International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Identity Management and Biometrics

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IOM

IOM, Identity (ID) Management & Biometrics

- ID management basis: “MIGoF”, ICAO TRIP Strategy
- ID management: different modalities of IOM involvement: a) IOM-lead and run; b) IOM operational support to government-lead and run; c) IOM capacity building and technical support to government-run programs
- Data Protection
- Biometrics
- Partnerships (new ICAO-IOM MoU !)

Conclusions
International Organization for Migration (IOM)

- Since 1951; leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration
- 165 Member States, around 10’000 staff members
- Part of the United Nations (UN) System
- Budget: approx. 1.6 billion USD (2016) – mainly program/project funded
- Promotion of humane, orderly and safe migration - for the benefit of all
IOM`s work is focused on:

- Assisting in **meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management**;
- Advancing **understanding** of migration issues;
- Encouraging social and economic **development** through migration,
- Upholding the **human dignity and well-being** of migrants.

**Border Management and Identity Management:**

- The management of borders (air, land, sea), travel facilitation & security are of great importance for all international travelers, among them migrants including refugees. **The way we do border and identity management has a direct impact on migration and refugee movements management!**
Identity Management

• **IOM is currently assessing its involvement in the ID management and biometrics field. By early 2017, IOM’s Director General will decide on the further way forward.**

  *Identity management is crucial when attempting to facilitate the legitimate movement of people while maintaining secure borders!*

**Basis:**

• Good ID management aims to provide a fundamental status for individuals - creating a robust link between the registered identity and the individual.

• ID management involves policy, legislation, administration and technology, incl. biometrics – IOM provides support in all these areas.
“Migration Governance Framework” (MiGoF)

MiGoF lists the essential elements for facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people through planned and well-managed migration policies.

MiGoF incorporates 3 Principles and 3 Objectives of Migration (for more info on MiGoF see: http://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/about-iom/migof_brochure_a4_en.pdf)
Principle 1

“Adherence to international standards and the fulfilment of migrant's rights”

• This principle also refers also to the ICAO TRIP Strategy and contains an element related to:
  
  – Early **identification and support** for migrants or displaced persons who are vulnerable owing to:
    
    • Personal characteristics (e.g. age, gender, sexual orientation)
    • Circumstances (e.g. victim of trafficking or other violence, extreme poverty, refugee, separated from family, stranded)
    • Legal status (e.g. regular, undocumented, irregular, dependent)
Objective 3

“Migration should take place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner”

• This objective contains an element related to the effective identity management and responsible use of biometrics.

Pls. note:
- ID Management is also covered under the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as other relevant international global and regional instruments, all relevant for IOM.
- ID Management is also key to the ICAO TRIP Strategy. IOM is a member of ICAO TAG TRIP, ICBWG and NTWG.
Identity management for IOM-run and lead processes:

- Registration of internally displaced persons;
- Registration for camp coordination and management purposes;
- Registration for food/non-food items distribution purposes;
- Registration of assisted voluntary return and reintegration beneficiaries;
- Registration of victims of trafficking receiving IOM support;
- Other.
Identity management as part of IOM operational support to government-lead programs and processes:

- Registration of applicants regarding immigration health assessments;
- Registration of resettlement program beneficiaries;
- Registration of applicants for (humanitarian) visa support support services;
- Other.
IOM identity management capacity building (CB) and technical support to government-run and lead processes:

- Preparedness and CB for Humanitarian Border Management (HBM);
- CB and technical assistance for border management including border management information systems (BMIS) (IOM’s MIDAS);
- CB and technical assistance in the field of travel document verification;
- CB and technical assistance as to the issuance of passports, identity cards, “border cards”, etc.;
- Other.
IOM conducts biometric registration exercises at the UN House, South Sudan. IOM/McLaughlin 2016
Biometrics:

- Definition biometrics: **Automated recognition of individuals based on physical and behavioral characteristics**
- Biometrics are becoming an essential aspect of identity management
- Potential to increase the integrity of identity management processes!

“Biometric information improves the quality and accuracy of the data collected from individuals being registered, it makes verification exercises easy and reduces cheating” (IOM Field Official)
Key Points:

• Today already biometrics are **widely used** in different registration systems supported by IOM, internal and external;

• **Fingerprint** serves as the most-used biometric identifier;

• In the majority of applications, **10** fingerprints are enrolled;

• In 70% of the IOM applications, biometrics is used for **identity verification** (1:1)

• Data protection & privacy are crucially **important aspects** of the use of biometrics.
Biometric Information, Privacy and Data Security

• Biometrics = sensitive personal data;

• Important considerations: Who processes the biometric data?
  - For all IOM-run and lead processes, IOM’s comprehensive Data Protection Principals apply; collection only with the consent of the person (well informed about the purpose of data collection);
  - IOM operational support to governmental lead processes: National privacy laws apply, plus “do no harm” and “due diligence”;
  - IOM capacity building support: “Do no harm” and “due diligence”.
## IOM & Biometrics

### Biometric Applications by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Biometric Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region 1</td>
<td>Central &amp; West Africa</td>
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<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 2</td>
<td>Southern Africa</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 3</td>
<td>East Africa</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>South America</td>
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<td>Region 7</td>
<td>Asia &amp; the Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 8</td>
<td>European Economic Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 9</td>
<td>South-East Europe, Eastern Europe &amp; Central Asia</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL GLOBALLY**

|                 | 78 | 108 |

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IOM HEADQUARTERS – IMMIGRATION & BORDER MANAGEMENT DIVISION
Overview: IOM & Biometrics

IOM’s involvement in biometrics:

• Systems Development
• Installation Equipment
• Technical Support
• Training IT, Users, Policy Officers and Data Protection Officials
• Enrolment Guidance
• Project implementation
• Capturing of biometric features
• Facilitation of Data Transfer
• Other
Partnerships

Governments, UN sister agencies incl. ICAO, regional partners (Bali process, ECOWAS, EU), others;

**Important role of the private sector:**

- Procurement of technology and equipment for IOM; (finger print scanners, iris scanners, cameras, etc.); IOM procurement advice and support for Governments (ABC gates, travel documents, etc.)
- Private Sector as a sponsor (e.g. training equipment)
- Public Private Partnerships (PPP): becoming more important (e.g. support to set up national PKD, etc.)

*The existing know-how and the innovative potential born from the structures of the private sector are of fundamental importance for migration management using biometrics.*
ICAO – IOM MoU signed in November 2016

- IOM participation in TAG/TRIP, ICBWG, NTWG and new relevant ICAO working groups;

- IOM and ICAO cooperation: (a) providing advice and support to States regarding travel documents and related border and identity management challenges; (b) harmonizing passenger data exchange programmes and in promoting data-driven security; (c) alignment, enhancement and harmonization of aviation facilitation and/or border security and identity management programmes; (d) Integrated Border Management Programmes;

- Mobility of migrants, voluntary returnees, refugee resettlement;

- Travel health assistance, pandemics, other travel health related emergencies;

- Joint research; training courses, publications;

- Joint development and implementation of capacity building projects.
• Identity management using biometrics has become essential to organize orderly and safe migration while reducing irregular migration and exploitation;
• System are required that allow for effective personal data/privacy protection and the protection of migrants rights
• IOM has become over the last years a global player in the field of identity management & biometrics;
• IOM embraces partnerships with governments, UN sister agencies and other Ios, the private sector, civil society;

• Important: Biometrics not limited to the security sector; embrace and communicate about ID management and biometrics that help empower migrants and travelers!
THANK YOU

For more information:

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