



The International Organization for Migration (IOM), through its Migration Health Division, contributes to global migration health priorities as outlined in the World Health Assembly Resolutions 61.17 and 70.15 on the health of migrants and refugees through the provision of comprehensive health services and promotion of safe, dignified, and healthy migration.

### **Ongoing Activities:**

#### **Migration Health Assessment Center (MHAC):**

Through its well-established migration management services across the world, IOM provides an evaluation of the physical and mental health status of migrants prior to their departure and/or upon arrival, as per requirement of receiving countries, with the notion that health, as a basic human right, is a fundamental precondition for migrants to be productive and contribute to the social and economic development of their communities of origin and destination.

In Nepal, following the Cooperation Agreement with the Government of Nepal signed in 2007, IOM has been conducting health assessment of outbound refugees as well as Nepali migrants through its Migration Health Assessment Centers (MHACs) located in Kathmandu and in Damak. The migrant health assessment services are part of IOM's comprehensive support to the Government in its efforts towards addressing migration health issues. Till date, IOM has screened more than 130,000 Bhutanese refugees including sputum examination and TB treatment during resettlement process.

## **INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM) IN NEPAL**

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## **TB REACH Project- Wave 7:**

With funding from Stop TB partnership, IOM has initiated TB REACH project wave 7 from December 2019. The main thematic area in this wave includes innovations in TB screening such as introduction of Artificial Intelligence for CXR, women empowerment in TB care and prevention, social media mobilization related to TB related videos and awareness and community-based research to identify the gaps, challenges and issues related to TB service provision and the local stakeholder's engagement in TB care and provision.

## **Migration Health Management Information System (MHMIS): Strengthening Capacity on Data Driven Policy and Planning in Nepal**

This IOM Development Fund (IDF)-funded project aims to develop Migration Health Management Information System as envisioned in the Government of Nepal's five-years-long 15th Development Plan for Health and Nutrition 2019-2023, and National Health Policy 2019. This initiative will be implemented for the duration of two years in close coordination with the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) as well as other relevant Ministries.

Total Project Duration: 3 years (2019-2022).

## **COVID-19 response activities:**

### **Strengthening the capacity of government of Nepal for migrant sensitive preparedness and response towards COVID-19 project:**

With the funding from the Government of Japan, IOM Nepal supported the government of Nepal, Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) in prevention, mitigation and response efforts to control the transmission and mitigate the negative impact of the society and reduce huge strain on the health care system due to COVID-19 from 13 March 2020- 31 January 2021. IOM worked on four pillars; Pillar 1: Coordination and Partnership, Pillar 2: Risk Communication and Community Engagement, Pillar 3: Surveillance and Pillar 4: Point of entry.

### **Orientation to frontline health workers and border officials deployed at Ground crossing points (GCPs) of Nepal:**

In coordination with Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCD), Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) IOM conducted two days orientation at 10 designated GCPs of Nepal. The orientation was conducted from June 2021 to August 2021 and a total of 497 participants (Male: 376 and Female: 121) attended the training. The participants were from health sectors including the staffs from health desks and municipalities, security personnel deployed at the GCPs, NGOs working at GCPs, staff from animal and plant quarantine, NRCS and Maiti Nepal.

### **UN COVID-19 Clinic:**

IOM Nepal and UNCT has signed the local MoU for provision of COVID-19 Testing for clinical purpose to UN personnel and their eligible dependents on 2 September 2020. Initially at the start of the program, only 40,529 cases were reported in the country with 239 deaths and hence, only the COVID-19 testing was included. The devastating second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic led to IOM, Nepal to extend our service through UN clinic and provided the services like Laboratory services, Clinical Services, Telehealth services, Medical Movement Support, Setup of Isolation unit (5 -6 bed capacity in Kathmandu and Nepalgunj), COVID-19 vaccination drive and Donation of extended care package to Nepalgunj Medical College, Lumbini province

### **Advancing the global health security agenda through strengthening capacities for rapid response to humanitarian and public health (July 2021- March 2022):**

IOM Nepal with funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) calls on governments to count and include all migrants present in their territories regardless of migrant status- at all stages of public health responses, including national COVID-19 vaccination program. National government, authorities and international community should voice and act towards equitable inclusion of migrants and vulnerable population in National COVID-19 vaccination efforts. A two-day vaccination campaign conducted at four majors Exist points in Kathmandu valley targeting internal and international migrants including the informal sector workers. Followed by regular vaccine campaign at 4 key exist points of Kathmandu Valley targeting, migrants as well as the general population. A total of 74,156 beneficiaries (Female: 33588 and Male:40568) received vaccine against COVID-19 from four different entry/exit points of Kathmandu valley, whereas 3604 beneficiaries (Female: 1649 and Male:1955) from Kakarvitta point of entry received COVID-19 vaccine.

For full reports, please visit: <https://nepal.iom.int/publications>

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