

# IOM MALAWI ANNUAL REPORT

2022



IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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Trafficking in Persons (TIP) awareness-raising campaign in Dedza, Central

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## ACRONYMS

CCCM	Camp Management and Camp Coordination
DoDMA	Department of Disaster Management Affairs
EMM	Essentions on Migration Management
GCM	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
GoM	Government of Malawi
ICMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IMRF	International Migration Review Forum
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MECC	Migration, Environment and Climate Change
MGI	Migration Governance Indicators
MIDSA	Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa
MoH	Ministry of Health
NFIs	Non-Food Items
PSEA	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
PoE	Points of Entry
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SDG- AF	Sustainable Development Goals- Accelerator Fund
SoM	Smuggling of Migrants
TiP	Trafficking in Persons
UN	United Nations
UN CERF	United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund
USRAP	United States Refugee Admissions Program



Beneficiary list verification for Non-Food Items (NFIs) support with local community leaders during IOM's response to floods caused by Cyclone Gombe and Tropical Storm Ana in early 2022

## FOREWORD



The year 2022 continued to underline the central role of migration in Malawi's development. As a country of origin, transit, and destination, only a combined, holistic approach can ensure adequate responses to the various dynamics of migration, ranging from meeting the needs of unaccompanied and separated migrant children, small-scale cross-border traders, survivors of trafficking, migrants in the diaspora or internally displaced persons (IDPs).

In this light, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) applauds the Government of Malawi (GoM) – a champion country under the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) – for recognizing the positive contribution of migration to inclusive growth and sustainable development and their proactive stance to enhance and promote orderly and humane migration management in Malawi and beyond. This was seen while hosting the 21<sup>st</sup> Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) in November 2022, when Member States successfully adopted 49 recommendations to enhance inter-state cooperation to improve migration governance.

Through a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach, strong partnerships, enhancing coordination and holistic participation with our government and development counterparts have been key to IOM's successful delivery in 2022.

Regarding migrant protection, IOM is pleased that the GoM reaffirmed its commitment towards establishing regulate safe and orderly pathways for labor mobility and trade, to counter trafficking in persons (TiP) and smuggling of migrants (SOM). As a related agency of the United Nations (UN), IOM works relentlessly to harness the benefits of migration such as productive labor

migration for filling gaps in the labor market, alleviation of poverty, safe and fast cross-border management, migrant remittances and diaspora investments, wealth and skills transfer and cultural diversity, while countering all forms of insecurity and discrimination.

Our work in early 2022 was shaped by the severe displacement following widespread floods caused by cyclone Gombe and tropical storm Ana. Thanks to our strong partnerships with the GoM Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), and in cooperation with partners, IOM was actively involved in immediate relief activities. IOM's capacity-building interventions on national and local levels led to enhanced preparedness and resilience of communities to better withstand hazards' impacts in the coming years.

IOM further continues to be an active partner to the UN and GoM in the response to enhance health outcomes, such as HIV/AIDs prevention and treatment or the nationwide Cholera outbreak, one of the deadliest in Malawi's history. Addressing the mobility dimension in health emergencies is crucial. We continue to advocate including formal and informal border crossings and main migration routes, as well as targeting border communities and their economic interlinkages in host and sending countries as key determinants to successful disease control, surveillance, and prevention.

On behalf of IOM Malawi, I want to thank the GoM, our donors and development partners for their trust and support in working with IOM towards achieving safe, orderly and humane migration for everyone.

I now invite you to the highlights of our achievements in 2022.

**Nomagugu Ncube**

Chief of Mission - IOM Malawi

## About IOM

Established in 1951, IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental partners. IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society.

### IOM AT A GLANCE



**175**  
Member States



**1951**  
Year established

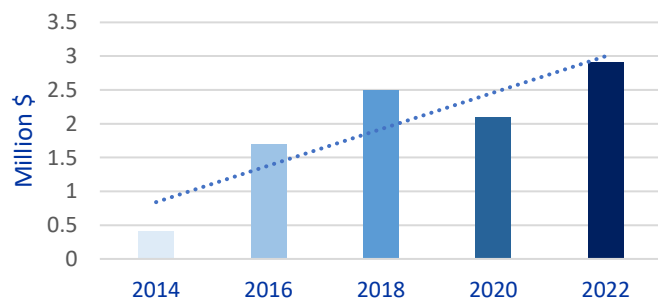


**2016**  
Joined the United Nations



Offices located in  
**100+** countries

IOM Malawi's Yearly Budget Growth



## IOM MALAWI

The mission in Malawi was established in 2014 following the admission of Malawi as an IOM Member State at the IOM Member States Council in November 2013. The mission has since grown and now includes 29 staff members (25 nationals and 4 internationals). 48% of staff are female.



**11** Projects (including projects under movement and operation)



**\$2,875,619** total allocated budget for 2022 (over 7 times the initial budget when the mission started in 2014)



In February 2018 IOM signed the **Cooperation Agreement** with the GoM, thereby formalizing the mission's presence in country as a resident UN Agency



In May 2021, through the support of the mission, Malawi became a **GCM Champion Country**

### The mission now has seven specialist units:



Migration and Development



Migrant Protection



Migrant Health Promotion



Migration Health Assessments & Travel Health Assistance / Resettlement & Movement



Humanitarian, Development & Peace



Resource Management & Admin



Program Support

-----Crosscutting-----

## Overview of Migration Data in Malawi

Malawi is a country of origin, transit and destination for migrants.

 **19.1 million** Total Population (2020)

**2.6%** Annual Growth Rate (2021)

**18%** Urban Population (2021)



**0.512** HDI Rating 2022 (Ranked 169)

**+ 56,000** Refugees and Asylum Seekers



**1%** Immigrants of total population (2020)

**51.1%** Women as a percentage of Immigrants

**-1.775** Net Annual Migration Rate (2021)



**12.3 billion** USD GDP (2021)

**297.1 USD** Remittances (est. 2021)

**2.1 %** Remittances of GDP

Sources: IOM internal (2023), World Bank (2022), CIA World Factbook (2022), UNHCR (2022) National Statistical Office Malawi (2022), UNDP HDI (2022)



Ethiopian returnees about to board flight home (Kamuzu Int. Airport), August 2022

### A glimpse into Malawi's commitment to international human rights law in the context of migration






On 23 September 2022, Malawi ratified **the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families** (ICMW), completing its commitment to all 9 core international human rights treaties




Malawi's landmark ratification of the ICMW indicates state recognition of and responsibility towards protecting the rights of migrants and their families, invoking a principle of equal treatment between migrant workers and nationals

Amongst others, Malawi has also ratified the following key protocols:

-  Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children
-  Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air
-  Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition

Nationally, Malawi has aligned its national laws to international commitments through, for example:

-  ✓ Trafficking in Persons Act (2015)
- ✓ National Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons (2017-2022)
- ✓ Ongoing amendment of the Immigration Act (1964) and draft migration policies

This, along with its status as a GCM champion country, indicates strong recognition of the importance of international human rights within the migration context.

## 2022 Key Achievements



**1** Malawi's Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) Profile published in February 2022



**49** key recommendations for better migration management in Southern Africa were adopted at the 21st Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa 2022 (MIDSA), hosted by GoM



**915** refugees resettled, including 7 for family reunification purposes



**1,129** beneficiaries reached with information on irregular migration, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons through community awareness campaigns



**12,879** people reached with comprehensive sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) - HIV information



**2,291** Young vulnerable people, migrants and female sex workers have accessed tailored health services, incl. GBV services



**22,325** Internally Displaced People (IDP) returnees assisted with  **19,825**  **2,500**



**10** district departments supported with tablets for Post-Disaster Needs Assessments



**928** government officials in total received training for sensitization and skill enhancement in the management of TiP and SoM, as well as Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)



**12** Flow Monitoring Reports publishing, analyzing change in dynamics of informal border crossings at points of entry (PoE) in Karonga (2 PoE), Mchinji (2 PoE), Mwanza (2 PoE), Mulanje (2 PoE) and Mangochi (7 PoE) districts



**1,755** health assessments conducted for 915 refugees (resettlement, including 7 for family reunification) and 840 migrant workers



**847** people screened for Tuberculosis (TB) under the UK TB International Health Program



## Migration Dialogue in Southern Africa 2022 conference, held in Lilongwe in November 2022





## Migration Governance

IOM supports the GoM in the development, implementation and revision of migration-related policies and legislation promoting safe, orderly and regular migration, and the drafting of national reports relating to GCM objectives.

### Key Achievements



**2** migration policies, the National Migration Policy and National Labor Migration Policy have been drafted



**1** piece of legislation, the 1964 Immigration Act, is currently under amendment to align with GCM Objectives and other international frameworks



**49** key recommendations were adopted by 16 SADC countries at the 21<sup>st</sup> Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa 2022 (MIDSA), hosted by GoM



**4** countries (Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia) participated in two cross-border forum meetings, resulting in increased intergovernmental cooperation in migration management



**45** Members of Parliament engaged in sensitizations on migration governance resulting in an increased understanding of Malawi's current migration context and need for recognition of migrant rights



**1** Malawi's Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) Profile was published in February 2022

- The draft of the **National Migration Policy** and **National Labor Migration Policy**, providing policy guidance through a GCM lens, will be tabled before parliament early 2023.
- Malawi's **1964 Immigration Act** is under amendment will be presented to parliament in 2023.
- The GoM, with IOM support, successfully hosted the **21<sup>st</sup> MIDSA**, providing an opportunity for all **16 SADC countries** to collaborate on a joint approach to migration management. This 3-day intergovernmental dialogue included discussions on the following: Resilience to climate change & disaster related to human mobility; Migration and health; Labor migration; Diaspora engagement and remittances; Governance for border management and migrant protection; Collection, processing, harmonization and accessibility of international migration data for development.
- An introductory **Essentials of Migration Management (EMM 2.0)** parliament workshop successfully portrayed current complexities around irregular migration, TIP, SoM and international migration law (IML).
- The GoM successfully participated in the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) in New York in May 2022 as a champion country for migration.



Regional Review Meeting on the Progress of Implementation of the GCM in Southern Africa, April 2022



## Migrant Protection & Human Mobility

IOM supports the GoM and key stakeholders in the management of labor migration, migrant protection and regular, safe, and orderly migration flows. Along with resettlement support, IOM ensures sensitization towards, and tools to manage cases of Trafficking in Persons (TiP), Smuggling of Migrants (SoM), and labor exploitation of migrants.

### Key Achievements



**915 refugees resettled**, including 7 for family reunification purposes



**502** Ethiopian (male) youths, stranded in Malawi as irregular migrants, were **returned** to their country of origin with IOM's support



**16** migrants were assisted with **voluntary return** (and reintegration) to Malawi, including 13 male victims of trafficking from South Africa, 1 stranded female migrant from Ghana, 1 stranded male migrant from Sudan and 1 female stranded migrant from South Africa (medical case)



**1,129** beneficiaries reached on trafficking risks **awareness** through a music-based outreach campaign led by the popular local all-female group Daughter's Band



**30** media practitioners were equipped with enhanced **knowledge** on how to report and raise public awareness on TiP and SoM



**24** community leaders were **sensitized** on common human trafficking and migrant smuggling practices used by perpetrators in remote villages to raise awareness within their districts



**4** workshops reached **140** government officials with **management tools** for TiP, SoM, labor exploitation and vulnerability of labor migrants.



**915** (438 female; 477 male; and 516 children < 18 years) refugees assisted for resettlement to third countries with resettlement breakdown as follows:



**1015** refugee medical health assessments conducted for resettlement



**823** refugees received cultural orientation for resettlement



Daughters' Band TIP Awareness Raising Event in Dedza, Central Region, December 2022



## Emergency Preparedness, Response and Stabilization (EPRS)

IOM and the GoM, specifically the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) works towards enhancing the resilience of communities to better withstand, prepare, and respond to the impacts of natural hazards and human-made disasters. After floods caused by tropical storm Ana and cyclone Gombe in January/February 2022, which displaced about 153,000 people, IOM focused on Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CCCM) and Non-Food Items (NFI) support. IOM's **resilience, preparedness and peacebuilding programming** strengthened capacities at local governments and community levels, provided gender-responsive life-saving support to vulnerable people, and promoted durable displacement solutions post displacement.

### Key Achievements



**1** UN Joint Needs Assessments in Chikwawa and Nsanje districts districts, following widespread floods



**982** (448 f; 534m) district government, Village Civil Protection Committee and other community officials trained on CCCM, including 628 (268f; 414m) on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and 28 (11f, 17m) government officials on displacement tracking, ensuring effective response and protection to flood emergencies in the future



**10** district departments supported with tablets for Post-Disaster Needs Assessments and displacement tracking



**12** Flow Monitoring Reports publishing, analyzing change in dynamics of informal border crossings at points of entry (PoE) in Karonga, Mchinji, Mwanza, Mulanje and Mangochi districts

Under the Migration, Environment and Climate Change (MECC) project, IOM set up a technical working group as a platform for Migration and Environmental coordination with government and other stakeholders.



NFI distribution in Nsanje District in August 2022



**22,325** Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) returnees (13,850f; 8475m)

assisted with **NFI 19,825** **2,500** Unconditional Cash-Based Interventions

### Lessons Learnt from Gombe/Ana Response

- The Post-Distribution Monitoring suggested that most *cash was used for its planned intention*: to buy shelter materials (bricks, cement, roofing)
- As IDP sites got decommissioned, IOM reprogrammed CCCM budget to return packages, consisting of 2 tarpaulins, shelter tool kits, 2 blankets, 2 sleeping mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, 5 soap bars, as informed *by participatory needs assessments with IDPs, Camp Management and GoM*.
- IDP Relocation from schools and churches to designated safe sites and the promotion of returning to places of origin need to be conducted in a planned manner, observing diverse vulnerabilities and protection needs. **Recommendation: Inclusion of GoM officials into all Shelter/NFI/CCCM cluster activities to enhance knowledge & guide decision making**



## Migration Health

IOM supports the Ministry of Health (MoH) in strengthening mitigation of communicable diseases and enhancing access to and uptake of primary health services to the migrants and vulnerable communities in Malawi in border communities, hence supporting the GoM in realizing their commitments towards Universal Health Coverage and transboundary diseases control. IOM **provides migration health services to migrants and refugees** prior to their departure and ensures continuity of care for the refugees during the entire movement process from pre-departure, travel, during transit and arrival.

### Key Achievements – Health Promotion



**2,291** Young vulnerable people, migrants and female sex workers (all female) have accessed tailored health services, incl. GBV services



**12,879** people reached with comprehensive sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) - HIV information



**10** health facilities supported with capacity building on migrant-sensitive SRHR services and 13 outreach clinics in Mwanza, Neno and Mchinji districts



**1** Wellness center refurbished at Mwanza's Official Point of Entry, enhancing access to health care for migrants and communities



**1** Covid-19 Needs Assessment at border crossings conducted, resulting in supporting Muloza Border Post with Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for authorities and regular travelers.

### Migration Health Promotion

- Outreach campaigns were conducted by change agents targeting via school, door-to-door, radio and SMS campaigns, allowing tailored messaging to different target groups
- 13 outreach clinics have made services for health needs and referrals possible, with over 60 clients per clinic between April - December.
- Following the COVID-19 assessment, 5 mobile toilets, 2 dustbins, and handwashing facilities distributed in Muloza border have contributed towards the reinforcement of hygiene, infection prevention and control measures. stations, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for border authorities and regular travelers.

### Key Achievements – Health Assessments



**1,755** health assessments done for 915 refugees resettlement (including 7 for family reunification) and 840 migrant workers



**847** people screened for Tuberculosis (TB) under the UK TB program



IOM health workers providing vaccinations to beneficiaries.



## Internal Governance & Staff Wellbeing Initiatives



**8**  
Internal capacity trainings



**5**  
IOM Happiness Calendar promoted

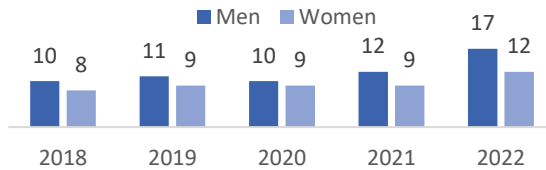


**3**  
Staff Welfare Events organized

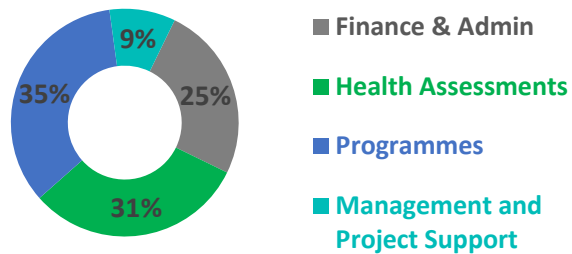
### Growth of IOM Staff

In 2022, IOM in Malawi staff number increased from 21 in 2021 to 28, including 4 internationals

#### Staff Growth



#### Staff per Unit



### Mental Health Walk in October 2022





**IOM is grateful to the Government of Malawi for taking up the leading role in championing migration governance in Malawi.**

**We further thank our donors and partners in supporting our important work.**



**Canada**



Embassy of Iceland  
Lilongwe



Government of the Netherlands



Ireland



Save the Children



United Nations  
**CERF** | Central  
Emergency  
Response  
Fund



**UNAIDS**



**IOM** | IOM  
UN MIGRATION | DEVELOPMENT  
FUND



**MiRAC**  
MIGRATION RESOURCE  
ALLOCATION COMMITTEE



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