



IOM'S MIGRATION INFORMATION AND DATA ANALYSIS SYSTEM (MIDAS)

In order to support governments to meet today's complex migration and border management challenges, the Immigration and Border Management (IBM) Team at the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has developed a border management information system: the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS).

MIDAS has been designed for States with little or inadequate data capture systems in order to give them the operational means to manage migration. Compliant with international standards, MIDAS is a high-quality, affordable system, suitable for installation also in remote areas.

WHAT IS MIDAS?

MIDAS is a border management software program which allows States to collect, process and record information for the purpose of identification of travelers, data collection and analysis. It supports evaluation of cross-border traffic, helps determine optimum deployment of human resources at border posts and supports a better understanding of migrant flows. Experience shows that the system can significantly enhance day-to-day border management. Its

user-friendly and intuitive interface makes identity checks easier and faster, including through the use of biometrics.

MIDAS allows immigration officers to, among other things:

- Record migrant data on entry and exit, including biographic information, family configuration, reason for entry, length of stay, address in country
- Extract and store migrant's data from travel documents and Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs)
- Access reports based on border point, method of entry (air, land, sea), nationality or other biographic detail
- Upload migrants' data to Headquarters for consolidation
- Access national and international alert lists (e.g. Interpol's I-24/7 Global Communication System and its stolen and Lost Travel Documents database) and check travelers' data to detect suspect individuals or people travelling on false documents
- Share information within the national government



HOW DOES MIDAS WORK?

MIDAS operates on commonly available equipment, including personal computers, servers, passport readers, webcams, and fingerprint readers. A mobile MIDAS kit and the possibility to install the system in mobile patrol vehicles make MIDAS deployable to remote and low-capacity locations. MIDAS is currently available in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Kyrgyz, and can be adapted according to specific language requirements.

The system provides officers with defined fields to fill. When connected to the passport reader, the system automatically extracts the holder's information from the travel document. Similarly, if the webcam and fingerprint reader are connected, MIDAS can capture photographs and fingerprints on the spot. The automation of data collection considerably reduces the workload at the border and increases the accuracy of the recorded information.

Using MIDAS, migration officers can record, analyse and cross-check data. The captured information can be stored centrally, and be accessed by all border posts connected to MIDAS - land, sea and air transit points - fostering enhanced information sharing and improving inter-service coordination. The possibility to connect MIDAS with international alert lists gives MIDAS users the potential to detect suspect individuals or people travelling on false documents.

HOW DOES MIDAS IMPLEMENTATION TAKE PLACE?

IOM installs and operationalizes the system at the request of governments. A needs assessment is first carried out to determine the number of border crossing points implicated; the number of MIDAS workstations; the network configuration required; and, the number of officers to be trained to run the system. The equipment is then procured, installed and tested.

MIDAS can only be fully beneficial if end users are aware of all its capabilities and able to use them. A MIDAS training programme to equip officials with the necessary skills to operate the system and ensure sustainability, is therefore delivered in all countries operating the system immediately after MIDAS installation is completed.



IOM's Immigration & Border Management Programme

MIDAS - Migration Information and Data Analysis System

Courses are delivered on site, at border posts and migration and border management agencies, to enable practical work on computers installed with MIDAS. The training programme includes a Training of Trainers component, which enables officers to train additional users. Once this preparatory phase is completed, MIDAS goes operational, with officers examining passports, recording travelers' data and checking against alert lists.

HOW DOES MIDAS SUPPORT ENHANCED MIGRATION MANAGEMENT?

The information that is collected using MIDAS and then processed by trained officers, is key to understanding migration dynamics and mobility patterns. At headquarters, the centrally stored migration data collected by MIDAS can be shared, analysed and processed into migration intelligence reports that inform policy makers. The migration data collected by MIDAS can be the cornerstone in developing evidence-based migration management policies.

For further information, please contact:

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