



# INTEGRATING MIGRATION INTO COVID-19 SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE

A Toolkit for Development Partners

August 2020 Update

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**PUBLISHER:** International Organization for Migration  
Rue Montoyer 40,  
1000, Brussels  
Belgium  
Tel. 32 2 287 7000  
ROBrussels@iom.int  
[eea.iom.int](http://eea.iom.int)

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**DG DEVCO colleagues:** Camilla Hagstroem, Ron Hendrix, Jenny Hobbs, Francesco Luciani, Erwan Marteil, Stefaan Pauwels, Maria Chiara Piazza, and Iacopo Viciani.

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**COVER PHOTO:** The Petite Barrière Point of Entry screening point connects the densely populated city of Goma in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with Rwanda. © IOM 2019/Muse Mohammed

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# INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 has impacted and is impacted by human mobility. This, in turn, is affecting sustainable development. There is increasing documentation of this relationship, including:

- Migrants and refugees experiencing stigma, discrimination, and xenophobic attacks due to perceived links between migration and disease transmission.
- Migrants and refugees having difficulty accessing health services and income subsidies.
- The additional physical and mental vulnerabilities of people in camps and camp-like settings, identification, transit, and detention centres – as well as those released with no social or financial safety net.
- International migrant workers (formal and informal) being stranded, losing their livelihoods with no access to social protection, with some forced to return to situations of risk.
- The impact of border closures on migrant workers' ability to contribute to key sectors, such as tourism, hospitality and agricultural production linked to food security.
- The closure of borders, restrictions to free movement and barriers to trade affect cross border traders and supply chains.
- The importance of migrant workers in response and recovery, especially providing front-line health and care services.

- The detrimental financial impact of decreased remittances to global and national economies and vulnerable households, including in rural areas, as well as the important role of remittances in the macroeconomic recovery.
- Migrant or refugee children facing challenges and/or enhanced vulnerabilities due to the disruption of education and child protection services.
- The conditions exacerbating migrants' exposure to violence, exploitation and abuse are also increasing, affecting particularly women and children.

As donors around the world pledge billions in development aid to support the COVID-19 socio-economic response, development partners should ensure that migration is considered in the design, implementation, and monitoring of how these funds are used. This will help make sure that:

- i. The rights of migrants and refugees, their families, and communities affected by migration are protected;
- ii. Well-managed migration is a tool to accelerate response and recovery;
- iii. The promise to “leave no one behind” is upheld.

Together, the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#) (GCM),<sup>1</sup> and the [Global Compact on Refugees](#) (GCR) provide a high-level roadmap for this purpose.

## ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT

The aim of this Toolkit is to provide information and tools for development partners to integrate migration – in all its forms – into development-centred plans, programmes and projects linked to COVID-19 socio-economic response. Informed by the “[UN Framework for the Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19](#)”, and relevant EU and UN policy frameworks, the Toolkit provides analysis and practical tools to enable policymakers and practitioners to deal with the ways in which migration and sustainable development interact within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The content within the tools is organized under the three critical areas for action highlighted by the UN Secretary-General:

- i. Tackling the immediate emergency;
- ii. Focusing on the social impact and the economic response;
- iii. ‘Recovering better’.

This Toolkit is for development partners who design, implement, and monitor development cooperation programmes and projects. It is structured as follows:

- [Introduction](#): offers a brief contextual backdrop for the Toolkit while breaking down its aim and main building blocks.
- [Part 1 – Migration, Sustainable Development and COVID-19](#): explains the links between migration and sustainable development, along with the related global frameworks, which provides the conceptual backdrop needed to effectively integrate migration into COVID-19 socio-economic response.
- [Part 2 – Integrating Migration in COVID-19 Response](#): outlines key entry points and examples of interventions to integrate migration in the socio-economic response to COVID-19 in practice.
- [Part 3 – Tools for Integrating Migration](#): provides a set of tools to help development partners effectively integrate migration into related COVID-19 interventions along different stages of the project cycle.
- [Additional Resources](#): a list of related COVID-19 resources and tools that can be referenced for further guidance.

<sup>1</sup> The GCM is the first inter-governmentally negotiated and non-binding agreement, covering all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. Although the GCM is not supported by all UN Member States, efforts to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration is built upon target 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals.



Figure 1.1: Structure of the Toolkit

### How to Use the Tools

[Practical tools in Part 3](#) provide development partners with guiding questions, checklists, and examples of programme interventions to integrate migration into COVID-19 socio-economic responses at various phases of the project cycle: programming, identification and formulation, implementation and evaluation.<sup>2</sup> The tools cover a wide array of development issues – across development sectors – that could be relevant in different contexts.

### How this Toolkit was Developed

The Toolkit has been adapted from products formulated under the [Mainstreaming Migration into International Cooperation and Development \(MMICD\) Project](#), which is funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). This complements a series of sector guides<sup>3</sup> that IOM is working on under the project in partnership with relevant UN partners.<sup>4</sup>

2) These phases used by the European Commission in its Development Cooperation programming. Despite potential differences in categorization, most organizations and agencies follow a similar approach to planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of their development cooperation interventions.

3) The target development sectors in focus under the MMICD project include: Health, Environment and Climate Change, Employment, Governance, Education, Urban Development, Rural Development, Private Sector Development and Trade, and Security.

4) Including FAO, ILO, UN AIDS, UN-Habitat, UNESCO, UNICEF, among others.

# PART 1: MIGRATION, SUSTAINABLE

## DEVELOPMENT AND COVID-19

*“Let’s not forget this is essentially a human crisis.  
Most fundamentally, we need to focus on people – the most vulnerable.”*

UN Secretary-General’s Call for Solidarity

Migration<sup>5</sup> – in all its forms – is inextricably linked to COVID-19, and as such it must be considered in response efforts. Interactions between migration, development, and COVID-19 play out at different interdependent levels of analysis: micro; meso; and macro (see Figure 1.2). Before the COVID-19 pandemic, migrants – who make up 3.4 percent of the world’s population – contributed nearly 10 percent of global GDP.<sup>6</sup> Beyond the ways in which migration contributes to development, migration is also affected by development. Development can encourage migration, and migration can be a

consequence of development deficiencies. Lack of healthcare, employment opportunities, climate change vulnerabilities, gender-based disparities, the marginalization of socio-economic or ethnic groups, and inadequate service provision, can have a decisive impact on people’s real and perceived future life prospects in a country or a community, thus leading to a decision or need to move. These aspects are often connected to underlying structural conditions, such as poor governance, acute and chronic poverty, and conflict and insecurity.<sup>7</sup>

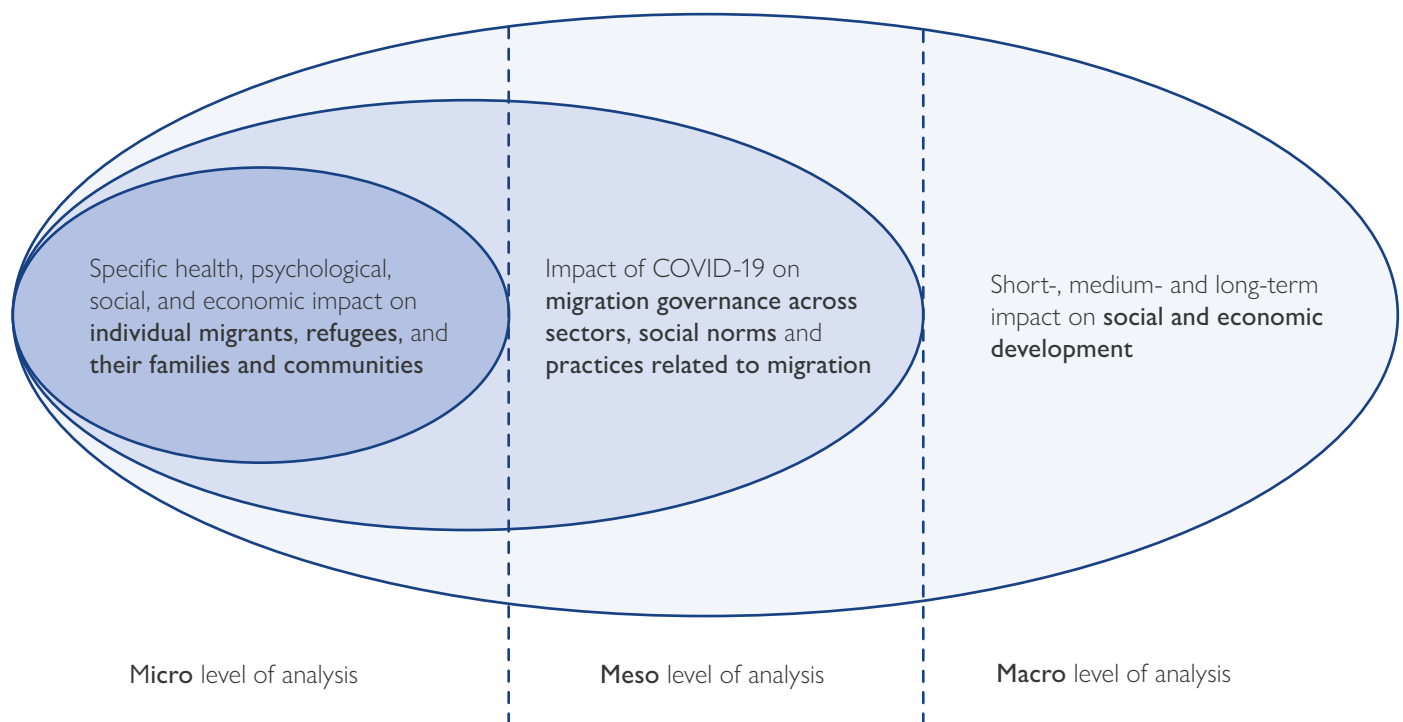


Figure 1.2: Multi-level socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 crisis, linked to migration and development

5) The guide focuses primarily on international migration and forced displacement. Internal migration is beyond the formal scope but referenced in some of the tool depending on context. The use of the word ‘migrants’ throughout the document encompasses forcibly displaced persons including those displaced internally. However, in recognizing the legal protections that refugees are entitled to, the terms ‘migrants and refugees’ are used when statements are applicable for both.

6) Roughly \$6.7 trillion to global GDP in 2015—some \$3 trillion more than they would have produced in their origin countries.

7) The multi-level connections between migration and sustainable development is outlined clearly in [IOM’s Institutional Strategy on Migration and Sustainable Development](#).

The complex relationship between migration and sustainable development has been recognized through international agreements and national and regional policy frameworks. As recognized in the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) (2015), migration is inextricably linked with sustainable development. We are reliant – for our health, our food, and our economy – on the movement of people.<sup>8</sup>

Our ability to develop successful responses to COVID-19 that both protect people on the move and their communities – and harness the power of migration for *recovering better* – depends on a solid understanding the effects of the pandemic on migration and development.<sup>9</sup> Notably, the multiple cross-cutting references to migration within the SDGs underline the importance of integrating migration into COVID-19 socio-economic response, as articulated in Figure 1.3.<sup>10</sup>

## SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

[Target 10.7 of the 2030 Agenda](#) calls on development partners to, facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies. Safe, orderly and regular migration is defined more comprehensively in the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#) (GCM, 2018), which was developed in parallel to the [Global Compact for Refugees](#) (GCR, 2018).

At the EU-level, the [European Consensus on Development](#) (2017) aligns the EU development policy with the 2030 Agenda, while acknowledging that well-managed migration and mobility can “make positive contributions to inclusive growth and sustainable development.”

As a key convening platform on migration, the UN Network on Migration can be drawn on to connect migration and socio-economic response in country and effectively contribute to the UN socio-economic response framework. These types of responses are also reflected in the UN Secretary-General’s Policy Brief on “[COVID-19 and People on the Move](#).”

### The UN Network on Migration

The UN Network on Migration (Network) was established to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to Member States on migration as they respond to the GCM. The [inaugural workplan](#) of the Network focuses on key issues where the UN system can add value in delivering concrete results as a matter of priority in supporting GCM implementation, recognizing that the GCM is rooted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The workplan comprises three elements: i) core, ii) thematic and iii) a pipeline of potential future activities.

8) IOM (2020), [Issue Brief: Why Migration Matters for “Recovering Better” from COVID-19](#).

9) Ibid.

10) More extensive analysis of the links between migration and sustainable development can be found in [IOM’s Guide for Practitioners on Migration and the 2030 Agenda](#) (2018).

Empower diaspora organizations and migrants to support COVID-19 response and recovery.

Learn from and up-scale innovative efforts to utilize technology for migration data mapping and ensure the disaggregation of migration data, as well as the disaggregation of development data by migratory status.



Tap into the development potential of migration to build resilience and support socio-economic recovery.

Extend social protection access, eligibility and coverage to all migrants and ensure benefits are transferable and portable for returnees.



Migrants, regardless of status, must have equitable access to quality health services.

Facilitate labour mobility of health workers to mitigate labour shortages.

Ensure that the vulnerabilities of migrants and their communities are fully accounted for and participate in the COVID-19 response or risk aggravating irregular migration, smuggling and human trafficking.

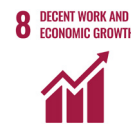


Support cities to integrate human mobility into COVID-19 urban planning and recovery processes, considering the effects of new urban-rural mobility trends.

Empower cities to mitigate the increasing xenophobia and discrimination against migrants.



Reduce costs of remittance transfers to under 3%.  
Ensure remittances and other migration-related financial flows are leveraged fairly and equitably to assist local response, recovery and development interventions.



Develop innovative means to build regular pathways for economic migration within the context of COVID-19 control in order to respond adequately to global labour supply and demand, particularly for health workers.

Up-scale global skills partnerships to better match skills and education policies with global labour market demand and supply, maximizing the potential of digital technology and teleworking.



Building on technological advances, foster virtual student mobility to counter physical restrictions for continued global advancement of research and knowledge sharing.

Invest in skilling and re-skilling of migrants and returnees to increase their access to decent work.



Ensure that migrant men and women, regardless of migratory status, are included in efforts to combat increasing gender-based violence and socio-economic vulnerability due to COVID-19.

Address the COVID-19-specific vulnerability of migrants regarding their sexual and reproductive health.

Figure 1.3: Migration and SDGs linkages in the context of COVID-19 socio-economic response.

Source: IOM (2020), Issue Brief: Why Migration Matters for "Recovering Better" from COVID-19.



# PART 2: INTEGRATING MIGRATION

## IN THE COVID-19 RESPONSE

### ENTRY POINTS TO INTEGRATE MIGRATION IN THE IMMEDIATE SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE

With the right policies in place, the development potential of safe, orderly and regular migration can be harnessed to support the immediate socio-economic response. As called for in the 2030 Agenda, GCM, and GCR, migration should be coherently integrated across all policy domains from a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach. The five streams of work outlined in the “[UN Framework for the Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19](#)” (see Figure 2.1) provide the institutional framing necessary to protect the needs and rights of people living under the duress of the pandemic, with particular focus on the most vulnerable countries, groups, and people who risk being left behind. Integrating migration into these five pillars will be an important element of the socio-economic response:

#### 1. Health First: Protecting Health Services and Systems During the Crisis


The WHO defines six key building blocks of health systems, all of which must be sensitive to migration in order to effectively manage COVID-19. It is critical to remove barriers to health faced by migrants and refugees in response to COVID-19 and any future public health threat.

- **Health service delivery:** Migrants and refugees must have equitable access to – and quality of – health services, including mental health, and sexual and reproductive health. This means it must be as affordable, accessible, available, appropriate and acceptable for migrants as for non-migrants. Services should be child friendly and free of gender bias which may prevent equitable access. It is also critical to ensure continuity of care for migrant and refugee populations, especially those in vulnerable situations.
- **Health workforce:** Increasingly, shortages in the context of COVID-19 are being mitigated through sourcing support from doctors, nurses, auxiliary staff and care workers from migrant communities. A high percentage of these front-line workers is made up of women.
- **Health information systems:** These systems are critical for disease management. However, migrants and refugees are often excluded, meaning they are left behind in surveillance and response strategies, which can threaten individual and public health. It is important that this information is collected in compliance with data protection rules and regulations.

### FIVE PILLARS OF THE UNDS RESPONSE

1  **HEALTH FIRST:**  
Protecting health services  
and systems during the crisis

2  **PROTECTING PEOPLE:**  
Social protection and  
basic services

3  **ECONOMIC RESPONSE & RECOVERY:**  
Protecting jobs, small and medium-  
sized enterprises, and the informal  
sector workers

4  **MACROECONOMIC RESPONSE AND  
MULTILATERAL COLLABORATION**

5  **SOCIAL COHESION AND  
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**

Figure 2.1: Five Pillars of the UNDS Response

Source: [A UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19](#)

- **Access to essential medicines:** Many migrants – both regular and irregular – and refugees face legal, structural, cultural or logistical barriers to accessing essential medicines. This should be considered in the development and roll-out of COVID-19 treatments or vaccinations.
- **Health financing:** In order to reach public health outcomes, health financing systems must include all categories of migrants, regardless of their legal or documentation status.
- **Health systems governance:** As we move forward and work towards recovery from this crisis, national health policies, strategies, and plans must be updated to better include pandemic preparedness and links to migration. This should reflect stronger multilateralism and “multi-level governance”, with policies being made by a range of actors at different levels and across different sectors.

exploited and falling below the poverty line.<sup>12</sup> Moreover, basic services such as education, and wider protection services (including child protection and response to domestic violence) during the COVID-19 pandemic should proactively address and be responsive to specific vulnerabilities that migrant or refugee children and/or women face. Over the next few months, governments around the world will need to adapt, extend and scale-up cash transfers, food assistance programmes, social insurance programmes, psychosocial support programmes and child benefits to support families, among others. To ensure resilience and assist in the process of recovery, the needs of migrants and refugees in vulnerable situations should be included and specifically addressed. In parallel, trust will need to be established to facilitate cooperation between host communities, migrants, and local and national governments.



### Examples of Potential Interventions

- Identify and address legal, structural, cultural or logistical barriers that migrants, both regular and irregular, may experience which impede their access to essential medicines, especially during the roll out of COVID-19 treatments or vaccinations.
- Mitigate staffing shortages of essential workers in the context of COVID-19 through sourcing support from doctors, nurses, auxiliary staff and care workers from migrant communities.
- Address circumstances and/or conditions that could worsen the spread of COVID-19, or lead to resurgences or spikes in cases, such as overcrowded migrant detention centers or unsafe working conditions of workers in the informal and formal sector (regardless of migration status).



### Examples of Potential Interventions

- Identify those unable to access existing services and livelihood options with a particular risk of sliding into poverty and in need of immediate support measures.
- Provide policy support to governments to include migrants in existing social protection schemes and/or existing public employment benefit schemes, especially for those who work in insecure environments.
- Offer reintegration assistance to migrants who return to their countries of origin, including job creation and cash grants for returning migrants.
- Build on technological advances and online connectivity to foster virtual student mobility for continued global advancement of research and knowledge sharing.

### 3. Economic Recovery: Protecting Jobs, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, and Informal Sector Workers

Most migrants are migrant workers,<sup>13</sup> who feel the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic is having on jobs and enterprises around the world. Globally, approximately 1.6 billion workers in the informal economy are at risk of losing their sources of livelihoods, and around 436 million enterprises operating in the ‘hardest-hit sectors’ are at risk due to the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>14</sup> COVID-19 is having a huge impact on economic sectors in which migrants and refugees are significantly represented, including hospitality and agriculture. For example, in agricultural-based economies – particularly those already experiencing the impacts of climate change – disruptions to planting seasons due to the lockdown may decrease food security as well as result in decreased income or even loss of livelihood for workers. Across the developing world, micro- and small-sized businesses account for most employment, both in the formal and informal sectors. They include marginally employed wage labourers, and workers in the informal sectors (including cross-border trade, farm workers).

### 2. Protecting People: Social Protection and Basic Services

During the 2008 financial crisis, countries with strong social protection systems and basic services suffered the least and recovered the fastest. The COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating existing inequalities and will likely impact the world’s poorest people and most vulnerable communities the hardest. Undoubtedly, migrants and refugees in vulnerable situations, their families, and communities reliant on the development outcomes of migration, will suffer. Those with informal or unstable employment, entrepreneurs and those working in the service industry (a majority of whom are women) are most affected, with only 1 in 5 unemployed persons able to access unemployment benefits. Migrants may face heightened barriers, especially if they do not meet the necessary eligibility criteria.<sup>11</sup>

Ensuring the portability of social protection in the formal and informal sectors will limit people’s exposure to the risks of being

11) OECD (2018), *Employment Outlook, Chapter 5: Unemployment-benefit coverage: Recent trends and their drivers*.

12) See IOM’s contribution to the HLPF 2020 – *Accelerated Action and Transformative Pathways: Realizing the Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development*.

13) IOM (2019), *World Migration Report 2020, Chapter 2 - Migration and Migrants: A Global Overview*.

14) ILO (2020), *ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work, Third Edition*.

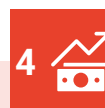
There is also an important gender dimension, as women disproportionately work in insecure, more precarious, lower-paid, part-time and informal employment, and as unpaid workers in farms and family businesses. These workers can be subject to harassment or violence and often have little or no income security and social protection, which means that they are less protected from economic recession in times of crisis. Reports are emerging of cases whereby survivors of trafficking are being exposed to re-trafficking as "enabling" conditions are surfacing again. The return of migrants to countries of origin and the reduction of remittances sent home will likely surpass the capacity of the formal and informal sectors in those countries to absorb large numbers of returnees or additional local job seekers in the local labour market due to reduced remittances. Closure of borders, restrictions to free movement and barriers to trade will also render cross-border traders and value chains in key products more vulnerable.

Remittance flows are predicted to drop by 20 percent in 2020 – from 554 billion USD to 445 billion USD – to middle- and low-income countries. Even with a sharp decline, the importance of remittances for these countries will become more significant, since foreign direct investment is expected to decline as a consequence of COVID-19-related disruptions in areas like trade.<sup>16</sup> Continued and predictable development assistance will be key to mitigate drivers of forced migration, particularly at a time when many migrant receiving countries are enforcing mobility restrictions, which can place migrants in situations of vulnerability. Multilateral coordination will become increasingly essential to address the appropriate balance between socio-economic development, mobility, gender, and health. This includes cross-border collaboration to strengthen health surveillance at entry and exit points (airports, seaports and land border crossings). Additionally, coordination is necessary to facilitate information exchange between stakeholders.



### Examples of Potential Interventions

- Support micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to rapidly resume operations and create job opportunities with a particular focus on labour intensive sectors disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.
- Strengthen collaboration with the private sector for an inclusive recovery and establish public-private partnerships (PPPs) to ensure safe labour and recruitment standards, create livelihoods opportunities and establish skills-matching and training programmes for all, including migrants.
- Engage with migrant associations and diaspora communities to mobilize their (financial) support and knowledge transfer, both towards support of the medical systems and wider improvement of livelihoods.
- Provide cash transfers and in-kind transfers to migrant workers and displaced populations who previously had access to work opportunities and have lost income due to mobility restrictions and business shutdowns.



### Examples of Potential Interventions

- Strengthen capacities and provide technical support to national and local government institutions throughout the planning and implementation of socio-economic response plans to ensure migrants are included and can actively contribute to the response.
- Facilitate international skills or mobility partnerships so that well-managed labour migration can contribute to economic resilience in countries of origin and destination.
- Support public authorities to monitor transnational financial flows in the form of remittances or investments, with the aim of encouraging service providers to keep channels open and transaction costs low.
- Conduct awareness-raising with relevant government entities on the link between safe and regular migration pathways and efforts to promote the circular economy to help enable green growth and carbon neutrality through a 'green' COVID-19 recovery.

## 4. Macroeconomic Response and Multilateral Collaboration

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has predicted that there will be a global recession in 2020, affecting advanced economies, emerging markets, and developing economies. Before the pandemic, migrants – who make up 3.4 percent of the world's population – contributed nearly 10 percent of global GDP.<sup>15</sup> Transnational financial flows, in the form of remittances and investment, will be critical in the coming months, and governments and financial institutions must do all they can to minimize costs and other barriers. A global economic recession will also impact global population movements and affect countries with high levels of migration and large portions of remittances that contribute to their GDP.

## 5. Social Cohesion and Community Resilience

The COVID-19 pandemic led to an unprecedented level of social expressions of solidarity and support across different groups within society, regardless of socio-economic status and background. At the same time, it has laid bare structural inequalities and vulnerabilities within society, as well as episodes of discrimination towards migrants. In many countries, ethnic minorities have been disproportionately affected by the virus and have experienced higher mortality rates. As the crisis continues, it is likely that there will be increased tension and conflict within society, threatening to reinforce social exclusion of disadvantaged groups, including migrants and refugees in vulnerable situations. There have already been documented cases of stigma, discrimination and xenophobic attacks globally. Not only

15) McKinsey & Company (2016). *Global migration's impact and opportunity*.

16) World Bank (2020). *Migration and Development Brief 32. COVID-19 Crisis: Through a Migration Lens*.

can this further hamper social cohesion in the long term, but it also has immediate consequences as it jeopardizes the safety of migrants, refugees, and their communities, as well as their physical and mental well-being, as well as the overall safety of the host country and community.

Development partners must focus on taking a rights-based, whole-of-community approach that is gender and conflict-sensitive to address tension and distrust in the response and recovery. Approaches aiming to improve social cohesion should also help build trust between the community and the authorities by, for example, strengthening government capacity and accountability through participatory planning and civic dialogue. This will be particularly urgent in urban areas where the impact of COVID-19 is expected to be greater, with challenges including overcrowding, insufficient housing, and limited access to resources such as education and healthcare. Many migrants and refugees in urban settings often find themselves in precarious, informal living and working conditions at risk of eviction and exploitation, representing a high percentage of urban poor that often face with discrimination, language, and cultural barriers.



### Examples of Potential Interventions

- Strengthen capacities of local and regional authorities to mitigate xenophobia and stigmatization of migrants and build back better by establishing inclusive urban planning and local policies.
- Provide technical guidance and tools to ensure risk communication messages are culturally and linguistically tailored.
- Mobilize civic networks to engage with local governments to facilitate equitable resource distribution in the absence of robust and cohesive governance structures, equally improving the trust by different groups towards the government.

# PART 3: TOOLS FOR

# INTEGRATING MIGRATION

These tools are designed to help development partners strengthen COVID-19 socio-economic response,<sup>17</sup> through ensuring that migration – in all its forms – is considered in the programming, identification and formulation, implementation and evaluation.<sup>18</sup> For each phase of the project cycle, the corresponding tools can be used with some tools applicable to various phases of the

cycle (see Figure 3.1). The content within the tools is organized under the three critical areas for action highlighted by the UN Secretary-General: (i) Tackling the immediate emergency, (ii) Focusing on the social impact and the economic response; and (iii) 'Recovering better'.

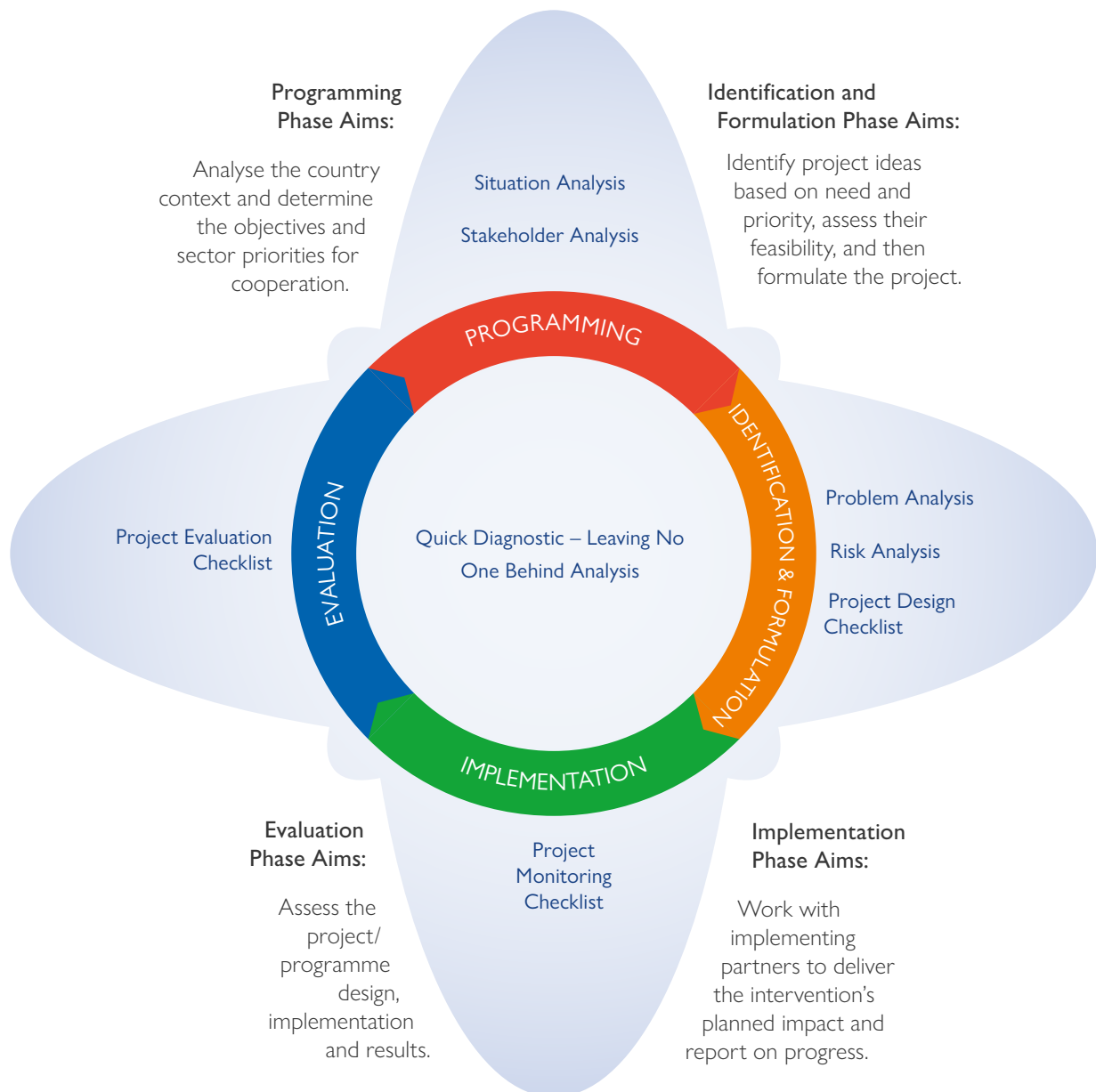


Figure 3.1: Practical tools for integrating migration at different phases of the project cycle

17) An emerging source of relevant funding for UN partners is the [UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund \(COVID-19 MPTF\)](#), which is a UN inter-agency finance mechanism launched by the UN Secretary-General to support low- and middle- income programme countries in overcoming the health and development crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Fund's assistance targets those most vulnerable to economic hardship and social disruption.

18) The above phases are those used by the European Commission in its Development Cooperation programming, however different organizations use different language to describe the stages of the project or project cycle. Despite the differences in language, in general most organizations and agencies follow a similar approach to planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of their development cooperation interventions.

# TOOL 1: QUICK DIAGNOSTIC – LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND ANALYSIS

## Why Use this Tool?

Throughout the response and recovery, the guiding reference must remain the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its central promise to 'leave no one behind'. Interventions – from assessment to programming – should be driven therefore by the following guiding questions.

## When to Use this Tool?



## Questions to answer when tackling the immediate emergency

### Guiding Questions

#### **Who has been targeted when devising the country’s health and socio-economic response measures?**

- Please consider the following groups: migrants (of all genders, age, sexual orientation), refugees, returnees, stranded migrants, migrant workers (especially those in essential services), migrant entrepreneurs, unaccompanied and separated children, IDPs, seasonal workers, diaspora, those displaced by climate change, those in climate vulnerable hotspots.
- Also consider people affected by migration: e.g. families of migrants, migrant-hosting communities, communities of origin, people living in border and transit communities, communities of return.

#### **What is the demographic and where do they reside?**

- Data sources to check: IOM (DTM, Migration Profile), UN DESA, ILO, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDRR, employers, relevant government entities.

#### **Where are the gaps?**

### Key Considerations

- The right to health is a universal human right, regardless of migration status. All countries should work to ensure the COVID-19 response includes migrants, refugees, their families, and communities affected by migration to ensure health coverage is universal.
- Migrants, refugees, and their families often face specific difficulties in accessing essential services such as social protection, health, education, or other social security benefits. These specific needs must be addressed to control transmission.
- Mobility restrictions (including border closures) put in place to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic effect stranded migrants and can place them and their families in enhanced situations of vulnerability. Immigration policies should be adapted to be able to offer humane alternatives for those in need.
- In the short-term, within countries that have been hardest hit, migrants and refugees are exposed to many of the same vulnerabilities as others, and often to a greater extent. Migrants are more likely to be in overcrowded households or employed in short-term, or precarious work with limited sick leave.
- The impact of COVID-19 will have a disproportionate effect on displaced persons that, whether due to conflict or environmental shocks, are among the world’s most vulnerable, with many relying on humanitarian aid, unpredictable daily work in the informal sector, or a combination of both to survive.
- Migrants (of both regular and irregular status) and refugees may have limited access to public health services, or fear accessing such services due to legal status, gender norms, discrimination, a lack of cross-cultural mechanisms, etc. They may also be excluded from public health information programming or, when informed, lack the financial means or social networks to manage periods of self-isolation or quarantine.

### Complete here based on your context

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- Child protection services (within school systems or social services) are likely to be suspended during COVID-19, disconnecting vulnerable migrant or refugee children from protective networks.
- Unmanaged migration and displacement pose challenges for managing disease transmission. Well established migration monitoring can contribute to and strengthen disease surveillance systems through effective prevention, detection and control.
- Countries vulnerable to natural hazards during the COVID-19 pandemic will face simultaneous disasters. Greater pressure will be placed on already vulnerable health services and humanitarian responses leaving migrants and refugees adversely affected.

### Questions to answer when focusing on the social impact and the economic response

#### Guiding Questions

**Which barriers keep people beyond the reach of infrastructure, employment, services, jobs and other socio-economic response measures?**

- Please consider the following: e.g. irregular migration status; lack of access to documentation, policies preventing migrants, refugees and asylum seekers from accessing services and entering labour market; physical barriers e.g. detention; xenophobia, stigma, discrimination; cultural practices, including related to gender; climate change and slow-onset degradation, natural hazards, lack of appropriate transport, language, opening hours, school closures, etc.

#### Complete here based on your context

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#### Key Considerations

- Most migrants are healthy and healthy migrants can be productive, contribute to development and alleviate labour/workforce shortages (including health workers). This can be facilitated through including health as part of well-managed labour migration schemes.
- Skills matching can be tailored to insert migrant workers or international students in the labour market in key sectors which have been impacted by COVID-19, to support governments in implementing their response and recovery strategies and responding to emerging labour market needs.
- 'Brain waste' can be addressed through fair recruitment, occupational safety and health, protection of migrant workers' rights, skills and qualification recognition.
- Migrant workers can support family members and vulnerable households through remittances. This flow of remittances is being threatened for many people, as workers experience job losses and restrictions on mobility linked to COVID-19.
- Non-formal and formal education programmes, digitalization, and distance learning can supplement efforts to adapt to the needs of migrants, refugees, and those on the move, contributing to continuity during the COVID-19 response and recovery. These programmes should reflect the needs of children within migrant/displaced families, and unaccompanied and separated children.
- In countries of origin, diaspora (including health workers) can maintain formal and informal links, and through this can be a source of training, mentoring and innovation for practices in their country of origin.

### Questions to answer when focusing on 'recovering better'

#### Guiding Questions

**How can those who are excluded, marginalized and vulnerable come into the fold? How can they be made more resilient to shocks and crises?**

- Refer to: [Problem Analysis Tool](#)

**How can the responses help remove and avoid exacerbating structural drivers of exclusion, inequalities and discrimination?**

#### Complete here based on your context

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## Key Considerations

- Safe, Orderly and Regular migration is an accelerator of sustainable development and should be recognized as such in development interventions which aim to address structural inequalities.
- Link safe and regular migration pathways with efforts to promote the circular economy: to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs, in particular to enable green growth and carbon neutrality. South-South partnerships will be key to increase the positive development impact of migration and promote sustainable and just economies across different regions.
- The current pandemic will have broad-ranging, long-term humanitarian and socio-economic impact. While the implications cannot be fully understood at this moment, there is a need to acknowledge the critical economic inflection points ahead for societies, and the deeper impacts for diverse mobile populations.
- Well-managed labour migration can contribute to economic resilience in countries of origin and destination. This contribution can best be leveraged by ensuring that national legislative frameworks reflect international standards relating to the rights of migrants, refugees, and their families – including around social protection.
- Facilitate well-managed circular or seasonal migration as an adaptation strategy for communities fragile to climate change impacts. By reducing demographic pressures and increasing the circulation of social and financial remittances, it builds economic growth and resilience in home countries whilst growing host countries' GDP and filling gaps in the labour market.
- Migrants and refugees are taking a leading role globally as front-line workers in the COVID-19 response. These stories can contribute to changing public perceptions and political discourse about migration, and be the basis for more evidence-based policy and practice related to migration.
- Fact-based and figures-based research and analysis of respective labour markets in countries of origin and destination could mitigate the risks of unemployment, brain drain and/or brain waste and social exclusion.
- Offering healthcare, education, language and training helps migrant workers to integrate, and, at the same time, increases their capacity to contribute to the local labour market.
- Every child – regardless of migration status – should have the right to a quality education so that they can have more chances in life, including employment opportunities, better health and also to participate in political process.

### Quick Links to References

Key international policy document(s)/framework(s)

- [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#)
- [Global Compact for Refugees](#)
- [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)
- [Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage 2019](#)
- [WHA resolution 61:17](#) and related [WHO / IOM / Spain operational framework](#)
- [The New Urban Agenda adopted at the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development in 2016, "Habitat III"](#)
- [International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families](#)





IMMIGRATION & BORDER MANAGEMENT - continued

- What is known about the health status of migrants and refugees and their vulnerability to COVID-19, including their potential role in transmission?
- How equitable is the access that these migrants and refugees have to health services and how well adapted are the services to their needs?
- Are there health and care workers among migrant and refugee communities? Are they able to work and if not, what are the barriers to them working (e.g. recognition of qualifications, legislation or policies preventing them from entering employment)?
- How are different groups (different age and gender categories, persons living with disabilities) vulnerable to COVID-19?

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EMIGRATION, DIASPORA, REMITTANCES

- Where are the main diaspora/emigrant communities and what are the mobility restrictions affecting them? Are there stranded emigrants? What is their vulnerability to COVID-19? Under what conditions are they living?
- To what extent are workers in the diaspora engaged in the health and care sectors overseas? Are there established channels of communications with the country of origin?
- Are there partnerships and/or mechanisms in place to facilitate knowledge and skills transfers linking communities of origin and destination?
- To what extent are remittance transfers used to finance health and other social expenditures for families of emigrants?
- What is the estimated impact of outstanding social and financial remittance transfer on poverty, inequality and climate resilience in the region/country/community?
- What protection mechanisms for emigrants' labour rights exist? Are there bilateral or multilateral agreements and coordination mechanisms in place which could facilitate protection?
- How are different groups experiencing the above differently (different age and gender categories, persons living with disabilities)?

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RETURN MIGRATION

- Are there people returning to the country as a result of COVID-19? Where do they return to? What skills do they have? Are there barriers to their socio-economic/cultural reintegration? Can they access health services?
- What challenges of reintegration do return migrants experience, and how do they affect their status and social and economic vulnerabilities?
- To what extent do returning migrants bring with them different ideas, attitudes and behaviour?
- How are different groups experiencing the above differently (different age and gender categories, persons living with disabilities)?

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# TOOL 3: STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

## Why Use this Tool?

This tool can be used to ensure that appropriate stakeholders are engaged in efforts to integrate migration into interventions linked to COVID-19 response. This will help to improve effectiveness of intervention, and achieve buy in from key partners.

## When to Use this Tool?



### Stakeholders to consider

### Complete here based on your context

#### MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

(of all genders and ages, including diaspora, forcibly displaced persons, and migrants in vulnerable situations)

- How are migrants and refugees of different genders and ages affected by COVID-19, in different ways?
- Have migrants’ and refugees’ access to health services as beneficiaries been restricted? How has this impacted different gender and age groups?
- Is there scope to engage migrants and refugees of different genders and ages as implementers – for example as health messengers?
- How do the needs and experiences of different categories of migrants and refugees, particularly those in vulnerable situations, women and children, differ?

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#### NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

(including institutions in charge of migration governance, development planning, sector policies, and national–local dialogue)

- How are national government entities an implementer, beneficiary, or key enabler to COVID-19 response and recovery programmes?
- What are national government stakeholders’ understanding of, and policies towards, migration and how is this affecting the effectiveness of COVID-19 response and recovery programmes?
- Has the result of ‘mainstreaming migration’ interventions also affected the extent to which health and other relevant sector policies consider migration issues?
- Do health, education, and labour interventions that affect migration engage with the governments of migrants’ and refugees’ countries of origin, transit, and destination?

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#### SUB-NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

(including municipalities and regional councils)

- How are sub-national governments implementers, beneficiaries, or key enablers?
- What is local government stakeholders’ understanding of, and policies towards, migration, and how does this affect the extent to which programmes can benefit migrants and refugees of all genders and ages?
- Do sub-national governments play a particularly important role in the integration of migrants and the reintegration of returning migrants into communities, and in the hosting of displaced persons?

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### CIVIL SOCIETY

(including academic institutions, training institutions, NGOs, faith-based organizations, the media, and religious and traditional leaders)

- Are migrant and diaspora associations – representing all genders and ages – engaged as a means of ensuring that migrants and refugees are included as beneficiaries and/or implementers, especially for health communications (in the latter case)?
- How are universities and other research institutes mobilized to provide data and evidence on migrants, refugees, and migration?
- Are NGOs, faith-based organizations, and religious and traditional leaders, particularly in low-income countries, playing a critical role in providing services to migrants and refugees in vulnerable situations, women and children?
- What ways are civil society organizations being engaged to support migration-related research and advocacy?
- How are media stakeholders playing a significant role in influencing public perceptions of migration?

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### PRIVATE SECTOR

(including industry and employer associations)

- What efforts are being made with employers to promote migrant and refugee integration, returning migrants' reintegration, and migrant contributions to economic development, as well as resolving challenges related to migrant and refugee rights, such as working conditions for labour migrants?
- How are migrants and refugees working in, and contributing to, the private sector?
- Are remittances providing a benefit for the private sector?

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### INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Are international organizations, particularly IOM and other UN organizations active on migration, being engaged as technical partners or implementing agencies?
- How can international organizations be mobilized as sources of data and expertise with respect to the linkages between migration and their area of expertise in the country-specific context?
- What type of role are regional organizations, including regional economic communities, playing in migration governance and regional freedom of movement?

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### DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCIES

- Do development cooperation agencies have past, ongoing, or upcoming interventions of relevance on migration and development?
- How are agencies sharing migration-related data, experiences, and other resources of use?

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## TOOL 4: PROBLEM ANALYSIS

### Why Use this Tool?

The set of problems and/or opportunities that a project should aim to address are identified at this stage. This tool helps to find solutions by assessing cause-and-effect relationships through identifying underlying problems that affect target groups and describing the problems facing different socio-economic groups, including gender differences and the needs of disabled people. The tables below can be used to identify key migration-related problems and provide recommendations for COVID-19 interventions to address those problems.

### When to Use this Tool?



### Problems to consider when tackling the immediate emergency

**Problem 1: Inequitable access to quality health services for migrants and refugees negatively affects public health.**

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Promote equitable access to quality healthcare services and non-discriminatory access to safe, effective, quality, and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all migrants and refugees of all gender groups, where necessary adapting methods of diagnosis, treatment and service delivery.
- Services should be:
  - Geographically targeted to reach migrant and refugee groups
  - Socio-culturally-sensitive to migrants' and refugees' needs
  - Linguistically accessible to migrants and refugees
  - Non-discriminatory

**Problem 2: COVID-19 health promotion interventions, including messaging and screening, may not reach all groups of migrants and refugees.**

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Focus on communities identified in the [Leave No One Behind Analysis \(Tool 1\)](#) and [Situation Analysis \(Tool 2\)](#); Support the development of geographically targeted, "diversity-sensitive", gender-sensitive and migrant-inclusive approaches to health promotion. This includes health communication and messaging.

**Problem 3: Health workers may lack the knowledge and skills required to effectively diagnose and respond to the specific health and social vulnerabilities of migrants and refugees, including pre-existing conditions such as TB, malaria, HIV.**

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Support the provision of information and training of health workers on specific health issues and vulnerabilities faced by migrants and refugees, which may impact how they access services, or their vulnerability in the context of COVID-19.
- Build the capacity of healthcare workers (including community health workers engaged in contact tracing) to promote trust and mutual understanding in medical encounters with migrants and refugees in the context of COVID-19.

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Problem 4: Reception conditions for asylum seekers may exacerbate their health problems and difficulties in accessing health services.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Ensure that health conditions and COVID-19 vulnerabilities are recognized early, treated appropriately, and are not exacerbated through reception conditions.

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Problem 5: Migrants and refugees may be excluded from medical records and data collection. This can negatively affect the continuity of care, increase treatment risks and reduce the amount of data for research on migrant health.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Encourage inclusion of migration status in COVID-related surveillance, and databases.
- Support “firewalls” to ensure confidentiality of information about migrant’s legal status, including in contact tracing processes, and address migrants’ concerns about the confidentiality of their records and legal status.
- Support partner countries’ policies on registration of information relevant to migrants’ COVID-19 status.

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Problem 6: Lack of adapted and tailored immigration and border management mechanisms and policies may affect both health of migrants, refugees, displaced persons, wider communities, and authorities, along with the level of access they have to essential services.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Support partner government(s) in efforts to take into account expected and potential migration/displacement flows in COVID-19 response and recovery plans.
- Support governments to operationalize the [Health, Border and Mobility Management \(HBMM\) Framework](#).
- Support governments to adapt their immigration policies.

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Problem 7: Countries vulnerable to natural hazards during the COVID-19 pandemic will face simultaneous disasters, resulting in strain on, and a need to adapt, health and other essential services, and humanitarian responses. As a result, migrants and refugees may be left out of health services and disaster risk reduction planning, heightening the risk and impact of forced displacement.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Support the creation of ‘Joint Incident Management Teams’ to work with national governments and UN institutions to coordinate activities to leverage resources and capacities for COVID-19 management in the context of natural hazards.
- Support capacity building of local community health workers/volunteers in countries facing multiple climate threats to reduce the burdens on hospitals and allow access to all. For example, victims of heatwaves should be treated within the community rather than in hospitals to reduce pressures.
- Support COVID-19 adaptation to disaster risk reduction and preparedness planning, providing special support to the elderly, disabled or immune-compromised individuals if they are to be evacuated.
- Support local migrant and refugee leaders, volunteers and local community networks (women’s groups, churches, volunteers based in remote areas, local leaders) to translate and disseminate key messages from the health boards, early warning system changes and weather bulletins networks to ensure all have access.
- Ensure evacuation centres, displacement camps and cyclone protection centres implement social distancing measures and create separate camps and zones for those at high risk of contracting the virus – including migrants, refugees, and isolated communities.



Problem 1: Lack of recognition of international qualifications can lead to skills acquired abroad being underutilized (“brain waste”) and to the unemployment or underemployment of migrants and refugees, limiting their contributions towards COVID-19 response.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- In the health sector, in line with the WHO Code of Practice, help migrants to find employment opportunities in the health workforce and to meet employers’ requirements; prepare them for the demands and conditions of the work by extending guidance.
- Help migrants to meet the qualification requirements through, for example, additional training and language courses.
- Coordinate with work permit-issuing authorities to streamline rules and processes for issuing work permits for needed key workers, and support measures to regularize the situations of workers who are already working irregularly.
- Facilitate the recognition by public employment services of skills and competencies gained abroad.
- Support programmes which can assist with fast-tracking the verification of documents and diplomas in key sectors, in collaboration with countries of origin.
- Support policy change to facilitate the recognition of qualifications, especially in sectors with skills gaps (e.g. health and care work, tourism, hospitality, agriculture).

Problem 2: Migrant workers are at risk of COVID-19 and related exploitation and abuse in workplaces.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Support partner countries to enforce legislation/policy frameworks ensuring decent working conditions of migrant workers and promote equality of treatment for migrant workers in the response to COVID-19.
- Support partner countries to identify affected sectors/industries in which migrant workers have been impacted, to better monitor their conditions and enforce standards for migrants and refugees.
- Empower migrants and refugees as rights-holders with information and tools about labour standards and their rights, in the context of COVID-19.
- Build the capacities of labour inspection agents to understand the differences in treatment that migrant workers are experiencing, including in global supply chains.
- Assist the creation of complaint mechanisms, with the aid of labour inspection authorities and civil society, to provide migrant workers of all gender groups with safe channels to report labour rights violations.
- Mapping the size and diversity of the informal sector and consider relevant policies and actions to extend protection and decent working conditions therein.

Problem 3: An inflow or critical mass of migrants and refugees can increase competition for resources and services in communities, leading to tensions and increasing the risk for localized violence in conflict-prone societies.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Support local authorities and administrations in the development of, and equitable access to, resources in host communities of migrants and refugees, for the benefit of the community.
- Help local stakeholders facilitate the integration of migrants and refugees of all gender groups in communities of destination, referencing integration tools and resources.
- Promote community development programmes implemented through whole-of-community engagement approaches with social cohesion in mind.
- Include migrants and refugees of all gender groups as key stakeholders and beneficiaries when developing responses.
- Promote opportunities and spaces for positive inter-cultural exchange.

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Problem 4: Restricted migration can intensify labour shortages in key sectors such as agriculture, hospitality, tourism, extractive industries.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Conduct skills mapping of migrants and refugees in country and establish links with labour market needs.
- Support with verification of documents and diplomas, in collaboration with countries of origin (in partnership with IBM).
- Create legal pathways with targeted health assessments, such as circular migration schemes, to address labour shortages in key sectors.
- Promote alternative decent work opportunities for migrants and refugees.

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Problem 5: Disruption in remittance transfer services may hinder the vital role that remittances play in supporting vulnerable populations.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Identify families most vulnerable to a disruption in remittance transfers and support the implementation of social protection measures.
- Identify communities vulnerable to disaster displacement and support the implementation of resilience-building measures.
- Support monitoring of remittance flows and support partner governments to:
  - Promote maintenance of, and access to, remittances, including through digital solutions.
  - Lower remittance transfer costs.
  - Help partner countries facilitate access to remittances.

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Problem 6: Spouses and children of migrants and refugees may be negatively affected by the absence of family members or decreased capital.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Work with partner governments and the private sector to channel remittances from urban to rural areas more effectively and efficiently.
- Develop support programmes for families left behind, especially women and children, so that they can maintain their livelihoods.
- Develop social assistance programmes for families left behind, particularly for those employed in the informal sector with no access to social protection and their dependents.

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Problem 7: Migrants' and refugees' access to higher and technical and vocational education may be limited because of restrictions.

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Support the partner country in efforts to review legal frameworks and administrative provisions that hinder migrants' and refugees' access to higher and technical and vocational training.
- Introduce recognition of foreign qualifications and recognition of prior learning to facilitate access.
- Encourage the partner country to provide incentives and opportunities to allow international students to work in the country upon graduation.

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**Problem 8: Barriers to mobility often disrupt cross-border markets, especially those along porous borders shared by countries with long historical ties, preventing mobility as a livelihood strategy.**

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Build capacity for immigration, health checks, and provision of services at Points of Entry.
- Support customs unions and other agreements that promote intraregional trade in including provisions that facilitate the mobility of cross-border traders once restrictions are lifted.
- Monitor how customs union agreements are implemented at border posts, paying attention to discrepancies in adherence across provisions, such as wait times for border clearance, application of uniform tariffs on similar products, trade taxes on goods produced within the region.
- Support initiatives to ensure that cross-border traders are supplied with timely and accurate information on mobility restrictions and border clearance regimes.

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**Problem 9: COVID-19 response initiatives do not reach the most poor or vulnerable, which may disproportionately include migrants or refugees, increasing the likelihood of asset depletion, secondary displacement, or onward migration as alternate coping strategies.**

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Coordinate with migrant/refugee representatives to ascertain the best mechanisms to reach the most vulnerable.
- Adapt social protection initiatives to reach migrants and refugees of all gender groups in vulnerable situations, including by considering the skills, strengths and needs of these groups, as well as potential language and cultural barriers.
- Ensure all evaluation and monitoring processes for COVID-19 responses include requirements to report on reach towards migrant and refugee groups.
- Ensure that migrant and refugee women are included and develop strategies for enabling this (e.g. affordable child-care).

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**Problem 10: The education systems established in the response may not appropriately address the specific educational and psychosocial needs and vulnerabilities of migrant and refugee children, particularly children affected by forced displacement.**

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Build capacities of schools to provide education delivery systems adapted to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of migrant and refugee children, including educational and psychosocial needs and vulnerabilities, and unfamiliar language and culture.
- Support educators to develop culturally sensitive school systems that maximize the role of migrant and refugee students in promoting intercultural exchange.

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**Problem 11: Migrants' and refugees' digital skills or access to technologies may be limited, thus reducing possibilities of distance learning and use of online education tools in the context of COVID-19.**

Check if relevant to context

#### Areas of support

- Provide tailored mentorship and support for migrants and refugees to get acquainted with the digital learning and online tools.
- Develop of basic/low-tech design for digital learning to ensure low costs for migrants and refugees, and the use of basic technologies such as simple mobile phones.
- Provide blended training when possible to support learning through mobile tools such as Apps, YouTube videos, and dedicated platforms.

## TOOL 5: RISK ANALYSIS

### Why Use this Tool?

The table can be used to identify migration-related risks in related COVID-19 interventions and to inform a broader risk assessment conducted during the formulation phase of an intervention. It is useful for carrying out the following functions:

- Considering how migration could pose risks to the intervention and vice versa;
- Identifying the possible consequences of those risks for different groups of migrants;
- Developing treatment options to mitigate the risks or respond to risks linked to COVID-19 socio-economic response.

### When to Use this Tool?



**Risk 1:** Migrants (as a whole and/or specific groups of migrants) and refugees are unable to benefit from the intervention due to inaccurate or missing data in COVID-related surveillance and/or Socio-Economic Impact Analysis

Check if relevant to context

#### Risk consequences

- Inability to manage COVID-19/reduce transmission.
- Limited evidence base and difficulty to reach migrants and refugees in the response.
- The intervention fails to consider changes in population in the intervention area – for example stranded or return migrants.
- Failure to anticipate growth and population movements leads to ineffective response.
- Differential treatment of migrants and non-migrants can negatively impact community cohesion.
- Legislation is not inclusive and may be negatively influenced by increased hostility towards migrants and refugees and a restraining policy environment.
- Migrants and refugees resort to negative coping strategies, such as asset depletion, secondary displacement, or onward migration.

#### Treatments

- Consult with stakeholders who may have alternative data, including local government, academic institutions, NGOs and international organizations (both humanitarian and development actors).
- Amend project/programme documents to include migrants and refugees of all genders and ages and take measures to ensure all migrants are included in project/programme activities.
- Propose independent mapping of mobility dynamics of beneficiaries in target areas, especially to identify seasonal/circular migrants, refugees, irregular and stateless migrants.
- Use GIS data combined with community consultations where possible to get real-time overview of existing settlements that may not yet be on the official maps; include spatialized data (maps) that bundles information across sectors.
- Promote the inclusion of all migration stakeholders in project/programme steering.
- Develop and implement responses in a transparent manner that engage multiple stakeholders at all levels (migrants, communities, authorities) throughout the programme cycle to share understandings of needs, limitations, and priorities.

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Risk 2: Intervention activities negatively affect migrants/refugees or their vulnerabilities increase (migrants as a whole and/or specific groups of migrants)

Check if relevant to context

#### Risk consequences

- Migrants' and refugees' impact on development is constrained.
- Migrants' and refugees' impact on building climate resilience in home communities vulnerable to climate change impacts is constrained.
- Certain categories of migrants and refugees may experience increased vulnerability.

#### Treatments

- Discuss problems with all migration stakeholders and project/programme partners and develop treatment measures.
- Consider separate targeted support that benefits migrants and refugees while ensuring that any support provided sufficiently addresses the needs of host populations.

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Risk 3: Opposition to migrants' and refugees' inclusion as beneficiaries (migrants as a whole and/or specific groups of migrants)

Check if relevant to context

#### Risk consequences

- Partner country stakeholders may try to limit access to nationals.
- Tensions between nationals and migrants.
- Community cohesion may be disrupted.
- The intervention does not benefit from the necessary enabling policy environment.
- Anti-migrant attitudes on the part of nationals may develop.
- Discrimination and xenophobia can hinder social and labour integration of migrants and refugees.

#### Treatments

- At the community level, conduct community dialogue and design strategic communications programmes utilising social change methodologies which focus on social cohesion.
- Ensure sound analysis and evidence-based information communicated strategically to contribute to balancing public discourse and reducing discrimination.
- Work with the media and civil society to use evidence to communicate the role of migrants and refugees as key workers, and in job creation and growth.
- Foster migrant-inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue, inclusive of communities, local authorities, and civil society.
- Consider disaggregating financial support by migration status.
- Deploy evidence-based arguments showing that effective healthcare and better coverage, especially for primary care, can actually save money.
- Concentrate first on the mainly urban areas in which understanding of the importance of migrant and refugee inclusion in health already exists. Initiate attempts to win wider support after gaining support in those areas.

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#### Risk 4: Lack of political will to improve access to COVID-19 response programmes

Check if relevant to context

##### Risk consequences

- Risks relating to public health, disasters and other hazards increase, with particular impacts for migrants, refugees, women and vulnerable groups.
- Risks of increasing disenfranchisement of certain groups.
- Social and economic exclusion due to low connectivity and spatial "segregation".

##### Treatments

- Support education and training opportunities for government officials to increase their understanding of migration.
- Partner with CSOs as mediators to work with communities and support advocacy to local and national governments.
- Review how migrants and refugees are designated as a "vulnerable" or "at-risk" group, as this can increase stigma.
- Ensure that the intervention's benefits are provided based on need (area-based, whole-of-community approaches) rather than group membership.

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#### Risk 5: Migration patterns change as a result of pandemic, policy, conflict, natural disaster

Check if relevant to context

##### Risk consequences

- The project results cannot be achieved.
- New vulnerabilities emerge which need to be addressed.
- Services along new migration routes/in host communities can be overwhelmed.
- Social/community cohesion can break down.
- Disaster risk reduction measures and hazard displacement measures may be overwhelmed by the COVID-19 response, resulting in increased climate-induced displacement.

##### Treatments

- Amend project/programme through discussions with key stakeholders.
- Discuss adjusting project/programme to address any vulnerabilities/challenges arising from new migration patterns.
- Work with colleagues to support service delivery in key sectors along new routes/affected communities.
- Consider new programming to prevent and address any breakdown of social cohesion.
- Develop interventions to monitor movements.
- Coordinate disaster risk reduction methods with pandemic response strategies.

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#### Risk 6: Reintegration challenges on the part of returning migrants

Check if relevant to context

##### Risk consequences

- Returning migrants experience problems integrating, including economic hardship and frustration.
- The opportunity to utilize returning migrants' skills and capital to support development in the partner country is not realized.
- There is risk of re-emigration if returning migrants are not able to access the labour market.
- Communities of return, particularly those in mixed migration contexts, experience additional pressures in social cohesion.

##### Treatments

- COVID-19 programmes should analyse barriers faced by returning migrants of all gender groups (on a regular basis) and develop alternative strategies for facilitating their participation in employment and productive initiatives.
- Orientation services for returning migrants of all gender groups can include information on the dynamics of the labour market.

# TOOL 6: PROJECT DESIGN CHECKLIST

## Why Use this Tool?

This tool serves as a checklist for identifying migration issues of relevance to any development intervention linked to COVID-19 socio-economic response. The checklist can be used to verify that the project design is migration-sensitive.

## When to Use this Tool?



Guiding Questions	Yes	No	Add comments here based on your context
1. Will data be disaggregated by migration status, gender, and age? Have authorities carried out an initial assessment already?			<hr/> <hr/>
2. Have migrants and refugees, their families, or people affected by migration, contributed to the design of the intervention?			<hr/> <hr/>
3. Have the impacts of the intervention on migrant-community dynamics and wider social cohesion been considered?			<hr/> <hr/>
4. Have migrants and refugees, their families, or people affected by migration been included as beneficiaries or implementers (including diaspora, return migrants, migrant workers, forcibly displaced persons, etc.)?			<hr/> <hr/>
5. Are migrants and refugees of any gender or age likely to face legal or other (e.g. practical) barriers to benefiting from the intervention?			<hr/> <hr/>
6. Are beneficiaries referred to as “residents” or “citizens”? Will this be a barrier for any groups of migrants?			<hr/> <hr/>
7. Is there a possibility that stakeholders related to the intervention might oppose the inclusion of migrants and refugees? How can this risk be mitigated?			<hr/> <hr/>
8. Have the needs of different categories of migrants, their families, and people affected by migration been considered and have activities been adapted accordingly?			<hr/> <hr/>
9. Does migration status (regular or irregular) affect the extent to which migrants can benefit or contribute to the intervention?			<hr/> <hr/>
10. Have the differences between migrants, particularly migrants in vulnerable situations, women, children, irregular migrants, and forcibly displaced persons, been considered by the intervention?			<hr/> <hr/>
11. Have opportunities to more effectively channel remittances been considered?			<hr/> <hr/>
12. Have opportunities for the intervention to benefit returning migrants’ reintegration been considered?			<hr/> <hr/>

**Guiding Questions**

**Yes No**

**Add comments here based on your context**

- 13. Have opportunities for the intervention to benefit communities that host returning migrants been considered?
- 14. Have potential negative impacts on the rights of migrants and refugees of different genders and ages been assessed?
- 15. Have the effects of the intervention on partner country authorities' inclusion/exclusion of migrants and refugees in COVID-19 interventions been considered?

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# TOOL 7: PROJECT MONITORING CHECKLIST

## Why Use this Tool?

This tool is a checklist for monitoring an ongoing development project to review the extent to which migration has been addressed by the intervention's activities, and if so, how effectively that has been done. During the implementation phase, it is important to engage with migration stakeholders – as listed in the stakeholder tool above ([Tool 3](#)) – to discuss monitoring and review activities. Based on monitoring, the intervention's budget, time schedule, and logical framework can be adjusted.

## When to Use this Tool?



Guiding Questions	Yes	No	Add comments here based on your context
1. Is migration being considered in the implementation of this intervention (either directly or indirectly)?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
2. Are migrants and refugees, their families, and people affected by migration being reached and engaged through the intervention (esp. migrants in vulnerable situations, women, children, irregular migrants and forcibly displaced persons)?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
3. Are migrants and refugees benefiting from this intervention (including vulnerable groups of migrants mentioned above)?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
4. Are communities affected by migration or forced displacement – for example families back home, or host communities – benefiting from this intervention?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
5. Do the project indicators disaggregate information based on migration status to ensure that the migrants and refugees are being reached (as appropriate)?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
6. Have changing mobility dynamics impacted the implementation of project activities?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
7. Are there any emerging migration-related challenges and opportunities due to the COVID-19 mobility restrictions?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
8. Are there benefits of the intervention that have supported efforts to harness the development potential of migration in the socio-economic response and recovery?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
9. Have there been barriers to convince partners and stakeholders of the central role that migrants and refugees play in improving response and recovery efforts?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
10. Do any activities need to be adapted or mitigation measures put in place due to unforeseen challenges or recent developments?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
11. Are good practices and lessons learned from similar interventions in other countries, regions informing project implementation? And is such knowledge from this project also being captured?			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

# TOOL 8: PROJECT EVALUATION CHECKLIST

## Why Use this Tool?

Based on the [DAC Criteria for Evaluating Development Assistance](#) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee: relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability - the extent to which migration was effectively integrated can be evaluated. This type of evaluation can help take stock of lessons learned that can inform COVID-19 socio-economic response.

## When to Use this Tool?



Guiding Questions	Yes	No	Add comments here based on your context
<b>RELEVANCE</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there an evidence-based link with migration/mobility and COVID-19 in the country/region/community? Was this considered in the programme design?</li> <li>Did the intervention consider the needs or constraints of different types of migrants and refugees – including men, women, boys, girls and other relevant groups?</li> <li>Were migrants and refugees of different typologies, gender, and age groups sufficiently considered when assessing the project/programme?</li> <li>Were the project/programme results aligned with migration-related aspects of development policies and goals (bilateral or multilateral)? For example, SDG Targets 3.8, 10.7.2, and the objectives of the GCM or the GCR.</li> <li>Was migration considered as a structural factor which could impact the project results?</li> </ul>			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<b>COHERENCE</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Was this intervention coordinated with representatives from migration/displacement coordination groups, or relevant sector coordination groups?</li> <li>Were efforts taken to ensure that the intervention did not duplicate similar efforts relating to migration in the COVID-19 response?</li> <li>To what extent is the intervention coordinated with relevant sectors, for example immigration, education, health, agriculture, etc.?</li> <li>Was the intervention consistent with relevant international norms and standards as well as national development plans and other relevant policies and frameworks that the country adheres to (for example: the International Convention for Migrant Workers)?</li> </ul>			<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<b>EFFECTIVENESS</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Were the needs, problems and challenges of migrants and refugees of different gender and age groups effectively addressed?</li> </ul>			<hr/> <hr/>

## Guiding Questions

Yes No

Add comments here based on your context

- Did the results contribute to the achievement of objectives relating to migrants and refugees of different gender and age groups as stated in the project/programme purpose?
- Did the intervention contribute to a comprehensive and protection-sensitive migration management approach?
- How did migration – including forced displacement – influence the achievement of the results?

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## EFFICIENCY

- Was there an additional cost of including migrants/migration and refugees?
- How did the inclusion of migrants/migration and refugees in the project design impact the cost effectiveness of the intervention?
- Were the results equitably allocated and received for migrant and non-migrant populations?

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## IMPACT

- Did the intervention contribute to more equitable inclusion of migrants and refugees of different gender and age groups in the COVID-19 response?
- Did the intervention contribute to enhanced social cohesion relating to migrants and refugees of different gender and age groups?
- Did the intervention contribute to the enjoyment of universal health, and socio-economic rights and freedoms for migrants and refugees of different gender and age groups?
- Did the intervention contribute to a decrease in cases of exploitation/abuse of migrants and refugees of different gender and age groups?

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## SUSTAINABILITY

- Was the sustainability of the intervention enhanced by integrating migration in the project design?
- Has the intervention contributed to building capacity to integrate migration in health and social protection systems?
- Were migrant and non-migrant beneficiaries of different gender and age groups able to exercise ownership of the project/programme results?
- Did the intervention contribute to the pursuit of durable solutions for forcibly displaced persons and refugees?
- Will the intervention continue to be implemented in some form beyond the project end date?

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# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

## COVID-19 GUIDANCE AND TOOLS

### ILO

#### [Protecting migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic: Recommendations for Policy-makers and Constituents](#)

This brief provides information and identifies a number of key recommendations to assist governments and other stakeholders in designing COVID-19 policy responses that can help to ensure the protection of migrant workers, refugees and those displaced working in countries other than their own.

### ICC AND IOM

#### [Guidance on Protection for Migrant Workers during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

ICC and IOM have published a set of guidelines for employers highlighting the private sector's role in addressing the specific challenges of migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### IOM

#### [COVID-19 and Women Migrant Workers: Impacts and Implications](#)

This paper examines how the global health crisis both amplifies existing gender dynamics and creates new gender-biased outcomes that disproportionately impact women migrant workers.

#### [COVID-19: Guidance for employers and business to enhance migrant worker protection during the current health crisis](#)

IOM produced a guidance for employers and businesses to enhance migrant worker protection during the current health crisis. The guidance works as a living document which will be regularly updated in light of new developments as the crisis unfolds. The tool is designed to help employers more effectively respond to the impact of COVID-19 and to enhance protections for migrant workers in their operations and supply chains.

#### [COVID-19: Guidance for labour recruiters to enhance migrant worker protection during the current health crisis](#)

This document offers preliminary guidance for labour recruiters to enhance their response to COVID-19 and, in particular, to offer advice to establish effective protections for migrant workers linked to their operations. It is a "living document" and will be updated regularly for the duration of the pandemic.

#### [COVID-19 Response page on iDiaspora](#)

iDiaspora is in the process of creating this response page to facilitate the mobilization of diaspora human and financial resources to respond to COVID-19.

#### [IOM COVID Camp Management Operational Guidance](#)

The Guidance includes answers to frequently asked questions related to preparedness and response to COVID-19 in camp and camp-like settings.

#### [Mental Health and Psychosocial Support \(MHPSS\) Guidance and Toolkit](#)

The Guide support COVID-19 response as it relates to psychosocial and mental health affecting migrant communities. The Guide also issues general recommendations and proposes lines of action in preparedness and recovery response both at policy and programmatic levels.

#### [Resource Bank on COVID-19: Ensuring Migrant Inclusion and Social Cohesion Amid a Pandemic](#)

IOM's Joint Global Initiative on Diversity, Inclusion and Social Cohesion (DISC) created this Resource Bank to provide an easily accessible and issue-based repository of tools that zoom into the specific situations of and policy recommendations about migrants.

### OECD

#### [Managing International Migration Under COVID-19](#)

This brief assesses migration policy reactions by OECD countries in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### OHCHR

#### [COVID-19 Guidance: Human Rights at the Heart of Response](#)

This guidance provides key considerations to keep in mind when developing responses to COVID-19, across various sectors from health, housing, to water.

### RCCE WORKING GROUP

#### [COVID-19: How to include marginalized and vulnerable people in risk communication and community engagement](#)

This document outlines populations at disproportionate risk in public health emergencies, key implications for risk communication and community engagement, as well as proposed actions.

### UNDP

#### [The Economic Impacts of COVID-19 and Gender Inequality: Recommendations for policymaking](#)

The guidelines in this Technical Note aim to ensure that COVID-19 response and recovery are gender responsive.

## UNHCR

[Practical Recommendations and Good Practice to Address Protection Concerns in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

The document includes UNHCR recommendations to assist States in adapting systems to the evolving situation and preventing the accumulation or reconstitution of registration and refugee status determination (RSD) backlog.

## UNICEF

[Quick Tips on COVID-19 and Migrant, Refugee and Internally Displaced Children \(Children on the Move\)](#)

The document provides a brief overview of the main risks that migrant and displaced children face due to the immediate and secondary impacts of COVID-19, along with some suggestions for next steps.

## UN NETWORK ON MIGRATION

[The Global Compact for Migration \(GCM\): Well Governed Migration as an Essential Element of Effective COVID-19 Response](#)

The document outlines the applicability of the GCM in preventing and responding to COVID-19, highlighting useful practices to draw from.

## WHO, IFRC, UNICEF

[Guide for to preventing and addressing social stigma associated with COVID-19](#)

This guide is intended to support governments, media and local organizations prevent and address social stigma associated with the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

[Interim guidance for COVID-19 prevention and control in schools](#)

The purpose of this document is to provide clear and actionable guidance for safe operations through the prevention, early detection and control of COVID-19 in schools and other educational facilities.

## WORLD BANK

[COVID-19 Crisis Through a Migration Lens](#)

This Brief provides a prognosis of how COVID-19 might affect global trends in international economic migration and remittances in 2020 and 2021.



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EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA,  
THE EUROPEAN UNION AND NATO