



Joint Training on Effective Electoral Assistance

Accra, 29 June – 3 July 2009

IOM and Electoral Support

Francesca Marzatico
International Organization for Migration

Organized within



In collaboration with





Overview

15 MINUTES!!!

What is IOM?

**Why is IOM involved
in Electoral Support?**

**IOM's experience
in Elections**

**Why is IOM in the Global Training Platform on
EEA?**





What is IOM?

How did it begin?



Organized within



In collaboration with





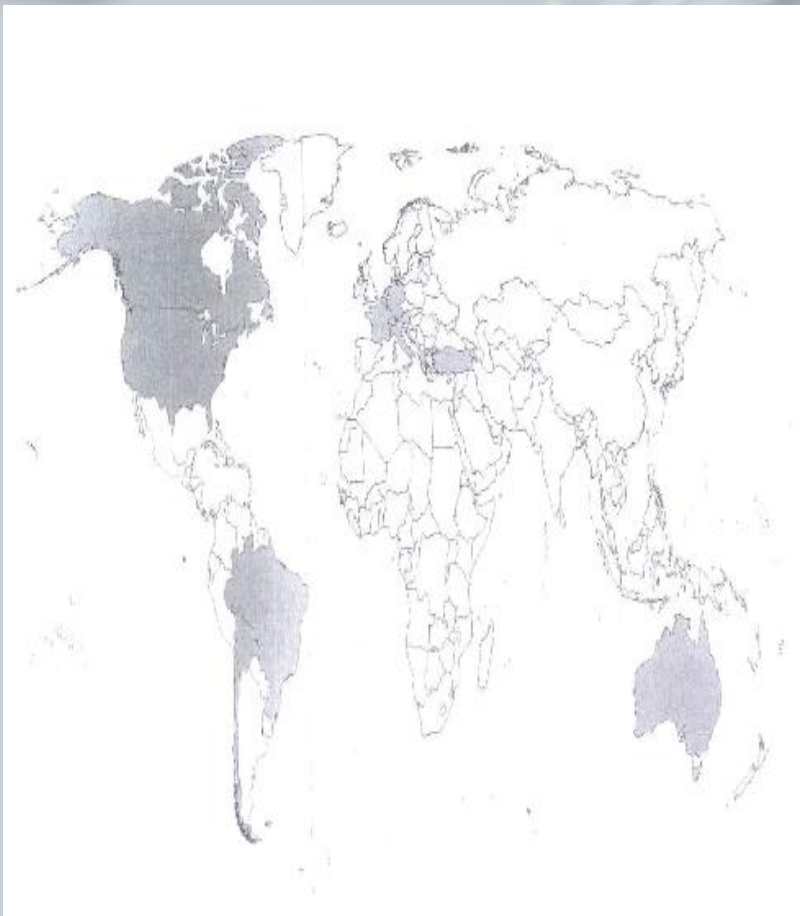
IOM is...



*an international organization, founded at a conference in Brussels on **5 December 1951** to help resolve the problems of the huge numbers of people – “surplus population” – in Europe who were displaced or unemployed and needing to move following the war.*



IOM's 16 Funding Members



- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- Federal Republic of Germany
- France
- Greece
- Italy
- Luxembourg
- The Netherlands
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- United States of America



Today IOM has...

- **125** Member States.
- **90** observers including **16** States and **74** global and regional IGOs and NGOs
- More than **420** offices at present in more than **120** States
- Approximately **5,600** operational staff at present, almost entirely in the field.
- More than **1,770** active projects
- Operational budget of approx **1.1 billion**



What is IOM for?

Mission Statement

*“IOM is committed to the principle that **humane and orderly migration** benefits migrants and society”*

Organized within

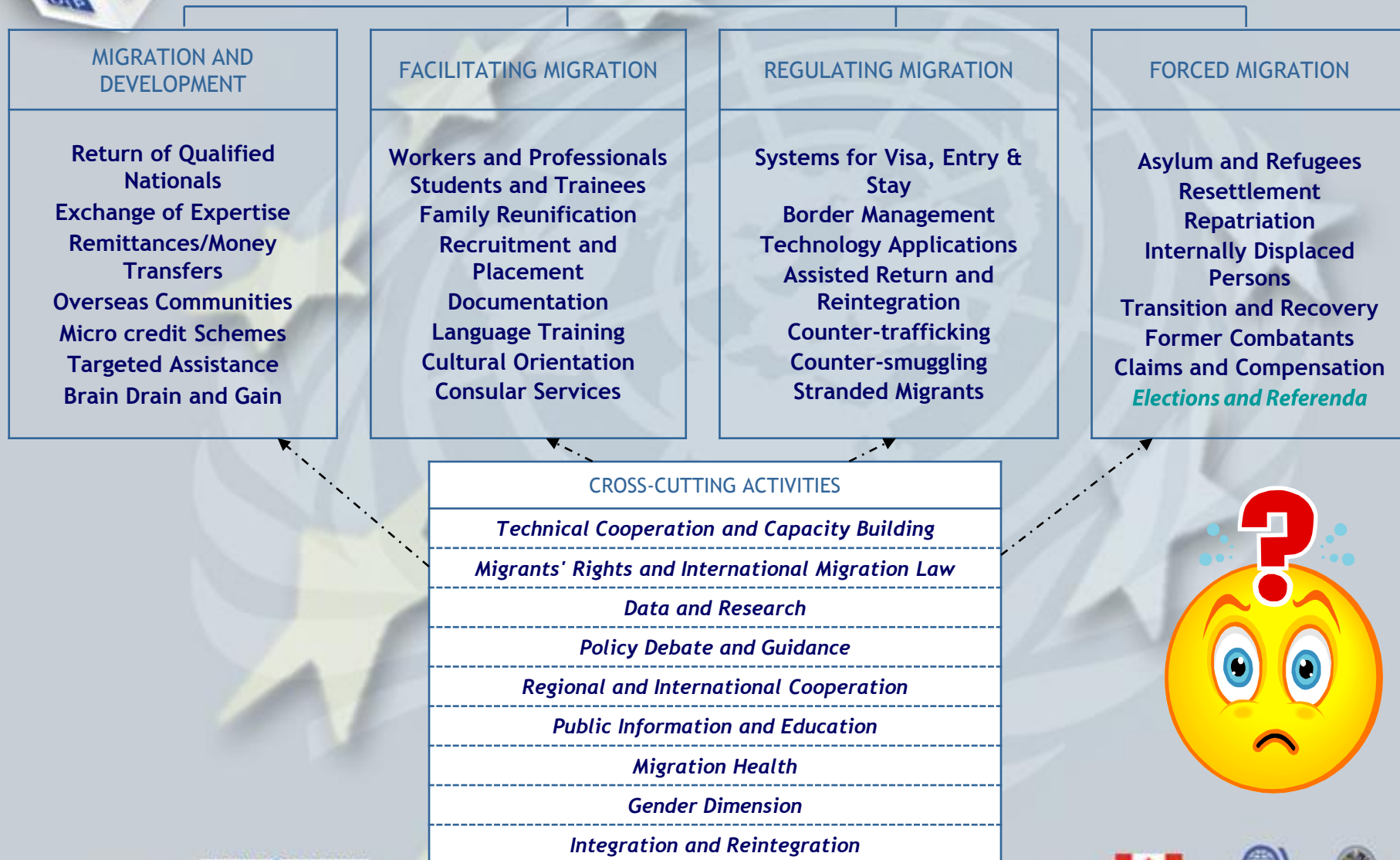


In collaboration with



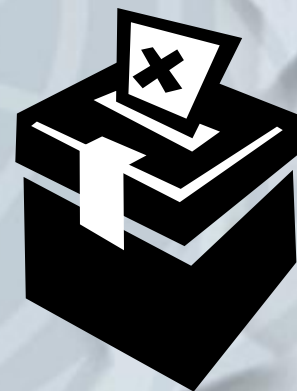


What does IOM do?





Why is IOM involved in Electoral Support?



Organized within



In collaboration with





Because...

*IOM believes that the promotion of **fair elections** and democratic institutions can play an important role in **enhancing migration management**, encouraging **popular participation** and engagement in a country's political future and social and economic development, **stabilizing communities** and reducing the potential for future large-scale population displacement and consequent instability.*

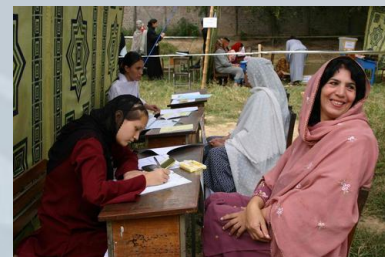




Election Support Unit

Planning, coordination and oversight of election processes dealt with by IOM.

Support to Governments to expand the access to democratic electoral process.





Support to Electoral Process: How?

Out of Country Voting

Complex logistic and procurement

Technical Support to the enfranchisement of Displaced Population

Capacity Building and Technical Assistance as community stabilization tool

Support to European Observation Missions

Complex logistic and procurement

Capacity Development for EU and Domestic Election Observers (NEEDS w/ International IDEA, Internews, EISA, Chapel)





Out-of Country Voting

Providing access to voting to migrants

Inclusion of migrants and displaced populations into democratic electoral processes in their countries/territories of origin

Migrants' representation in the civil and political life at home (encouragement in maintaining links with their communities of origin)

Empowerment of those otherwise disenfranchised





OCV Operations

COUNTRY/TERRITORY	YEAR	ELECTION TYPE	# PEOPLE REGISTERED	# PEOPLE VOTED	# AND OFFICES LOCATION
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1996	National and Cantonal Elections	637,990	551,881	4 main offices 17 sub offices 20 Coordination Offices 21 IOM Missions worldwide involved Votes received from 56 countries
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1997	Municipal Elections	408,607	301,161	5 Main Offices Votes received from 58 countries
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1997	National Assembly Elections in Republika Srpska	200,480	121,633	3 Main Offices Votes received from 50 countries
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1998	General Elections	314,783	193,000	3 Main Offices 2 Operational Offices Votes received from 56 countries
East Timor	1999	Popular Consultation	6220	6,004	4 Main Coordination Offices 5 Country Representatives Votes received from 5 countries 1Territory
Kosovo	2000	Municipal Elections	39,386	22,442	6 Main Offices 5 Voter Information Offices in IOM missions Votes Received from 35 countries
Kosovo	2001	Assembly Elections	145,142	80, 653	6 Main Offices 1 Liaison Office 5 Voter Information Offices in IOM missions Votes received from 36 Countries
Afghanistan	2004	Presidential Elections	846,776	737,776	4 Main Regional Offices 8 Field Offices in Pakistan 7 Field Offices in Iran
Iraq	2005	Transitional National Assembly Elections	279,785	265,148	14 Country Offices worldwide Operations in 36 Cities Votes received from 14 countries
Ecuador (Observation Mission)	2007	National Constituent Assembly Elections	152,180	39,698	9 Observer missions to Ecuador Consulates Votes received from 5 countries

Organized within



In collaboration with





Support to enfranchisement of displaced populations



- **Two technical cooperation projects:**

2002-2004

- **PEP - Participatory Elections Project:**

Developing obligations, standards, and best practices

2004-2007

- **PRESS - Political Rights and Enfranchisement System Strengthening:**

Developing international, regional, and national capacity to enfranchise migrants

Organized within



In collaboration with





Capacity Development and Technical Support

Strengthening the countries ability to conduct external voting programs and strengthen ties with their migrants through their diplomatic and consular missions abroad.

Capacity development mechanisms and **technical support** include:

- Voter awareness and voter education campaign (normally targeting displaced electorates).
- Upgrading and standardizing information systems.
- Training/Support of Consular Officers.





Support to EU Election Observation Missions

Support for the human rights of migrants, and democratization in third countries

Support to the EU priority to promote human rights and democratization in its relations with third countries.

- Since **2001**, IOM has supported more than **35** EU Election Observation Missions (EU EOMs) worldwide.
- Often implemented **complex emergency settings**.
- Involve huge **logistical arrangements**





Challenges of Electoral Support

Security Constraints

Lack of adequate infrastructure

Bureaucracy of host countries

Complex Logistical Arrangements

Lack of institutional memory

**Tight deadlines and short timeframe
between preparedness and
implementation**





Why is IOM in the Global Training Platform on EEA?

**Inclusion of displaced population
in the electoral process:**

OCV Operations

**Training for EMBs and
practitioners on Enfranchisement
of displaced populations**

...JEREMY



