

## Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

### Overview

The provision of humanitarian assistance is highly dependent on trends and patterns of human mobility. Humanitarian actors require information on the location and composition of the affected population in order to deliver services and respond to needs in a timely manner. The sheer scale of displacement caused by natural disasters and conflicts prompted IOM to improve the capacity of existing information management systems and methodologies. To address response challenges based on a better understanding of human mobility, IOM has gradually improved and refined the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), a system which regularly captures, processes and disseminates multi-layered information on the mobility, locations, vulnerabilities and needs of displaced and mobile populations throughout the course of a crisis.

Conceptualized in 2004 in Iraq, for IDP assessments and monitoring exercises, the DTM has been continuously refined and enhanced through years of operational experience in both conflict and natural disaster settings. It delivers an essential role in providing primary data and information on displacement and population movements, both in-country and at the regional and global levels, in support of clusters, sectors, humanitarian partners, national authorities, and other stakeholders. Past and present implementation includes conflict, natural disaster, and complex emergency settings, from small and short-term to large and protracted case of displacement.

DTM has also proven to be highly effective as a preparedness tool, as well as in support of the recovery and transition phase in the context of return and reintegration processes. Integrating DTM into capacity building activities, mapping of potential evacuation and displacement sites, and setting up data collection mechanism to be ready before a disaster occurs are some examples of how the DTM can be employed as an effective preparedness measure.

### Key Points

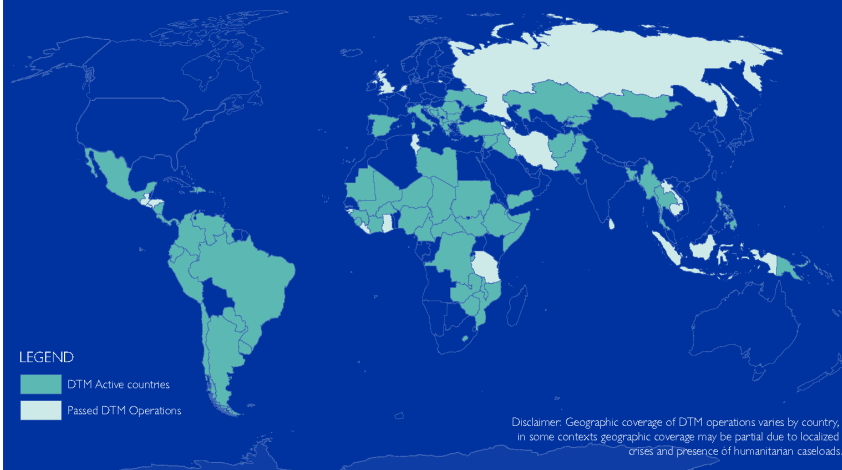
- The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to capture and monitor displacement and population movements. It was designed to capture, process and disseminate information regularly and systematically to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of mobile populations in places of displacement or transit.
- DTM has been implemented in over 120 countries worldwide to support humanitarian and peace building responses to support mobile populations in situations of conflict and natural disaster.

### Description




The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route. This document presents an overview of DTM global operations, methodologies and uses; country level DTM operations are tailored to context specific information needs.

## DTM OPERATIONAL PRESENCE



 **121 COUNTRIES**  
 DTM has been active in since 2004

 **44.9M IDPs IDENTIFIED**  
 40.4 million returnees tracked and 6.2 million migrants  
*(As of June 2022)*

 **+7,600 EMPLOYEES**  
 including 631 technical staff  
*(As of December 2021)*

 **+6,970 DATA COLLECTORS**  
 Data collectors in the field  
*(As of December 2021)*

## HOW DATA IS COLLECTED?

DTM has four core methodological components that are used to build operations tailored to the context of implementation. They may be implemented individually or in tandem depending on the need.



### MOBILITY TRACKING

systematically tracks mobility and cross-sectoral needs in locations of interest to target assistance.



### REGISTRATION

registers individuals and households for beneficiary selection, vulnerability targeting and programming.



### FLOW MONITORING

tracks movement flows and the overall situation at key points or origin, transit locations, and points of entry.



### SURVEYS

gathers specific information using sampling from the population of interest.

## DATA IS COLLECTED ON

- Population
- Locations
- Conditions
- Flows
- Needs
- Vulnerabilities

## DATA OUTPUTS INCLUDE



### GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM PRODUCTS

These products include different maps and atlases as well as other resources that support their creation (geodatabases and shape files, KML/KMZ etc.).



### ONLINE INTERACTIVE RESOURCES

These resources, hosted on our website, allow for easy interactive exploration of our data through visualization and analysis platforms that allow the user to adjust based on information needs.



### REPORTS

Reports are produced every data collection cycle across all activities. These include; short-form snapshots and dashboards, in addition to long-form multi-sector needs analysis, thematic analysis, and statistical analysis.



### DATASETS

Datasets are produced every data collection cycle across all activities and are regularly shared with actors and responders in country. Datasets are accessible on our website where open data sharing is possible.

## WHAT IS DTM DATA USED FOR?

- Planning and response in humanitarian crises
- Transition, recovery and solutions post crises
- Research and academia
- National and international policy
- Targeting specialist assessments

## Links

- [Global DTM Website](#)
- [IOM Migration Portal](#)
- [Internal Displacement Portal](#)

## Media



[Displacement Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#)

## References and Tools

- [Methodological Framework for DTM \(EN\)](#)
- [Methodological Framework for DTM \(FR\)](#)
- [Methodological Framework for DTM \(ES\)](#)
- [Methodological Framework for DTM \(AR\)](#)
- [DTM Capacity Building Info Sheet](#)

## Other Entries in this Topic

- [Assessments in Emergencies](#)
- [Protection Mainstreaming](#)
- [Gender Mainstreaming](#)

## Contacts

For more information, please contact the DTM Support Team: [DTMSupport@iom.int](mailto:DTMSupport@iom.int)

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