



# 2024 IMPACT REPORT



USA<sup>FOR</sup> IOM  
UN MIGRATION

USA for IOM is the nonprofit partner in the US of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Our aim is to raise awareness and engage support for humanitarian assistance and development initiatives to improve the lives of migrants and displaced people around the world and generate sustainable impact in communities.

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Cover photo: Diana, participant in the Entrepreneurship in Movement program, established a cart to sell foods from her home country of Venezuela. She has developed her customer base and livelihood, enabling her to better provide for her children. © IOM Peru 2024.

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## Message from Interim CEO

The urgency of humanitarian response and migration challenges around the globe has risen and continued unabated in 2024. Due to ongoing conflict, disasters, and widespread strife, millions of people require urgent assistance. USA for IOM, is proud to join IOM and partners in the necessary humanitarian response to these crises.

In 2024, USA for IOM, IOM's National Committee in the United States, continued and enhanced collaboration with IOM offices and partners, supporting IOM's impactful migration initiatives, and enabling support to more than 100,000 beneficiaries in various crisis contexts around the world.

We are proud to present this USA for IOM 2024 Impact Report. The report highlights our key activities this year, including critical aid provided around the globe, events, external collaborations and partnership development.



Through a variety of high-level events and collaboration with United Nations networks in the United States, USA for IOM continued engagement to highlight the benefits of collaboration in humanitarian assistance, and the contributions that migrants make to their host communities. The critical work of USA for IOM persists, and we continue to advocate and foster partnerships that contribute to innovation solutions.

Following a transition in USA for IOM leadership in 2024, the organization is positioned to expand its impact in the year to come. We recognize the cornerstone leadership that Maria Moreno provided as CEO in her 12 years of service to USA for IOM.

The generosity of donors in the United States enabled our work to fill gaps in programming and respond to urgent needs, from socioeconomic integration initiatives to lifesaving support to migrants in crisis.

Private sector partnerships have expanded impact, utilizing technical expertise to enable increased reach to support vulnerable people.

USA for IOM is deeply appreciative of the foundations, business associations, private sector partners, and IOM staff worldwide who enable our work to impact the lives of migrants around the world.

Thank you for your support to USA for IOM. I look forward to all that we will achieve in the future, for a more inclusive and prosperous society.

Best regards,

*Luciano Arroio*

Interim CEO, Head of Operations

# The Board of Directors

USA for IOM is governed by an accomplished Board of Directors who share a commitment to the goals and values of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Their personal and professional experience with migration provides invaluable guidance for our policy, advocacy, fundraising, and programming activities.



**Ranit Mishori**  
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Board Member



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Board Member



**Arthur E. Gene Dewey**  
Board Member Emeritus



In 2024 we...

**RAISED OVER  
4.8M USD**

through private sector, foundations  
and individual donors.



SUPPORTED OVER

**100K  
BENEFICIARIES**

Internally Displaced Persons,  
vulnerable populations,  
young entrepreneurs, minors,  
people on the move.



Collaborated with **40 IOM offices and field missions** to mobilize global support for migration initiatives.

More than **10 partnerships** with private sector and non-profit partners, both new and ongoing, to develop **12+ impactful projects.**

# OUR IMPACT

📍 Project implementation



*“The collaboration between USA for IOM and IOM missions enables our global reach and strengthens our initiatives, ensuring that the funds we receive create a widespread impact in crisis response and support for migrants in need across the world.”*

*Bobbi Wegner*

USA for IOM Board Secretary



A photograph showing a woman in a blue IOM jacket with a lanyard and ID badge pointing towards a blue bin. She is talking to an elderly woman wearing a pink beanie and a grey jacket. In the background, there are cardboard boxes, some with the IOM logo, and a residential area with trees and houses. The text "Projects and partnerships" is overlaid in large white font at the bottom.

# Projects and partnerships



# Entrepreneurship in Movement

The Entrepreneurship in Movement program, supported by the **Citi Foundation**, supports migrants and community members to create sustainable livelihoods through business development. The program strengthens the local economy by supporting entrepreneurs with the tools and skills to launch new businesses, fostering job creation and social cohesion.

The program was initiated in 2019 to support migrants and refugees from Venezuela. The program has expanded to empower thousands of migrants and host community members, contributing to local economies in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In 2024, youth convening events, speaking opportunities and multi-channel media promotion have enhanced visibility and highlighted the success of the Entrepreneurship in Movement as a socioeconomic integration program.

The fourth phase of the program continued to empower hundreds of young migrant entrepreneurs and their host communities through a multi-country capacity development, business training and mentoring program for young people and an Innovation Challenge.

Through networking and partnership development, activities engage a variety of stakeholders, government, private sector, civil society in order to expand impact.



## Entrepreneurship in Movement Program

A series of powerful video testimonials from IOM offices in Peru and Ecuador showcase the transformative impact of USA for IOM's Entrepreneurship in Movement Program. The stories reveal how equipping migrants with entrepreneurial skills both empowers them and enriches their host communities.



*"We managed to double our customer base, thanks to the equipment we were able to purchase to increase production. We also succeeded in building customer loyalty, as our clients saw that we are capable entrepreneurs."*

*Ramón*

Amaretto's Tradición



*"IOM's program together with Citi Foundation provided me with valuable guidance regarding the organization of my finances. It allowed me to grow progressively, to build a work team. The program has definitely helped me improve my quality of life, and for my family."*

*Erika*

Therapy Dec



## Social Mentorships 2024–2025: Strengthening Leaders, Strengthening Communities

Women leaders in the Venezuelan diaspora are driving positive change in their communities. Thanks to Citi Foundation's support, IOM launched neuroscience-based social mentorship sessions, offering resilience-building techniques to enhance their well-being.

In 2024, **29 women leaders** participated in these mentorships, gaining:

- ✓ A renewed sense of belonging and identity, transforming displacement into strength
- ✓ Peer support networks, reducing emotional isolation and fostering safe spaces
- ✓ Innovative leadership approaches, adapted to both personal and community needs

*"These mentorship sessions have been a gift, guiding me back to myself. I've learned that self-care isn't selfish but rather the foundation for transforming my life and the lives of those around me. Today, I lead with greater strength and live with deeper purpose and peace."*

*Reina Isabel Torres*

Social Mentorships for Women Leaders of the Diaspora initiative 2024



Looking ahead to 2025, Citi Foundation's support will expand the initiative to reach even more women leaders. By investing in these women, Citi Foundation is investing in entire communities—ensuring that those who lead the way for others have the support they need to thrive.



# Ukraine Humanitarian Support Through Diaspora Engagement

To contribute to Ukraine's resilience and economic recovery, the Ukrainian diaspora engagement project strengthens IOM cooperation with Ukrainian diaspora organizations and the Government of Ukraine. The project enhances the impact of diasporas' contributions to Ukraine's humanitarian needs and its social and economic recovery through building greater synergies.

This USA for IOM project is implemented by the Diaspora Engagement Unit at IOM United States. Activities in 2024 focused on creating opportunities for Ukrainian designers through visibility and logistics support, further enabling them to enhance recovery employment opportunities within their communities.



Motanka, a traditional Ukrainian guardian doll.



## Pop-Up Shop

The art and products of nearly 50 Ukrainian artists and craftspeople, including small businesses launched by veterans and those displaced from war-affected regions of Ukraine, are featured at the Ukrainian Pop-Up Shop, launched in Toronto, Canada in 2024. Founded by NAZOVNI.online and with logistical support from IOM, the shop has been delighting scores of visitors and helping to support economic recovery in Ukraine.

The Pop-Up Shop is not only promoting the handmade crafts of talented artisans but also showcasing Ukrainian art and culture for thousands of visitors. More than 40 containers of goods have been shipped from Ukraine to Canada, supporting the expansion of businesses and provision of employment in Ukraine.

“The Pop-Up Shop gives an opportunity for Ukrainian small businesses to introduce their goods outside of Ukraine,” said Oleksandra Sologub, Operational Director of NAZOVNI.Online.

*“The situation right now is not easy. Even with the power cuts and everything the businesses are running. They’re trying to stabilize, they’re trying to give [places of work] to people.”*

*Oleksandra Sologub*

Operational Director of NAZOVNI.Online



Tetiana Protcheva is a master embroider from Kyiv, who is known for her innovative designs combining traditional Ukrainian embroidery and modern technological elements like QR codes to promote deeper understanding of Ukrainian culture and history. © IOM 2024 / Shelley Daphne Henning.

## Shoppe Object

### Ukraine Designers show their products in NYC

Seven small Ukrainian design businesses, gathered under the banner TradewithUA, welcomed hundreds of buyers and visitors to peruse their products during Shoppe Object, New York's annual premier home and gift show, held August 4-6. USA for IOM and the IOM Diaspora team coordinated with Powered by People (PBP), the collective's sponsoring partner, to highlight the group of Ukrainian designers. TradewithUA had an opportunity to interface with wholesalers and to promote foreign market opportunities.

While creating quality, modern and functional pieces, these Ukrainian designers support capacity building for women, emphasize sustainability in their practices, and offer employment to internally displaced persons.

*"We have to be fast and effective because we have only one hour of electricity. It's really hard to produce in Ukraine now, but our mission is to stay safe and to show Ukrainian design now even in conditions of war."*

*Katerina Spolital*  
Woolberry bags




© IOM 2024 / Shelley Daphne Henning.

*"It is clear that diaspora communities play a role in facilitating recovery for conflict-affected Ukrainians and their communities. Through promoting Ukrainian small and medium enterprises in the United States and Canada, diaspora communities increase economic opportunities and market access that directly support livelihoods in Ukraine."*

*Abigail Maristela*  
Program Coordinator, Diaspora Unit, IOM United States



# Delivery of Emergency Supplies Supports Flood Response in Kenya



Intense rainfall in Kenya in 2024 caused severe flooding, displacing over 400,000 people, destroying homes and livelihoods, and threatening access to clean drinking water, as well as jeopardizing health and well-being. Significant infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, was also badly damaged. Many of the affected families had only recently endured harsh droughts; the floods presented yet another weather-related disaster that tested their resilience and ability to survive. USA for IOM was pleased to facilitate private sector partnerships, enhancing resources and enabling further support, to accompany IOM's comprehensive assistance in collaboration with the Government of Kenya.



## IOM and DHL Group Partnership

A collaborative effort between DHL Group, Wine To Water (WTW), and IOM Kenya, with support from USA for IOM, mobilized to provide clean water solutions to affected communities. Through this partnership, **1,000 high-quality water filters were donated delivered and distributed**, ensuring families have access to safe drinking water.

Despite heavy rains in Tana River County making many roads impassable, and security challenges in some areas, DHL Group's pro-bono logistical support and ground expertise ensured the successful delivery of the 1,000 filters and buckets. DHL coordinated transport and managed last-mile delivery to communities. Distributions were completed by 1 December 2024.



© IOM 2024 / Madina Gwiye Said.

*“When I fetch water from the river and pour it into the filter, it comes out crystal clear, cleaner than Mount Kilimanjaro’s water. It is safe and satisfying to drink. Since receiving this water filter, I have felt great relief. It has brought comfort to my family, eliminating the struggle of searching for clean water, and water treatment chemicals. This initiative has saved us from many waterborne diseases. I truly love this filter.”*

*Mzaham Ali Islam*

Community leader from Garsen West Ward





*"We use river water for our daily needs, though the river water is dirty. When we drink the water it affects us and harm us; the children get diarrhea, and the adults also. Sometimes we suffer from cholera and other diseases. But since we received these little filters and buckets things have improved. When people drink the filtered water, we are prevented from getting sick. Now we are living well, our children and our families. As residents we are happy with the tool we received."*

*Esha Halako Abae*

Farmer from Garsen



© IOM Kenya 2024 / Grace Kae.

DHL's GoHelp Disaster Response Team drilled holes in each bucket to fit the filters, ensuring easy and efficient water filtration.

## IOM and UPS Foundation Partnership

The UPS Foundation donated in-kind transportation and logistics support to deliver emergency supplies to thousands of families affected by flooding in Kenya. Through the UPS Foundation donation and their partner G4S, 17 trucks traversed more than 3,000 kilometers in total, crossing flood-affected areas, where severe damage to roads and bridges affected traffic routes.

The delivery reached five counties with 3.8 metric tons of relief supplies prepared by IOM in Kenya. As part of comprehensive recovery support efforts, the distributions from July to September delivered relief kits to **4,200 families, with more than 25,000 lives impacted.**

Counties of distribution of IOM relief kits delivered by UPS Foundation in response to 2024 floods in Kenya.



*"It was raining heavily; the rain and flood soaked our beds. We are afraid for our children, we have nowhere to take them. It rained again yesterday. We have no place to put our belongings, so we sleep on wet ground. I am grateful today for this distribution. Thank you, it was sincerely needed."*

*Nadia*

A mother from Tana River



# Autodesk Software Licenses Advance IOM Shelter and Settlements Initiatives

The Autodesk Foundation generously donated **3.2 million USD in software licenses** through its Technology Impact Program to IOM - UN Migration through USA for IOM, enhancing design capability in humanitarian construction projects.

The in-kind contribution consists of hundreds of licenses, which support IOM's capacity to strategically design and build shelters for migrants and displaced populations in **more than 30 countries**.

This is the largest donation since the IOM – Autodesk partnership began in 2018. The licenses, from the Autodesk Architecture Engineering & Construction Collection support staff to design safe and sustainable shelters, improve mapping and design quality, and facilitate communication between project stakeholders.



An Isolation and Treatment Center, designed by IOM using Autodesk software, constructed in a camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, supports health care in the Rohingya refugee response. Photo: IOM/ Abdullah Al Mashrif



IOM staff rely on Autodesk software in planning and implementation of construction projects, including Shelter and Settlements programming; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) and for disaster risk management.

In Bangladesh, where IOM leads site planning in camps supporting Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar, Autodesk tools contribute to site and infrastructure development for effective humanitarian response. In Ukraine, IOM Shelter & Housing Unit staff use Autodesk software on a daily basis to facilitate rehabilitation and construction projects for internally displaced persons.

In addition to the donated licenses, IOM received hands on support from Autodesk through collaboration on the delivery of technical training in humanitarian site planning.

*“The private sector offers unique expertise and resources and has an essential role to play in tackling humanitarian challenges. Partnerships with the private sector are key to foster innovation in our efforts to drive solutions to displacement”*

*Luciano Arroio*

Interim CEO, USA for IOM.





# Support to Vulnerable People on the Move

## Global Assistance Fund

At risk of violence, exploitation, and abuse, a total of 28 extremely vulnerable migrants across 14 different countries have received protection support and assistance through the IOM Global Assistance Fund thanks to a grant received by USA for IOM (November 2023 – June 2025).

Support was provided to victims of trafficking, stranded migrants, migrants with medical needs, and an unaccompanied minor. The individuals included men, women and children of 15 different nationalities.

IOM's Global Assistance Fund is an emergency fund that offers personalized immediate protection and sustainable direct assistance to migrants in vulnerable circumstances. The comprehensive, coordinated assistance offers individuals the chance to heal, regain stability, and move forward with dignity.

## Restoring hope for a vulnerable woman after return to Togo

After years of hardship in Lebanon, a pregnant woman made the decision to return to her home country of Togo through IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration program. Before departure, she met medical clearance for travel; however, shortly after her arrival, she experienced severe complications and lost her baby.

Recognizing the urgency of her condition and financial and healthcare barriers, IOM covered her medical expenses in Togo to ensure she received the critical care needed. The IOM Global Assistance Fund provided reintegration support; she started a small grocery business, securing a stable source of income and regaining her independence.

## Contributing to health system capacity building in Panama

With aim to enhance health system capacity, through the Government of Panama, Ministry of Health, capacity-building assistance was provided through the donation of medicine to Ministry of Health-operated health centers. **More than 10,000 people**, both migrants and host community members in the Darien accessed medicines to address a variety of ailments.

A variety of non-food items were also provided, including clothing, shoes, and hygiene kits. **More than 500 families were provided with baby kits** – including cereals, formula, bottles, and other supplies, especially important for vulnerable families.



## Central American Minors Program

Through consistent support from the Shapiro Foundation since 2019, IOM **facilitated the movement of 1,736 beneficiaries** of the Central American Minors program to reunite with their families in the U.S. This includes **84 beneficiaries who were reunified with their families** in the U.S. from September 2023 to September 2024.

Through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the Central American Minors Program provides certain qualified children who are nationals of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, an opportunity to seek refugee status and possible resettlement in the United States.

IOM's work takes place through a grant to IOM El Salvador, with funds through USA for IOM, to provide support and transportation for beneficiaries of the Central American Minors program who were previously approved for travel under the program.

IOM's comprehensive assistance is instrumental in supporting beneficiaries throughout the process, from scheduling multiple necessary medical exams to transmitting results to USCIS. Since 2019, **a total of 545 beneficiaries have been assisted** with scheduling medical appointments.





# Expanding Awareness and Understanding of Migration



## Costa Rica Briefing

In recent years, Costa Rica has witnessed an unprecedented influx of migrants in transit searching for better opportunities. IOM in Costa Rica has noted an alarming rise in migrant families, including children, facing perilous conditions.

USA for IOM held a briefing with IOM Costa Rica Chief of Mission Diana Cartier, moderated by former USA for IOM Board Chair Suzanne Sheldon on February 8. The briefing created a space for dialogue with private sector partners on means to address migration challenges and develop durable solutions.



*"As we work at full capacity to provide urgent assistance to migrants in need in Costa Rica, it is essential to engage with government, civil society, and private sector partners to promote cooperation on migration issues, and develop innovative solutions for the benefit of migrants and host communities."*

*Diana Cartier*

IOM Costa Rica Chief of Mission

## International Women's Day Forum



Celebrating an inspiring day at the International Women's Day Forum with USA for IOM and IOM El Salvador, hosted by U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation. This event offered a platform to explore critical issues around women's empowerment, gender equality, and inclusive leadership.

It was an invaluable opportunity for building partnerships and gathering insights, setting the stage for future collaborations to better support migrant women.



## Stakeholder Roundtable Highlights Entrepreneurship as Opportunity to Integrate Migrant Youth

The Stakeholder Roundtable, organized by Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) and USA for IOM, provided a platform for forging impactful partnerships to expand regional entrepreneurial programming for migrants and host communities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Young migrant entrepreneurs collaborated with influential stakeholders from the private and public sectors to explore how entrepreneurship can drive economic empowerment and strengthen community resilience.



This event, “Youth on the Move: Youth Entrepreneurship as a Tool for Socio-Economic Integration of Migrants and Refugees”, hosted on February 29 at the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, D.C., focused on using youth entrepreneurship as a catalyst for the socio-economic integration of migrants and refugees; Entrepreneurship in Movement programming in Ecuador and Peru was highlighted.



## Concordia Americas Summit

Concordia's 2024 Americas Summit in Miami, April 23-24, gathered leaders, innovators, and changemakers for meaningful dialogue around sustainability and economic integration in Latin America, and to continue forging partnerships and innovative solutions.

Diego Beltrand, Special Envoy of the Director General of IOM for the Regional Response to the Venezuela Situation, and Regional Director (a.i.) for Central America, North America and the Caribbean, spoke on the panel entitled Strategic Dialogue: The Role of Migration in Building Inclusive and Prosperous Societies with notable panelists such as Eric Adams, the Mayor of New York City and former President of Colombia Ivan Duque.

The USA for IOM team took the opportunity to engage, liaise with partners, and participate in breakout sessions.



## Global Classrooms DC 2024 Model UN Conference



The annual Model UN Conference hosted by Global Classrooms DC, the flagship education program of the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA), provides a platform for DC Metro Area students to develop public speaking and negotiation skills while building global awareness. USA for IOM has been a proud sponsor since 2017, aligning with our mission to raise awareness about migration-related issues.

Anne Richard, former Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, US Department of State, and USA for IOM Board Member, spoke to the students at the conference on April 30, guiding informed discussions on climate-induced displacement, reflecting our commitment to fostering dialogue and preparing young minds to navigate global challenges.



## International Dialogue on Migration

The International Dialogue on Migration, held at the United Nations in New York on May 21-22, brought together stakeholders including governments, civil society and private sector representatives for a multilateral conversation on how to seize the opportunities and address the challenges of migration.

Through panels including “Diaspora Private Sector Conversation,” participants discussed the diverse and innovative ways that diaspora private sector and diaspora community members engage on development, sharing best practices and exchanging ideas on innovative solutions to inform policy and practice.

USA for IOM was pleased to participate and contribute to the conversation.



## UNA-USA Leadership Summit



The annual Leadership Summit of the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA), held in Washington, D.C. on June 2-4, promotes understanding of global issues and engages participants.

The session "US-UN Networks Coalition: Coming Together for Shared Interests", convened representatives of USA for IOM, UNICEF USA, World Food Programme USA and UNA-USA to share initiatives to raise awareness and support vulnerable populations.

USA for IOM highlighted projects including Entrepreneurship in Movement, humanitarian aid in Ukraine, and film festivals PLURAL+, and the Global Migration Film Festival.

## Talent and Innovation Competition Americas 2024

The final event of the Talent and Innovation Competition Americas 2024 was held on August 12-13 in honor of International Youth Day. During the live on-line event, finalists expanded upon their pitches in competition for seed capital and further mentoring and support.

The event featured expert speakers discussing sustainability, climate resilience, entrepreneurship and digital transformation. Organized by the Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) and USA for IOM, the event showcased the positive impact of the finalists' business ventures in Ecuador and Peru.



Johnniel Rojas, a Venezuelan living in Ecuador was announced as the winner of the “Youth on the Move” Innovation Challenge. He spoke about Tesis Time, his venture aimed at revolutionizing the development and execution of Doctoral Thesis’ worldwide.

*“Throughout this process, we have seen how each of you has channeled your creativity and passion into projects that not only have the potential to transform your own lives, but also to positively impact your communities and the lives of those who need it most. This journey has not been easy, but your presence here today is a testament to your ability to overcome challenges and turn obstacles into opportunities...”*

*Luciano Arroio*  
Interim CEO, USA for IOM



## Dialogue of Women Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean

With aim to empower women leaders of the diaspora, the Third Regional Meeting of the Dialogue of Women Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Cartagena, Colombia, gathered women leaders from across the region to participate in groundbreaking training sessions focused on leadership, socioeconomic integration, gender perspectives, and advocacy.

Thanks to Citi Foundation's support, IOM, as the implementing agency of the Entrepreneurship in Movement Program, introduced a Social Mentorships for Women Leaders of the Diaspora initiative, designed to promote well-being, resilience, and personal empowerment.

These mentorships, launched between October and November 2024, equipped women leaders with the tools to sustain their impact while navigating the challenges of migration and leadership.



The event was further supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), contributing to the overall framework of strengthening diaspora leadership.

Since 2021, IOM and the Organization of American States have worked together to empower women leaders in the Venezuelan diaspora, later joined by the International Labour Organization and UN Women to expand the initiative's reach. These collaborations have given rise to a growing movement—marked by the creation of the Network of Women Leaders of the Venezuelan Diaspora

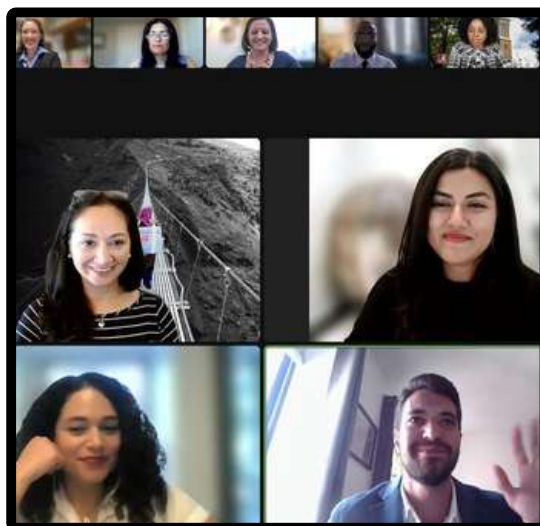


### UNA-USA Virtual Mobilization Summit

Along with agency partners, USA for IOM was pleased to participate in the session: U.S. Nonprofits Supporting the United Nations, as part of the 2024 United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) Virtual Mobilization Summit.

The event served as an opportunity to highlight how U.S.-based networks are vital in connecting people and supporting humanitarian work to serve vulnerable populations around the world, offering opportunities to fundraise, learn, and advocate.

Interim CEO Luciano Arroio participated in the session, sharing USA for IOM's work and impact.



### Concordia Summit in NY

USA for IOM participated in the 14th Concordia Annual Summit, the largest nonpartisan forum held alongside the UN General Assembly session. The summit, held from September 23-25, gathered private sector partners, government officials, and leaders of nonprofits and foundations in New York City to find cross-sector solutions to address global challenges.

Highlights of the impactful sessions included conversations on innovation, international cooperation, public-private partnerships, and how well-managed migration benefits all.





## Cities of the Future: Mayoral Leadership on Migration Management in the Americas

The panel: "Cities of the Future: Mayoral Leadership on Migration Management in the Americas", organized by The Mayors Migration Council, IOM, CAF- Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, and Emerson Collective was held in New York City, on 23 September.



*"By fostering collaboration across the Americas we can grow local economies while combatting the unfortunate and deepening misconceptions about migration and immigrants."*

*Marshall Fitz*

USA for IOM Board Member,  
Managing Director for Immigration at Emerson Collective.

Panelists included IOM's Director General Amy Pope; Sergio Díaz Granados Guida, Executive President of CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean; Carlos Fernando Galán, Mayor of Bogotá; and Brandon Johnson, Mayor of Chicago, among others.

The discussion highlighted partnership solutions to migration management in the Americas, including how pragmatic city alliances can advance hemispheric cooperation. USA for IOM was pleased to facilitate the funds for this event.



## Global Migration Film Festival

The opening event of the 2024 Global Migration Film Festival (GMFF), hosted by IOM Mexico, and supported by USA for IOM, was held in Mexico City, attended by local representatives, private sector partners, and community members.

The feature film, A Million Miles Away highlighted the story of Jose Hernandez, who through determination from a young age as a Mexican American farm worker, fulfilled his dream to become a NASA Astronaut.

The GMFF in Mexico highlights films that share the unique contributions that migrants make to their host communities. Films bring the stories of migrants to diverse audiences, with the aim to create space for respectful discussion and engagement.



*“With this event begins the seventh edition of this festival in Mexico in which we bring you closer to extraordinary, inspiring and necessary stories to help us understand that those who migrate make significant contributions to the communities that welcome them,”*

*Dana Graßer Ladlek*  
IOM Mexico Chief of Mission



A panel focused on the impact of migrant talent on the development of host and origin communities fostered an inspiring conversation featuring Alejandra Márquez Abella, Director of A Million Miles Away; Karla Moreno Burgos, Technology and Product Manager at TREO; and Alberto Cabezas Talavera, IOM Mexico Communications Coordinator.

The GMFF in Mexico is supported by 25 entities: universities, government partners, private sector, and film, cultural and development organizations. USA for IOM is proud to support the 2024 Global Migration Film Festival hosted by IOM Mexico.



## PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival

This year's PLURAL+ Youth Video Festival gathered the ideas and creations of many talented young people from around the world, to share their ideas and stories. A total of 32 films from 21 countries were selected for distinctions from hundreds of submissions. IOM and the UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) announced the 2024 recipients during a ceremony on 25 November, in Cascais, Portugal.

### USA for IOM Recognition

The film 'The Other Planet' was selected for the USA for IOM recognition for its thoughtful portrayal of the situation and challenges faced by those who are displaced and its potential for awareness raising.



Developed by a group of 10 children in Belgium, the film shares a touching story of extraterrestrials - a mother and daughter - displaced by an attack on their Red Planet, who make their way to the Blue Planet, and their first awkward and then accepting interactions with the local alien residents.



*"We had the chance to make a short film and we learned so many things about animation cinema and about why people sometimes have to leave their country. I think this movie is going to help us to be more open and understanding with other people."*

*Binta*  
11 years old

By only using the sounds of expressions, without language or dialogue, the film highlights the universality of the experience of displacement. The film was featured on the USA for IOM website and social media.



# Partner with us

## 1. DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS

Make a direct impact by contributing through our website or using Donor-Advised Funds.

## 2. COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES WITH U.S. FOUNDATIONS

We collaborate with U.S. Foundations to design and implement initiatives that directly support people on the move.

## 3. CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS: IN-KIND SUPPORT AND BEYOND

Corporations play a crucial role in our mission, providing in-kind support, expertise, and resources that extend our reach and enable us to strengthen our programs worldwide.

## 4. ENGAGING EMPLOYEE GIVING

Empower your employees to contribute to a cause that matters by facilitating employee giving programs.





USA for IOM is the nonprofit partner in the US of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Our aim is to raise awareness and engage support for humanitarian assistance and development initiatives to improve the lives of migrants and displaced people around the world and generate sustainable impact in communities.



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IOM staff speaks with two women at a support  
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