

IOM and Government Cooperation on Migration Issues Social and economic revival and development to support effectively the peace efforts

The IOM (International Organization of Migration) is in full cooperation with the government in addressing the challenges of migration, whether external or internal, this was quite evident during a forum organized for the Media by the IOM last 10 May, 2016.

Three presentations were made in the Forum. Mr. Mohd Mousa from IOM Darfur presentation focused mainly on a brief on the organization strategy and programs in Sudan and same time stressed on the importance of the Media role in the advocacy for humanitarian work.

He identified the IOM as an Inter-governmental organization whose membership include 162 governments with the mission to address the challenges of external and internal migrations, increase awareness about migration issues, support socially and economically migrants and preserve their human dignity.

IOM strategic focus is to promote secure, reliable and cost-effective services for persons who require international migration assistance; to enhance the humane and orderly management of the migration and the effective respect for the human rights of migrants in accordance with international law; to offer expert advice, research and operational assistance to states, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations and stakeholders, in order to build national capacities and facilitate international, regional and bilateral cooperation on migration matters; to contribute to the economic and social development of states through research, dialogue, design and implementation of migration-related programmes aimed at maximizing migration's benefits, to promote; facilitate and support regional and global debate and dialogue on migration, including through the International Dialogue on Migration, so as to advance understanding of the opportunities and challenges it presents and to identify comprehensive approaches and measures for advancing international cooperation; to undertake programmes which facilitate the facilitate the voluntary return and reintegration of refugees, displaced persons, migrants and other individuals in need of international services, in cooperation with other relevant international organizations as appropriate, and taking into account the needs and concerns of local communities.

IOM Sudan Response to Migrant movement The IOM support and cooperate with the Sudan government to achieve a holistic approach on migration administration vide three pillars; support migration to be a factor in growth and development, protect the venerable segments of the migrants population and; build new partnerships on migration issues.

In response to the complex, protracted and dynamic migration challenges in Sudan, IOM Sudan takes an integrated approach to support Government of Sudan efforts across three core areas that concurrently address the full spectrum of immediate, medium and long-terms dimensions of human displacement and mobility. At



Who is a Migrant?

IOM defines a migrant as a person who is moving has moved across an international border or within a state away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of the person legal status and whether the movement is voluntary or involuntary; what the cause of the movement are what the length of the stay is.

the same time IOM supports and assists migrants and vulnerable populations on the move, it works to build capacity among local communities based organizations and the government. It should be noted that Sudan became a full member in the IOM in 1998 and the organization office was opened in Khartoum in 2000. The Sudanese President signed the cooperation agreement with the IOM in 2003 and same year the organization General Director visited Sudan and a country director was appointed. In 2004, a tripartite agreement (Memo of Understanding) was signed between Sudan, the IOM and the United Nations was signed.

Same time the IOM also cooperate with the IGAD, African Union, COMSA and the Arab League on issues pertaining to migration. On the present the organization have offices in Nyala, Al-Fashir, Gineina in addition to west and south Kordofan and Abyei.

In addition its programmes cover the White and Blue Nile States, Kassala, Red Sea, Gedaref, East and Middle Darfur. The IOM strategy for 2015-2017 is composed of three parts; an active and rapid response to humanitarian crises; revival and support of economic development to reduce internal migration and population movement. The strategy also includes the establishment of a responsible administration to manage effectively migration and development of their capacity in Sudan.

In 2016, the main focus was on social and economic revival and development to support effectively the peace efforts and encourage self-

support in the IDPs camps, in addition to life and saving activities to the most vulnerable segments of the migrants population.

Also, the presentation outlined the challenges which is represented by the continuous flows of migrants both from and outside t from neighboring countries because Sudan is migrant importer, exporter and as a route used by migrants to reach other destinations. This is combined by limited natural and physical resources among these communities.

Ms. Hana Abdel Latif from the IOM Cairo regional office made a presentation on terminologies and terms used in migration literature and documents to asset the media in their correct usage. This included terms like workers migration, family unification, migration and security, migration and trade, migration and health, integration and reintegration and as well migration and development.

Good Journalism

The third and last presentation was made by the media experts Mr. Fasal Mohd Salah on the basic ethical and professional principles based on the principles of good journalism that should be observed when reporting on migrants and migration issues and which is guided by the mission of serving the right of the public to know.

This is performed by the strict adherence to accurate and true reporting and which at the same time respect the rights of personal privacy and the correction of any wrong reporting.

These principles have evolved through a long historic period which started in France in 1918



MISSION

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As the leading international organization for migration IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: Assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management, Advance understanding of migration issues, Encourage social and economical development, Uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

and continued to develop up to now. Off-course these principles face the challenge of been translated into laws and regulations.

Some of the most important aspects of good journalism is correctness and credibility, in addition that accuracy is essential in journalistic reporting and to check news reports with more than one source and that the title should coincide with the substance of the story. And off-course this should be done in an independent environment not influenced by any external factors what so ever. Other elements that should be taken into serious consideration is objectivity, balanced reporting and fairness to all parties. And in the case of migrants in particular their human dignity and best interest should be a priority in media reports.

The presentation recommended the formulation of a media code of conduct for reports on migration issues, avoidance of the promotion of hate messages or discrimination, obtain information from reliable sources and promote the positive aspects of migration.

Sudan 2015 Report

In the Forward to the IOM 2015 Sudan Report, Mario Lito Malanca, the country chief of mission wrote:

2015 saw an unprecedented number of people on the move, and the increasing prominence and urgency of the migration agenda. Sudan experienced increased attention globally as a country of origin, transit and destination, along the main migratory routes from Africa to Europe. Sudan's

migration challenges centre not only in managing irregular migration flows, but also on how to achieve a progressive resolution to the protracted displacement situation within Sudan, and how to harness the benefits of migration to support Sudan's development.

Adding that " Within the context and in an environment of great internal change, including a physical move to a new facility, welcoming a range of new staff, and negotiating new technical agreements with the Government of Sudan (GoS), the IOM has worked quickly to respond to migration dimensions of humanitarian crisis, initiated programming to speed recovery and strengthen stability, and deployed expertise to help the GoS to strengthen migration management and governance.

The 2015 Report pointed to that; in 2015, IOM expanded in core areas of migration management by increasing facilitated resettlement and the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration program; establishing the first Migrant Resource and Response Centre in Sudan; initiating border management interventions; and commencing research on migration trends and intentions. IOM also engaged the GoS in discussions to set up a rehabilitation center in Khartoum for victims of trafficking and in the interim supported community based safe-houses.

Within this context, and in an environment of great intern, 2015 saw an unprecedented number of people in the Sudan.

How to Change Cultures of Corruption? (3-3)

By: Paul Collier
Professor of Economics and Public Policy

Corruption does not happen everywhere, it is concentrated in pockets: in particular industries, in particular societies and in particular times. Among industries, natural resource extraction and construction have long been seen as exceptionally prone to corruption. This is partly because projects in these sectors are idiosyncratic and difficult to scrutinize.

One way to create the common knowledge that yesterday's behaviour is unlikely to persist tomorrow is to close an entire organisation and rehire those staff judged to have reasonable integrity into a new one under different management and higher standards. For example, many governments have closed corrupt tax departments within their ministries of finance and replaced them with independent revenue authorities, a change that has usually been reasonably successful. An analogous way for international twinning to overcome the co-ordination problem is for all the staff in an entire unit to be exposed to the international network at the same time. Each official in the unit would then realise that their colleagues were facing the same tension between old and new networks and hence the same choice.

There are already a few examples of institutional twinning. For example, in Britain, the Department for Interna-

tional Development (DFID) financially supports Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC), the British tax authority, to work with tax authorities in some low-income countries. Also, until a decade ago, governors of the Bank of England used to host an annual meeting for governors of African central banks. But the scope for twinning is vast, relative to what is, as yet, happening both in governments and in the wider society.

Around the world, governments have similar structures. For example, virtually all governments in low-income countries have a ministry of transport, a ministry of health and a ministry of finance. OECD governments have been liaising with these ministries for half a century, but the entities that are linked to them are their aid agencies not their counterpart ministries. Direct links with counterpart ministries have the potential for a very different form of relationship based on peer-group networks,

rather than on money with conditions. Often ministries in low-income countries try to keep donor agencies 'out of their hair', whereas they would value direct links with their peers. An important example is the regulation

of utilities such as electricity. Many governments of low-income countries are now establishing regulatory agencies, which is a vital step in attracting private finance for infrastructure. But the regulation of utilities faces intense pressures for corruption: the decisions of regulators affect both the profitability of companies and voter support for politicians. In the OECD, regulatory agencies have been operating for two or three decades. The OECD has also built peer group networks that have evolved peer standards of independence, transparency and impartiality. New regulatory agencies would benefit from becoming part of this distinctive culture.

Such specialised inter-government peer groups are indeed the core activity of the OECD. But membership of the OECD is confined to the governments of high-income countries. Admirably, the organisation is now trying to

broaden its engagement with the governments of poor countries, for example, by the new initiative 'Tax Inspectors Without Borders' (OECD 2015). This is designed to embed tax inspectors for OECD governments in the tax authorities of poor countries on secondment for several months: not to train but to work on the job. An obvious extension would be to make this a two-way exchange of staff. The branding of 'Tax Inspectors Without Borders' neatly taps into the potential for such secondments to be glamorous: a survey of young French singles found that the 'ideal spouse' was a doctor with M□decins Sans Fronti□res! More seriously, while the OECD initiative is excellent it is a drop in the ocean. The restricted membership of the OECD limits its scope to forge global links and there is no other international institution with the remit to build peer-group links across government departments between rich countries and poor ones. Perhaps this role should become a core function of national aid agencies such as DFID, but it would benefit from a co-ordinated kick-start by several heads of government.

Twinning has the potential to be extended well beyond government: part of the 'big society' can be direct links between the civil society organisations and their counterparts in poor countries. Again, historically such links have largely been confined to development non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as Oxfam,

which channel donations to needs. But an important part of tackling corruption is resetting the cultures of professions, including accountancy, law, medicine and teaching. For example, in many poor countries, it is socially acceptable for teachers not to show up for lessons. Twinning involving things like teacher exchanges between schools could help to shift these dysfunctional values. The global explosion of social media has made this far more feasible. The two approaches of closing off opportunities for corruption and reducing the prestige and satisfaction generated by corrupt behaviour reinforce each other. As the difficulties and risks of corrupt behaviour rise, fewer people will behave corruptly. This directly reduces the esteem from being corrupt because it is no longer so normal. Similarly, as more people start to get their esteem from being honest, those who remain corrupt are easier to spot and so find themselves running bigger risks.

National actions against corruption complement international actions. One major way of squeezing out corruption is to remove obvious sources of rent-seeking such as rationed access to foreign exchange and the award of government contracts through secret negotiation rather than open bidding. Competition within rule-based markets is an important part of the system of checks and balances that constrain public officials from the abuse of office. Another is to prosecute some prominent senior officials. For exam-

ple, in Ghana, 20 judges were sacked in late 2015 for accepting bribes based on video evidence gathered by an investigative journalist (BBC News 2015). Being based on independent evidence, such sackings cannot be misinterpreted as government attempts to crush political opposition. Further, as high-profile events, they generate common knowledge among officials that all other officials are reflecting on whether they should change their behaviour.

Not all corruption is directly financial. Electoral corruption is highly damaging. New research finds that, under normal conditions, governments that deliver good economic performance enhance their prospects of retaining office, but that the discipline of accountability breaks down when elections are not free and fair (Collier and Hoeffler 2015). Twinning national electoral commissions with their international peers, along with twinning local and international election monitors, can help to raise standards of electoral conduct.

An international initiative against corruption provides an opportunity for national actions and international actions to cohere. As people recognise that the calculus of risks and rewards and the sources of prestige and satisfaction are changing both for themselves and their colleagues, previously entrenched patterns of behaviour could become unstable. Mass shifts in cultures of corruption do happen and it is possible to make them happen.

