



IOM-UNDP SEED FUNDING TO ADVANCE JOINT PROGRAMMING FOR THE RESPONSE TO AND RECOVERY FROM COVID-19 AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



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COVER PHOTO: IOM and UNDP co-led Seed-Funding Initiative in Peru © UNDP Peru 2021.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary	4
Introduction	5
The Seed-Funding Initiative	6
Leveraging migration for sustainable development through partnerships.....	6
Towards a renewed partnership culture.....	7
Country Initiatives	11
Burkina Faso	12
Costa Rica	14
Indonesia.....	16
Kazakhstan.....	18
Malaysia	20
Mozambique	22
Peru	24
Sudan.....	26
Turkey.....	28
Uganda	30

SUMMARY

Summary of implemented joint actions and their areas of focus under the second round of Seed-Funding Initiative:

- As part of the second phase of the Seed-Funding Initiative to address the socio-economic impact of COVID-19, IOM and UNDP implemented joint actions in 10 countries from late 2021 to early 2022. These included **Burkina Faso** (focus areas: peacebuilding, community stabilization and conflict prevention, employment and livelihoods), **Costa Rica** (focus areas: COVID-19 recovery, local governance, integration and social cohesion, employment and livelihoods), **Indonesia** (focus areas: COVID-19 recovery, local governance, integration and social cohesion), **Kazakhstan** (focus areas: migration and the environment), **Malaysia** (focus areas: inclusive policy planning and implementation, COVID-19 recovery), **Mozambique** (focus areas: community stabilization and conflict prevention, information management), **Peru** (focus areas: COVID-19 recovery, local governance, integration and social cohesion, community development), **Sudan** (focus areas: transnational communities), **Turkey** (migration and the environment), and **Uganda** (focus areas: inclusive policy planning and implementation, COVID-19 recovery).

Key findings and lessons learned regarding contributions of the Seed-Funding Initiative towards the IOM – UNDP partnership:

- The implementation of joint actions contributed to strengthening a mutually beneficial partnership, with more direct impact to migrants and local communities, which is essential for maximizing the potential of migration for sustainable development. There are now improved prospects for joint resource mobilization and scaling up of initiatives undertaken, or for identification of new areas of work to be explored jointly.
- Some of the key elements that contributed to the positive overall outcome on the partnership that were mentioned by IOM and UNDP staff in the country offices evolved around the quality, fluidity, and openness of communication channels between staff at various levels of the country office – from technical to senior management/representatives level –, as well as on the division of labour.
- Country offices underlined the increased capacity of advocacy and influence that can come by presenting a united messaging towards key national or sub-national stakeholders, as well as towards inter-agencies fora such as the United Nations Country Team.
- Amongst the challenges evoked by country offices, IOM and UNDP staff foresaw a potential difficulty to sustain the partnership through time, in a context of increasing funding competition, underlining the need to continue building a community of knowledge exchange and practice on the state of the partnership between the organizations, and to continue supporting the country offices to build capacities for joint resource mobilization.

INTRODUCTION

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has often been described as a “declaration of interdependence” because of its recognition of the shared responsibility the international community has towards sustainable development, as well as of the interconnected nature of sustainable development issues. The 2030 Agenda recognizes that migration is a powerful driver of sustainable development, and that when well-managed, migration can be both a development strategy and a development outcome.

Human mobility unites societies, economies, and markets in a manner which proved to be resilient despite COVID-19 disruptions. Migrants often bring significant benefits to their new communities in the form of skills, strengthening the labour force – often at indispensable and frontline functions of delivering services and providing care in economic sectors where there is not sufficient availability of national workers –, investment and cultural diversity. They also play a role in improving the lives of communities in their countries of origin through the transfer of skills and financial resources, contributing to positive development outcomes.

As much as migration has an impact on development, migration is also affected by development. The development contexts in which people live, where they move to, and the places they go through to get there play a role in shaping people’s resources, aspirations, motivations and opportunities to migrate. Conflict, climate change, labour markets and other development-related factors can all impact the drivers and nature of migration.

The universal lens of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provides an overarching framework to address this complex and dynamic relationship between migration and development in all development contexts. In line with the SDG’s call for revitalized global partnerships for sustainable development, the principals of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) decided in 2020 to reinforce collaboration and a forward-looking partnership between the two organizations across global, regional and country levels. Among the first steps in translating this joint commitment into practice, IOM and UNDP launched a joint Seed-Funding Initiative in 2020 with the report from the first round available [here](#).

This report presents the approach and objectives of the Seed-Funding Initiative, focusing on the second round that took place from late 2021 to early 2022. The report presents the key outcomes of the initiative in advancing the IOM-UNDP partnership and paving the way for subsequent scaling up and joint fundraising, as well as the programmatic results and impacts of the joint actions implemented in the 10 countries that benefited from the Seed-Funding Initiative. The report also looks at the shifting context towards longer-term socio-economic recovery and keeping the pace in achieving progress against the SDGs with the onset of the shock caused by COVID-19 already further in the past.

The Seed-Funding Initiative

Leveraging migration for sustainable development through partnerships

IOM – the United Nations (UN) Migration Agency – is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. With 174 member states, a further 8 states holding observer status and offices in over 100 countries, IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants. IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people.

As the UN lead agency on international development, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) works in 170 countries and territories to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality. UNDP helps countries to develop policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities, institutional capabilities, and to build resilience to achieve the SDGs. The work of UNDP is concentrated in three focus areas; sustainable development, democratic governance and peace building, and climate and disaster resilience. UNDP's mandate is to end poverty, build democratic governance, rule of law, and inclusive institutions. UNDP advocates for change, and connect countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life.

In October 2020, the principals of IOM and UNDP signed a joint letter on a “New Phase of Partnership”, outlining priorities for reinforced collaboration between the two agencies. Among the first steps in translating the commitment into practice, IOM and UNDP launched a joint Seed-Funding Initiative in December 2020 to provide incentives for joint collaboration at the to COVID-19 response and recovery planning and for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ensuring that

migrants and displaced populations are not left behind, whilst also building on migrants' agency to drive ahead development in their communities.

“Our organizations both believe in the sustainable development impact of migration, in people’s countries of origin, transit and destination.”

IOM Director General Antonio Vitorino and UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner, Joint Letter, 21 October 2020

Steered by IOM Headquarters' Migration and Sustainable Development Team and UNDP Headquarters' Crisis Bureau - Recovery Solutions and Human Mobility Team, with close involvement of regional specialists, the Seed-Funding Initiative is a strategic investment and catalyst to (i) produce concrete results through scalable and sustainable interventions (ii) advance the IOM-UNDP partnership and synergies, including at inter-agency level, and (iii) expand avenues to mobilize targeted and predictable support.

The first round – with funds from UNDP – was initiated at the end of 2020 with a focus on the COVID-19 socio-economic response, and resulted in 9 small-scale country joint actions on migration and displacement issues implemented between December 2020 and May 2021. Through the second round – with funds from IOM – support has been provided to 10 country offices to implement joint actions that advance joint programming for the response and recovery from COVID-19 and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development between October and December 2021.

The broader thematic focus of the second round, reflecting the time that has passed since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, adapted to country contexts and included elements such as: coherent and inclusive policy planning and implementation, community development, peacebuilding, community stabilization and conflict prevention, COVID-19 recovery, local governance, integration and country level. The agencies teamed up to advance integrated approaches to social cohesion, transnational communities, migration and the environment, information management, and employment and livelihood.



Illustration map of countries benefiting from the Seed-Funding Initiative allocations (Round 1 in green, Round 2 in blue)

Towards a renewed partnership culture

The SDGs can only be realized with strong global partnerships and cooperation. The UN Development System Reform was adopted in May 2018 to make the UN system fit for the purpose of supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It also called for enhancing collaboration, joint work and integrated approaches, as well as generating greater efficiencies, synergies and coherence.

Each organization has a unique set of capacities, expertise, and partner networks, and IOM and UNDP firmly believe in the power of partnerships to the benefit of migrants and communities impacted by migration, but also more generally to our Member States and to the broader development community, given the complex and interdependent migration and development nexus.

Collaboration and effective partnership is a learning curve for any organization, but results in the longer term pay back. Administrative structure and operating models and procedures can vary, perceptions and understanding of the

other organization’s added value and expertise can differ, and aspects as trivial as interactions amongst staff with different personalities are just a few of the factors that can give impetus or temper practical engagement and collaboration.

While the IOM and UNDP collaboration is not new – the two organizations have cooperated in broad and diverse ways in the last decades –, the Seed-Funding Initiative has been designed as a tool to foster and demonstrate the benefits of a renewed partnership culture, understood as a collection of perceptions formed by every communication, action and interaction; and which can bring two essential stakeholders of the UN Development System together to deliver locally driven, resilient, and scalable solutions in the field.

An analysis of the partnership through a survey and stocktaking workshop for the first round of Seed-Funding in April 2021 had showed that IOM and UNDP country offices considered the initiative useful and future-oriented. It helped building joint perspectives to advance COVID-19

recovery for migrants and local communities, strengthening synergies between different analysis and policy tools and setting a joint strategic course beyond the Seed-Funding. It contributed to **strengthening a mutually beneficial partnership**, with more direct impact to migrants and local communities, which is essential for maximizing the potential of migration for sustainable development.

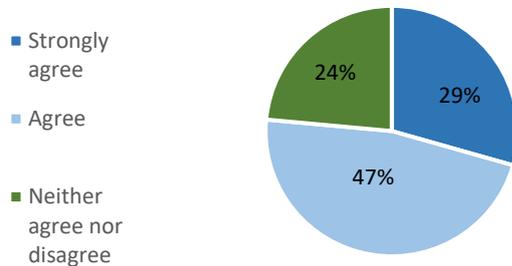
Furthermore, by involving regional technical specialists, IOM and UNDP also increased their collaboration on the regional level and identified additional joint opportunities. The initial outcomes from the first round of Seed-Funding were presented at a dedicated event during

UNDP’s Development Dialogues in June 2021, with the presence of the Principals of both agencies and multiple supportive donor statements from the floor, such as the European Union, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland.

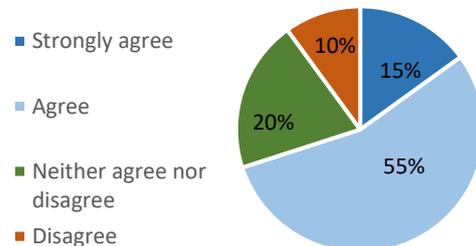
These positive initial results were confirmed and further elaborated upon through an analysis of questionnaires and an anonymous survey that focused on the experiences of IOM and UNDP staff that implemented joint actions in the 10 countries that benefited from the second round of Seed-Funding. This can be evidenced through an improvement in perceptions around the pre/post implementation of joint actions with regards to:

“Understanding the other agency’s mandate, its added value and/or niche expertise; and how it operates”:

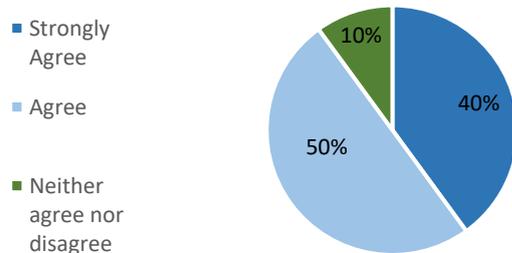
Following the joint action implementation, I have a better understanding of the other agency’s mandate?



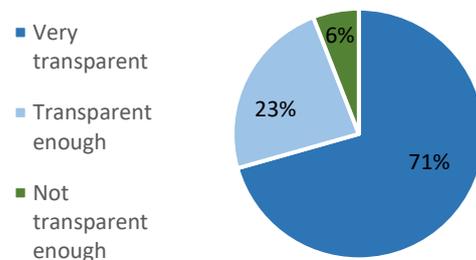
Following the joint action implementation, I have a better understanding of how the other agency operates on a day to day basis for project/activities implementation?



Following the joint action implementation, I can identify better what is the other agency’s particular added value, complementarity or the niche expertise it brings to the implementation of such project/activities?



Overall, and throughout the joint action implementation, I found the communication with the other agency to be... ?



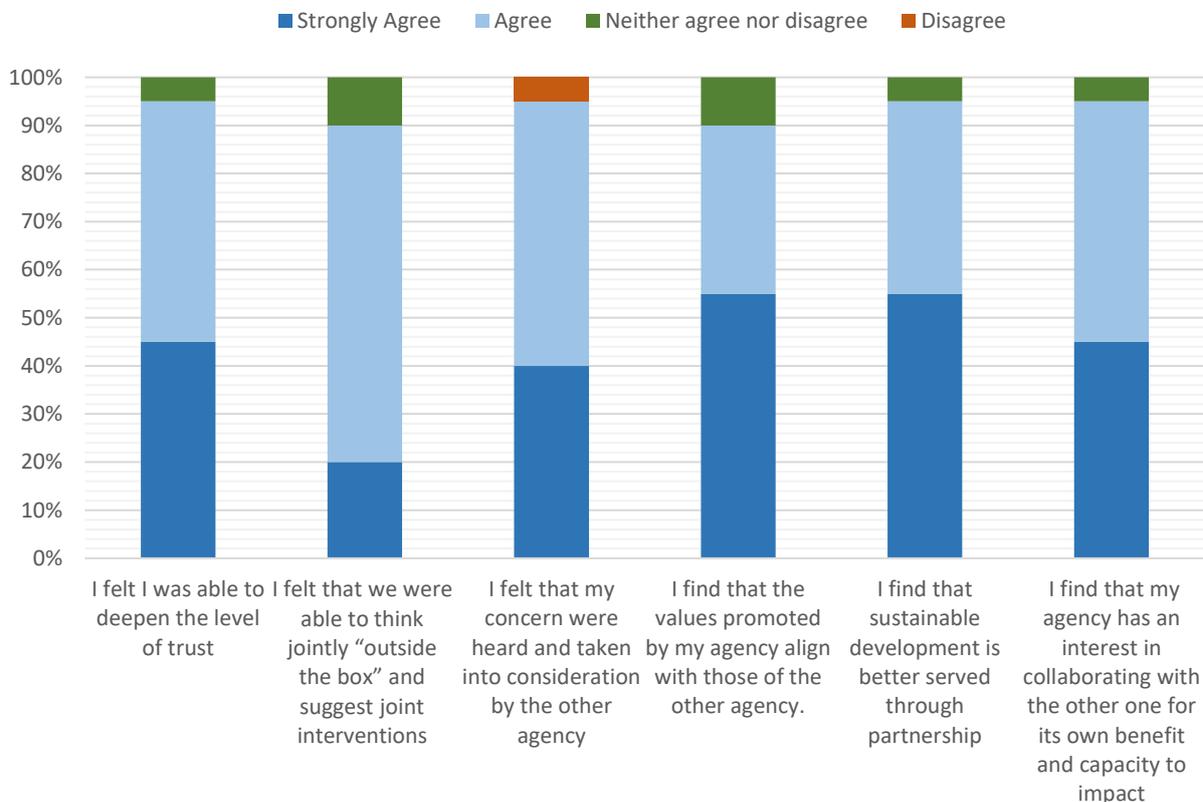
“Scaling up and deepening communication across levels of the COs between agencies”:

Overall, and throughout the joint action implementation, I found the communication with the other agency to be...?



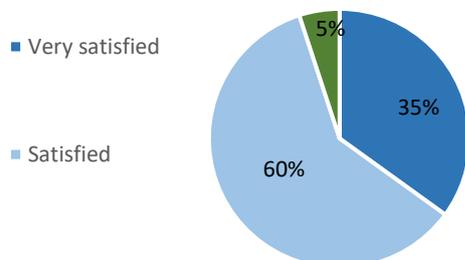
Following the implementation of joint actions, there are improved country offices prospects for joint resource mobilization and scaling up of initiatives undertaken, or for identification of new areas of work to be explored jointly. This can be inferred through the above elements of improved understanding the other agency’s mandate, its added value and/or niche expertise, and also of improved communication between the two agencies across country offices levels; but it can also be evidenced through an improvement in the pre/post joint actions implementation perceptions with regards to:

“Building trust and aligning goals/objectives between agencies”, and “impacts of the work implemented and prospects beyond it”:

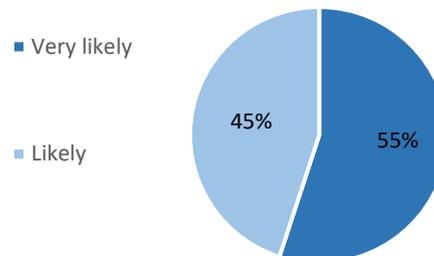


“Changed perceptions pre/post joint actions implementation with regards to “impacts of the work implemented and prospects beyond it”:

Overall, how satisfied are you with the results of this collaboration?



Considering your complete experience with the project, how likely are you to continue this collaboration in the future?



Some of the key elements that contributed to the positive overall outcome on the partnership that were mentioned by IOM and UNDP staff in the country offices evolved around the **quality, fluidity, and openness of communication** channels between staff at various levels of the country office – from technical to senior management/representatives level –, as well as on the **division of labour**. Various countries mentioned the usefulness of regular formal and informal exchanges, as well as of clear and anticipated division of tasks based on the mutual recognition of technical capacity of each organization, its field footprint, or capacity to leverage its established relationship with national stakeholders or partners in a particular country context, for the benefit of the joint action. Country offices underlined the increased capacity of advocacy and influence that can come by presenting a united messaging towards key national or sub-national

stakeholders, as well as towards inter-agencies fora such as the United Nations Country Team.

Amongst the challenges evoked by country offices, IOM and UNDP staff foresaw a potential difficulty to sustain the partnership through time, in a context of increasing **funding competition**. To maximize the opportunities for scaling up of the interventions implemented, or to explore other work areas of joint interest that have been in some cases identified through this joint work, IOM and UNDP staff underlined the need to continue building a community of knowledge exchange and practice on the state of the partnership between the organizations, to which they could tap for good and promising practices and concrete illustrations of cooperation at country level, and the need for respective headquarters to continue supporting the country offices to build capacities for joint resource mobilization.



COUNTRY INITIATIVES



Burkina Faso



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SOCIO-ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND SOCIAL COHESION IN THE CENTER-NORTH REGION OF BURKINA FASO

SUMMARY

The socioeconomic situation of refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) especially that of women and the youth in Burkina Faso was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The rise in incidents of armed violence has also led to a humanitarian crisis with the displacement of 1.5 million people seeking safety and the rapid deterioration of the situation has created a disruption of access to basic social services, in conflict-affected communities. Consequently, the increasing competition for resources has further fueled intercommunal tensions and undermined the population’s resilience mechanism. As the Government of Burkina Faso was making significant efforts to resolve the crisis, the number of people in need of assistance continued to grow, especially those in already vulnerable situations such as refugees and IDPs.

KEY OBJECTIVES

As part of the overall UN System support to the COVID-19 National Response Plan and efforts toward smooth recovery, this IOM and UNDP joint action in partnership with the National Observatory for the prevention and management of community conflicts (ONAPREGECC) aimed to improve socio-economic opportunities through employment and entrepreneurship initiatives for young women as well as reinforce the role of local authorities in strengthening social cohesion and resilience between displaced and host communities in the Centre-North region of Burkina Faso.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

In partnership with ONAPREGRECC, IOM and UNDP conducted the following activities:

Support the holding of awareness raising sessions targeting affected communities in the Center-North region (Kaya) to make them aware of the ONAPREGRECC mandate and disseminate best practices to avoid and prevent conflict and promote social cohesion. In addition, capacities of a network of local journalists were strengthened in order to empower them to serve as an early warning network to inform on the risk of potential conflicts and promote conflict prevention.

Build the capacities of the members of targeted communities in the Center North region to allow them to undertake social cohesion activities with other members of the communities including IDPs and host communities. During this activity members from different cultural backgrounds prepared and shared traditional meals and organized recreational activities. This cultural activity also benefited from the support of the community leaders and local authorities with a strong involvement of women and youth.

Support empowerment and improve resilience building for young females and women living in vulnerable communities of the Center-North through small grants to help them develop and implement income generating activities. Through this activity, 60 vulnerable women IDPs have enhanced their technical skills and improved their economic resilience thanks to a hands-on training delivered on the horticulture, production methods and the subsequent provision of small toolkit to sustain the horticulture practice.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The partnership between IOM and UNDP was excellent and has provided the two agencies with opportunities to explore new areas of collaboration where they can bring together their expertise and better address communities' needs. The income generating activities, better access to farming methods and provision of equipment has provided the most vulnerable communities with the tools to help them overcome the COVID-19 pandemic impacts and to build resilience. Beyond this joint action, IOM and UNDP aim to provide the means of action to vulnerable groups, in particular IDPs and migrants, promoting a rights-based approach centered on human agency and human development and continue to foster their partnership.



Costa Rica



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STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOOD AND ECONOMIC INCLUSION OF WOMEN IN LA CARPIO, SAN JOSE

SUMMARY

Costa Rica is one of the main destination countries for Nicaraguan migrants, alongside the United States. Many Nicaraguan migrants leave for Costa Rica in search of better opportunities, careers that align with their goals, better education and safer environments in which to raise their families. Yet they do not always find better work conditions abroad, despite these aspirations. Many end up living in La Caprio, an informal settlement located on the western limits of the capital city San Jose, and continue to endure widespread challenges such as poverty, inequality and high unemployment which contribute to enduring instability, whilst the absence of law enforcement and justice systems exacerbate the insecurity in the area. The 30,000 Costa Ricans and Nicaraguans who live in this community were experiencing daily the impact of development and mobility failures even before the pandemic hit. Since COVID-19, La Caprio’s limited infrastructure has been stressed to provide for the needs of new residents while the employment and economic situation throughout the country worsened. An already poor socio-economic situation in La Carpio worsened considerably, and the UN as well as government partners identified it as a priority neighborhood for support.

KEY OBJECTIVES

IOM and UNDP have already been working in this area since 2019, on various activities aiming to promote social cohesion, social protection and the integration of migrants, in alignment with United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Costa Rica 2018-2022. To address the growing socio-economic crisis brought about by the pandemic, the two organizations knew that broader and more concerted effort was needed immediately, and that joined up approaches were imperative to bring the biggest impact to those who needed it the most.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Through the Seed-Funding Initiative IOM and UNDPs goal was to empower the La Caprio community by offering them an opportunity to gain control over their careers and livelihoods. The partnership also aimed to bring the neighborhood closer together and reinforce solidarity and “social cohesion” specifically through empowering and enabling women to have more control over their finances and careers. By working with and learning from the SIFAIS Foundation (*Sistema de Formación Artística para la Inclusión Social*), a local NGO with deep ties and trust within the community through trainings and courses such as baking, sewing, childcare, the project resulted in three achievements:

Women in the community were empowered as small business owners through new trainings and courses on hairdressing and entrepreneurial skills.

A new state-of-the art hairdressing training center was established at SIFAIS’ “Cueva de Luz” facility, complete with the necessary equipment at the students’ disposal. The center allows for the training to be sustainable over the long term and ensures this local service is owned by community members themselves, so it fits their needs and long-term goals.

A didactic toolkit for the empowerment of women was created and made available for all.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The training programme was received by the community with enthusiasm. Already, 15 students are participating in the newly established hairdressing skills course for a period of 10 months and 50 community members learned about key elements to promote their business plan and boost their production, as well as personal skills related to understanding and defending their rights, gender equality and women’s economic empowerment. Out of the 50 participants, 20 have already completed their courses and are service providers to other companies. IOM and UNDP both agreed that the good partnership they developed together and with local community organizations over years of harmonious work was fundamental for this joint initiative, and they both recognize that working together and leaning on the specialties of each partner capacities is critical for creating lasting, systematic change at the community level. The training sessions have already begun to resonate in other neighborhoods facing similar challenges and training has already been replicated with microentrepreneurs in other regions and it is expected to only grow further in the future.



Indonesia



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PILOTING VILLAGE-LEVEL ACTION TO ENHANCE PROTECTION AND EMPOWERMENT OF INDONESIAN MIGRANT WORKER HOUSEHOLDS AMID THE PANDEMIC

SUMMARY

Return migration was a significant trend in many countries around the world during the COVID-19 pandemic, as migrants lost their jobs and restrictions on mobility made migration more challenging and, often, dangerous. In 2020 alone, 180,000 Indonesian migrant workers returned home to their communities of origin. Through the first round of the Seed-Funding Initiative, IOM and UNDP deployed a wide-ranging study to identify the needs, capacity, and support mechanisms in the villages of origin of migrant workers to identify opportunities for the enhanced inclusion of migrant worker households into existing COVID-19 recovery, and sustainable development programming.

KEY OBJECTIVES

According to the result of the study conducted in 2020 under the Seed-Funding Initiative Round 1, an overwhelming majority of surveyed villages failed to include migration considerations in their village medium-term development plans or village regulations, as village governments did not fully understand their roles in migration governance and are unaware of wider national migration policies and issues. For this reason, in the second round of the Seed-Funding Initiative IOM and UNDP sought to provide support to meaningfully include migration in village planning and regulation by testing the UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI) Toolkit in the context of village planning, a toolkit which enables practitioners to maximize the potential of migration for local development by integrating the needs, voice and resources that migrants possess into local development planning.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

IOM and UNDP implemented two main activities:

Collaboratively contextualizing the JMDI Toolkit for Village Level Migration and Development Initiatives with village heads, migrant households, community leaders, women groups and local officials through workshops in two pilot villages in Wonosobo, Central Java province and East Lampung, Lampung province. The intervention was successful, as it increased village leaders' level of understanding on Indonesian migration governance issues by 53 per cent and allowed them to learn about the importance of cooperation, collaboration, and the positive socio-economic impacts - which can be brought through integration and re-integration of migrant workers and their contributions to local economic development. In addition, the workshop has been able to address the knowledge gaps among female officials as identified in the Round 1 study, by providing a space for women's groups at the village level to voice their concerns, express their ideas and support their empowerment. By the end of the workshop, nearly 96 per cent of village leaders found the activity needed to be escalated and replicated in other villages.

Producing a video on successful village leadership in empowering migrant workers, leveraging virtuous migration and development actions at the community level, and promoting safe, orderly, and regular migration. The video highlights good practices and stories of beneficiaries, aiming to reach a larger audience and more village heads who could also benefit from this programme. The video also features success stories from female return migrants turning entrepreneurs - aiming to encourage other female return migrants to play a greater role in their communities.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The outcome of the Joint Action will contribute to the Government of Indonesia's overall recovery efforts in addressing the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on returned migrant workers and migrant worker households by focusing on initiatives and capacities of sub national and local authorities and communities; and will further strengthen the value-added proposition that the UN, delivering as one, stands to support the Government of Indonesia in progressing towards its SDGs targets, as well as deepen synergies between the two agencies. Beyond the action, IOM and UNDP continue to promote the virtuous cycles of migration and development for both migrant households and their home communities. In addition, through the two-years Joint Program between IOM, UNDP, and UN Women under the Migration Multi Trust Fund (MMPTF), the contextualized Toolkit will be solidified and further disseminated to support capacity building activities on migration and development towards government and related stakeholders in a wider area across Indonesia, particularly the main source areas of migrant workers.



Kazakhstan

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MAINSTREAMING EVIDENCE-BASED MIGRATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES INTO THE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA OF KAZAKHSTAN, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON WATER SECURITY

SUMMARY

Kazakhstan’s economic development, in particular water security, depends on how effectively the country manages climate variability as well as climate change. Evidence indicates that changing climate conditions have been shaping lives and livelihoods in Kazakhstan and Central Asia, with food security, water security and livelihoods at risk from the natural hazards. These changes are linked with migration in various ways. Within some households, a family member has to leave to an urban center to seek income opportunities. Changes in precipitation patterns and in availability of water, could force pastoralists to change their practices while some households who lack the basic resources or means to migrate may end up “trapped” in environmentally fragile areas, with limited access to water.

KEY OBJECTIVES

The Government of Kazakhstan acknowledged the need to properly address climate change and migration issues and devise proper responses. Through the Seed-Funding Initiative IOM and UNDP had the objective to improve evidence and capacity of national stakeholders on migration and climate change in Kazakhstan and effectively mainstream migration and climate change into the Kazakhstan Development Agenda at national and local levels.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

IOM and UNDP carried out several activities, aiming to mainstream the topic of migration and climate change in the Kazakh development agenda:

The first activity consisted in the undertaking of a mapping study of traditional water management techniques as form of adaptation to address slow-onset environmental degradation in Kazakhstan. A report documenting water management practices (autonomous and planned) in the country was made available to local and national stakeholders. It provides an inventory of water management related projects in Kazakhstan and identified best practices, as well as barriers and opportunities for future joint IOM and UNDP interventions in this area of work. Moving forward, the findings of the report will also be used to develop actionable recommendations to be further embedded in the national and local strategic documents, policies and joint programming.

Secondly, the joint initiative aimed to improve the capacities of Kazakh policymakers to mainstream migration, environment and climate change nexus into the national planning processes. This was achieved through the implementation of a series of capacity-building activities through three online trainings for national and local government representatives. The trainings brought together and blended expertise and methodologies from the IOM's Migration, Environment and Climate Change Training Manual, and UNDP's Gender and Climate Change Training Manual. In addition, IOM and UNDP organised and facilitated a high-level roundtable discussion that gathered 50 Kazakh senior officials and representatives from various ministries and from leading research institutions, including the Academy of Public Administration and the Graduate School of Public Policy at the Nazarbayev University to raise awareness, discuss findings and explore potential policy interventions in the field of migration, climate change and development.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Through the first activity, the Kazakh authorities now have the necessary evidence to engage in a national dialogue on migration and climate change nexus with a special focus on water security, whilst the outcomes of the trainings and round-table discussion enabled IOM to devise proper climate change and migration policies and solutions which will be used to integrate the migration, environment and climate change nexus into the national development agenda of Kazakhstan. Throughout the trainings different government authorities learnt about the importance of "environmental migration" and they agreed to incorporate this knowledge into their own agenda and daily work. Beyond the action the study results will be used for a three-year government cost-sharing grant proposal in partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population. IOM and UNDP will continue to work on the climate change and migration nexus in Kazakhstan and aim to strengthen their roles within the existing cooperative framework in providing technical assistance to the Government of Kazakhstan.



Malaysia



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FOLLOW-UP TO THE RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON MIGRANT, REFUGEE AND STATELESS POPULATIONS IN MALAYSIA

SUMMARY

The COVID-19 pandemic has evidenced in multiple ways the all-important contributions of migrants and migrant workers to communities and economies around the globe. Yet, the pandemic has also shown and exacerbated the vulnerabilities of these and other groups such as refugees and stateless persons, particularly with regards to the instability of the labour market during COVID-19, and access to services, including health services and vaccination. To respond to the needs of the most marginalized populations, civil society organizations (CSOs) in Malaysia as well as in the region were amongst the first to mobilize to provide support. To identify the most urgent priorities as well as socioeconomic considerations for the COVID-19 response, the UN conducted a rapid assessment in April 2020, which identified that the most common long-term priorities for the COVID-19 response were access to income and job stability; basic necessities; and access to health services.

KEY OBJECTIVES

Through this joint action, IOM and UNDP aimed to strengthen the COVID-19 response in Malaysia by building on the April 2020 rapid assessment and provide up-to-date information on the socio-economic recovery of migrants, refugees and stateless persons. This was done through a follow-up assessment that engaged CSOs and community leaders to identify any changes occurred one and a half years after the initial assessment; gaps in the current response; opportunities for additional support to the identified beneficiaries; as well as best practices, lessons learned; and specific issues of concern that might not have been previously adequately addressed.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

To reach this objective, IOM and UNDP focal points coordinated the revision of the April 2020 assessment tools, opened a call for proposal and jointly selected the service provider to conduct the follow-up assessment. A consultancy group was selected to conduct the follow-up assessment. The roles of the consultancy group were to prepare the methodology, including questionnaires (adapted from the first assessment), reach out to relevant stakeholders and conduct interviews as well as to draft the report and translate it into Bahasa Malaysia. IOM and UNDP had weekly check-ins with the consultancy group in order to follow up and monitor progress, discuss challenges, and propose solutions, and at the end reviewed the outputs and finalized the report collaboratively.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The report includes a series of recommendations, presented for each of the stakeholders' group. The 2021 recommendations are presented next to the 2020 recommendations, to allow for a reflection on gaps, lessons learnt, and progress of the response. In the future, this report may function as groundwork for further collaborations between IOM and UNDP in the area of labour migration, responsible business conduct, migrant workers protection and COVID-19 response as it contributes to the overall body of up-to-date knowledge for the larger UN Country Team. Open communication and weekly meetings helped the joint action move smoothly and kept it on track. The two organizations clearly divided their tasks while at the same time mutually recognizing each other's technical capacities. Beyond this action IOM and UNDP aim to engage in programs on topics relating to labor migration, including remediation, as well as business and human rights, a joint CSOs engagement and awareness-raising.



Mozambique

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

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INTEGRATED RESILIENCE AND SOLUTIONS MONITORING FRAMEWORK

SUMMARY

The northern province of Cabo Delgado has been experiencing violence since 2017, resulting in large scale displacements and civilian deaths. According to IOM estimates in 2021 there were an estimated 732,000 IDPs and 1.3 million people estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance in northern Mozambique. Non-state armed groups (NSAGs) have been in de-facto control of pockets of territory and have led a number of attacks against urban centers and rural areas. Since July 2021, Mozambican armed forces won back areas previously in the NSAG hands, which resulted in the return of many IDPs. However, these movements are hard to monitor given limited access by UN actors to the recently secured zones. The Government of Mozambique, through the Agency for Integrated Development in the North (ADIN), and with the support of the European Union (EU), World Bank, African Development Bank, and UN partners is currently working on releasing a Strategy for Resilience and Integrated Development in the North (ERDIN), a strategy which aims to layout an analysis of the indicators and factors that contributed to the conflict, as well as a processes for monitoring the peacebuilding and resilience work that will be required over the next years.

KEY OBJECTIVES

The objective of the IOM and UNDP joint action was to establish a framework and methodology for data collection tools to improve the locational analysis of integrated resilience and solutions in the North in line with the ERDIN strategic priorities; by supporting and testing with the Government of Mozambique, through the ADIN, a data collection toolkit that improves real-time monitoring of key indicators and factors related to peace, stability, social cohesion, and durable solutions for IDPs.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

IOM and UNDP leveraged their respective operational footprint in Pemba, and their comparative advantages to support the ERDIN process, and carried out the following activity:

Jointly contextualizing IOM's Fragility, Solutions and Mobility Index (FSMI) tool - which measures levels of stability in areas that have been affected by conflict and displacement and has been deployed in the Lake Chad Basin (LCB) to the Mozambican context. This implied looking at the specific characteristics of fragility, mobility and solutions variables in Northern Mozambique, and adapting the methodology and questionnaire based on the feedback and inputs of local and national stakeholders.

Jointly testing the contextualized FSMI tool, including through the selection of locations to pilot the tool, and through data collection in three select locations, namely In Cabo Delgado Province- Ancuabe Sede & Mueda Sede and in Niassa Province- Lichinga Sede.

Finally, the index scoring was presented to stakeholders such as ADIN, the National Institute for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction (INGD) and Cabo Delgado Secretary of State, and will be added to the ADIN dashboard.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

By piloting the FSMI tool in the Northern Mozambique context, the joint program substantively contributed to capture critical data and to provide a solid methodology for the elaboration of data and evidence to facilitate a coordinated and complementary response across the humanitarian development and peace nexus in Cabo Delgado in support to the ERDIN process. This tool helped to track progress of the response plan for the crisis and conflict in Cabo Delgado hence improving analysis of the region's needs for peace and rule of law. The solutions index tool was well received and will be added to the ADIN dashboard, with a high probability of further funding, as information on fragility and stability is critically needed in the northern Mozambique. Beyond the action IOM and UNDP will explore areas of continuous partnership in order to support the implementation of the ERDIN Strategy.



CONTINUING TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE LOCAL HUMAN MOBILITY MANAGEMENT: SOCIOECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF THE REFUGEE AND MIGRANT AND HOST POPULATIONS AS RECOVERY FROM COVID-19

SUMMARY

Peru is hosting 1.3 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela with 80 per cent of them living in Metropolitan Lima, being the second largest host country in the region. Even though public policies have sought to deal with COVID-19 and socioeconomic recovery, they have not always addressed the specific needs of the refugee and migrant population from Venezuela. Since the local sphere is where people's daily needs and opportunities play out, there is an ongoing need to continue strengthening local human mobility management through sustainable and inclusive public policies and tools; as well as continue working towards encouraging the refugee and migrant populations and host communities to become active local changemakers through participatory Neighborhood Social Organizations (NSO).

KEY OBJECTIVES

Through this joint action, IOM and UNDP aspired to strengthen the role and capacities of the Metropolitan Municipality of Lima (MML) to manage local human mobility through inclusive, sustainable public policies, while also contributing to the socioeconomic integration of the refugee, migrant and local populations and maximizing the opportunities that human mobility brings.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Working alongside local NSOs, IOM and UNDP conducted three main activities:

A Human Mobility Plan for the MML – the first of the kind – was developed in a participatory manner and will help guide the MML in its efforts for the socioeconomic integration of the refugee, migrant and local populations.

29 migrants and 13 residents organized in NSOs, participated as agents of change through 4 projects of social cohesion outreach that reached 490 people from their communities. In addition, 8 NSOs received technical assistance for district-level registration; 5 NSOs received goods and seed-funds to strengthen their socioeconomic integration projects; and 2 NSOs were supported through peer-to-peer learning.

Work in 3 community spaces and 4 murals focused on messages and art expressions of social cohesion, cultural inclusion, non-discrimination, and the benefits associated with migration were supported. Close to 700 people from the local, refugee and migrant population from the MML participated in the implementation of these initiatives.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

All the activities were implemented successfully despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The joint action unified partnership for coordination with key stakeholders such as the MML and have sparked motivation to continue actions catalyzed by this initiative. Throughout this initiative, IOM and UNDP contributed to social cohesion in Lima by engaging both the local and the migrant communities to work together and build a common space they can both enjoy and use as a place to get to know each other and learn about each other's cultures. Going beyond the action, more activities will be conducted with the Lima Municipality and there will be a follow up with NSOs and their projects. The first step of future action will be the creation of strategies to provide the NSOs the necessary tools and capacities to be agents of change and decision makers at the local level, and to accompany them so that NSOs are capable of being economically and socially autonomous. The second aim is to assist and to follow the approval and the implementation of the newly established Human Mobility Plan. The final area of future action is socio-cultural activities. They will be continued in collaboration with the Neighborhood Participation Office of the Lima Municipality Interagency and individual proposals, but with activities in coordination, will be presented to donors to continue with the identified areas.



Sudan



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SUPPORTING DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT IN SUDAN DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PHASE

SUMMARY

The COVID-19 Socio-economic Impact Assessment conducted in Sudan in 2020 by the UN Country Team identified “Health First” as the priority pillar with nine recommendations to support and protect health services and systems in Sudan’s recovery plan. In the early months of 2021, the Government of Sudan made concrete efforts to engage with its diaspora and has established a Diaspora Unit to coordinate efforts with medical professionals abroad. While the political and security events and developments from 25 October 2021 have temporarily reduced the capacities of national authorities to engage diaspora meaningfully, it remains a key lever for the sustainable development of the country for the foreseeable future.

KEY OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the joint action implemented in Sudan was to strengthen the communication and engagement with diaspora professionals, especially with health professionals, for knowledge and technology transfers in support of Sudan’s development. IOM and UNDP aimed to establish an initial roster of diaspora health professionals as well as other professionals through the United Nations Volunteer (UNV) platform to be transferred to the Sudanese Ministry of Health (MoH) and to develop a strategy document for future engagement with Sudanese diaspora health professionals through a scoping mission to the United Kingdom (UK).

MAIN ACTIVITIES

IOM and UNDP carried out complementary activities:

IOM Sudan alongside IOM UK conducted a scoping mission to the UK, which was facilitated by Shabaka, a UK-based diaspora non-governmental organization (NGO). The purpose of the scoping mission was to better understand the diaspora communities in the UK and to hear their initiatives in contributing to Sudan's development, and their efforts on engaging bigger and diverse Sudanese diaspora groups, as well as the challenges, opportunities, and the role of the second and third generations diaspora individuals. The scoping mission included a one-day event with UK-based professionals and a series of one-to-one interviews with professionals in different fields. Based on the dialogue, IOM with the support of Shabka, produced a comprehensive engagement strategy paper with recommendations.

In parallel, UNDP engaged an impact producer to develop the impact strategy for "Health Heroes" a docu-web series which once developed will be chronicling and sharing the stories of health workers from the diaspora. The docu-web series will build on the UNV roster and aims to integrate with the iDiaspora platform.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The findings of the workshop showed that the Sudanese diaspora is willing to contribute to Sudan's development, especially after the 2019 revolution. The outcomes of the joint action will be part of a long-term plan packaged in the joint IOM-UNDP Diaspora Engagement proposal which positions and anchors the role of diaspora in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDPN) Nexus. Already, 10 UNVs through the roster are being mobilized by UNDP to Kassala Teaching Hospital which serves the greater Eastern region, an area with a high influx of refugees. This initiative shows the importance of diaspora and through this initiative, IOM and UNDP are helping recognize the role of diaspora in humanitarian action as well as in development programming. Moving forward, IOM and UNDP wish to continue their joint work and contribute to opening channels for further discussions to better facilitate and institutionalize diasporas contributions to Sudan's development.



IMPROVED AWARENESS ON MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE AMONGST STAKEHOLDERS IN TURKEY

SUMMARY

Different forms of migration, such as disaster displacement, pastoralism, and labor migration, are shaped by climate impacts and environmental degradation. In Turkey, it is anticipated that, in the next decade, there could be an increase in migration due to climate related disasters such as floods and wildfires. On the other hand, the effects of water scarcity and desertification could impact employment, food security and agriculture – which is the main source of employment for refugees and seasonal migrants. Climate change impacts and migration challenges in Turkey, including the refugee crisis from Syria, have traditionally been dealt with separately and migration and climate change actors are largely unaware of the interrelation between the sectors, rendering a coordinated national or municipal response difficult. After the recent displacement and evacuation associated with wildfires on the Mediterranean coast, officials have been reaching out to IOM and UNDP to discuss the interlinkages between migration and climate change.

KEY OBJECTIVES

Given the necessity to respond to climate induced challenges, IOM and UNDP aimed to contribute to the mitigation and adaption to climate change impacts and related migration challenges in Turkey, through policy advisory and awareness raising, with a focus on national and municipality level stakeholders for an integrated approach to planning and implementation on the migration, environment, and climate change (MECC) nexus.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

IOM and UNDP carried out the following activities:

First, a stakeholder analysis was conducted to identify relevant stakeholders for awareness raising and data collection on MECC in the Turkish context, and to gauge the current understanding around the issue. Following the stakeholder analysis, a series of online consultations took place with national level government authorities, municipal authorities, academics from key Turkish universities studying climate change and migration, civil society and donors to finalize a report aiming to showcase the links between migration and climate change and different vulnerable social groups as well as to gather perspectives on the readiness of municipalities to address the MECC nexus over the next 10 years, in a gender sensitive and inclusive manner. Following the finalization of the report, IOM and UNDP organized a workshop to present the report findings and to share their perspectives, mandates and potential joint approaches going forward.

A short video was made to utilize the key points from the executive summary of the report and present them in a visually attractive way to increase awareness efforts.

Lastly, a review event took place in mid-December 2021 and was attended by IOM and UNDP, government agencies including the Presidency on Migration Management, the Presidency on Climate Change, university representatives and donor bodies both online and in-person and served as a basis for engagement with the two key government entities. The net result of the lobbying efforts around the event have been to establish the issue of MECC as a one of the 7 commissions supporting the development of the country's climate change policy development.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The project was successful in its overall objective, as it has served as an entry point to the mainstreaming of migration into the key climate change adaption policy in Turkey. The report contributed to the increased awareness of MECC, and demonstrated the importance of intersecting issues, including gender. The joint-collaboration has thus helped IOM and UNDP to establish more opportunities for future work through the establishment of working relationships, and through the identification of further areas for joint work. Overall, the joint action will contribute to Turkey's formulation and implementation of its Long-term Low Carbon Development Strategy compiling Turkey's commitment to adaptation and mitigation to climate change impacts following the October 2021 ratification of the Paris Agreement.



Uganda

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STRENGTHENING SOCIO-ECONOMIC POLICY RESPONSES TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC FOR KEY POPULATIONS INCLUDING MIGRANTS IN UGANDA

SUMMARY

Uganda registered its first case of COVID-19 on 21st March 2020. As of September 2021, the country had 123,572 confirmed cases and over 3,156 deaths. The Government of Uganda’s (GoU) response to the health crisis and its induced socio-economic impacts involved a series of mitigation and response measures including the development of a national response plan, institution of countrywide lockdowns aimed at reducing the importation, transmission, morbidity, and mortality among others. Despite these responses, the pandemic has affected the country negatively, and increased the level of socio-economic vulnerability among the population and left some of the most vulnerable populations, such as migrants and refugees living in remote or rural districts of the country, out of reach of the response and recovery measures implemented.

KEY OBJECTIVES

Through this joint action, IOM and UNDP aimed to assess Uganda’s social-economic response to the pandemic, particularly for key populations such migrants and refugee populations, to support the GoU to conduct a review and strengthen its COVID-19 response and recovery policies.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

IOM and UNDP implemented the following activities:

The undertaking of a joint and participatory baseline and on-site assessment in the Amuru and Adjumani districts, to determine the level of vulnerability and the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on the most vulnerable populations including refugees and migrants. The assessment gathered necessary information for a report which details the gaps in the response to COVID-19 in various sectors, such as: protection, education, health, social cohesion and coexistence between the migrants, refugees, and host communities. The report also offers recommendations to strengthen the local health system to provide more services, calls for easier access to protection, basic services, social protection, and humanitarian assistance, and lastly encourages a better economic response and an allocation of more resources for districts hosting refugees to strengthen social cohesion and community resilience.

Following the baseline assessment, a policy review dialogue took place with stakeholders from various national and subnational levels including the district, the central ministries, departments, and agencies aiming at evaluating the country's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and identifying existing key programming and policy gaps. This dialogue provided a platform for the various stakeholders to agree on the priority policy issues and to review and amplify the need to address the socio-economic needs of migrants and vulnerable communities.

KEY SUCCESSES, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The implementation of the joint action was successful as it shed light on the gaps necessary to be filled in order to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic's effects in a way that leaves no one behind. Key learnings will be used to design a more specific joint programme to improve the well-being of migrants and host communities. IOM and UNDP wish to scale up the initiative and conduct advocacy and mobilize resources for key proposed issues such as the revision of the policy to strengthen cohesion between the refugees and the host communities and to collect more evidence to support policymaking or improve existing policies on IDP, refugees and host communities.