International Organization for Migration (IOM)

*Note: While it is not a part of the United Nations at the headquarters level, the International Organization for Migration operates as a member of the UN Country Team in its member states.*

**Vision**

Established in 1951, IOM is the world’s leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration. It works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. IOM currently includes 155 member states. A further 11 states hold observer status, as do numerous international and nongovernmental organizations.

The Islamic Republic of Iran joined IOM as an observer in 1995. Iran was accepted as a full member in the IOM Governors’ Council in 2001. Since 2004, IOM has changed its refugee-oriented approach and has adopted a guiding programme and policy-oriented approach with the purpose of assisting Iran on migration management issues and tackling the new challenges to which the country is exposed.

IOM’s current strategic approach focuses on:

1. Capacity enhancement for government officials with respect to ongoing migration issues.
2. Policy advocacy and identification and the development of effective policies for addressing those same challenges as well as to identify comprehensive approaches and measures to advance international cooperation.
3. Policy-oriented research to further scrutinize migration related issues and develop appropriate policies.
4. Regional cooperation in order to contribute to the economic and social development of states through research, dialogue, design and implementation of migration-related programmes aimed at maximizing migration’s benefits.

With over half a century of experience and many field locations on every continent, IOM does the following:

- Promotes good practice and the use of new technologies to facilitate legal migration and reduce irregular migration.
- Helps people to work and settle abroad, temporarily or permanently.
- Trains government officials in migration management.
- Supports international policy dialogue on migration among key stakeholders.
- Promotes awareness of international migration law and assists governments in the development of national migration legislation.
- Advocates the integration of migration in development planning and programs.
- Encourages links with diasporas, including through out-of country voting, knowledge and skill transfer programs, temporary and virtual returns, and remittance facilitation.
• Mounts mass information programs
• Implements and advises on medical and public health programs.
• Assists victims of trafficking.
• Carries out post–emergency relief, rehabilitation and claim programs, and conducts applied research.

Work in Iran

In order for the Islamic Republic of Iran to benefit from international experiences in the area of migration management, IOM emphasizes the promotion of quality management potential and the perpetuation of broad-based strategies. To this end, we undertake the following activities in Iran:

1. Technical cooperation with the government entities of Iran in the area of migration management.
2. Support voluntary return and reintegration.
3. Operate a facilitated movement service.
4. Support the return and reintegration of qualified, skilled and semi-skilled Afghan nationals (RRQSA).
5. Cultural orientation.