Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster

http://micicinitiative.iom.int/
2011 Libya Crisis

- February-June 2011 civil strife
- Nearly 800,000 migrants fled Libya
- Most from neighboring countries – 45% were comprised of 120 nationalities
- All in need of assistance; many in need of protection and evacuation
2011 Japan Crisis

- March 2011 earthquake and tsunami
- Approx. 700,000 foreigners in areas affected by earthquake and tsunami (and nuclear accident)
- 531,000 foreigners left Japan in the month after the earthquake and tsunami
- From diverse countries, within and outside the region, including Brazil, China, Malaysia, Philippines, South Korea, and Taiwan
Why Migrants?

Specific Vulnerabilities and Circumstances

- Barriers related to language, culture, social connections
  - Unable or unwilling to leave the country in crisis
  - Unable to access humanitarian assistance
- Unable or unwilling to return to country of origin
- Subjected to discrimination, targeted attacks, or exploitation
Consultations Process

With States, IOs, Private Sector, and Civil Society

IGC Plus

11-Feb-15
South, East 
and 
South-East 
Asia
18-Apr-15
Eastern 
Europe 
and 
Central 
Asia
14-Aug-15
Civil 
Society
25-Nov-15
East and 
Southern 
Africa
30-Dec-15
Middle East 
and 
North 
Africa
09-Sep-15
Central 
and 
South 
America
05-Jul-15
West and 
Central 
Africa
11-Jun-15
Permanent 
Representatives 
to the UN
23-Mar-15
Private 
Sector
22-Oct-15
International 
Organizations
Scope of MICIC Initiative

Which Crises?
- Conflict
- and/or Natural Disaster

Which Migrants?
- In country when crisis hits
- Temporarily or permanently
- Regardless of legal status

Which Phases?
- Pre-Crisis
- Emergency
- Post-Crisis
MICIC Initiative Guidelines

- **Principles**: Guide all actions
- **Guidelines**: Targeted suggestions to shape policies
- **Practices**: Technical and operational advice
Principles

1. Save lives
2. Respect, protect, fulfill human rights
3. Take responsibility: States
4. Take responsibility: all others
5. Be guided by humanitarian principles
6. Empower migrants
7. Communicate positively about migrants
8. Act at all levels
9. Cooperate
10. Learn and innovate
Guidelines: Preparedness

1. Track information on conflicts and natural disasters
2. Collect and share information
3. Empower migrants
4. Incorporate migrants in preparedness and response
Guidelines: Preparedness

5. Plan with migrants
6. Communicate effectively
7. Coordinate
8. Build capacity and learn lessons
Guidelines: Emergency Response

9. Communicate widely and often
10. Facilitate movements to safety
11. Assist without discrimination
12. Refer special cases
13. Relocate and evacuate
Guidelines: Post-crisis action

14. Address migrants’ needs
15. Support host communities
Website, Repository, and Contact

Website:

http://micicinitiative.iom.int/

Repository of Existing Practices:

http://micicinitiative.iom.int/repository-practices

Contact:

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