

A quick overview of IOM's Western Hemisphere Program (WHP) progress and key activities from April 1st to June 30th, 2024.

## Migration Management

### At the forefront of reactivating border management in Haiti



Despite the country's political challenges, a container was successfully rehabilitated to install a Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) outpost in Cap-Haïtien port.

As complementary efforts to make MIDAS operational, the WHP will provide the Haitian government with support in setting up IT equipment as well as a refresher training session for the Directorate of Immigration and Emigration. Up to date, there are six MIDAS posts in Haiti. Each of them enables authorities to more effectively monitor those entering and exiting their territory, while providing a sound statistical basis for migration policy-related planning.



## Partnerships

### The Trifinio<sup>1</sup> plan holds its first meeting on migration governance

As a result of WHP's advocacy, Vice Presidents and border municipalities of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador gathered for the First Migration Conference of the Trifinio Plan, which focused on local migration management. The conference was a fundamental opportunity to identify migration management needs at the subregional, national and local level with the aim to develop a migration action plan for the Trifinio region.

As stated by Mr. Félix Ulloa, Vice President of the Republic of El Salvador:

“States have the responsibility to face the causes of migration. This implies creativity and coordination with important strategic allies from the international community, the United Nations agencies, and other multilateral entities.”

[Read more](#) (in Spanish)

## Communications

### Youth of the region take over C4D's<sup>2</sup> digital channels



Through a virtual camp, 28 young participants from seven countries were selected for the inaugural cohort of content creators. They were trained by IOM's Somos Colmena and empowered to embrace C4D campaign messages to create their own authentic digital content.

They developed skills in crafting Instagram reels and TikToks to express their perspectives on safe migration, xenophobia, human trafficking and fraud prevention on social media. This is a first edition of the Hive Voices initiative, which seeks to promote creative ways to disseminate information on safe migration.

This activity is part of the campaign's comprehensive awareness-raising processes, which will continue to be implemented in educational centers and through digital dissemination actions.

[Read more](#)

## Crises & Climate Change

### Legislative branches take first steps to address migration due to climate change through legislative amendments



Within the regional joint efforts with the Forum of Presidents of the Legislative Branches of Central America and the Caribbean (FOPREL), the WHP enhanced the knowledge on climate change matters of the Costa Rican legislative branch members. The training was also an opportunity to advocate for the link between migration and climate change with a gender perspective and the need to incorporate the subject into national legal frameworks. Future trainings will be implemented with other FOPREL member states.

[Read more](#)

<sup>1</sup> The Trifinio Plan is a regional organization that is part of the Central American Integration System (SICA). It seeks to develop a process of environmental and territorial management, with the aim of improving the living conditions of border communities. It was signed by El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala in 1997, and it has been crucial for the development of 39 municipalities.

<sup>2</sup> Communication for Development. WHP implements social communication and information efforts to promote safe, orderly and regular migration under the C4D methodology.

## IOM partners with UNODC and OHCHR for a joint training on border management and protection of migrants nexus

Tijuana hosted 26 representatives from local and state migration authorities, law enforcement and organizations to strengthen inter-institutional operational capacities to combat migrant smuggling. Tijuana is renowned for its high rates of smuggling and trafficking of migrants and served as a suitable location to exchange good practices with civil society organizations that assist and protect migrants. Acknowledging the success and strategic contribution of the training, IOM will continue promoting similar joint actions with other specialized UN Agencies to enhance protection of migrants during border management responses.



## WHP convenes regional platforms to consider new avenues to address migration challenges

### Central american authorities discuss solutions to regional challenges on migration

Representatives of the Commission of Migration Authorities (OCAM), member countries of the Central American Integration System and CEPREDENAC<sup>4</sup>, reaffirmed their commitment to fighting misinformation and addressing climate change in two parallel workshops, which focused on reviewing and discussing the following:

- 1) Fact checking tools to strengthen institutional approaches to identify misinformation on migration.
- 2) Categories of individuals entitled to protection by law, to assess which could be applicable to displaced people due to climate change.

IOM will continue promoting spaces within the regional platform for an ongoing discussion on new avenues among key actors.

[Read more](#)

### Local governments set to play a key role in migration governance

IOM, in collaboration with the Regional Conference on Migration, and in alliance with the Latin American Federation of Cities and Municipalities held a workshop for central and local government representatives. The workshop facilitated a dialogue to identify challenges and solutions for complementary and sinergized actions to promote safe and humane migration.

As a result, a [roadmap to improve migration management at the local level](#) was developed and approved. This tool will help to facilitate national and regional coordination as well as to train officials in key areas such as data, migrants' protection and cooperation.

[Read more](#)

<sup>4</sup> Coordination Center for the Prevention of Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic

## Our quarter in numbers

A total of **193 training** activities were implemented with WHP support.

**6,282 beneficiaries**

46% MEN 54% WOMEN

**More than 2,700** individuals completed **E-Campus** self-paced courses on key migration topics.

**More than 11,800** people were reached through Migration Information Hubs activities in Belize, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama who were provided with accurate information on migration.

**More than 1,800** migrant workers benefited from the Labor Migration Traceability System for circular labor mobility in border areas in Costa Rica, promoting regular pathways and services.

## A glance at our work

### Facilitating access to cross-border ID cards in El Salvador



A total of **766 migrants**, mainly from Guatemala, benefited from cross-border ID cards, issued at a DGME fair organized at Las Chinamas border in Ahuachapan. This fair allowed participants to obtain identification documents, enabling them to live and work in El Salvador for up to six months, while enjoying the same social benefits as Salvadoran nationals.

## Work in progress

### > Expanding regular pathways of circular labor mobility:

A need assessment on the replication of labor traceability systems in the region is in process. The assessment will include roadmaps for countries to implement labor migration mechanisms and tools, and will be validated by the Member States of the Regional Conference on Migration at the end of July.

### > Communication campaigns in the pipeline: ready for implementation!

This quarter, IOM focused on the production of the C4D campaigns, alongside capacity-building actions. Campaign launches and presentations are scheduled for July and August with the support of governmental entities.