

LIBYA

1.8 million migrant workers from more than 120 countries were trapped in Libya during the 2011 crisis. Many could not access humanitarian aid, were stranded at the borders between Libya and neighbouring countries, and some suffered violence at the hands of the warring factions. 800,000 migrants returned or were evacuated to their home countries. Returnees struggled to re-start their lives back home, as they had lost their job and income that had often supported entire families.



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KEY IOM ACTIONS: transport assistance for affected populations, emergency consular assistance, counter-trafficking and protection of vulnerable migrants, reintegration assistance, health support, psychosocial support, migration policy and legislation support.

PAKISTAN

Pakistan experiences floods on an annual basis: communities are often still recovering from the previous flood when the next one hits. Floods result in large-scale internal displacement. This displacement comes on top of existing seasonal migration trends – understanding the interaction between flood displacement and seasonal migration can help in identifying durable solutions.



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KEY IOM ACTIONS: camp management and displacement tracking, shelter and non-food items, health support, psychosocial support, humanitarian communications.

HAITI

The 2010 earthquake displaced 1.5 million Haitians within the country. Most settled in one of the 1,500 spontaneous sites across Port-au-Prince and other affected areas. The earthquake also had other impacts on migration patterns: Haitians crossed into the neighbouring Dominican Republic to seek humanitarian support and receive medical treatment. In addition, rural-urban migration trends reversed, and there were signs that child traffickers took advantage of the chaotic situation.



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KEY IOM ACTIONS: camp management and displacement tracking, shelter and non-food items, health support, psychosocial support, humanitarian communications, disaster risk reduction and resilience building, community stabilization and transition.

HORN OF AFRICA

Instability, protracted conflict, famine and drought have spurred complex patterns of mixed migration in the Horn of Africa and across the Gulf of Aden. Thousands of irregular migrants from the Horn of Africa are stranded in Yemen. At the border between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, they get caught in areas already facing internal political challenges and violence, resulting in internal displacement. Migrants also suffer violence at the hands of smugglers, hunger and exposure to the elements.



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KEY IOM ACTIONS: counter-trafficking and protection of vulnerable migrants, health support, psychosocial support, transport assistance for affected populations, reintegration assistance.



IOM's MIGRATION CRISIS OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

1 What is a MIGRATION CRISIS? **"Migration crisis"** is short for **"crisis with migration dimensions"**.
A migration crisis...

- ... can generate internal or cross-border population movements
- ... is shaped by migration patterns that existed prior to the crisis

The presence of a large migrant population in a country before a crisis can affect migration patterns during a crisis: for example, migrants sometimes want to leave their destination country during the crisis and return to their home countries instead.

- ... can change migration patterns in the aftermath of the crisis

Out-migration can increase or decrease after crises, as people may be keen to leave but not all have the resources to do so. On the other hand, diaspora groups may be willing to return to their origin country to support the recovery process.

- ... can increase the vulnerability of affected populations

In some cases, being on the move makes it harder for populations to seek humanitarian assistance. In other cases, people can be more vulnerable if they cannot move away from the affected area where they might be in danger. A crisis can also increase the likelihood of exploitation, human trafficking or high-risk forms of migration.

2 What is a migration crisis approach? A migration crisis approach means looking at crises through a migration lens.

By looking at a crisis through a migration lens, we can draw attention to aspects of a crisis that have sometimes remained invisible: for example the situation of international migrants caught in crisis in their destination countries, the needs of displaced populations in urban areas, the heightened risk of human trafficking among populations affected by a crisis, or the emerging issue of environmental migration.

3 What does a migration crisis approach add? A deeper analysis of crises
It helps us understand complex mobility patterns related to crises.

A more effective operational response
It helps to organize and focus IOM's activities for crisis preparedness, emergency response, and transition and recovery.

4 How does IOM use the migration crisis approach? To respond better to migration crises, IOM created the Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF).

In November 2012, IOM's 149 Member States approved the MCOF by consensus through a resolution of the IOM Council. The MCOF combines IOM **humanitarian activities and migration management services**. It is IOM's way to address migration dimensions of modern-day crises.

Ultimately, the Migration Crisis Operational Framework will help crisis-affected populations to better access their fundamental rights to protection and assistance.

FUNDAMENTALS OF THE IOM MIGRATION CRISIS OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

■ The MCOF combines IOM **humanitarian activities and migration management services**. Migration management activities are not traditionally part of humanitarian responses, but can help tackle migration aspects of a crisis more effectively.

■ The Framework is based on **international humanitarian and human rights law, and humanitarian principles**. In line with these obligations, States are responsible for protecting and assisting crisis-affected persons on their territory. Through the MCOF, IOM supports States to fulfil this responsibility, upon their request and with their consent.

■ The MCOF complements **existing international systems**: specifically, it is designed to fit in with the Cluster Approach of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and the international refugee protection regime. It also identifies opportunities and challenges related to migration in preparedness and resilience-building, peace-building, security sector reform, and in the transition from post-crisis recovery to longer-term development.

EXISTING INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS

SYSTEMS

- Cluster System (OCHA)
- Refugee Regime (UNHCR)
- Development Actors (UNDP)
- Security and Peacebuilding Actors

CLUSTERS

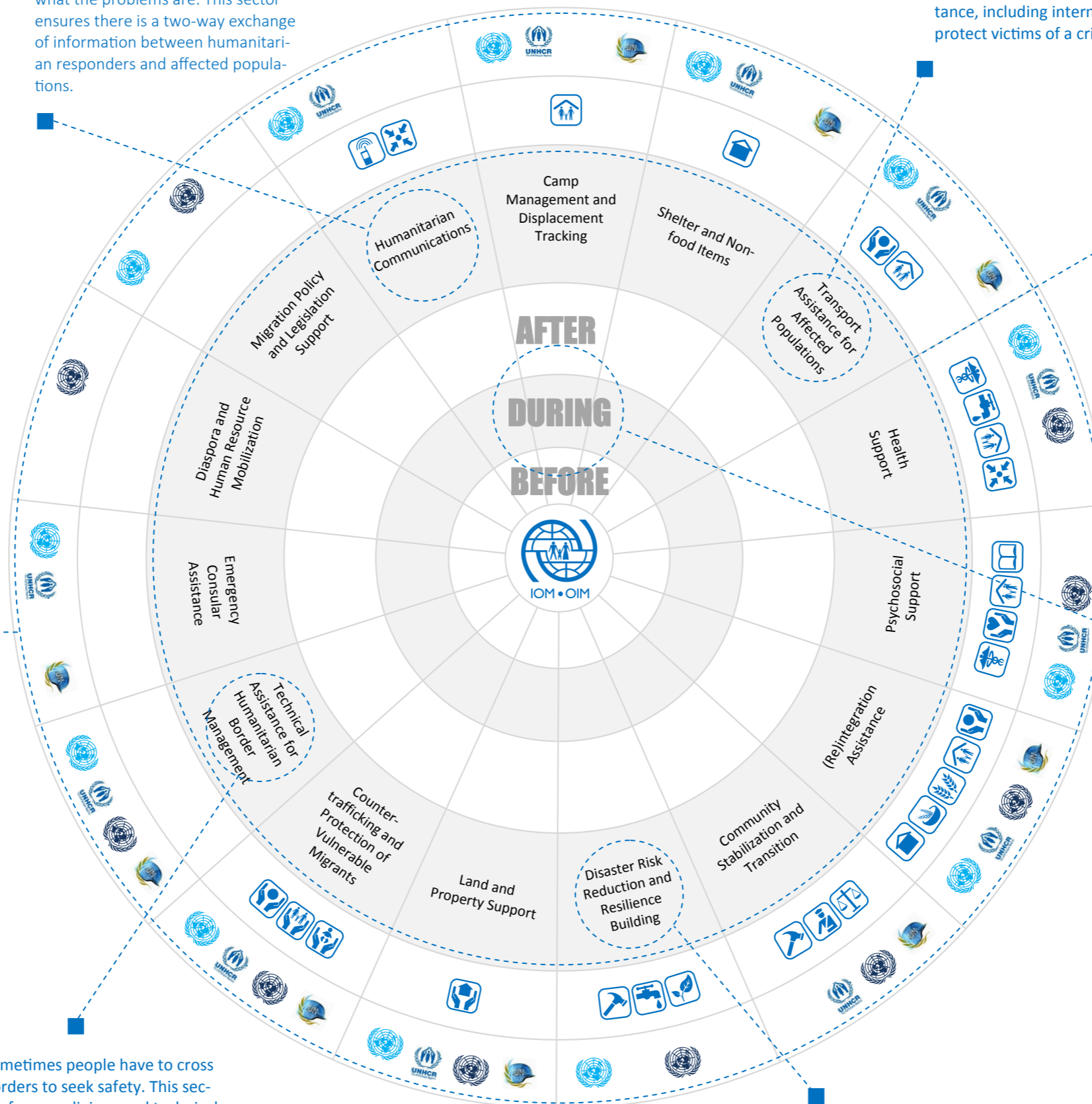
- Camp Coordination & Camp Management
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Early Recovery
- Education
- Protection
- Logistics
- Emergency Telecommunications
- Health
- Food Security
- Shelter

OTHER CLUSTERS/SECTORS

- Housing, Land and Property Rights
- Gender-based Violence
- Coordination
- Rule of Law and Justice
- Mental Health & Psychosocial Support
- Safety and Security
- Environment
- Child Protection
- Agriculture

People on the move often know best what the problems are. This sector ensures there is a two-way exchange of information between humanitarian responders and affected populations.

Sometimes the best way to be safe is to move out of harm's way. This sector focusses on transport assistance, including international evacuations, as a way to protect victims of a crisis.



SECTORS OF ASSISTANCE

The 15 sectors of assistance are sets of existing IOM activities in which IOM has a mandate to act and long years of experience. By way of example, see short descriptions of a few sectors.

Every crisis is different. Not all sectors of assistance will apply in all situations. The MCOF allows IOM to better assess and prioritize which activities are most useful and needed in a concrete situation.

PHASES

The MCOF focusses not only on the emergency response phase, but also pre-crisis preparedness and post-crisis recovery.

Understanding pre-crisis mobility patterns will help in addressing the migration dimension of a crisis – for example, if people have the habit of crossing a nearby border or going to the nearest city for work, these migration routes may also be used during crisis. Likewise, understanding post-crisis mobility patterns is also relevant for recovery and reconstruction – for example, how to manage large-scale return of displaced persons to areas recovering from a crisis.

Sometimes people have to cross borders to seek safety. This sector focus on liaison and technical assistance to ensure that border management authorities respond appropriately during a crisis, and that different groups have access to the right protection mechanisms.

The aim of the MCOF is to reduce forced migration as much as possible. This sector works to prevent displacement but also to prepare communities for disaster and to help them cope with shocks.

See next page for examples of IOM's response to crises!

