The Migration Management Unit (MMU) has been supporting the Government of South Sudan, since 2018 to develop a Comprehensive National Migration Policy by providing technical and logistical support under the Better Migration Management (BMM) programme. The BMM programme is funded by the European Union (EU) through the German International Cooperation (GIZ) and the Immigration and Border Management (IBM) programme funded by the Government of Japan. The Comprehensive National Migration Policy was drafted in close collaboration between the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) and IOM based on results of the various meetings and technical discussions that were held among relevant stakeholders, including the NCM Committee of the Government of South Sudan. The policy was presented at the two-day validation workshop held on 20 to 21 February 2019 in Juba. Participants at the workshop included representatives from the government, research institutes and other UN agencies such as UNHCR. Participants validated the draft policy and the Minister of Interior made a commitment to get the policy adopted through the Council of Ministers and Parliament.

National Migration Policy

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Capacity Building

From January to March 2019, IOM supported and facilitated the following four events to build the capacities of government officers and other stakeholders on border and migration management related topics:
Training on Basic Computer Skills and Utilization of MIDAS

Capacity development of Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Immigration (DNPI) staff in information and communication technology (ICT) and records management is one of the targeted objectives of DNPI’s five-year strategic plan (2017 to 2021). From 11 to 22 February 2019, with financial support from the Government of Japan, IOM supported the DNPI in training 30 newly recruited immigration officers, recently deployed to Juba International Airport (JIA) and immigration offices in Juba, in order to improve their basic computer skills and utilization of the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS). Their improved skills are expected to contribute to further enhancing the quality and efficiency of DNPI’s services, especially collection, management and analysis of immigration data as well as detection of fraudulent documents and migration related crimes. This training was facilitated by DNPI’s training team who were trained through various Training of Trainers courses under IBM programme funded by Japan in 2016 and 2017.

Training on Risk-Based Passenger Controls

On 6 March, under the IBM project funded by the Government of Japan, IOM organized a training session on risk-based passenger controls for 17 immigration and customs officers who work at the JIA, in collaboration with IC Net Limited, a Japanese consulting firm. The participants were trained on air passenger risk management, Ebola infection, prevention and control and interagency cooperation for airport operations. They were also engaged in dialogue concerning the promotion of safe, orderly and dignified facilitation of passengers through efficient airport operations at the JIA. The participants recognized that strengthened interagency cooperation between immigration and customs officials is necessary to enhance security and increase revenue collection. IC Net Limited is a partner agency of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and has been implementing JICA’s ‘Project for Capacity Development of National Revenue Authority - Customs Division, South Sudan, for introduction of harmonized system code (P.I.H.S)’ since 2016.

Training on Care for Victims of Trafficking

Under the BMM programme funded by the EU through GIZ, IOM launched a nationwide training programme on caring for victims of trafficking and guidance for medical and health workers in September 2018. The programme aims at improving protection and health services toward vulnerable migrants including victims of trafficking. The second training, organized by IOM, included 23 government officers, working at the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare and Juba Teaching Hospital (national referral hospital) from 27 to 29 March in Juba. The participants were trained on how to identify victims or potential victims of human trafficking; how to care and offer health services to victims; and how to communicate with victims when dealing with protection and trafficking cases. The nationwide training programme will continue throughout 2019 at several locations within the country.

Integrated Border Management Committee Meeting

On 8 March, IOM facilitated the Integrated Border Management Committee (IBMC) meeting in Nimule by providing logistics support under the BMM programme and presenting on the importance of community engagement. The meeting was attended by 23 staff from the government border agencies and members of the local community, aimed to enhance coordination and cooperation among government agencies and stakeholders in order to improve border surveillance and control on the Nimule border areas. A major outcome of the meeting was the establishment of a collaborative partnership between the IBMC and border communities in Nimule. With IOM’s support, the IBMC in South Sudan was operationalized in May 2018. The IBMC works to strengthen interagency cooperation among border agencies at ports of entry, especially land borders. The Nimule IBMC is the first committee formed in the country. Benchmarks to be set from the Nimule border will be rolled-out for other borders in future.