

# Localisation Approach

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**IOM**  
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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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Since 2009, the ongoing crisis in Northeast Nigeria has resulted in the displacement of 2,375,6611 individuals across the three states of Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe. Coupled with the increasing impacts of climate change and the growing crisis in Northwest and central region, the Government of Nigeria, in collaboration with United Nations (UN) Agencies as well as international and national organizations, has been leading the humanitarian response. National and international actors are aiding with the protection needs of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and the communities that host them in line with Nigeria's Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and national development strategies with the goal of providing life-saving services and putting communities on durable solution

pathways.

The International Organization of Migration (IOM) seeks to emphasise and strengthen the role of local actors, communities and organizations in responding to the needs of those affected and the identification of context-specific solutions. Aligned to the commitments under the 'Grand Bargain: Agenda for Humanity' and the UN Action Plan on Internal Displacement, IOM commit to leveraging the capacities of local knowledge and leadership, especially in remote communities. This includes strengthening partnership with local/national NGOs and actors in order reach the growing number of people in need and build local capacities to achieve sustainable solution that are relevant and contextual to the affected communities.

## IOM commitment under the Grand Bargain:

"IOM is committed to the localisation agenda by supporting humanitarian response by providing more support and funding tools for local and national responders. Through its crisis preparedness and response programmes, IOM is committed to strengthening local and national actors' capacities to build resilience, support local ownership, and support durable solutions."

Aligned to IOM Nigeria 2023-2027 Country Strategy, the Organization will leverage its institutional knowledge to build local resilience through safe and well governed human mobility to assure the humanitarian needs of those affected and deliver on Nigeria's development goals. This includes strengthening the capacity of local actors, through trainings, resource mobilisation,

localised coordination, accountability and transparency, and gender inclusivity. IOM aims to consolidate local ownership and leadership across an array of humanitarian and development programmes including return and reintegration, climate change adaptation, conflict mitigation, economic revitalisation and social cohesion. Local actors play a critical role in achieving

solutions, often acting as the first responders they play a key role in responding to Nigeria's crises and the

## 2.0 Scope of the Strategy

IOM Nigeria Localisation Strategy provides guidance on meaningful and practical engagements modalities with local and national actors. The Strategy does not provide thematic specific guidance for

## 3.0 Rationale for Localisation

### 3.1 Access for Quick Response

IOM Nigeria Localisation Strategy provides guidance on meaningful and practical engagements modalities with local and national actors. The Strategy does not provide thematic specific guidance for localisation – this is reserved within the purview of the respective Units for a technical and more in-depth analysis to employ.

### 3.2 Cost Effectiveness

Benefiting from local knowledge and pre-existing partnerships, networks and access to infrastructure local actors are often more agile in responding to crises. As already embedded in communities, local organisations can allow for reduced logistics and transportation costs, lower overheads and fewer administrative expenses.

### 3.3 Ownership

Local ownership ensures that response programmes are tailored to the specific needs and priorities of the affected

transition phase. IOM aims to empower and leverage these organisations to lead on indigenous and community-led solutions.

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IOM plays a crucial role in supporting the rebuilding of displaced communities by providing income-generating opportunities. Photo IOM 2023/Elijah Elaigwu

communities, making it more effective and relevant. Community-centred responses fosters local responsibility in seeking out indigenous solutions that are based on consultation, engagement, and collaboration.

### 3.4 Sustainability

Identifying practical strategies that enhance local capacities, participation in decision

making, influence over strategic direction, and access to quality funding provides the foundation for long-term resilience and the self-reliance of communities. Delivering principled partnership in humanitarian and development services allows local actors

to reduce dependency on international support, facilitating more efficient, effective and accountable localised solutions that can respond to both immediate and long-term challenges.

#### 4.0 Objectives of the Localisation Strategy

- Increase support and strengthen institutional capacity of government counterparts and local actors to provide effective, efficient and data-driven response tailored towards addressing the needs and challenges of local communities;
- Support the drive by local actors towards attracting resources and closing the gap in humanitarian financing or funding and to improve service delivery;
- Improve on the collaboration and synergy with local actors while strengthening local solutions and building a clear pathway for sustainable solution;
- Support local actors in providing a long-lasting positive impact that would be driven by home-grown strategy with a wide range of local participation and acceptance.





## 5.0 Strategy for Localisation

### 5.1 Identification and Collaboration

Since opening its office in Nigeria, IOM has collaborated with national NGOs to support with the delivery of an array of services, including protection, labour mobility, health and border governance. Equally IOM has been at the forefront of Nigeria's humanitarian responses collaborating with local actors in delivering emergency shelter/NFLs, construction of emergency shelters, camp management and camp coordination and data collection. Leveraging on the existing relationships and collaboration with local actors, IOM will establish a comprehensive database of local

actors in line with their competencies and ability for a quick deployment to locations of response, especially in situations of rapid response. IOM will work towards reducing its footprint in direct implementation and further explore implementing through local partners by providing the necessary support and resources. IOM will increase its coverage of service delivery across communities that are currently hard to reach due to access and other institutional constraints.

### 5.2 Strengthening Institutional Capacity

IOM will take a 'capacity sharing' approach to enhancing local actors and communities.

1. Northeast Nigeria CP AoR Localisation Strategy

2. Pathways to Localisation – A framework towards locally led humanitarian response in partnership-based action.

Through tailored assessments IOM will work to identify capacity gaps, leverage institutional added value and provide support that focuses on sustainability and self-reliance. IOM will strengthen present and new partnerships to foster trust and collaboration, allowing flexibility in delivering funding and capacities towards localised institutional needs .

In line with these objectives IOM will work with local organisation to building programmes on disaster preparedness, disaster response and coordination, trainings on data services through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme to enhance nationally-owned interoperable data systems, IOM Labour Migration and Social Inclusion

(LMI) vocational trainings to strengthen youth employment, and localised health capacities-building programmes through IOM Migration Health programmes to improve quality access to medical services.

In addition, a broad range of training activities will be tailored towards strengthening the capacity of local actors for effective resource mobilisation, project management, monitoring and evaluation in line with international best practices:

- Proposal writing, which may include resource mapping and mobilisation;
- Project management, financial systems and compliance;
- Project monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEAL);



- Project implementation and accountability, among others.

### 5.3 Funding/Financing for Local Actors

Limited access to quality funding remains a challenge to local actors. Despite the global target set by the Grand Bargain to achieve an increase of 25 percent funding to local and national responders by 2020 and to reduce transactional cost, local partners continue to face challenges in accessing funds. IOM is therefore committed to increasing funding access for local actors through capacity strengthening on organizational budget management, knowledge on country-based pool funds, disaster relief/emergency rapid response funds and other forms of partnership agreements. Through these activities IOM aims to strengthen programme sustainability, ensuring that local organisations remain engaged in the community after the crisis, allowing for innovation and reducing the need for

international assistance.

### 5.4 Advocacy

IOM will leverage on her influence, both nationally and internationally, in supporting local actors to increase their visibility and have more result-oriented engagements with relevant stakeholders and donors. IOM will collaborate with local organisation to increase the recognition of participating local actors and crediting and/or acknowledging their role in local/contextual design and implementation or programmes activities across international partner reporting platforms and forums. IOM will provide support in advocating for and securing greater functional links with relevant international aid forums and donors to ensure that local partners are able to have access to a wide range of national and international donor organizations.

## 6.0 Conclusion

The IOM Localisation Approach aims to promote strong and practical partnerships with local organizations in Nigeria. This is to ensure that the services provided to affected populations are effective, sustainable, and aligned with global standards for localisation. This strategy

serves as a starting point for different units within IOM Nigeria to enhance their localisation efforts based on their specific roles and expertise with the aim is to build local resilience, leverage human mobility as a catalyst for change and strengthen migration governance.

3. The Grand Bargain and Localisation Commitments.

4. The Grand Bargain in 2021 – An Independent Review – Executive Summary June 2022.



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