

# PROJECT EVALUATION LEARNING BRIEF

August 2020

This learning brief is a summary of the key findings, conclusions, and recommendations prepared by the Owl RE consultancy for use by IOM project staff and management and the Fund. Details on all of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations can be found in the full evaluation report.

<b>Evaluation type:</b>	External independent ex-post evaluation
<b>Evaluator(s):</b>	Patricia Goldschmid Owl RE
<b>Evaluation visit:</b>	2-6 March 2020
<b>Final report:</b>	20 August 2020
<b>Commissioned by:</b>	IOM Development Fund ("The Fund")

**Managed by:** Josué Gastelbondo, IOM Chief of Mission and (former) Project Manager, Dominican Republic

**Evaluation purpose:** To assess the relevance of the project for the stakeholders and beneficiaries, to determine whether the project has achieved its intended objective; the effectiveness and efficiency of project management and implementation; promote transparency and accountability, assist the Fund in its decision-making, better equip staff to make judgments about the project and to improve the effectiveness for potential future project funding.

**Evaluation criteria:** Relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability

**Evaluation methodology:** Document review and semi-structured interviews

## PROJECT SUMMARY

The Dominican Republic is a country with significant emigration and immigration. With a population of approximately 10 million, the Dominican diaspora represents almost 20% of the population of the Dominican Republic, while immigrants, mostly of Haitian origin, represent approximately 5.6% of the total population.

Migration is a cross-cutting issue in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with 11 out of 17 goals containing targets and indicators relevant to migration or mobility. The Agenda's core principle to "leave no one behind" includes migrants and requires the generation and improvement of migration data.

The objective of this project was to contribute to national efforts to measure progress in meeting Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs) targets related to migration management by supporting the institutions responsible for the implementation of migration policy and the National Statistical System. The aim was to review and adapt their institutional processes to plan and measure progress towards achieving the SDGs.

*Contributing to the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals Related to Migration Management in the Dominican Republic*

Geographical coverage:	Dominican Republic
Project type:	Migration management
Project code:	DO10P0001/CE.0352



*Presentation of the results of the Migration Governance Index, February 2018, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic*

### KEY FINDINGS

The project contributed to the Dominican Republic's efforts to measure its progress in meeting the SDGs with regard to goals related to migration management.

**Relevance (rating: Excellent - 5):** The project was recognised as highly relevant as it supported the government's commitment to working towards achieving the SDGs. It considered and built on existing government policies and strategies to create synergies and ensure institutional buy-in. Some initiatives were not included in the original project framework, such as the use of external consultants seconded to the national institutions, and development of the Migration Governance Index (MGI).

**Effectiveness (rating: Very Good - 4):** The project was seen as effective in achieving its objective. IOM was able to generate a commitment from government agencies to identify migration-related indicators that would contribute to measuring SDG targets in line with the country's own national development strategy.

**Efficiency and Cost Effectiveness (rating: Good - 3):** The evaluation found that the use of financial resources was appropriate, and the project was cost-effective. While it was not included in the original results matrix of the project, the fact that several consultants were seconded to the government entities was seen as efficient, as it allowed for better access to information and communication with staff.

**Impact (rating: Very Good - 4):** The project was very successful in creating awareness about migration governance and mobilising government entities to commit to developing strategic and programmatic processes within the country.

**Sustainability (rating: Very Good - 4):** The project was able to bring about a change in migration governance in the Dominican Republic. It developed several processes that have been sustained beyond the project closure in June 2018. A number of initiatives were integrated into the project that would allow for the momentum generated during the project to continue beyond its closure. In particular, government entities were motivated to engage and take ownership of the process. Mechanisms were also established within institutions such as the National Migration School to allow for continued training on SDGs and Agenda 2030.

IOM also continued to be involved with key organisations post project closure by connecting new projects as a continuation. While migration will remain

an important issue for the government, it was also noted that a change in government could influence the continuation and approach in migration governance.

### Conclusions

The project was designed to have a long-term impact in the Dominican Republic in line with Agenda 2030. It was well aligned with national priorities and integrated government entities effectively. It deviated from the initial project design in including consultants seconded to the national structures and in the use of MGI to measure indicator 10.7.2. IOM ensured the continuity post project closure through its continued involvement as a technical advisor for the implementation of plans that result from the indicator measurement.

### KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

#### A. Project design

- For all For all IOM country offices implementing IDF projects on SDGs and migration, include the concept of MGI at the beginning of the project where relevant, in order to benefit from the results and the collaboration with the IOM HQ.

#### B. Gender and human rights

- For all For all IOM country offices implementing IDF projects on SDGs and migration, ensure that gender is prioritized in the conception of activities such as capacity building.

#### C. Collaboration with civil society

- .Future projects to implement strategies linked to migration and SDGs should be designed to include civil society from design to implementation. This could be done through opportunities for discussion between government entities involved and civil society groups, or links to the diaspora

#### D. Sustainability

- All IDF projects should have a sustainability and follow-up plan as part of the final report.