

# IOM Georgia

## 2019

# IOM Georgia

# 2019

International Organization for Migration

Mission to Georgia

12 Tengiz Abuladze Street

0162 Tbilisi

Georgia

T. +99532 2 25 22 16

[iomtbilisi@iom.int](mailto:iomtbilisi@iom.int)

[georgia.iom.int](http://georgia.iom.int)

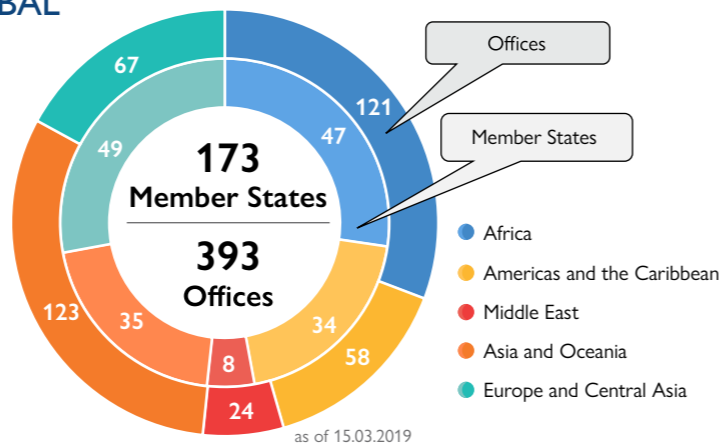
*Cover: Kirnati, Adjara © IOM Georgia 2014*

**THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)**  
acts together with its partners in the international community to:

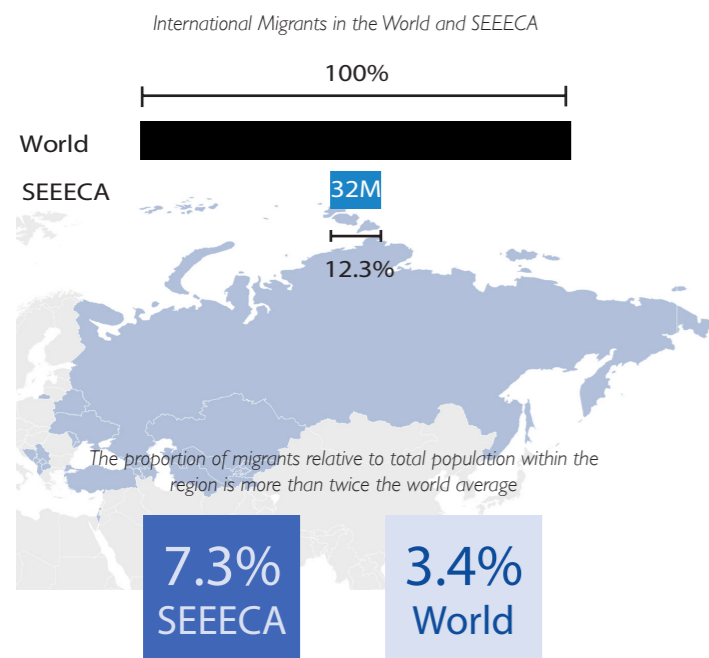
- **uphold** the human dignity and well-being of migrants;
- **encourage** social and economic development through migration;
- **assist** in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management; and
- **advance** understanding of migration issues.

### IOM GLOBAL

Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. With 173 member states and through 394 offices with 13000 staff IOM works with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the well-being and human rights of migrants.



### IOM REGIONAL



IOM has been active in South-Eastern, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (SEECCA) from the early 1990s, at time during which many countries in the region were experiencing a complex mix of migration and displacement challenges resulting from important geo-political changes. Three decades on, and as migration trends continue to grow, IOM remains committed to providing comprehensive support to governments in refining policies, frameworks and practical mechanisms for migration management and overall migration governance at national and multilateral levels. IOM aims to bring the extensive migration expertise of the Organization closer to all its beneficiaries and the Member States it serves to advance safe, orderly and regular migration.

- ALBANIA
- ARMENIA
- AZERBAIJAN
- BELARUS
- BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
- GEORGIA
- ISRAEL
- KAZAKHSTAN
- KYRGYZSTAN
- MONTENEGRO
- REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
- REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA
- RUSSIAN FEDERATION
- SERBIA
- TAJIKISTAN
- TURKEY
- TURKMENISTAN
- UKRAINE
- UZBEKISTAN
- KOSOVO\*

\*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

### IOM GEORGIA

IOM has been present in Georgia since 1993, operating through the central office in Tbilisi and four field offices in Batumi, Kutaisi, Poti and Telavi. Over the past two-and-a-half decades, IOM has assisted the Government of Georgia in developing an effective migration management system providing comprehensive response to evolving migration challenges in line with international standards. IOM has transferred experience in the fields of emergencies and post-crisis response, migrant health, immigration and border management, preventing and combatting human trafficking and smuggling, migrant protection and assistance, labour migration and human development, migration policy and research and provided capacity building for all migration related structures. The Government of Georgia voted in favour of adoption of the UNGA resolution on Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), and IOM will continue to inter alia support the government in the fulfilment of its commitments also to this end.



## IOM GEORGIA

### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

IOM has been working with the Government of Georgia towards promotion of migration governance in line with international standards, based on rule of law and migrants' rights. Under the coordination of the State Commission on Migration Issues (SCMI), IOM supports the implementation of the National Migration Strategy. For this purpose IOM has fostered cooperation at regional and international levels. Working closely with the SCMI and other Governmental stakeholders, IOM contributes to the implementation of the Georgia-EU Association Agreement and supports Georgia in maintaining its visa-free regime with the EU through a range of migration management cooperation schemes. Throughout its work and cooperation in Georgia, IOM supports the implementation of the GCM, which was endorsed by the Georgian Government in December 2018. As part of the UN Country Team in Georgia, IOM actively promotes efforts toward the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



### MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

Through a comprehensive migration management cooperation with the Government of Georgia IOM contributes to the establishment of effective migration governance. As a key cooperation area, immigration and border management has included development of systems, procedures and tools introduced at all border checkpoints of Georgia, and capacity building of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and border management agencies. In addition, IOM supports the assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) for Georgian nationals from 30 countries and enhances durable and sustainable reintegration through income generation and socio-economic services. IOM also supports third country nationals to return and reintegrate to their countries of origin. IOM promotes labour migration management and inter-state cooperation fostering legal circular migration of Georgian nationals in third countries. Through national and international cooperation, IOM strengthens the access to and provision of migrant oriented healthcare services.



### OPERATIONS AND EMERGENCIES

In response to the protracted displacement of populations in Georgia as a result of conflict, IOM has assisted internally displaced persons through various initiatives such as the delivery of non-food items, emergency shelter repair, mental health and psycho-social support, income generation and small business development, including support to particularly vulnerable groups, such as mine victims. In close cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia and the International Disaster Response Network IOM promotes the Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) and Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM) to tackle migration aspects of crisis more effectively. In addition, as the global co-lead of the Camp Management and Camp Coordination cluster, IOM takes the lead in this sector to enhance preparedness efforts for natural disasters in collaboration with the UNCT and governmental counterparts.



Migration has been attracting growing political attention both locally and internationally in recent years, as States have increasingly recognized migration as an transboundary issue that cannot be addressed in isolation, and one with significant interlinkages with development. The link between migration and development is recognized in IOM's Constitution, and IOM has been supporting governments to develop effective migration policies and enhance coherence between development and migration agendas for many years.

## MIGRATION IN THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



The Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development was the first internationally agreed outcome

Operationalizing target 10.7

document explicitly to link migration and development, but migration was then largely ignored in the development sphere for many years, including in the Millennium Development Goals. The agreement in 2015 on the 2030 Agenda marked a new phase of attention to the link between migration and development, and migration. The central specific reference to migration is under goal 10 on reducing inequalities in Target 10.7: "facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies". But many other targets also directly reference migration, for example those calling for increasing student mobility, eradicating forced labour and human trafficking, promoting the rights of migrant workers and reducing the cost of remittances. Migration affects and is affected by all areas of governance and is therefore relevant to all 17 SDGs. Effective migration governance is a key success factor for the achievement of the SDGs, and many SDG targets can only be achieved if migration and migrants are considered.



## THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION



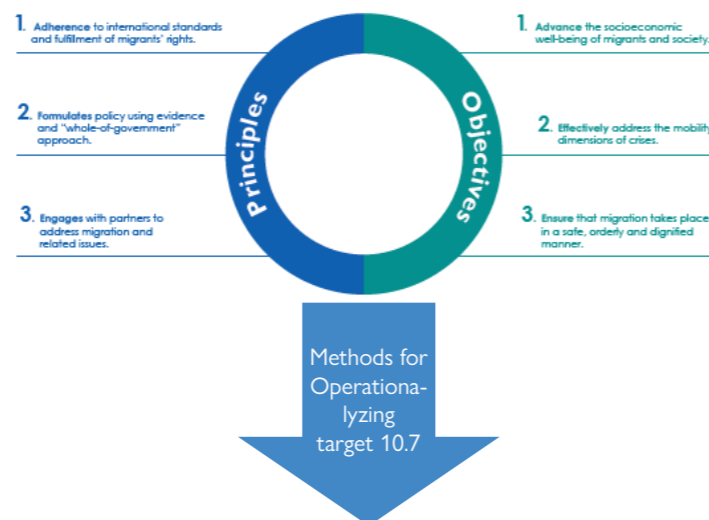
On 24 December 2018, through UN resolution 72/244, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the "Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration". This landmark moment in the pursuit of international cooperation on migration for the benefit of migrants, societies and States sets out 23 Objectives

UN Support to the implementation of the GCM

and Commitments, with suggested Actions providing a comprehensive approach to addressing the challenges, and reaping the benefits, of international migration. While implementation of the Global Compact will be state-led, IOM, stands ready to work, where needed, together with other UN agencies and relevant stakeholders, in support of countries in pursuing the actions to improve migration governance and fulfil the SDGs.

## MIGRATION GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK (MiGOF)

This framework, developed by IOM in response to requests from states to define good migration governance, was endorsed by IOM Member States in November 2015. It sets out three principles and three objectives which, if respected and fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane, orderly, and benefits migrants and society. It effectively provides an internationally agreed articulation of what the planned and well-managed migration policies of SDG Target 10.7 mean in practice, and form the basis of the indicators for that target, as approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission, with IOM and UN DESA as co-custodians.



## MIGRATION GOVERNANCE INDICATORS (MGI)

The MGI, developed in 2015 using the MiGOF and in collaboration with the Economist Intelligence Unit, help countries assess the comprehensiveness of their migration policies, identify gaps and assist in developing comprehensive migration strategies, and establish baselines to track progress on national and international commitments, including Target 10.7.

## UN NETWORK ON MIGRATION

In May 2018, the UN Secretary-General decided to establish the UN Network on Migration as a collaborative community of United Nations entities coming together to ensure effective and coordinated system-wide support to Member States in implementation, follow up and review of the Global Compact. IOM serves as the Network's Coordinator and secretariat. The Network consists of 38 members of the UN system for whom migration is of relevance to their mandates. States adopting the Global Compact welcomed the decision of the Secretary General to establish the Network, and additionally gave it the task of administering the Capacity Building Mechanism, consisting of a Connection Hub, a Start-up Fund, and a global Knowledge Platform.

Established in 1951, IOM is today a proactive, responsive and results-oriented inter-governmental organization dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration worldwide by serving the policy and programme needs of governments and migrants. IOM has established partnerships with a wide range of multilateral, governmental and non-governmental organizations worldwide.



