



Conferencia Regional sobre Migración  
Regional Conference on Migration

## Strategic Plan of the Liaison Officer Network for the Protection of Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents of the Regional Conference on Migration<sup>1</sup> 2017-2022

### General Objective of the Proposed Work Plan of the Network:

To contribute to the implementation of regional actions agreed on by the Member Countries of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) to ensure respect for the human rights and access to basic services for migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection, in accordance with the *Regional Guidelines for the Comprehensive Protection of Boys, Girls and Adolescents in the Context of Migration*, with a focus on the principle of the best interest of the child and a gender and diversity approach.

The plan will be developed around five central themes:

1. Preventing irregular migration of boys, girls and adolescents;
2. Consular protection for migrant boys, girls and adolescents during detection and reception in transit and destination countries;
3. Reception of and psychosocial assistance for migrant boys, girls and adolescents in transit, destination and return;
4. Integration and reintegration of migrant boys, girls and adolescents in countries of origin and destination;
5. Cooperation initiatives (in countries of origin, transit, destination and return) to benefit migrant boys, girls and adolescents.

In accordance with the Child's best interests principle and recognizing that boys, girls and adolescents migrants have rights, it is important to incorporate transversally in the themes, objectives and activities of the Strategic Plan, the importance of the participation of girls, boys and adolescents Migrant, to be heard, taken into account with all the actions and measures that compete and affect. To contribute to the empowerment of their voices in the decision processes.

### The specific objectives of each central theme are as follows:

1. To promote actions to prevent irregular migration by ensuring effective respect for the rights of boys, girls and adolescents in their countries and communities of origin and return;
2. To strengthen consular actions to protect migrant boys, girls and adolescents to ensure respect for their human rights;
3. To promote actions oriented toward the reception of and psychosocial assistance for migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection to ensure respect for the human rights of this population group;
4. To promote inter-institutional capacity-building for the integration and reintegration of boys, girls and adolescents;
5. To support the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Liaison Officer Network for the Protection of Boys, Girls and Adolescents (2017-2022) in a coordinated and complementary manner.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on input from the delegations that participated in the First Meeting of Liaison Officer Networks for the Protection of Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents of the RCM, held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras on March 16-17, 2017.

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Theme 1: Preventing the irregular migration of boys, girls and adolescents.	I. To ensure the right of boys, girls and adolescents to obtain information	1. Boys, girls and adolescents informed about the impact of migration and about their rights	1.1. Strengthen existing national campaigns and the campaign "InformArte en Movimiento", adopted by the RCM Member Countries.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
			1.2. Encourage information, evaluation and monitoring systems on migration of children and adolescence that show data for the participation of boys, girls and adolescents and strategic decision making.			Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
	1.3. Promoting national and regional initiatives with returned and potential migrant children for the prevention of irregular migration, involving the active participation of local governments, education systems, civil society, families and others.				Twice a year	Twice a year	Twice a year	Twice a year	
	1.4. Disseminate mechanisms that expedite the extension of documents and procedures to promote orderly and secure migration.								
		2. Boys, girls and adolescents participate in political decision-making processes	2.1 Create and strengthen spaces for participation for boys, girls and adolescents at a regional and national level, with an age, gender and diversity approach.			Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
	II. To promote family ties	1. Boys, girls and adolescents with strong ties with their places or communities of origin.	1.1 Develop practical guides for the implementation of socio-formative processes at the local level, which consider rights issues.				Continuous		
1.2 Promote, based on existing national policy, the implementation of local efforts aimed at helping to promote family ties in contexts of high migration.						Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	
1.3 Support the institutions in the design and execution of policies that contribute to strengthen formative processes so that they can promote ties of children and adolescents.					Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	
1.4 Identify successful strategies, by country, to promote the rootedness of boys, girls and adolescents, and consolidate these practices at a regional level.					Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	
1.5 Promote actions oriented toward combating discrimination and violence against excluded and discriminated populations, including prevention and social awareness-raising efforts.					Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year					
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
	III. To advocate with State institutions in favour of effective access to security and justice for boys, girls and adolescents and their families	1. Boys, girls and adolescents protected through an effective system.	<p>1.1 Contribute to the design and implement specialized programmes including security elements for those who wish to separate from gangs.</p> <p>1.2 Promote immediate assistance services for boys, girls and adolescents in extreme situations (violence, abuse, bullying, etc.) which are drivers of irregular migration of boys, girls and adolescents.</p> <p>1.3 Mitigate the impacts of different forms of violence through the establishment of immediate assistance services for boys, girls and adolescents who are at risk and in vulnerable situations.</p> <p>1.4 Promote that countries have a network for comprehensive assistance services for boys, girls and adolescents in areas of social risk.</p> <p>1.5 Develop strategies to help States inform about actions to ensure effective access to justice to enable all boys, girls and adolescents to fully exercise their rights before administrative and judicial services, and promote access for all boys, girls and adolescents, including members of indigenous and/or afro-descendant peoples and with a gender, human rights, diversity and interculturality approach.</p> <p>1.6 Establish mechanisms for communication between countries with the aim of sharing strategies, procedures and instruments concerning the protection of migrant boys, girls and adolescents. Including those in conditions of risk and vulnerability associated with situations of violence.</p>			Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
						Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
							Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
							Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
							Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
							Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Theme 2: Consular protection for migrant boys, girls and adolescents during detection and reception in transit and destination countries	IV. To promote inter-sectoral coordination between consulates, governments and relevant institutions in transit and destination countries and protection systems in each country	1. A platform to exchange regional information about support networks.	1.1 Establish a platform for information exchange for 2018.			Continuous			
			1.2 Conduct a workshop on implementation and use of the platform.			I Semester			
			1.3 Socialize common indicators for the registration of unaccompanied migrant children or adolescents or separated in the consular action of the member countries of the RCM.			II Semester	II Semester	II Semester	II Semester
		2. Have profiles of migrant children according to the circumscription.	2.1 Creation and systematization of profiles based on the information provided by the platform.						
		3. A directory of the institutions that make up the protection system in each country.	3.1 Disseminate information on the protection system network in each country.		Second half-year				
	3.2 Conduct workshops on international and national regulations concerning the protection of boys, girls and adolescents.			First half-year					
		3.3 Designate focal points for each protection system.		Second half-year					
	4. Regional agreements to promote inter-sectoral coordination.	4.1 Share best practices on similar already signed agreements.			First quarter				
		4.2 Promote the signing of relevant regional agreements within the framework of RCM; as well as their implementation at the national level.		Continuous		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	
	5. To have networks of experts to support the consular work of protection.	5.1 Develop mapping and collect existing information from support institutions for migrant children and adolescents with international protection needs 5.2 Exchange maps with the different consulates. 5.3 Promote the signing of coordination and cooperation instruments with key stakeholders.							
V. To promote actions to search for missing boys, girls and adolescents and address violations to their human rights	1. Information systems and mechanisms to search for missing boys, girls and adolescents.	1.1 Establish focal points between consulates and institutions in each country that are responsible for coordinating alerts on children not located.		II Semester	I Semester				
		1.2 Exchange best practices on systems to search for missing boys, girls and adolescents.		II Semester	II Semester	II Semester	II Semester	II Semester	
	2. Mechanisms to report violations of the human rights of migrant boys, girls and adolescents.	2.1 Make visible and contribute to strengthening existing reporting system mechanisms at the local, national and regional level to promote the comprehensive protection of boys, girls and adolescents.			Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	VI. To create synergies between consular representations of the RCM Member Countries in determined circumscriptions	1. Consular staff continuously trained on protection of migrant boys, girls and adolescents.	1.1 Promote training through continuous diploma courses (online and attendance-based) and specialized in the protection of migrant children and adolescents.	Ministries of foreign affairs and IOM	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
			1.2 Share experiences between academic institutions that are already offering diploma courses on the subject.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	
			1.3 Conduct <i>in situ</i> training for officers		II Semester	II Semester	II Semester	II Semester	
			1.4 Promote the use of a common regional registration form with the aim of promoting the application of common indicators and preventing revictimization of boys, girls and adolescents attended by the relevant units in the different countries of the region.						
	2. Networks of experts to support consular protection actions.	2.1 Map and collect existing information on institutions providing assistance to migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection.	II Semester						
		2.2 Exchange the results from the mapping efforts with different consulates.	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous		
VII. To develop, update and strengthen the implementation of the protocols on consular assistance and appropriate follow-up	1. Monitoring mechanisms established to ensure appropriate implementation of regional instruments already designed.	1.1 Develop mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the regional instruments, based on the mechanisms of the Liaison Officer Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking.			II Semester				
		1.2 Submit the results from the reviews to the RCM, to be included in the reports of the Liaison Officer Network for the Protection of Boys, Girls and Adolescents in the Context of Migration.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous		
	2. Implementation of consular protection recommendations for migrant children and adolescents, including those in unaccompanied and separated international protection needs,	2.1 Conduct a workshop for the implementation of protection standards.			I Semester		I Semester		
		2.2 Identify civil society organization that could support the implementation of the recommendations.	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous		

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
		3. Guidelines for the evaluation of the best interests of the migrant girl child and adolescent, in order to establish protection measures and canalize.	3.1 Create a support guide for the implementation of mechanisms for determining the best interests of children, in cooperation with academic or civil society specialists. 3.2 Validate the guidelines. 3.3 Share the guidelines. 3.4 Monitor the functioning of procedures for determining the best interests of children.			I Semester  II Semester	I Quarter I Semester		
	VIII. To have protocols to deal with emergency situations.	1. Have national and regional protocols and action plans for the attention to migrant children and adolescents in emergency situations.	1.1 Mapping of emergency and rapid response institutions. 1.2 Creation of emergency action plans focused on migrant children. 1.3 Socialize the emergency plan. 1.4 Share appropriate technology to address displacement and family separation of children and adolescents in emergency situations (Rapid FTR).			I Semester  II Semester	I Quarter I Semester		
	IX. To provide specialized and differentiated assistance based on specific protection needs, with a gender approach	1. Expertise of consular officers on specific protection needs, with a gender approach.	1.1 Identify actors to provide information on specialized actions. 1.2 Promote that States have the spaces to provide comprehensive care in this first stage of the migration process.		Continuous				
		2. Referral mechanisms established for appropriate assistance based on specific needs.	2.1 Strengthen the existing referral mechanisms in the RCM Member Countries.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year					
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Theme 3: Reception of and psychosocial assistance for migrant boys, girls and adolescents	X. To dignify the reception conditions, in accordance with international regulations on migrant boys, girls and adolescents	1. Strengthened reception processes through adjusting the necessary physical spaces as well as spaces to provide immediate assistance to returned migrant boys, girls and adolescents, especially for psychosocial assistance.	1.1 Establish a minimum standards for the infrastructure of the reception centres is adequate to attend the needs of boys, girls and adolescents.  1.2 Share best practices on comprehensive reception and psychosocial assistance processes for returned migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those with international protection needs.  1.3 Establish a monitoring and follow-up mechanism for the immediate and psychosocial assistance for boys, girls and adolescents in reception processes.  1.4 Develop infrastructure of Specialized Centers with problems of psychosocial attention, as well as for children and adolescents belonging to the LGTBO population.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
		2. Strengthened capacities of staff specializing in the protection of boys, girls and adolescents, who participate in reception, protection and psychosocial assistance processes.	2.1 Create guidelines for the development of self-care and institutional care programmes for staff assisting the returned boys, girls and adolescents.				II Semester			
		3. Ensured participation of relevant institutions in charge of providing assistance to boys, girls and adolescents in reception processes (health, education, civil registry, local governments, etc.)	3.1 Develop proposals to include assistance for and protection of migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection in the existing procedures.  3.2 Establish and strengthen technical working groups for inter-institutional coordination concerning the reception of and psychosocial assistance for boys, girls and adolescents.				I Semester			To be defined
	XI. To develop and strengthen public policy on comprehensive assistance for returned boys, girls and adolescents, including	1. Implementation of approved social programmes and projects for the reception of returned boys, girls and adolescents.	1.1 Conduct workshops on input collection for public policymaking concerning the reception of returned boys, girls and adolescents within the framework of the RCM.  1.2 Promote dialogue on regional policymaking relating to psychosocial assistance for returned boys, girls and adolescents.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	institutional referral mechanisms		1.3 Conduct a forum in the framework of the RCM, with participation of returned girls, boys and adolescents, to collect input and validate the proposed policies.				II Semester		
		1. Strengthened referral and follow-up actions for returned boys, girls and adolescents by authorities in charge of providing assistance, and existing programmes developed for this population group.	2.1 Develop a roadmap to follow up on the existing referral mechanisms at the reception centres, with participation of institutions in charge of executing programmes for returned boys, girls and adolescents.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
			2.2 Promote the convening of a working group composed of local authorities, to be incorporated into follow-up actions on migrant boys, girls and adolescents, with participation of civil society.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
			2.3 Designate a leading unit in each country to monitor actions to follow up on returned migrant boys, girls and adolescents.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined



Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Theme 4: Integration and reintegration of migrant boys, girls and adolescents in countries of origin, transit and destination	XII. To establish case management strategies and criteria at the regional level, aimed at the integration and reintegration of migrant boys, girls and adolescents	1. A referral and follow-up system implemented for sharing information about cases between the countries included in the Network, to promote the integration and reintegration of migrant boys, girls and adolescents.	1.1 Promote the establishment of agreements on exchange of information about migrant boys, girls and adolescents to promote integration or reintegration within the framework of the meetings of the Network.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous
			1.2 Get familiarized with national reintegration efforts that are being implemented or that have been implemented in order to spread best practices, methodologies and results that foster rootedness, and to incorporate them simultaneously into the platform of the RCM, enabling the Member Countries to implement them in their national programmes.		Continuous	Continuous			
			1.3 To create a space for the exchange of best practices or successful experiences concerning the implementation of the Regional Guidelines for the Comprehensive Protection of Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents in the Context of Migration.		II Semester	I & II Semester	I & II Semester	I & II Semester	I & II Semester
		2. A model for the management of cases for integration and reintegration of migrant boys, girls and adolescents established.	2.1 Design and develop a model for the management of cases of migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection.			II Semester			
			2.2 Promote training on management of cases of migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection.				I Semester	I Semester	I Semester
			2.3 Evaluate the implementation of the model for the management of cases of migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection				II Semester	II Semester	
			2.4 Design a strategy to prevent stigmatization and discrimination in communities of return.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous

Th em e	Objective	Results	Actions	Res- ponsible	Year				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Theme 5: Cooperation efforts (in countries of origin, transit, destination and return) to benefit migrant boys, girls and adolescents	XIII. To support the dissemination of information efforts on the migration of boys, girls and adolescents.	1. Investigation and management of cases requiring humanitarian aid and protection.	<p>1.1. Facilitate information that contributes to the search for missing boys, girls and adolescents and strengthen family reunification or family placement, as appropriate.</p> <p>1.2. Facilitate the use of systems that enable the management of cases in an ethical and confidential manner, considering the best interest of the child, with a focus on the surviving person and an age, gender and diversity approach.</p>		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
		2. The Member States that make up the Liaison Officer Network for the Protection of Boys, Girls and Adolescents in the Context of Migration of the RCM have examples and prior experiences to support the development of projects and programmes on protection of boys, girls and adolescents, migration and international protection.	2.1 Support the development of criteria and procedures with the aim of collecting best practices implemented by relevant stakeholders (governments, humanitarian and cooperation organizations, civil society) concerning integral protection of migrant boys, girls and adolescents, including those in need of international protection.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
		3. Increased dissemination of information about migrant and refugee boys, girls and adolescents, with support from cooperation agencies.	3.1 Seek cooperation from cooperation agencies to the different mechanisms, strategies, and current campaigns that disseminate information on migrant boys, girls and adolescents including those in need of international protection, through new technologies and social networks .		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year					
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
	XIV. Technical assistance and training	1. Increased external cooperation and resource management (financial, human, technical) for integration and reintegration through the exchange of best practices between the different countries.	1.1 Identify cooperation for the implementation of the basic guidelines for the adjustment and execution of reintegration programmes, in alignment with existing efforts incorporating the various approaches concerning boys, girls and adolescents in order to identify this population group as a priority. In addition, establish what are the integration and reintegration processes, define which processes have been successful through indicators for the degree of empowerment of the boys, girls and adolescents; monitoring period outside the integration process; and age limit for exceptional cases who have reached the legal age.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	
			1.2 Identify best practices, capacity-building needs and financing gaps for integration and reintegration programmes for migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	
			1.3 Develop cooperation agreements between the countries represented in the Network.		Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	Continuous	
		2. Establishment of BID processes promoted, with an age, gender and diversity approach.	2.1 Establish activities on regional and global BID standards, case management specifically for girls, preparing an initial concept paper (meeting to be held in June).		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
			2.2 Continue providing training on the topic of migrant boys, girls and adolescents, prioritizing specific issues.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
			2.3 Disseminate online courses and training on boys, girls and adolescents, migration and international protection.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
		3. Supported capacity for political advocacy of the Network in regional and global political/judicial forums.	3.1 Support the consultation process for the development of the general comment of the Committee of the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
					To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
			3.2 Participation in the Global Compact on Migration process.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
	3.3 Participation in the Global Compact on Refugees process.			To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	
			3.4 Regional Forum of the Organization of American States (OAS) to be held in Costa Rica in 2017.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	

Theme	Objective	Results	Actions	Responsible	Year				
					2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
		4. Alternatives to detention promoted.	4.1 Disseminate the strategy entitled "Beyond detention", including family placement. This strategy (of UNHCR) seeks to support governments in identifying alternatives to detention for asylum and refugee seekers.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
	XV. To combat stigmatization and discrimination against migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection	1. Reduced social tension between migrants, refugees and host populations.	1.1 Support the development of a communication strategy aimed at raising the awareness of the public in order to prevent xenophobia and discrimination against migrant boys, girls and adolescents.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
	XVI. To promote the exchange of information at a regional level to facilitate decision-making and ensure full respect for regulations on confidentiality and prevent the revictimization of migrant boys, girls and adolescents	1. A mechanism activated for ethical exchange of information between authorities from each country that are in charge of providing assistance to migrant boys, girls and adolescents.	1.1 Establish and strengthen systems for ethical, confidential and safe collection of information on migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection.  1.2 Establish and strengthen mechanisms for the exchange of information and the analysis and monitoring of data on the dynamics of mixed migration flows.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined
		2. Information exchange is ensured through linking information, assistance and follow-up on cases of boys, girls and adolescents in vulnerable situations with psychosocial accompaniment.	2.1 Promote the development of inter-institutional agreements to enable the exchange of information about migrant boys, girls and adolescents and those in need of international protection, from the process of consular detection and protection, incorporating civil society organizations involved in providing assistance.  2.2 Incorporate indicators in systems to record information about boys, girls and adolescents, enabling coordination and links with reintegration processes.  2.3 Implement the Common Indicators for the Registration of Unaccompanied or Separated Migrant Boys, Girls and Adolescents in Consular Actions by Member Countries of the Regional Conference on Migration in each country, with the aim of achieving results in terms of comprehensive assistance.		To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined	To be defined