

Other types of facilities

A growing trend is to embed MRRMs in **pre-existing facilities that provide services not only to migrants or potential migrants but also to the host population**, as for instance local youth or particularly vulnerable categories of the local community. Whenever possible, mechanisms that include services for the host community are preferable and may positively impact the perception of MRRMs by the countries who are hosting them. The provision of information, medical assistance, education and other services to migrants and local population alike is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals' *leave no one behind principle* and it deeply contributes to foster social cohesion and community relations. In order to establish such an **integrated approach** through a broader national facility, it is paramount for IOM to establish strong cooperation with national authorities, other UN agencies, NGOs and civil society providing assistance to persons of concern other than IOM beneficiaries. For further information on [cooperation frameworks and referrals please consult the relevant entries](#).

Best practices from the field

In The Gambia, IOM has supported the establishment of three migration information centers (MICs) embedded in youth centers in different locations. The MICs target migrants, potential migrants and the local youth, serving as a comprehensive space for information provision and awareness raising activities.

Other specific types of MRRM facilities may be established to provide service and assistance to **particular categories of beneficiaries** as for instance **victims of trafficking (VoTs), unaccompanied and separated children), persons with disabilities and older persons**. Specific provisions shall be put in place for shelters hosting VoTs where warranted, including specific appropriate standards and procedures to address safety and security for both the victims and staff. Children should be housed in accommodation appropriate for their age and maturity. Foster families or alternatives to institutional care should be pursued as a priority, and shelters should have staff with specialist training and programming should be age appropriate and designed to meet the needs of migrant children. Persons with disabilities and older persons with limited mobility or cognition may require specially adapted shelter and accommodation.

References and Tools

- [The IOM Handbook on Direct Assistance for Victims of Trafficking](#)
- [Internal regulations VoTs shelter Zinder \(Niger\)](#)
- [MIC The Gambia scenarios](#)
- [UN Guidelines on alternative care arrangements for children](#)