



# IOM Regional News

| Southern Africa |

Issue 2 June 2010



Bernardo Mariano, IOM Regional Representative for Southern Africa and the Randfontein Community Team after being crowned the Champions of the SA Township Challenge.

## Randfontein Community Wins the SA Soccer Township Challenge

**T**he Randfontein Community soccer team were crowned the champions of the South Africa Township Soccer Challenge at the finals held in Randfontein on June 5 2010.

The Township Challenge which was organised by IOM, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in collaboration with the African Diaspora Forum (ADF) and the Randfontein Municipality. The final match brought together Randfontein

Community against Thembisa community, a game which ended 2-0 in favour of the host community.

The tournament forms part of IOM's 'ONE Movement' campaign, an initiative created to support the South African Government following the May 2008 xenophobic attacks which left 62 people dead and hundreds displaced in the townships.

The 'ONE Movement' campaign aims to tackle the societal, racial and

ethnic tensions that give rise to discriminatory practices by promoting a culture of tolerance and unity in diversity through sports. The tournament works to build an integrated society that is free of xenophobia and all kinds of discrimination.

Throughout its three weeks of play, the tournament has successfully brought together teams from eight townships whose players come from various African countries, *Continues on page 3*

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## Editorial



**A**s we approach the Mid-year mark, now is a good time to reflect upon our achievements thus far, and also map out how we will address those areas that require more attention.

One of the key highlights of the first quarter was the visit by Deputy Director General of the IOM, Ambassador Laura Thomson. Her

visit had the dual purpose of seeing the work on the ground first hand, and bolster IOM's relationships with Government and the Diplomatic community. We were pleased to welcome her and enjoyed gleaning her insights on our operations.

In this issue, we highlight the challenges we continue to run against due to weak data around migration in the region, we hope it will be remedied as this will allow us and our partners to better manage issues around migration.

On a positive note, we are pleased to note that Zimbabwe has gained support from the Swedish international Development Agency, SIDA, and we look forward to supporting the team in their ongoing efforts to provide migrant protection services.

We successfully held the SA

Township Soccer Challenge and hope our efforts will help in integrating migrants into townships in Gauteng.

In conclusion, with the World Cup upon our shores, our borders will be busier than ever, therefore it is imperative that we ramp up our efforts to ensure that every crossing is a positive one and respond when our assistance is required. In this light, IOM is actively supporting the work of grassroots organizations to prevent and respond to trafficking in persons before, during, and after the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

We welcome your feedback, so please do contact us with comments and suggestions.

*Bernardo Mariano*  
IOM Regional Representative for Southern Africa

## SOUTH AFRICA: IOM Deputy Director-General Hosts High-level Roundtable on Migration

**A**mbassador Laura Thompson visited South Africa from 22-27 March 2010, and during her short stay she engaged with high level government officials and UN agency representatives on migration issues in the region. One of the key objectives of Ambassador Thompson's visit was to renew IOM's commitment to working with the government and migrants.

Alongside South Africa's Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Malusi Gigaba, she led a dialogue which drew the participation of the Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Mr. Andries Carl Nel, the Deputy Director General of the Department of Health Dr. Nicky Padayachee, IOM Regional Representative for Southern Africa, Bernardo Mariano, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Regional Representative,



Mr. Sanda Kimbimbi and the World health Organization (WHO) Country Representative in South Africa, Dr Stella Anyangwe, who participated on behalf of the UN Country Team.

Highlighted at the talks were the challenges in establishing a framework for broader inter-ministerial collaboration. These include brain drain, migrant access to health and other basic services,

abuse of migrant rights, human trafficking, xenophobia, technical/infrastructure challenges for border management, unaccompanied minors, and the vulnerability of migrants to sexual and gender based violence, among others.

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Commenting on regionalization efforts by Southern African states, such as the Draft Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons, she said that these, "are likely to further encourage regional migration and imply a need for a coordinated approach and harmonized policy development to interventions among various Government Ministries and other stakeholders."

Her high profile attracted positive media interest and Ambassador Thompson was interviewed by Pretoria News and The Star, Channel Africa - Radio and SABC News International where she gave her views on challenges around migration and xenophobia, as well as

and the work IOM is doing in South Africa and the region.

In order to get a first hand experience of issues on the ground, Ambassador Thompson visited the Home Affairs' Refugee Reception Centre in Musina, Limpopo Province.

Overall, her visit was a positive event in the IOM calendar and her roundtable discussion with government, UN agencies, diplomats and partners was instrumental in setting the tone for future developments as it highlighted the importance of continued inter-organizational and inter-ministerial collaboration to address migration challenges.



## Randfontein Community Wins the SA Soccer Township Challenge *continues from page 1*

including South Africans.

The tournament taps into the current soccer fever which has gripped South Africa, host country of the 2010 World Cup, and sets the tone for building social cohesion and for further integration activities by the government and other stakeholders.

Community discussions and dissemination of information materials to challenge discrimination and promote a culture of tolerance and co-existence were part of the strategy to promote tolerance for migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in South Africa.

The Randfontein team received a prize of 20,000 Rands (USD 2,600) in cash and a grant of 80,000 Rands (USD 10,500) to put toward a community development project of the winning township. This will allow both migrants and locals to add value to their community.

The Ceremony was attended by IOM's Regional Representative, Bernardo Mariano, the Deputy Regional Representative of the UNHCR, Sergio Calle Norena, Local Government Representatives, and ADF representatives amongst others.



*Deputy Regional Representative of UNHCR, Sergio Calle Norena and the Captain of the Randfontein Community Team.*

# SOUTH AFRICA: Lack of Migration Data Hampering Cooperation and Integration in Southern Africa

Efforts to foster socio-economic cooperation and integration within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and to better manage migration in the region are being hampered by weaknesses in the collection and measurement of international migration data, according to a new report published by IOM.

Entitled, "Data Assessment of Labour Migration Statistics in the SADC Region: South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe," the report assesses existing statistical infrastructures and systems for the collection, analysis and sharing of international migration data in the three Southern African countries.

The study was carried out in collaboration with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Statistics Programme and is part of IOM efforts to promote regionally coherent and coordinated data collection and the sharing of mechanisms critical for effective regional economic integration and migration management.

Although international migration continues to increase within the region, weaknesses in migration data collection systems means data is not comparable and there is difficulty in accepting common definitions. Similarly, the true scale of migration as well as its impact on both sending and receiving countries cannot be effectively measured, making it difficult to develop informed migration policies. The three countries chosen for the study are representative of different economic and political realities in the region. South Africa, with a population of 50 million, is regarded as the economic powerhouse of the region. Although a mainly migrant receiving country (including from Zambia and Zimbabwe), it is nevertheless witnessing a significant emigration of highly skilled workers.

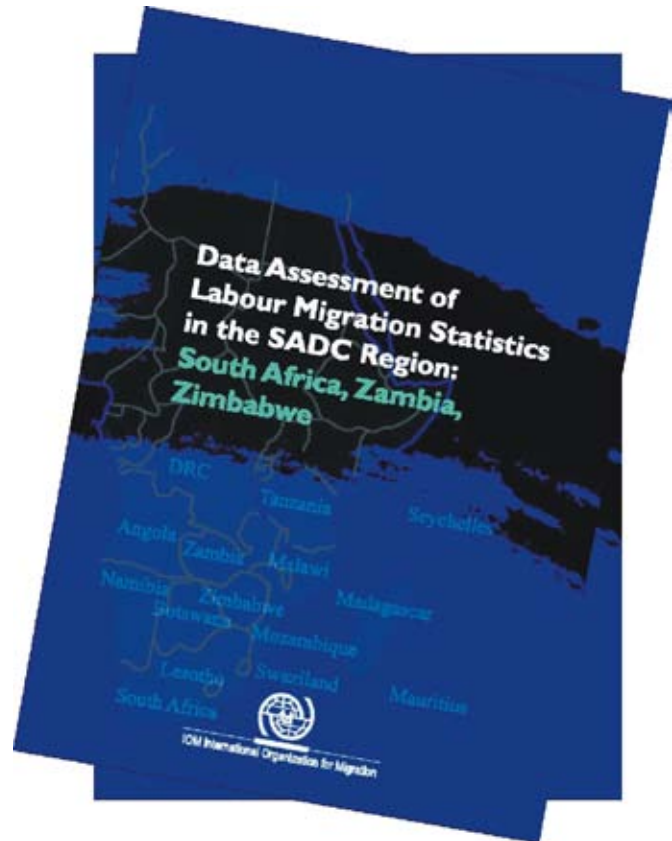
Zambia draws migrants from all over the region because of its peace and stability, but it also loses a significant number of skilled and highly educated professionals because of its poor economy.

Zimbabwe, with a reported population of 13 million, has increasingly experienced high levels of emigration. A conservative estimate of three million Zimbabwean nationals are said to make up the Zimbabwean diaspora. The study assesses how these countries collect and analyze international migration data. While similar tools are used for data collection, only South Africa has a centralized computer system to analyze the results. Introduced only recently, however, the system faces a number of teething implementation challenges.

The report also highlights that data collection does not often take into account irregular migration, which is a significant trend in the region and while the three countries maintain registers for asylum seekers and refugees, there are also problems with timely collection and processing of that data.

Censuses and household surveys could fill some of these gaps, but these do not typically take into account migration trends.

The study makes a number of recommendations to help address these challenges. These include better utilization of existing data sources and the need to harmonize terms and definitions.



It also suggests automating border control and permit information, training relevant officials to improve data collection and analysis, as well as strengthening data sharing and lines of communication among these actors.

Finally, the study recommends that an inter-agency task force be formed in each country to improve communication within the government and that the capacity of the SADC Statistical Committee be strengthened by harmonizing data collection systems and establishing a common database.

The report was funded by IOM's 1035 Facility, which provides special support to IOM developing member states and member states with economies in transition to develop and implement joint government-IOM projects addressing particular areas of migration management. It can be downloaded online at: [www.iom.org.za](http://www.iom.org.za)

# ZIMBABWE: New Programme Aimed at Promoting Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking in Zimbabwe

An agreement between IOM and the European Union (EU) delegation to Zimbabwe will promote and reinforce the human rights of vulnerable people and victims of trafficking in the African country.

Zimbabwe, as many other countries, is witness to human trafficking for forced sexual or labour exploitation both internally and abroad. However, there is little capacity in the country to tackle the issue.

The programme will focus on strengthening the capacity of civil society in promoting human rights among these groups by establishing dialogue platforms with the government on anti-trafficking policy research, formulation and implementation. A national anti-trafficking legal framework containing measures on prevention, protection, support and rehabilitation of victims and the prosecution of traffickers is to be developed.



IOM is already working to strengthen collaboration amongst civil society organizations in Zimbabwe working on countering human trafficking by establishing a networking group to mainstream and implement counter-trafficking activities around the country. In addition, IOM is currently coordinating the development of a nationwide directory listing all those who provide assistance and protection to victims of trafficking as

well as initiating the drafting of a counter-trafficking manual.

“This support from the European Union will help develop and broaden comprehensive and integrated anti-trafficking programming among the civil society. This will encourage the government to adopt and implement measures impeding human trafficking and protecting victims,” says IOM Chief of Mission in Zimbabwe, Marcelo Pisani.

# ANGOLA: IOM Conducts Training on Document Fraud

IOM Angola recently hosted a workshop for immigration and border management officials to improve their ability to detect and combat travel document fraud and to improve passport issuance systems.

The three-day training, organized in cooperation with Angola’s Ministry of Interior, brought 42 law enforcement officials to provide them with the necessary skills to recognize identity fraud and to improve the safety and quality of travel documents.

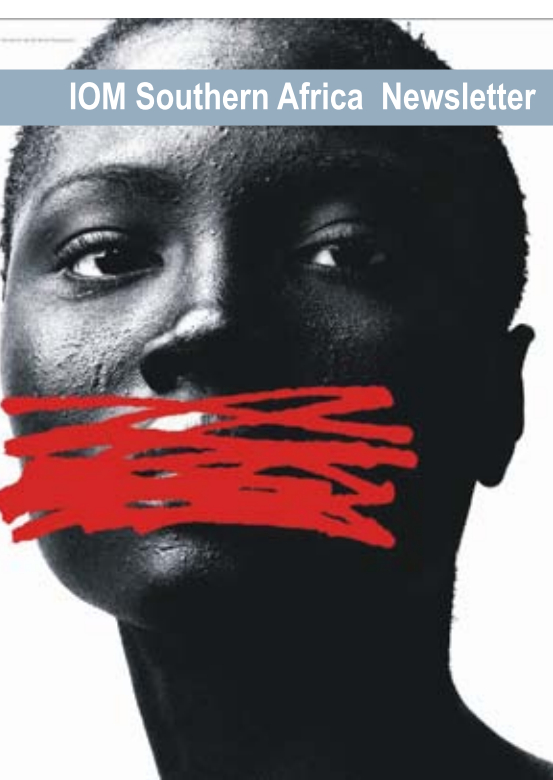
Cooperation between national and international entities is essential to

protect the rights of migrants who because of passport fraud suffer from abuse and exploitation at the hands of criminal networks.

Various UN treaties and declarations of the UN Security Council, including the UN Convention against Transnational Crime – one of the key documents on this subject – give special attention to the issue of passport fraud, which plays a significant role in the facilitation of various domestic and transnational crimes such as human trafficking, immigration and financial fraud and identity theft.



This workshop was funded through IOM’s 1035 facility, which has supported more than 312 projects in 89 Member States since 2001.



## SOUTH AFRICA: IOM Supports Grassroots Initiatives for the 2010 FIFA World Cup

As South Africa prepared for the first World Cup on the continent, community and religious leaders, teachers, government officials, and the private sector were engaged in educating the population on the dangers and warning signs of human trafficking. There is a general need to better inform communities on how to identify victims, to whom to refer cases of trafficking, and how to assist victims. This project is taken advantage of the time of heightened interest regarding vulnerability to trafficking in persons not only to inform communities but also to create necessary mechanisms for internal and cross-border coordination and collaboration.

IOM kicked off the project with a workshop for selected organizations to share and coordinate their activities, in order to identify common goals, maximize resources, and put forth a strong, effective and unified message against trafficking in persons during the 2010 FIFA World

Cup. Most of the organizations selected for grant awards are focused on awareness raising activities - radio dramas, theatre, road shows, soccer matches, information campaigns, training in schools- and are directed at areas most vulnerable to trafficking in persons, including rural communities and fan parks around World Cup stadiums. The community based organizations will carry out activities in different target areas using sustainable approaches, to build awareness and capacity within grassroots communities.

IOM has administered its Southern Africa Counter-Trafficking Assistance (SACTAP) programme since 2003. In addition to the current project, the programme focuses on awareness-raising, capacity building for government and civil society, research, and direct assistance to victims. More than 10,000 officials have been trained, and 310 victims assisted during the programme's duration.

IOM launched an initiative supporting the work of grassroots organizations to prevent and respond to trafficking in persons before, during, and after the 2010 FIFA World Cup. Spearheaded and funded by the U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (G/TIP), the project authorizes IOM to award and oversee a series of small grants to 16 community-based organizations to support a range of prevention and protection activities around the country.

## ZIMBABWE: Swedish Funding Boosts Humanitarian Programme for Displaced and Vulnerable Populations

Programmes providing much-needed humanitarian assistance to mobile and vulnerable populations (MVPs) and returned migrants in Zimbabwe have received new funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

The USD 1,5 million funding will support IOM's ongoing migrant protection services, including rights counselling, provision of basic health services, and HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Gender based violence awareness programmes.

Community stabilization efforts such as early recovery and livelihood activities for mobile and vulnerable populations will also benefit from the

funding as will safe migration and humanitarian assistance provided through IOM's Reception and Support Centres in Beitbridge and Plumtree.

"We welcome this funding, which is critically important for Zimbabwe in supporting displaced and vulnerable migrant populations in need of immediate humanitarian assistance", said IOM Zimbabwe Chief of Mission, Marcelo Pisani.

Programme activities are implemented in coordination with the National Government of Zimbabwe, local authorities and humanitarian partners.

Since 2000, Zimbabwe has

experienced increasing levels of internal and external migration- including the large scale exodus of Zimbabwean professionals to countries in the region and abroad - as a result of the changing socio-economic situation.

This has created new vulnerabilities such as lack of access to basic services and livelihoods for MVPs and returned and irregular migrants. IOM documented some of these vulnerabilities in the recent report, "Wolves in Sheep's Skin: A Rapid Assessment of Human Trafficking in Musina, Limpopo Province of South Africa", which is available at: [www.iom.org.za](http://www.iom.org.za)

# SOUTH AFRICA: National Consultation on Migrant Access to Health Services



*Delegates at the National Consultation*

IOM, the National Department of Health, the Forced Migration Studies Programme (FMSP), University of Witwatersrand, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), recently hosted a two-day national consultation in Pretoria on “Realising Migrants’ Right to Health in South Africa.” The conference, which opened on 22 April, brought together key players from the government, international organisations, academia, civil society, and the migrant community, to exchange information and

improve health coordination and service delivery to migrants in South Africa.

Traditionally migration flows in South Africa were mostly internal from rural to urban areas. However, regional migration patterns have recently increased. Both internal and cross-border migration are increasingly recognised as key determinants of health, requiring appropriate public health responses to ensure the well-being of all migrant populations.

such as the cost of healthcare services, fear of deportation, language barriers and attitudes of healthcare service providers towards migrants.

Jo Vearey, Researcher at the Wits Forced Migration Studies Programme says, “Even though the Department of Health has taken steps to clarify that cross-border migrants have the right to access basic healthcare, migrants continue to face challenges in accessing care. There are clear gaps between policy and implementation”.



Whilst the right to access healthcare is guaranteed by the South African constitution, and extends to all migrants regardless of their documentation status, many undocumented migrants are often reluctant to seek medical assistance due to factors

This consultation on migrant health was a follow-up to the March 2010 Madrid Global Consultation, and sought to: consolidate existing knowledge on migrant health issues in the country; develop a future programme, policy and research agenda; explore processes for contributing to regional structures and initiatives; and to link these efforts with the implementation of the World Health Assembly (WHA) resolution on the health of migrants.

The consultation was funded by UNAIDS through the UNAIDS Programme Acceleration Fund (PAF).

# ANGOLA: IOM Provides Support to Vulnerable Returnee Communities in Angola

**W**ith new funding of 900,000 Euros from the Spanish International Cooperation Agency (AECID by its Spanish acronym), IOM Angola will provide immediate assistance to improve food security and nutritional standards to vulnerable communities impacted by large numbers of returnees and natural disasters.

The project will provide assistance to some 1,015 families (some 8120 persons) suffering from food insecurity in communities in Huambo province, through the re-establishment of livelihoods, the provision of agricultural technical support, employment and income-generation opportunities, rehabilitation of water pumps and irrigation infrastructure, as well as to mitigate conflicts and competition for limited resources between returnees and local populations.

The main beneficiaries of the project will be the most vulnerable persons living in the municipalities of Mungo, Ekunha, Caala and Bailundo, in Huambo province, including returning refugees, ex-combatants and members of host communities.

One of the main goals of the project is to stabilize rural-urban migration outflows. Many people move to



urban areas in search of work and food, but in fact most of the times they are worse off.

The project was discussed and was well received by the beneficiaries who showed a great interest in the adoption of innovative cultivation, irrigation and processing techniques.

This segment of the population has limited access to arable land and has reported small crop yields. The

new IOM project will provide technical support to improve their farming techniques, and will create community-based seed banks in each participating village.

This is the fourth IOM project in Angola funded by AEICD. IOM Angola is also implementing two other projects under the Spanish MDG-Fund project.

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