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INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION  
FOR MIGRATION



MIGRATION FOR  
THE BENEFIT  
OF ALL

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# 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](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.

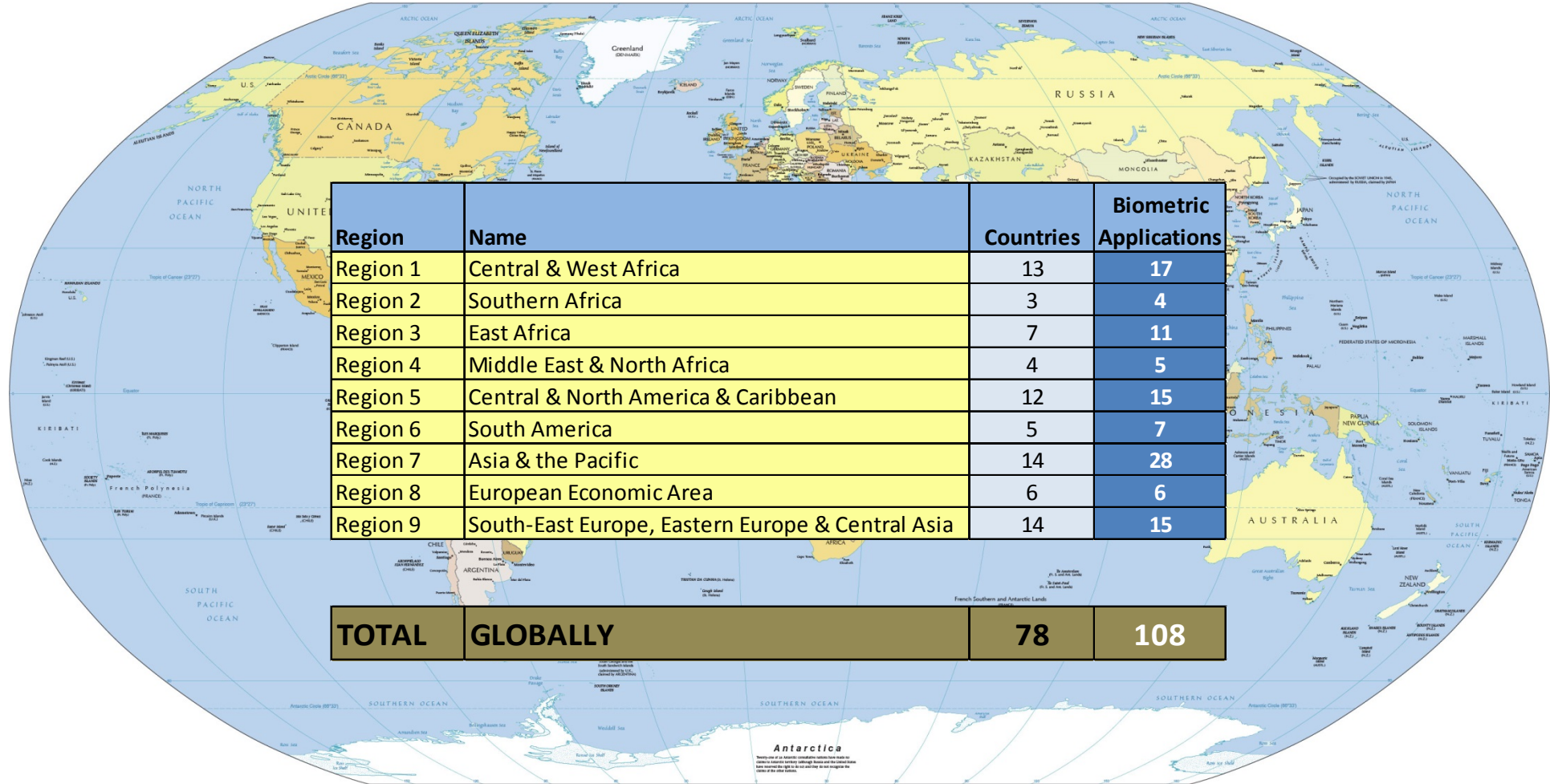
## Biometric Information, Privacy and Data Security

- 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





# Overview: IOM & Biometrics

A world map with a blue border, showing the continents in yellow and orange tones. The map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean.

## 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

**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!



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# THANK YOU

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