



Migration for the  
Benefit of All

## PRESENCE IN NEPAL

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) - a related organization of the United Nations - is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration. It works to meet the growing operational challenges of migration, advances the understanding of migration issues, encourages social and economic development through migration and works to uphold the well-being and human rights of migrants.

Upon signing the Cooperation Agreement with the Government of Nepal in 2007, IOM started its operations in the country by facilitating the resettlement of Bhutanese refugees to receiving countries. Since then, IOM has expanded significantly both in terms of programme areas and target populations and has contributed to the government of Nepal's efforts to manage migration more effectively through a wide range of projects aligned to the IOM's [Migration Governance Framework \(MiGOF\)](#), the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), the [Global Compact for Migration \(GCM\)](#) and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

IOM's focus areas include migrant protection, migration and development, labour migration, disaster preparedness and response, migration health, environment and climate change-induced migration.

	PERSONNEL 135		PROJECTS 30
	OFFICES 2		DONORS 15



# AREAS OF WORK IN NEPAL

## Migration and Health

IOM's Migration Health Department contributes to global migration health priorities as outlined in the World Health Assembly Resolutions on the health of migrants and refugees through the provision of comprehensive health services and promotion of safe, dignified and healthy migration.

In Nepal, IOM, through its comprehensive, preventive and curative health programmes, supports the Government in its efforts towards addressing migration health issues in the country. IOM has been supporting the government in conducting researches to encourage data-driven policies and plans that promote health of migrants, capacity building, support in migrant-sensitive preparedness and response against COVID-19 as well as others, advocacy and awareness raising among migrants and their communities for their health rights, support the government's TB-free Nepal campaign.



## Migration and Sustainable Development

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes that migration is a [powerful driver of sustainable development](#), for migrants and their communities. It brings significant benefits in the form of skills, strengthening the labour force, investment and cultural diversity, and contributes to improving the lives of communities in their countries of origin through the transfer of skills and financial resources.

In Nepal, where in recent years, remittance contributes on average of above 25% of the country's GDP, IOM implements projects addressing the development benefits and reduce the negative effects of migration for host and home communities, migrants and members of their families.



## Labour Migration

IOM strives to protect migrant workers and to optimize the benefits of labour migration for both the countries of origin and destination as well as for the migrants themselves.

In Nepal, foreign employment has been a common livelihood strategy for Nepalese households over the last 30 years. IOM works to support the government bringing together private sector, CSOs and academia to establish labour migration mechanisms that addresses migrants' needs. IOM has been working to promote ethical recruitment practices through its flagship initiative [International Recruitment Integrity System \(IRIS\)](#) which is referred in the GCM Objective 6.



## Migrant Protection and Assistance

Through its Migrant Protection and Assistance Department (MPA), IOM works to realize IOM's commitment to address the needs, as well as promote and uphold the rights of migrants. Migration has provided immense livelihood opportunities for Nepalese people. However, migrants, particularly, those from lower socio-economic background with low education are vulnerable to malpractices in recruitment and employment. IOM in Nepal works with the government and CSOs to contribute to promoting and upholding the rights and of migrants and their communities, including setting standards and advocacy and to manage migration in line with international legal and other internationally agreed standards and effective practices.



## Making Migration Work for All



# AREAS OF WORK IN NEPAL

## Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience

IOM supports Member States to integrate mobility perspectives in strategies to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks and build resilient communities, in line with the priorities of the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction](#).

Nepal is among the 20 most disasters-prone countries in the world. The 2017 monsoon in the country resulted in floods destroying over 190,000 houses. The 2015 earthquake displaced 2.8 million people in the country. IOM works to support all three-tiers of the government through capacity building, developing plans and policies as well as awareness raising in preparedness of relevant government agencies, response organizations and local communities to anticipate and effectively respond to multi-hazard risks and impacts.



## Emergency Response

As the global lead for Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster for disasters, IOM has been responding to emergencies and post-crisis situations.

In Nepal, IOM has been working together with the Government agencies, Security Forces and non-governmental agencies in enhancing their capacity to better address the needs of people displaced as a result of disasters, in line with international standards and best practices.



## Migration, Environment and Climate Change

The adverse impacts of climate change and environmental degradation on livelihoods, food security and water availability are likely to exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and increase overall levels of migration in the coming decades in Nepal. To support the Government's efforts to mitigate such vulnerabilities, IOM works to address the need to integrate migration within the broader climate change and environmental framework.



## Resettlement and Movement Management

The Resettlement and Movement Management Department (RMM) is responsible for implementing various types of resettlement activities and support to all IOM movement operations to ensure a range of humanitarian solutions and effective migration.

In Nepal, since 2007, IOM has supported the resettlement of over 114,000 refugees to more than 8 countries (Australia, Canada, Denmark, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom, and USA). The refugees - mostly Bhutane - are supported with a range of comprehensive resettlement services including case processing, health assessments, medical screening, pre-departure orientation and transportation.



## Making Migration Work for All

The Government of Nepal is a Champion Country for the implementation of the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration \(GCM\)](#), agreeing to actively generate key insights, lessons learned and positive practices for the benefit of other Member States. It is committed to ensuring the country's migration policies are consistent with its international obligations while enhancing development objectives, supported by a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach.

IOM Nepal has been supporting the Government in developing the GCM implementation strategy for Nepal organizing a series of consultations with experts, policy makers as well as based on the government's plans and priorities.



Young Nepalese students participated in discussion on migration and sustainable development at an event organized to mark the SDGs Week 2021 in Kathmandu. © IOM Nepal



Participants and trainers of the National Master Trainer of Trainers for Disaster Risk Management Localization Training organized in 2021 in Kathmandu. The training is cascaded to elected representatives and officials of all seven provincial and 753 local governments. © IOM Nepal

## IOM Researches and Studies

Data is key to inform migration governance, improve programming and promote a better public understanding of migration. Enhanced analysis and communication of data are needed to promote a balanced debate on migration issues.

With the aim to strengthen data in the country's migration governance and to promote evidence-based policies by compiling, sharing and analysing data, IOM Nepal has conducted numerous researches and studies covering various aspects of migration. Our reports, researches and studies are available here: <https://nepal.iom.int/publications>



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