



IOM AND INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT

As the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is increasingly called upon by States to assist in addressing complex border management challenges. The Immigration and Border Management (IBM) Team, consisting of a core group of specialists with substantial technical expertise and strong border management experience, posted to strategic locations in the field as well as in IOM headquarters, has been established to offer guidance and expertise to governments aspiring to improve their migration and border management.

With the increasing mobility of persons and goods, States need to address the challenge of ensuring the right balance between open, but at the same time secured and controlled borders. In order to respond to this challenge, the European Union (EU) has developed the concept of "Integrated Border Management" which is key to the European border management strategy and presents key elements and activities for inclusion in IOM's Immigration and Border Management programming.

Integrated Border Management requires that all competent authorities work together in an effective and efficient manner. Cooperation should not be established exclusively within each country, but also across its borders,

with relevant agencies of neighbouring States. Integrated Border Management seeks to address three levels of cooperation and coordination: intra-service cooperation, inter-agency cooperation and international cooperation.

One-Stop-Border-Post

A sub-concept of the Integrated Border Management framework is the One-Stop-Border-Post (OSBP). Even though a relatively new concept by title, OSBPs have been implemented in various ways and in many regions, implying a single, shared physical infrastructure in which the neighbouring countries' customs/border services operate side by side.

Coordinated Border Management

A parallel concept exists called Coordinated Border Management (widely recognized by the customs community and the World Customs Organization), with similar objectives to Integrated Border Management, which focuses more on the specifics of enhanced coordination and collaboration between Customs with other non-state actors.

OUR OBJECTIVE

“SUPPORT STATES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO ENABLE FLUENT BORDER CROSSINGS AND FACILITATE THE ENTRY OF BONA FIDE TRAVELLERS WHILE ENHANCING SECURITY”



INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT FOSTERS COOPERATION

INTRA-SERVICE COOPERATION

is the efficient management of processes, information and resources within agencies responsible for specific tasks. It thus refers to interaction between:

- The different administrative departments of a ministry or agency at headquarters;
- The ministry/agency and regional centres;
- The ministry/agency/regional centres and the units working at the borders/inland;
- The various Border Control Posts, Border Inspection Points and in-land control stations.

INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

The focus here is on the close cooperation between all agencies involved in border issues both at the border and at the central level, thus minimizing overlap and inconsistency and optimizing the efficient use of resources. There are three priority areas for inter-agency cooperation at the border and within the country:

- Coordinated processing at border crossings;
- Integrated information technology systems;
- Awareness-building and joint responsibilities.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

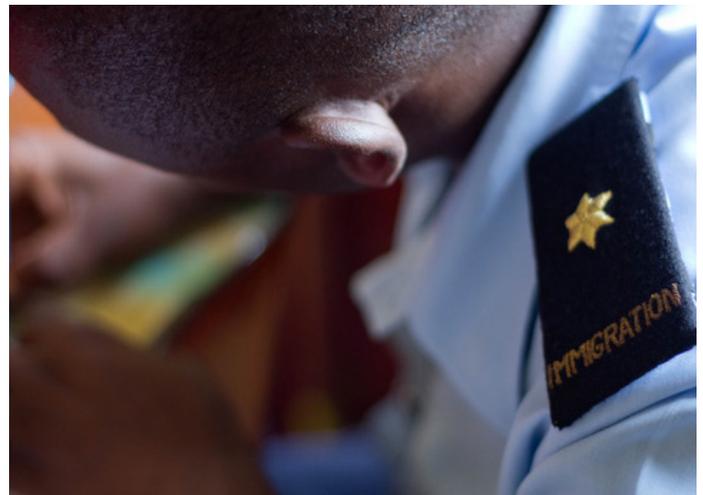
concerns the establishment of communication and coordination channels and procedures at the local, bilateral and multilateral levels. It refers to:

- Local cooperation between officials on both sides of the border;
- Bilateral cooperation between neighbouring states;
- Multinational cooperation, focusing on border management issues.

CAPACITY BUILDING IN INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT IN EAST AFRICA

A good example of IOM implementing a project that attempts to install Integrated Border Management principles outside the European Union is a capacity building project for member states of the East African Community (EAC). The full implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol will potentially transform the political, economic and social setting of the East African region. However, this will entail institutional and administrative reforms designed to align national legislation with the provisions of the protocol. As such it necessitates immigration personnel to be able to undertake their duties efficiently and professionally to facilitate trade and movement of people across the East African Region. IOM has implemented a Capacity Building for Border Management Programme (CBBM), addressing the migration priorities identified both by the Tanzanian Immigration Department and the co-sponsors of the programme (European Union, the Government of Japan, the United Nations and IOM). This project was a regional initiative, which importantly

complemented other regional IBM projects already in place. Thus, it integrated the existing border management structures aiming to be expanded to the entire East African Region.



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