**HIGHLIGHTS**

⇒ A total of 35,902 regular movements (23,537 at Beitbridge and 12,365 at Forbes) were observed during the month in review.

⇒ IOM Zimbabwe facilitates repatriation of 92 Malawian irregular migrants stranded in Zimbabwe.

**DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS**

**REGULAR MIGRATION:** movement of persons that occurs in compliance with the laws of the country of origin, transit and destination. (IOM Glossary)

**IRREGULAR MIGRATION:** movement of persons that takes place outside the laws, regulations or international agreements governing the entry into or exit from the State of origin, transit or destination. (IOM Glossary)

**REGULAR MIGRATION**

**BEITBRIDGE BORDER POST (MATEBELELAND SOUTH PROVINCE)**

In May 2020, the average daily number of individuals observed at Beitbridge crossing points increased by 53 per cent compared to the previous month. A total of 23,537 movements comprising 12,185 (52%) entries and 11,352 (48%) exits were recorded at the Crossing Points during the month in review.

The majority of the migrants were truck drivers transporting commercial cargo and travellers with special clearance arrangements like bereavement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Entries</th>
<th>Exits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>176,095</td>
<td>153,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>7,584</td>
<td>7,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>12,185</td>
<td>11,352</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 – Cumulative Summary of Regular Migration Movements at Beitbridge Border Post for Mar – May 2020

**FORBES BORDER POST (MANICALAND PROVINCE)**

A total of 12,365 movements were recorded at the Forbes Border Post during the month of May 2020, representing a 4 per cent decrease in comparison to movements recorded in April 2020.

The month in review recorded 6,019 (49%) entries and 6,346 (51%) per cent exits at the Forbes Border Post as shown below.

**STATISTICS FOR (MARCH – MAY 2020)**

- **AVERAGE MONTHLY ENTRIES**: 65,288
- **AVERAGE MONTHLY EXITS**: 57,727
- **AVERAGE MONTHLY FLOWS**: 123,015

Information presented in this report is a compilation of available data from Government sources: Immigration Officers, Border Patrol Officers, Department of Social Welfare and other organizations. DTM team categorized and analyzed the data to produce this Flow Monitoring Report.

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IOM carries out health assessments for various categories of migrants, including resettling refugees, labor migrants and displaced persons, either before departure or upon arrival. This reduces contamination risks and manages the potential public health impact of human mobility on migrants, receiving countries and communities.

A total of 69 applicants went through the migration health assessment during the month in review. The applicants comprised 57 per cent females and 43 per cent male as shown below, with 25 percent being minors below the age of 18 years.

The majority of the applicants who went through the health assessments in May 2020, applied for settlement and dependants visa (46%), followed by work visa (32%), other visa types (10%), students without scholarship (6%), family reunion visa and students with scholarship visas (3%) each as illustrated in Fig 6.

The types of visa application applied for in the past 3 months indicates a desire for long-term migration for most applicants. As shown in fig 7 below.

IOM through its Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) Programme assists migrants or asylum seekers willing to return to their country of origin with administrative, logistical or financial support.

On the 23rd of May 2020, in response to a request from the Embassy of Malawi in Zimbabwe, IOM facilitated the safe and dignified return of 92 Malawian migrants (86 male and 6 female) stranded in Zimbabwe. The repatriation was done in collaboration with relevant Zimbabwean authorities and Malawi Embassy Officials in Zimbabwe to facilitate the voluntary return of the stranded migrants who were located in three different holding facilities in Zimbabwe.

The migrants were met at the Point of Entry (Mwanza Border) by IOM Lilongwe staff and the Malawian authorities where they were provided with onward transportation to their final destination.
IRREGULAR MIGRATION

If the rapid spread of the virus continues to affect neighbouring countries, the new restrictive measures will most probably further exacerbate the socio-economic impact in vulnerable migrants. These migrants working under informal or casual arrangements in neighbouring countries are not entitled to COVID-19 assistance from the respective host Governments, forcing them to return to their home country, Zimbabwe. Through self-repatriation or IOM’s assisted voluntary return and reintegration program. It is projected that, at least, 20,000 migrants will be received in the following months. The significant influx of returnees will create an additional burden on a country, where already 7.5 million of the population are grappling with food insecurity, and approximately 43,523 internally displaced population (IDPs) are still struggling with recovery.

RETURNEES FROM SOUTH AFRICA

A total of 3,032 Zimbabwean migrants returned from South Africa though the Beit Bridge Reception Centre. The returnees were quarantined at provincial quarantine centres in their intended destination provinces for a minimum seven days as per the screening guidelines, pending discharge on the 8th day depending on the outcome of the test results. Approximately 41 per cent of the returnees in May came under the self repatriation arrangements.

A fleet of hired buses transporting self repatriation migrants from South Africa

After screening and testing the retuning migrants were transferred to quarantine centres closest to the returnee’s intended final destination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point of Entry</th>
<th>Apr-May 2020</th>
<th>Male Adults</th>
<th>Female Adults</th>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Origin of the Movement into Zimbabwe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beitbridge</td>
<td>3,421</td>
<td>1,966</td>
<td>1,429</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumtree</td>
<td>1,641</td>
<td>1,113</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazungula</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Zambia, Namibia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Falls</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Various locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land border</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Various locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Falls</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Various locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Various locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chirundu</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Zambia, Malawi &amp; DRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forbes</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Mozambique, Botswana &amp; South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sango</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,405</td>
<td>3,721</td>
<td>2,608</td>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3 – Cumulative Summary of Returnees by Point of Entry from April to May 2020

IOM COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

IOM country offices in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Malawi are in the process of coordinating with the embassy of Malawi in the repatriating the estimated 5,000 Malawian migrants stranded in South Africa. IOM is scaling up operations to respond to the new evolving context, as co-lead of the POE pillar, IOM is providing technical support to the government in the COVID-19 national response plan to strengthen government capacity in migration management, ensuring all returnees are screened, registered, profiled and transported to their respective provincial quarantine facilities, to meet the mandatory quarantine period of seven days. In addition, IOM is providing support to the other pillars of the response with different interventions.

IOM has conducted a Situation analysis of the migrants returnees, to advocate for support to assist the vulnerable population who return to the country empty handed. There is an urgent need to promote reintegration assistance to avoid stigmatization and social tension in receiving communities.

During the period 14 to 18 May 2020 the POE pillar conducted an assessment of all the provincial identified quarantine facilities. IOM in collaboration with WHO and government agencies, Ministry Of Health and Child care (MoHCC), Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare and District Civil Protection department (DCP), is analyzing a quarantine assessment of 60 identified facilities at provincial/district level, where migrant returnees are being transported after arrival, registration and profiling. Most of these quarantine centres are government premises. The assessment indicates that such facilities are not equipped to cater for the returnees in a dignified manner.
are not equipped to cater for the returnees in a dignified manner. IOM has redirected activities from the counter trafficking program to assist migrant returnees, who could be potential victims of trafficking (VoT) due to their vulnerability in neighboring countries. As part of its support to the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ), IOM supported the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) pillar through a donation of equipment and chemicals to the Beitbridge quarantine centre. The donated equipment included infrared thermometers, knapsack sprayers, pedal waste receptacles, disinfection chemicals and hand sanitizers. The donation will go a long way in minimizing risk of infection within the quarantine centre through regular disinfection.

IOM scaled up support to the Ministry of Public Service Labour and Social Welfare in the profiling and registration of migrants returning through the Beitbridge quarantine centre through the deployment of additional staff to assist with electronic registration and data management within the facility in a bid to improve the quality of data. IOM is in the process of recruiting additional staff for deployment in five border posts, to conduct registration and profiling of the returnees, to have a deeper understanding of their vulnerabilities, and tailor further livelihood and assistance interventions. The additional staff will assist in the coordination of transport for returnees, food distribution as well as disseminating information to stakeholders to ensure a joint and coordinated response.

In addition, they will conduct, population mobility mapping exercises and coordinate with rapid response surveillance teams in all provinces to follow up on migrant returnees in the communities after the seven day mandatory quarantine period, reinforcing surveillance, contact tracing and ensuring further self-quarantine measures are taken into consideration when returning to their places of destination.

IOM in conjunction with the Department of Social Welfare distributed food packs to returnees from South Africa who were discharged from two provincial Quarantine Centres. Beneficiaries received 25kg of mealie-meal, 2kg rice, 2kg sugar, 2.5kg flour, 2litres cooking oil, 410g beans and one bar washing soap. The beneficiaries greatly appreciated the assistance for it is going to help them restart their lives in a dignified manner when they get home. The returnees are part of 205 Zimbabweans who were assisted by private funds, the GoZ and IOM to return home.

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