Agenda item 16(b)

LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE TO BUILD BETTER REGULAR MOBILITY PATHWAYS

Damien Thuriaux

Department of Mobility Pathways and Inclusion, OIC Director



BUILDING BETTER REGULAR MIGRATION PATHWAYS



- Future migration trends show increased opportunities for societies and individuals in an interconnected and interdependent world.
- Technological transformations from digitalization to Artificial Intelligence are changing labour market structures.
- Evolving labour market demands requires global workforce, whilst avoiding brain drain.



TECHNOLOGY AS AN ENABLER OF BETTER MIGRATION PATHWAYS (1)





- Technological advancements impact immigration systems, access to health, legal identity, and diasporas.
- Digital tools help streamline systems and procedures, and enhance transparency, as well as ensuring orderly and predictable migration movements.

→ eg: currently, about 50 countries worldwide offer e-Visa services, simplifying processes and helping countries manage their borders more efficiently while improving cross-border collaboration and trade.



TECHNOLOGY AS AN ENABLER OF BETTER MIGRATION PATHWAYS (2)



Enabling opportunities to **establish**, **expand**, and **enhance** regular migration pathways:

- 850 million people lack proof of legal identity, and over 3.3 billion do not have access to a recognized digital identity.
 - → Systems to ensure having verifiable proof of legal identity.
- The market for mobile health solutions is expected to near \$190 billion by 2025.
 - → Empowering migrants to monitor health, access multilingual info, and manage conditions independently.
 - → Advancing equitable access to health care.



THE ROLE OF IOM IN LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY FOR REGULAR PATHWAYS

IOM supports Member States integrating technological components and migration governance strategies

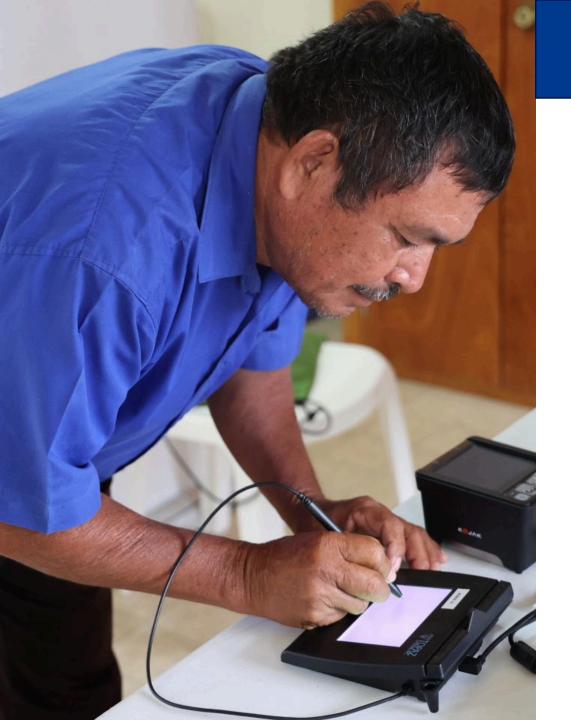
- IOM electronic personal health record (e-PHR)
- → Health assessments for +23,000 women, +14,000 children over five, +28,000 men across 13 countries, by June 2024.
- Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS)
- → In Ecuador, +365,000 migrants registered for regularization purposes since 2019.
- Pathways Assistance Tracking Hub (PATH)
- → Safe Mobility Offices: +29,000 individuals processed for other lawful pathways since mid-2023.
- iDiaspora
- → + 2,000 members, including 370 diaspora organizations.
- Electronic Readmission Case Management System (eRCMS)
- → Strengthening identity verification and travel document issuance processes.
- Integrated Guidance and Referral System (IGRS)
- → Working in Sri Lanka to promote over 15 occupations and 100+ sub-categories that are in high demand.











RECOMMENDATIONS

- Increased investments in technology to automate and streamline key components of immigration systems, with a focus on streamlined application processes.
- Expand robust digital infrastructure to support innovations in migration management.
- Develop and leverage existing platforms that accurately match migrants' skills with labour market needs.
- Establish and enforce ethical guidelines for the use of Al and data analytics in migration processes.





WAY FORWARD

- Technological solutions are one of the key enablers to achieve real progress to establish, expand, and enhance regular migration pathways.
- Continuous innovation is at the core of operations contributing to regular pathways, responding to the demands and interests of Member States and reflecting IOM's mandate and strategic objectives.
- IOM will work to strengthen existing and build new coalitions with key stakeholders and the private sector, to scale-up pathways and digital solutions across the migration ecosystem.
- Mobilizing Members States and partners to create the conditions for people to live more peaceful, productive, and prosperous lives.