



# EVALUATION BRIEF

[20 April 2022]

## [FINAL INDEPENDENT INTERNAL EVALUATION OF THE "RECOVER FROM THE COVID-19 ADVERSE MOBILITY RESTRICTIONS INDUCED IMPACTS IN MADAGASCAR (REFRAME MADAGASCAR)" PROJECT IN MADAGASCAR.]

This evaluation brief presents a summary of the key findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as identified by the evaluator for use by key stakeholders, including internally by IOM staff and externally by project partners. More details can be found in the full evaluation report.

**Evaluation type:** Internal independent post project

**Evaluator(s):** Ekaterina SAMOLYGO, Monitoring & Evaluation, Reporting and Project Development Assistant, IOM Madagascar

**Field visit dates:** March 2022

**Final report date:** April 2022

**Commissioned by:** [IOM Madagascar]

**Managed by:** [Maxime SICARD, Programme Coordinator]

**Evaluation purpose:** [To determine whether and how the project achieved its objectives following standard evaluation criteria. In addition to the expected direct effects of the project, the evaluation also sought to assess the broader context, including potential indirect or unintended effects, relationships with other projects, cross-cutting issues, and outlook in terms of need and potential for follow-up projects and recommendations for future action]

**Evaluation criteria:** [Relevance, consistency, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability, and crosscutting themes]

**Evaluation methodology:** [Document Review, Semi-structured Online Key Informant Interviews & Direct Observations]

### Project information:

Geographical coverage: [Antananarivo, Nosy Be, Tamatave , MADAGASCAR]

Project type: [IB - Immigration and Borders ]

Project code: [IB.0245]

Gender marker: [Not Marked at the time]

Project period: [01-04-2021 to 30-03-2022]

Donor: [Government of Japan ]

## PROJECT SUMMARY

This twelve-month immigration and border management (IBM) project named "Recover from the COVID-19 Adverse Mobility Restrictions Induced Impacts in Madagascar (REFrame Madagascar)" funded by the Government of Japan, and implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Madagascar aimed to *enhance disease surveillance and control at the main points of entry (i.e. airports and major seaports) in line with the International Health Regulations*. The project's objective was to contribute to the control of COVID-19 and diseases with epidemic potential in Madagascar by improving structural capacity for disease prevention, surveillance and control at international points of entry. This was achieved through the *procurement and instalment of essential equipment and ICT materials and strengthening human resources capacity at three priority points of entries (POEs)*, namely the airport of Ivato, the airport of Nosy Be and the seaport of Tamatave. The project was implemented from **April 1, 2021 to March 30, 2022** in close collaboration with the Malagasy government bodies.

The final evaluation was carried out internally and independently by an IOM Monitoring & Evaluation, Reporting and Project Development Assistant. Home-based online interviews took place from March 15 to 24, 2022, just prior to the end of the project on March 31, 2022. The evaluator conducted online interviews with beneficiaries and partners based at the three targeted PoEs.

### Project context:

The COVID-19 crisis, a global pandemic since March 2020, has already resulted in more than 499 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide, including more than 64,000 cases recorded in Madagascar, and thus has greatly affected border management as well as and the mobility of people.

In this context, it was important that public health threats such as COVID-19 could be detected and managed at the country's PoEs, which are the first line of defense against the spread of viruses within the country. In response to this evolving global pandemic of COVID-19, the International Organization for Migration's mission in Madagascar has implemented the "REFrame Madagascar" project.

## KEY FINDINGS & CONCLUSIONS

The project was **aligned with national needs, priorities and existing border management measures**, and outputs delivered by the project were consistent with intended outcome and objective. The project remained **relevant through its entire implementation period**, and its results are still pertinent today and will have a medium-term effect. It was designed to build on and complement existing national strategies and policies, yet it is a unique OIM project in its field. Based on the evaluation, one can confidently state that the IB.0245 project was complementary to the previous projects, as it was largely **concerned with measures related to COVID-19 and possibly other diseases with pandemic potential**. Thus, the project demonstrated **strong internal and external coherence**.

The **two outputs** (border management and security agencies have the technical and material capacities and systems adapted to disease prevention, surveillance, and control; border management and security agencies have the skills, expertise, and human resources capacities to analyze and mitigate public health risk at points of entry (PoEs) in a coordinated and intersectoral manner) **were successfully achieved** through **conducting border personnel trainings and material capacities and system upgrades procurement and installment**.

As for efficiency issues, one may conclude that the project team showed **good efficiency, demonstrating a flexible approach to the allocation of funds in the course of the project**.

One can assume the **potential economic impact** of the implemented project: the timely diagnosis of COVID-19 cases will reduce the dynamics of diseases, which in the medium term will contribute to the **ongoing opening of borders, the free movement of persons and the restoration of tourist potential**, which plays a crucial role in the economy of Madagascar.

The economic impact will be followed by a **social impact**, which will be expressed in terms of a **decrease in the number of tensions by virtue of the improved economic situation**.

It is also safe to say that in the long term the **effects the project produced will continue**. Much will depend, however, on the spread of other diseases and their nature.

## CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

The project team initially paid the necessary attention to **gender issues**: the plan was to train about 30% of women, but it was complicated by the fact that very small number of women work for the border management agencies and this figure could not be achieved for objective reasons.

Concerning **environmental issues**, an eco-friendly approach was used when purchasing equipment: e.g. washable protective coveralls were purchased.

## LESSONS LEARNT

Based on the analysis, it is recommended that the duration of such projects be increased from 12 to **18 months**

## GOOD PRACTICES

Collaborating with senior officials (decision makers) and consulting with direct beneficiaries while planning activities (**flexible approach**), as well as integrating beneficiaries through a **participatory approach**.

## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

### Recommendations for IOM staff:

- Monitor the installation and use of the equipment provided, as well as the **transfer of knowledge** from participants to their colleagues.
- Carry out a mix of theoretical and practical sessions – instead of separate theoretical trainings and practical simulations.
- Strengthen the **visibility of the project**.

### Recommendations for national partners:

- Increase **coordination** between the agencies involved.
- Build **passenger information sharing** between the border management agencies.
- Conduct **trainings on a permanent basis** to keep staff knowledge and skills current.

### Recommendations for donor:

- Based on Standard Operating Procedures approved after simulations, **expand the project to the remaining six of nine national airports and seaports**.
- Continue financial support to IOM programmes, notably to the implementation of **Madagascar Plan on Sanitary Control** in six other international POEs and for the development of an **Emergency plan on international POEs**.