

IOM Regional Director Visits Eswatini



Mr. Kwenin and his delegation with World Bank country representative Ms. Nonhlanhla Zindela

The International Organization for Migration's Regional Director for the Southern Africa Region, Mr. Charles Kwenin recently paid a visit to the Kingdom of Eswatini. Accompanying him on the trip were delegates from the Regional office in Pretoria.

During his visit Mr. Kwenin met with various UN organisation representatives, the EU ambassador and the US ambassador and several local community leaders to secure their support in tackling migration issues within the southern African region as well as nationally in Eswatini.

Mr. Kwenin and his delegation along with the IOM head of office for Eswatini, Mr. Jeremias Mendes held a meeting with the World Bank country representative Ms. Nonhlanhla Zindela to discuss the World Bank's commitment to supporting the Government of Eswatini in their Diaspora Engagement initiative, as well as their roles in fostering the achievement of the sustainable.

Mr. Kwenin and his delegation also met with Princess Lindiwe Dlamini, the Minister for Home Affairs, to reaffirm IOM's support to the Government of Eswatini towards improved immigration and border management in order to enhance migration governance within Eswatini.

SRHR-HIV KNB Phase II Kicks Off with Project Mini-Launch



IOM Regional Director for Southern Africa, Charles Kwenin making his opening remarks at the opening ceremony

The International Organisation of Migration (IOM) and Partners under banner of The Sexual Reproductive Health Rights-HIV Knows No Borders (SRHR-HIV KNB) seeks to respond to the SRHR and HIV challenges within the migration context of the four constituencies of Somtongo, Lomahasha, Lugongolweni and Mhlume.

Phase two of the SRHR-HIV KNB project will cover the period of 2021 to 2026 and seeks to contribute to improved Sexual and Reproductive health and HIV outcomes and quality of life among vulnerable people from ages 10 to 29 years old, with a focus on migrants and sex workers living in migration affected communities. This phase of the project will be implemented by IOM in partnership with Save the Children and in collaboration with the ministries of Health, National AIDS Councils, Gate keepers and local community-based organisations.

Following the successful project inceptions in the chiefdoms of Somtongo, Lomahasha, Lugongolweni and Mhlume, the project

team decided to conduct project awareness campaigns. The traditional leaders were keen to see the project being implemented, they explained that access to sexual and reproductive health services were limited in their communities, in addition the delivery of routine health services and information to young people had been further disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The project launch took place at Lomahasha Border Post, an event attended by IOM Regional Director for Southern Africa Mr.



A change agent addressing the beneficiaries of the SRHR-HIV KNB project

Charles Kwenin and other IOM delegates, also in attendance was the Former Minister of Education Dr. Phineas Magagula, Director of Health Services for Eswatini, Dr Vusi Magagula, Save the Children Executive Director for Eswatini Mr. Dumsani Mnisi, Eswatini National AIDS Program Manager Mr. Muhle Dlamini, AMICAALL Executive Director, Senator and former Minister of Health Ms. Sibongile Ndela-Simelane. The Director of Health noted that projects such as SRHR-HIV KNB will contribute to the UNAIDS strategy 95-95-95 of ending HIV and AIDS by 2025.

IOM Eswatini Launches Awareness Raising Campaign on Trafficking In Persons

The Kingdom of Eswatini as a country is a source, destination, and transit for women and children trafficked internally and transnationally for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, and forced labour in agriculture.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) through its Development Fund has pledged to assist the Government of Eswatini to implement a project that will contribute to the identification and prevention of trafficking of people as well as offering protection for all Victims of Trafficking (VoTs) in Eswatini.

To achieve this objective, IOM Eswatini will aim to strengthen protection to VoTs as well as potential VoTs in Eswatini through the following initiatives: consultations with the relevant ministries, police, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), civil society and service providers to update the existing guidelines for key duty-bearers on victim identification, referral and protection.

A conference was held to commemorate the launch of the campaign. In attendance was His excellency, the former Acting Prime Minister Mr. Themba Masuku, Eswatini United Nations Resident Co-ordinator Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh, USA Embassy representative Ms. Stephenie Sandoval, IOM Eswatini Head of Office Mr. Jeremias Mendes and various Members of the Task Force to Combat TIP and Lawmakers.



IOM Head of Office, Mr. Jeremias Mendes speaking on the TIP initiative



Former Acting Prime Minister of Eswatini Mr. Themba Masuku

IOM's Diaspora Engagement Initiative Visits Ghana



Day one of the trip saw delegates visit Ghana Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration and proceeded to the President's office-Jubilee House to discuss diaspora affairs.

Day 2 of the trip the delegates visited The University of Ghana Centre of Migration Studies, to be engaged on how the unit contributes towards diaspora engagement and proceeded to Ghana Ministry of Finance, Financial Sector Division to engage on remittances links with diaspora.

The International Organization for Migration's Diaspora Engagement Initiative is without a doubt one of the United Nations flagship projects geared to help accelerate Eswatini's development agenda. IOM through The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, supports The Government of Eswatini, to engage with the Emaswati diaspora for social and economic development of the country, through the IOM Development Fund (IDF).

The overall objective of this project is to facilitate, enable and encourage meaningful communication between the Kingdom of Eswatini and the Emas-

wati diaspora, with the aim of promoting diaspora engagement in the national development agenda. This will be achieved by promoting two key approaches:

- through building the capacity of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini to enhance their engagement with the diaspora
- through promoting regular communication between the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and the Emaswati diaspora to increase the diaspora community interest to participate actively in the social and economic development of the country.

As part of the Diaspora Project Implementation, IOM and The Government of Eswatini through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation embarked on a week long study tour to Ghana, a country well known to be one of the most successful in Africa in engaging its diaspora for the social and economic benefits of the country. The overall objective of this study tour is to enhance the understanding and exposure of the Eswatini Delegation to some of the good practices, experiences and lessons learnt from their Ghanaian counterparts in their engagement of the Ghanaian Diaspora. In all 15 Participants went on the trip namely IOM staff, members of the diaspora technical working group as well as members representing different Ministries and organisations.



Our partners are:



The Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini



Government of the Netherlands



Save the Children.



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