



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency

IOM Sri Lanka:

Supporting the Post-2015 Development Agenda



In September 2015, world leaders formally adopted a new, ambitious agenda for sustainable development.

The ‘**Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**’ includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 Targets that seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals, and complete what they did not achieve.

Importantly, this new agenda makes explicit the need for **well-managed migration policies**, which includes promoting and protecting the rights of vulnerable migrants.

Sri Lanka is adopting the SDGs as a sustainable development framework and strives to achieve and monitor progress against the specific targets and indicators. The SDG framework assists in addressing the interconnectivity of global problems by formulating integrated solutions that address multiple issues at the same time.

Migration is a cross-cutting issue that is integrated into multiple SDGs. IOM is ready to support the government achieve migration related targets and indicators. This document explores the different avenues in which IOM Sri Lanka is contributing towards achieving the SDGs.

Who are we?

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration. With the formal entry into the UN system in September 2016, IOM became the United Nations Migration Agency. IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society.

Sri Lanka became a Member State of IOM in 1990, when it first provided transportation assistance to large numbers of Sri Lankans fleeing the Gulf War. IOM established its presence in Sri Lanka in 2002. Since then, IOM has continued to work in close partnership with the Government of Sri Lanka in situations of crisis, as well as to address pressing and complex challenges in migration management.



1 NO POVERTY



SDG 1

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Target 1.2: By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

Target 1.5: By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

Target 1.b: Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional, and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions



Community and Livelihood Development

- Facilitates capacity building of CBOs, Farmer Organizations, Women's Rural Development Societies, and other community organizations while fostering partnerships with the private sector in order to build the resilience of communities.
- IOM aligns interventions with locally initiated development activities in accordance with national development plans, government programmes and priorities, and within the UNDAF.

- With a focus on Productive Community Infrastructure (PCI), IOM Sri Lanka assists vulnerable communities to develop sustainable livelihoods for self-sufficiency, particularly in the fishery and agricultural sectors.



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



SDG 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Target 1.2: By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university

Community Based Reintegration

- IOM conducts various career guidance programmes to help assess potential career opportunities for school-leavers.
- Mobilizes youth from vulnerable communities with vocational training courses offered in different areas of expertise.

3 GOOD HEALTH



SDG 3

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Target 3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

Target 3.8: Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all



Migration Health

- IOM conducts pre-departure health assessments, including tuberculosis screening, for various categories of migrants including refugees planning to resettle.
- With a public health approach, IOM conducts immigration medical examinations for wide range of migrants contributing to the country's disease prevention and elimination targets by early detection and ensuring adequate treatment.
- With IOM assistance, the Ministry of Health developed and launched a comprehensive border health system in 2013 including development of a national border health strategy inclusive of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for public health officials attached to the points of entry, a border health information system and facilitation of the emergency health services at the Colombo sea port health office.
- IOM provides technical assistance to the government with regional and global advocacy on the health of migrants including with forums such as the 2nd Global Health Consultation and Colombo Process.



Facilitating Partnerships

- Support to Sri Lanka's well-established national vertical health programmes including the National Anti-Malaria Campaign, National Programme on Tuberculosis and Chest Diseases, and the Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV/AIDS Control Programme.

Emergency Health

- Provides primary and emergency health-care services for mobile and displaced populations by facilitating referral, follow up and rehabilitation services by mobilizing health care professionals and strengthening of health systems.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



SDG 5

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Target 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

Counter Trafficking

- IOM provides support to the government's National Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force in strengthening measures to combat trafficking including the capacity building of police and airport officers and programmes for high-level judges/magistrates and the Attorney General's Department.
- IOM has helped the Ministry of Women's Affairs establish and manage the first government-run shelter for women victims of trafficking.
- With IOM support, the government was able to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the identification, protection and referral of trafficking victims.



Awareness Raising

- Campaigns and street dramas to raise awareness are conducted in high-risk areas such as the Northern Province to bring attention to the risk of human trafficking and to otherwise taboo issues such as domestic violence, sexual abuse, and harassment.



8 GOOD JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



SDG 8

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Target 8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms

Target 8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment



Labour Migration

- IOM works on regularizing the recruitment industry by operationalizing the code of conduct produced for recruitment agents with the development of Standard Operating Procedures, a monitoring mechanism, curriculum and training of trainer manual.
- Aims to pilot voluntary registration of recruitment sub-agents (middlemen) which are currently unregulated in order to promote transparency and accountability of migrant transactions.
- As IOM looks at regularizing the recruitment industry domestically, IOM is also developing an operational checklist for Sri Lankan labour attachés at embassies in countries of destination in order to strengthen the validation process of foreign recruitment agencies thereby reducing the risk of incidence of trafficking.



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



SDG 11

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

Target 11.5: By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

Emergency Response

- IOM's pre-positioning for emergency situations continues to ensure the capacity to respond quickly to improve the shelter, water, and hygiene conditions of affected populations by supplying essential non-food items within 48 hours from the occurrence of a disaster.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



SDG 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact

Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Mainstreaming Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

- IOM's DRR activities include the provision of disaster-sensitive infrastructure such as the construction and renovation of minor irrigation tanks, channel networks, bunds and roads, as well as the construction of paddy storage facilities, agro wells and salt water exclusion bunds which minimize the intensity of the damage caused by flooding and drought.
- Climate change is of high concern especially in regard to agricultural livelihoods, food security, and general community development. IOM invests in supporting home gardening through the provision of training on flood and drought resistant seeds to farmers and households to ensure food security at the community level.
- IOM integrates green energy approaches into its programming by building on earlier work such as the promotion of solar power for disaster-affected communities.



Immigration and Border Management

- Implementation of the biometrics fingerprint passport issuance process helps the government maintain national security and economic development.
- IOM supports border and migration management assessments, improvements to border management information systems, identity management, data management, migration intelligence and risk analysis, and training and capacity building for border and migration officials.

Safe Migration Campaigns

- IOM provides information to communities in areas with a high incidence of irregular migration, enabling potential migrants to make more informed choices before they embark on a journey.
- Operates a hotline service offering advice on safe migration to potential migrants.
- The safe migration campaign is designed to create awareness and sensitize potential migrants of the dangers and disadvantages of irregular migration and to provide information on regular and safe migration.

Resettlement Services

- IOM Sri Lanka conducts specialized services for all resettlement countries including the USA, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia.
- Pre-departure / Cultural Orientations for migrants, including refugees accepted for resettlement.
- Case Processing services help refugee applicants to lodge correct and complete applications for refugee status and 2) assist governments by providing selection authorities with accurate, detailed and objective information in standard formats in order to streamline the interview and selection process.
- IOM arranges the safe and orderly movements of refugees and other vulnerable persons including obtaining travel documents, transportation arrangements, transit assistance, operational / medical escorts, and arrival assistance.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



SDG 10

Reduce inequality within and among countries

Target 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies

Target 10.c: By 2030, reduce to less than 3% the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5%



Document Verification

- IOM Sri Lanka provides a document verification service to support decision making by embassies; often facilitating the process of family reunification.

Colombo Process (CP)

- Sri Lanka's chairmanship of the CP has focused on five thematic areas including 1) Skills and Qualification Recognition; 2) Promoting Ethical Recruitment; 3) Effective Pre-departure Orientation and Empowerment; 4) Reducing the costs of remittance transfer; and 5) Tracking Labour Market Trends and Requirements.
- IOM supports the CP Chair and CP Member States to strengthen labour migration governance by assisting them in making progress in these five thematic priorities through: convening Thematic Area Working Group meetings; providing an Online Repository to facilitate the exchange of information and good practices; and other thematic specific activities.
- As the Secretariat of the CP, IOM fully supports the Colombo Ministerial Declaration adopted in August 2016 in which the Member States have agreed to continue consultations on the operationalization of the migration-related goals in the SDGs as a new thematic area.



16 PEACE AND JUSTICE



SDG 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Target 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

Target 16.11: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries to prevent violence and combat terrorism.

Target 16.12: Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.

- IOM supports the government's Peacebuilding Priority Plan 2016 with proposed interventions relating to the four pillars of transitional justice, reconciliation, governance, and resettlements and durable solutions.
- IOM works with the National Police Commission (NPC) in developing an ITC roadmap in support of the enhancement of its public complaints management system. Better handling of complaints by the NPC contributes to more transparently and efficiently handling of complaints and ensuring justice for all.
- IOM provides technical assistance to the government as required in the establishment of a credible, feasible and inclusive reparation mechanism in support of the government's broader efforts in promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka.

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