

# International Organization for Migration



Ethical Pandemic Preparedness  
for Migrants and Host Communities





# Outline

- Introduction
- Ethical pandemic preparedness
- Review of pandemic plans
- IOM global pandemic preparedness programme
- Example of IOM advocacy for migrant inclusion
- The way forward





# Pandemic Influenza preparedness for migrants

- Ethical Plans
- Respect Human Rights, in particular the Right to Health and Social Services



*National Plan inclusion of Migrants is an ethical public health practice for the benefit of all of society*



# Ethical Pandemic Plans

- Engage Migrant Community Representatives
- **Evidence Based** Migrant Friendly Communication Strategies
- **Educate** Humanitarian, Health, Social Services and Development Workers About Migrant Needs
- Migrants **Access** to Services Irrespective of **Legal Status**





# Review of Documents

- Methodology
  - Google search engine
  - English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian documents
  - National, Regional, Institution plans/ guidelines
  - Only documents available on internet
  - Only final documents reviewed
  - Review conducted in February 2010



# Results

- ✓ 61 Documents reviewed
- ✓ 15 Documents mention providing information to migrants
- ✓ 2 National Plans refer to clinical treatment for migrant workers
- ✓ 1 National plan recognise the risk of stigma and discrimination



# Global & Regional guidance

- ✓ 2 ECDC Regional guidance
- ✓ 4 WHO Documents
- ✓ CDC Documents
- ✓ 33 peer reviewed articles on ethics and pandemic, 7 articles make reference to migrants



# Review Conclusion

Migrants and other vulnerable groups have not been included in most of the National, Regional and Global Pandemic Preparedness Plans

Despite

- WHO Guidance on pandemic influenza preparedness and mitigation among refugees and displaced persons
- The World Health Assembly resolution promotes Health of Migrants



# IOM Promotion of Ethical Migrant Preparedness

## Advocacy for migrant inclusion

- With Member States
- At inter ministerial pandemic meetings
- At Inter agency meetings
- Produce migrant friendly information

Strengthen migrant capacity to cope during a pandemic



# IOM Advocacy in Lao PDR

- 2007 IOM project started in Lao PDR
- 2008 Migrants needs included into the Lao's National Pandemic Preparedness Plan
- 2009 Migrant health education selected as a priority for next phase of plan





# Inclusive Communication Strategies for Ethical Pandemic Preparedness

- Evidence-informed
- Multi-sectoral approach
- Target-oriented approach
- Involvement of migrants and host communities
  - To ensure...
    - relevance of the messages
    - cultural appropriateness and linguistic suitability



# Healthy Migrants for the Benefit of All

IOM

continues to promote migrants inclusion  
in pandemic preparedness plans as  
an ethical public health practice



Thank you

For more information  
[www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)