediterranean countries. Additionally, IOM Egypt held an open space where attendees had the opportunity to talk and meet with IOM personnel and learn more about the work carried out by the organization.

## Partnership with the Egyptian Red Crescent

In November 2019, IOM and the ERC signed an MoU in order to formalise mutual interaction regarding migrant support and protection in Egypt. This Memorandum constitutes of a framework of cooperation on migrant support and protection in Egypt, developing mutual technical assistance and capacity building activities, health support including psychosocial health to migrants and host communities, disaster-risk reduction and promotion of economic growth and support for human development.



Through this agreement IOM and ERC will contribute to Egypt’s SDS: Vision 2030, by supporting the social justice and health pillars. The partnership is also in line with the SDGs, namely goal 3: Good Health and Well Being, goal 10: Reduced Inequalities and goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals.



The first activity that took place in the framework of this cooperation was a workshop on IOM Protection and Assistance for Migrants Vulnerable to Violence, Exploitation and Abuse in December 2019. The workshop was directed to 27 ERC field officers (staff and volunteers) who engage in activities with primary interaction with migrant and

refugees’ communities in Egypt. The main purpose of the workshop is to provide conceptual clarity, operational definitions and a framework for protection and assistance for all actors involved. It also provides practical guidance for states, the private sector, international organizations and civil society on how to identify, refer, protect and assist migrants who vulnerable to violence, exploitation, and abuse as well as on what actions to take to mitigate and reduce their vulnerability.

## IOM Egypt Goodwill Ambassadors

IOM Egypt held a press conference in July 2019 to announce the appointment of Egyptian superstar actors Asser Yassin and Nelly Karim as Goodwill Ambassadors of the organization. Asser Yassin is an Egyptian actor, writer and film producer. Asser has received many distinguished awards as best actor from Festival International Cinema Mediterranean Tetouan in 2015, Malmo Arab Film Festival in 2011, and Carthage Film Festival in 2010.



Nelly Karim is an Egyptian film and television actress who started her career as the Cairo Opera House's prima ballerina. She has starred in critically acclaimed productions, choosing stories and roles that highlight some of the key challenges and struggles affecting women and society at large. Nelly has received many distinguished international awards and has been also a jury member at several regional and international film festivals such as the Venice Film Festival and Abu Dhabi Film Festival.

Using their platforms and presence in media, Mr. Asser and Ms. Nelly advocated for migrant rights, raising awareness on the positive impact of regular migration and the risks of irregular migration, while also promoting safe, dignified and regular migration. Both Goodwill Ambassadors were involved in the production of an awareness raising animation for counter trafficking, providing voice overs, helping boost the visibility of the campaign and the message. Additionally, Asser Yassin participated in the “We Complete Each Other” campaign, a Click funding campaign to support the integration of migrants in Egypt, and was a jury member for the Global migration Film Festival (GMFF). Nelly Karim attended the final day of a three-day training called “Expert Hands training”, an initiative that aimed at providing migrants with opportunities to learn cosmetic skills, such as makeup, hair, and nails crafts. The trainings support migrants to fulfill their rights to have better work opportunities.

*“Nelly and Asser are not only famous talents. They are humane and sensitive to others. They are looking at the inner part of each of us and talk to us to unleash our hidden talents and seek for compassion and emotions “*

IOM's Chief of Mission to the Arab Republic of Egypt, Laurent de Boeck



## Migration and Sports



Professional and recreational sports have proved to play an important role in anti-racism and counter-xenophobia initiatives. In the context of Africa, sports have often become a gateway for many African youth. Such reality does not come without its risks. Traffickers and smugglers take advantage of this situation and recruit them with promises of a better future as professional football players in Europe. Unfortunately, many end up becoming victims of trafficking. IOM Egypt firmly believes that tackling trafficking and smuggling risks in the context of sports is essential. Accordingly, IOM has started to



integrate sports and counter-trafficking advocacy and awareness sessions, where information is provided amongst migrants on the issues related to human trafficking and its relation to sports, as well as what are the best safe and regular alternatives.

In this context, Mission 89 and IOM signed an MoU to formalize their collaboration. The first joint activity was in support of the 'not in our game' campaign where more than 65 young migrants from various nationalities had the opportunity to participate in a football tournament that was accompanied with messages and information sessions about the dangers of human trafficking in football.

Moreover, on March 2019, IOM signed a partnership with La Liga, the Spanish top tier football league, under the auspices of the Egyptian Ministry of Youth and Sports. This partnership paved the way for

collaborations between the two institutions to join efforts in combatting racial discrimination and trafficking in football as well as raising awareness on migration challenges. Through this agreement La Liga and IOM contribute to Egypt's SDS: Vision 2030, by supporting the social justice pillar. The partnership is also in line with SDGs, namely: Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities, Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### Not in Our Game: Countering Human Trafficking in Sports

Cairo – July 2019

IOM joined forces with Mission 89 in coordinating activities in Egypt, to share expertise and raise awareness amongst migrants on the issues related to human trafficking and sports. This partnership follows the success of an event held in Cairo in cooperation with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Egypt. Two football matches for 65 young migrants from various nationalities were organized to engage the community and raise their awareness on the dangers of human trafficking in football. The event was associated with the semi-final and final match of the African Cup of Nations (AFCON) 2019. Using the #NOTINOURGAME campaign, the event aimed at enhancing the knowledge of migrant youth and communities in Egypt about the risks and realities of trafficking and irregular migration in the field of sports. The event took place at the premises of Collège de la Sainte Famille (Jesuit Cairo).



The workshop was delivered by Mrs. May Nkiru Ikeora and Mr. Yann Coelenbier. Participants learned more information about:

- Various forms of human trafficking and sports
- Options for positive action and how to prevent getting misled and how to identify the risks of trafficking
- Where to go to verify if an opportunity is valid and the appropriate steps to pursue a legitimate career in sport

The workshop was followed by a football tournament on both days, and on 17 July, Mr. Laurent De Boeck – IOM Egypt's Chief of Mission – and Dr. May Ikeora gave medals to 20 migrant champions from two winning football teams.

## Migration and Youth

Unemployment among youth in Egypt remains high, particularly for the age range of 15-29 years, at around 25.7%.<sup>5</sup> Ensuring that youth do not turn to smuggling or fall victim to trafficking as a way to find employment is paramount for IOM Egypt. With this goal in mind, IOM Egypt works under two key pillars to empower and give agency to Egyptian and migrant youth.



### 1. Advancing the social wellbeing of youth in their society

IOM worked closely with the Government of Egypt and local community organizations on advancing the social wellbeing of youth in their society, enhancing social cohesion and strengthening youth resilience to become agents of change in their local communities.

- IOM cooperated with MoM and the Ministry of Youth and Sports to promote social cohesion and wellbeing of citizens, with a focus on youth. Events under trafficking and sports in collaboration with LaLiga targeted youth at risk of irregularly migrating.
- IOM cooperated with other UN agencies in Egypt on the yearly International Youth Day to promote and celebrate young people. The International Youth Day 2019 focused on “Transforming education”, highlighting efforts to make education more relevant, equitable and inclusive for all youth, including efforts by youth themselves.

### 2. Livelihood opportunities; positive alternatives to irregular migration

Supporting a better matching between youth skills and job opportunities is essential to provide youth with concrete, sustainable livelihood opportunities and alternatives to irregular migration.

- IOM coordinated closely with the Government of Egypt, donors and private sector to enhance employability of Egyptian and migrant youth, focusing on sectors such as tourism, textile and green technologies.
- IOM Egypt finalized the refurbishment of the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) in Housh Eissa in the Beheira Governorate.

IOM has initiated entrepreneurship trainings and trainings in other key sectors to provide youth with sustainable employment opportunities. In collaboration with Youthinkgreen, IOM delivered an environment entrepreneurship education intervention that covered topics related to sustainability, waste management, SDGs and global environmental trends.

<sup>5</sup> CAPMAS, Statistical Yearbook – Population 2018, available at: [https://capmas.gov.eg/Pages/Publications.aspx?page\\_id=5104&Year=23397](https://capmas.gov.eg/Pages/Publications.aspx?page_id=5104&Year=23397)



## Migration and Gender

Gender influences reasons for migrating, who migrates and to where, how people migrate and the networks they use, opportunities and resources available at destinations, and relations with the country of origin. Risks, vulnerabilities and needs are also shaped in large part by one's gender, and often vary drastically for different groups. It is therefore crucial to understand how gender interacts with migration and to respond accordingly. Taking into account gender-specific migration trends can mean the difference between implementing a project that successfully addresses the specific needs and capacities of all IOM beneficiaries, and one that fails to do so and perpetuates inequality. To tackle the migration and gender vulnerabilities, IOM has adopted the IOM Gender Equality Policy 2015-2019, in which guidelines are put forth.

In this regard, IOM Egypt is taking multiple initiatives for gender mainstreaming in its programming. This includes the roll-out of the Gender Marker, a new tool that assesses the extent to which gender considerations are integrated in projects and to track IOM's resources towards gender equality as well as to identify and address gaps in terms of integrating gender considerations in programming. Furthermore, the mission organized a Gender Champions Quiz to enhance awareness of its staff members on IOM's Gender Equality Policy. Prominent personalities in leadership positions and advocates for gender equality have been invited to interact with staff during multiple Women in Leadership Sessions to share their professional challenges and accomplishments in an open environment to encourage and motivate staff members to aim for professional achievements. Furthermore, IOM Egypt has organized multiple events to create awareness on rights of women in general and migrant women in particular.



To celebrate the International Day of the Girl, Mr. Laurent de Boeck, IOM Egypt's Chief of Mission welcomed Nermine, to take over his duties for a full day and learn about IOM activities and role in the service of migrants. She attended meetings in the stead of the Chief of Mission and gave suggestions based on her experience and knowledge. This effort was part of the Girls Take Over Initiative where organizations participate in collaboration with MoSS and Plan International to empower girls and change stereotypes in societies about women.

Under the project ‘**Promoting Community Cohesion for Syrian Female Refugees and Members of their Hosting Communities (3RP)**’ IOM Egypt aimed to promote social cohesion between Syrian female refugees and other females of the hosting communities in Egypt whilst promoting gender equality. To achieve this, access to quality and migrant-friendly health care, education, and livelihood opportunities were enhanced for female migrants, as well as through the reduction of gender inequalities within the targeted communities. The project primarily targeted Syrian female refugees and other female members of the hosting communities. The project also aimed to indirectly benefit male members of the targeted communities, who engaged and benefited from community cohesion events.

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### Selected Contributions of IOM Egypt to the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP)

Alexandria - March 2019

IOM Egypt supports the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) which aims to provide social assistance to Syrians in Egypt and host communities in order to ameliorate their living conditions, increase social cohesion, resilience, and ultimately prevent irregular migration. IOM, through a series of events and as part of the 3RP plan, reached over 14,320 Syrian female refugees and members of their host communities.



Achievements of 2019 include:

**Education:** Two community schools attended by Syrian refugees were refurbished; an average of 1,550 Syrian children benefitted from the community schools.

**Livelihood:** ‘Migrant Jewels’ IOM contracted Crown Consulting to implement an entrepreneurship training program for female Syrian refugees and females of the host community. The program entailed jewellery design and entrepreneurial skills workshops. Fifty-seven Syrian and Egyptian women received either an in-depth jewellery design workshop or a cake decorating workshop, business training and professional kit.

Activities and initiatives under 3RP are funded by the Government of Japan as well as by the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) of the United States Department of State.

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# Global Migration Film Festival

Over the years, films have been used to inform, entertain, educate and provoke debate. It is in this spirit that IOM, the UN Migration Agency, launched The Global Migration Film Festival (GMFF) in 2016.

The GMFF features films and documentaries that capture the promise and challenges of migration, and the unique contributions that migrants make to their new communities. The goal of the festival is to pave the way for greater discussion around one of the greatest phenomena of our time. The GMFF uses films as educational tools that influence perceptions of and attitudes towards migrants, by bringing attention to social issues and creating safe spaces for respectful debate and interaction.



Global Migration Film Festival  
**EGYPT**  
**14 Movies**  
**8 Governorates**  
 Cairo | Alexandria | Assiut | Kafr El Sheikh  
 Fayoum | Dakahlia | Gharbiya | Qena  
**16 Venues**  
**2000+**  
**ATTENDEES!**

The poster features a collage of film titles including: THE TOWER, RISKI, STRANGE FOR, La Uva, ANGKAR, DYING EUROPE, HAYATI, IMAN, TIEMPO DE LLUVIA, MAELSTROM, and LIBERTAI.

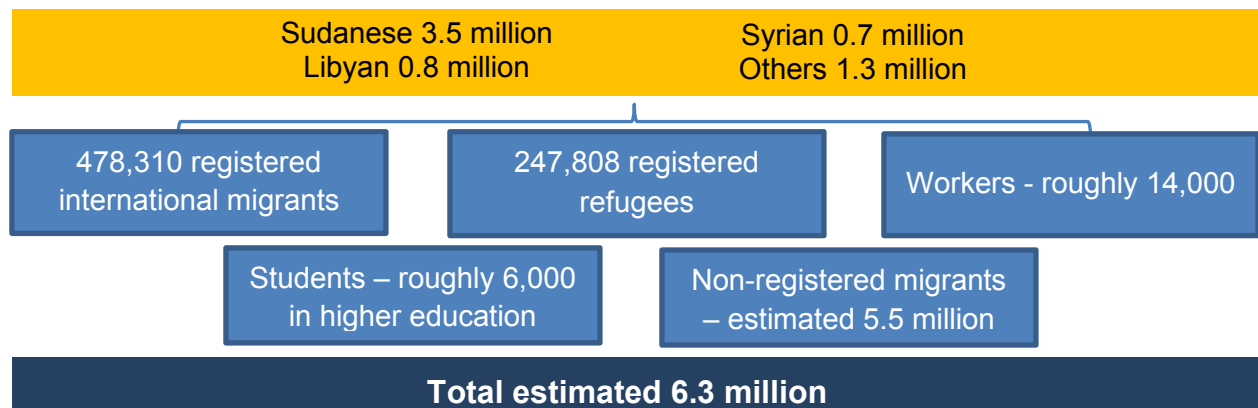
The Festival is an innovative creative avenue for normalizing discussions of migration through storytelling, and it is an advocacy tool that can also draw attention to the UN SDGs, thus helping all nations as they work to meet them.

Following the successful closing ceremony of the GMFF in 2018, which was brought to Cairo as a global recognition of Egypt’s expertise and love for the third art, IOM Egypt optimised its outreach to bring the 2019 GMFF to different locations throughout Egypt. Additionally, IOM Egypt’s Goodwill Ambassador, Asser Yassin, participated in the jury of the 2019 GMFF, further prompting Egypt’s involvement in the festival. From 28 November to 18 December 2019, fourteen movies were screened in sixteen venues located in eight different governorates. The ERC supported in the outreach by hosting screenings in eight governorates reaching over 400 people. In total, more than 2,000 attendees enjoyed the screenings of the selected movies during the 2019 festival.

## Way Forward: Priorities 2020

Throughout 2019, the Arab Republic of Egypt remained a transit and destination country for mixed migration, including refugees and economic migrants, which is reflected in the diversity of the migrant population in Egypt. Egypt hosts migrants from more than 58 different nationalities, including Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen. Migrants leaving those countries are often fleeing violence or conflict in their countries of origin or escaping from political prosecution or religious and racial discrimination. Currently, it is estimated that Egypt hosts more than **six million** migrants of various nationalities, to whom it offers health, educational, and nutritional services.

**Migrants communities in the Arab Republic of Egypt - IOM estimates**



## Expansion Plan: Scaling-up Migrant Protection and Direct Assistance

The year 2019 marks the beginning of IOM Egypt’s expansion plan, which implies the scaling-up of services and assistance provided to migrants. IOM Egypt’s data and evidence show an increase demand for migrant assistance due to the diverse risks and threats they are exposed to, during their journey. There is also a need for addressing integration challenges in their host communities once they have arrived in Egypt. In partnership with migrant communities, other (I)NGOs and civil society groups, IOM Egypt identified migrants’ most pressing needs and problems in order to ensure effective resource allocation and project design and development. For instance, there is a need for migrant direct assistance in areas of lower socio-economic livelihoods, medical and healthcare services, housing allowance and training allowance. Accordingly, IOM Egypt is committed to continue to enhance its operations to adequately meet the increasing demand for migrant protection and assistance.

## Reframing Capacity Development: The Eagerness for Emancipatory Social Change

Capacity development is a key term and pillar in IOM Egypt's work, as it contributes to the effectiveness of humanitarian aid and assistance. Capacity development is intrinsically linked to the potential to gradually build sustainability, self-reliance and national ownership regarding governance of migration and migrant protection and assistance. IOM Egypt staff and advisors develop and deliver different capacity development schemes to assist and help our partners and the Government of Egypt with the knowledge and tools needed to adequately respond with quick interventions and durable solutions. This is reflected in IOM's training programmes and activities such as the Certificate in Migration Governance on a local and regional level. Moreover, IOM Egypt provide tailored and customized trainings and workshops on counter-smuggling and -trafficking for frontline and senior public officials at different governmental authorities such as law enforcement, judiciary, forensic authority, public prosecutors, statisticians and social workers. Migration governance and related humanitarian and development aid are increasingly becoming more complex and dynamic, which requires constant critical reflection and innovation in terms of social relations, coordination modalities, policy reform and advocacy. Accordingly, the following three points will be ensured and affirmed in IOM Egypt's capacity development programmes design and delivery:

### **1. Values and Leadership**

Without a clear purpose and leadership, capacity building does not develop. Both values and leadership constitute significant drivers of capacity development and social change in terms of better migration governance and migrants' integration in their host communities in Egypt. A vision based on clearly articulated values and consensus between different stakeholders and policy makers can facilitate a positive and sustainable social change. IOM Egypt operations will emphasize the integration of values which include integrity and professionalism.

### **2. Relationships**

IOM Egypt recognizes how humanitarian aid and migrant assistance interventions would not have been possible without strategic relationships with the Government of Egypt, inter-governmental agencies, (I)NGOs, and community-based and advocacy groups. IOM Egypt acknowledges the importance of furthering conversations among different stakeholders to be able to keep incorporating new information. Dialogue on migration-related issues and relationships are important means of facilitating capacity development.

### **3. Learning Processes**

Capacity development processes are themselves learning processes. IOM Egypt's work on capacity development and advocacy will highlight the focus on integrating innovative messaging and dialogue tools tackling cross-cutting issues related to migration. Creative methods include storytelling, drama and arts which are used for professional and leadership development. Such innovative tools need to be integrated into capacity development for better results and social impact.

## IOM Thematic Priorities in 2020

### Youth Employment

Unemployment among youth in Egypt remains high, particularly for the age range of 15-29 years, with higher percentage of unemployment amongst females.<sup>6</sup> Out of the youth population, 17.2 percent have a strong aspiration to move abroad, with male youth being considerably more likely to move than female youth.<sup>7</sup> Considering the migrant population in Egypt, the average age is 25.1 years, and 55 percent of the migrants living in Egypt is below the age of 35.<sup>8</sup> Empowering youth in Egypt through concrete, sustainable livelihood opportunities and alternatives to irregular migration will support Egyptian development, social cohesion of migrants and contribute to economic empowerment at large. IOM Egypt's priorities for youth employment include:

- Enhancing the skills and employability of youth through youth centres to reduce irregular migration and to promote circular migration of Egyptian and migrant youth.
- Increasing support for vocational training centres in governorates reporting high levels of irregular migration of youth and enhance collaborative cooperation between private sector, civil society and the government to aid the employment opportunities for youth.
- Enhancing the creation of 'green jobs' in Egypt, such as waste recycling, renewable energy, agriculture and green tourism.

### Environmentally Induced Migration

Environmental migration is a multicausal phenomenon, yet one in which environmental drivers play a significant and increasingly determinative role in the movement of people. Environmental change and migration are often complicated by factors such as population growth, poverty, governance, human security and conflict. Environmental factors are drivers of migration in multiple ways either directly or indirectly, and over the course of sudden disasters or over prolonged periods of time. In Egypt, the areas that are the most vulnerable to climate change are agriculture, coastal zones, aqua-culture and fisheries,

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<sup>6</sup> CAPMAS, Statistical Yearbook – Population 2018, available at: [https://capmas.gov.eg/Pages/Publications.aspx?page\\_id=5104&Year=23397](https://capmas.gov.eg/Pages/Publications.aspx?page_id=5104&Year=23397)

<sup>7</sup> Roushdy, Rania and Maia Sieverding. 2015. Panel Survey of Young People in Egypt: Generating Evidence for Policy and Programs. Cairo, Egypt: Population Council. Published by Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform.

<sup>8</sup> UNFPA Population Situation Analysis in Egypt 2016, available at: <https://egypt.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/PSApercent20Final.pdf>

water resources, human habitat and settlements, and human health.<sup>9</sup> IOM Egypt's priorities for the climate change and migration nexus include:

- Supporting the Government of Egypt in the curtailing of forced migration that results from environmental factors to the extent possible.
- Assisting and protecting affected populations forced to migrate due to environmental change by providing durable solutions and sustainable alternatives.
- Facilitating migration in the context of climate change adaptation and enhance the resilience of affected communities.

## Private Sector Engagement

The multidimensional nature of migration makes the involvement of the private sector an essential component of a coherent and comprehensive approach. IOM Egypt has increased its collaboration with several private sector actors, including food and beverage, to hospitality and transportation. IOM Egypt's priorities for private sector engagement include:

- Assisting the Government of Egypt in enhancing coordination and collaboration with the private sector to boost migration governance and management.
- Enhancing the involvement and participation of the private sector, as an observer in international fora related to IOM's mandate and encouraging the private sector to adhere to relevant standards set by such fora and Members through IOM's governing bodies.
- Enhancing the participation of the private sector through financial and non-financial contributions in IOM's activities, with cooperation including sharing of lessons learned and development of best practices.

## Migrants and Development

The potential of Egyptian expatriate communities is immense, and their potential contributions comprise human, social, cultural and economic capitals. More than nine per cent of the country's total population – around 9,470,674 million – are expatriates.<sup>10</sup> Recognizing the importance of the expatriate communities in guiding the country's development and policies, the Government of Egypt allocated eight seats in the Egyptian Parliament to its expatriates. There is a need to capitalize on the opportunities available in Egypt, through enhancing the capacities of local and regional authorities, as well as implementing on the ground initiatives that realize real developmental impact through a migration lens. IOM Egypt aims to reach the

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<sup>9</sup> UNDP Climate Change Adaptation- Egypt, available at <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/explore/northern-africa/egypt>

<sup>10</sup> As estimated by the Government of Egypt, and more recently as evidenced by the findings of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics' Census, 2017.

overall objective of capitalizing on the potential benefits and promoting Egypt's socio-economic growth and prosperity through integrating migration and development. IOM Egypt's priorities for migrants and development include:

- Promoting access to better and more inclusive financial services.
- Promoting local community development through enhancing business support, social support and employment creation services.
- Facilitating knowledge and skill exchange through engaging expatriates and expatriate led businesses and their country of origin.

## Evidence-Based Policy and Advocacy

A focus on data capacity building comes from the recognition that implementing the commitments of international processes comes with significant challenges for National Statistical Offices, which often have limited capacities to collect, analyse and manage data relevant to migration. Improving data is crucial for the implementation of the migration-related dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the GCM. IOM Egypt's priorities for data collection and analysis include:

- Supporting the implementation of improved technological systems of data collection and analysis for accurate and up-to-date information on migration.
- Enhancing collaboration with CAPMAS, the national institute for statistics, through close and continuous technical cooperation.
- Increasing collaboration with different stakeholders IOM works with to enhance data sharing and analysis.

## Migrant Protection and Public Health

Migrant protection for migrants remains a key and central pillar of IOM's work. However, special focus must be given to Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) victims, ensuring that their specific needs are met both in terms of protection provision, and assistance provision, including providing more AVRR opportunities. To achieve this, IOM aims to involve local authorities in this goal through capacity building efforts. IOM Egypt's priorities for migrant protection and public health include:

- Extending IOM assistance capabilities specifically for SGBV.
- Increasing the capabilities of local shelters to provide tailored protection and assistance to migrants and SGBV.
- Enhancing the capabilities of national prosecuting authorities to implement laws against SGBV.
- Extending cooperation with the Ministry of Health to provide health services to migrants through capacity building trainings in national hospitals.



## Religion and Migration at a Crossroad

Religion is considered a push and/or pull factor that can drive migration. Moreover, faith and faith-based institutions have a great soft power that are usually associated with such notions as help, coexistence, interculturalism, tolerance, solidarity, equality and dignity. These notions contribute to the integration of migrants and attaining social cohesion within host communities. IOM Egypt aims to enhance the engagement of faith-based institutions in humanitarian and development assistance for migrants. IOM Egypt's priorities for the religion and migration nexus include:

- Linking and supporting different conventions and international frameworks of action related to migration and religion including the Document on Human Fraternity and the GCM.
- Navigating existing and innovative modalities of coordination for better engagement of faith-based institutions and other actors in supporting humanitarian and development assistance to migrants.
- Enhancing faith-based institutions and humanitarian financing.

## The Government of Egypt and its International Presence

Following a year where the Government of Egypt hosted various international forums, Egypt has been able to boost and cement its leadership role, especially in terms of migration governance and the creation of an inter-ministerial committee to monitor and foresee the implementation of the GCM. With the objective of capitalising on the great steps taken, IOM Egypt intends to support the government to maintain its catalytic role in the international fora from a migration stance. Consequently, IOM aims to accompany Egypt in its increasing regional presence and footprint. In this regard, IOM Egypt's priorities include:

- Supporting Egyptian government officials' attendance in international fora.
- Organizing international meetings related to migration governance.

## IOM Implementing Partners



# IOM Partners and Collaborators





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