

A world map with glowing blue lines connecting various points, set against a dark blue background with a starry pattern.

The Bali **Process**

Forward Work Plan 2015-2017

Regional Support Office of the Bali Process

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The establishment of the Regional Support Office (RSO) in 2012 to operationalize the Regional Cooperation Framework adopted by Bali Process members at the 4th Ministerial Conference in 2011, represented significant recognition by the Bali Process membership that issues associated with irregular migration needed to be tackled through a regionally focused and results oriented programme of work. Over the past three years, the RSO has received increasing support from members and has been successful in implementing projects identified as priorities at the Bali Process Ministerial Conference in 2013.

Three years into its existence, the RSO is well placed to play its role supporting practical initiatives led by Bali Process members. With increased regional engagement and ownership from Bali Process members, the RSO is now positioned to be more targeted in our work.

This forward work plan, developed with oversight and guidance from the Co-Chairs of the Bali Process and in consultation with IOM and UNHCR, outlines the priorities of the RSO between 2015 and 2017. It aims to deliver practical outcomes which strengthen the capacity of member States to address people smuggling, trafficking in persons and related transnational crime in the Asia-Pacific Region, while remaining sensitive to those in need of international protection. It is underpinned by our desire, complement and not duplicate the work of other forums and initiatives.

The work plan provides an operational and action-oriented framework in key areas of interventions, early detection, prevention, protection, and migration management. It clearly sets out the goals for each area and commits to concrete action against these goals.

We hope you will engage with these activities and continue to provide us with the support that the Regional Support Office needs to ensure that the Bali Process remains the model of success for regional cooperation.

Over the coming years the RSO will monitor and evaluate each activity outlined in the work plan. The office will keep members updated on our activities through the RSO web pages on the Bali Process website, a monthly newsletter and regular reports.

We look forward to continue working together with you.

Lisa Crawford
Co-Manager (Australia)

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Co-Manager (Indonesia)

1. Introduction

The Regional Support Office (RSO) was officially established in September 2012 with the aim of facilitating the operationalization of the Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF) to reduce irregular migration in the Asia and Pacific region. It aims to support and strengthen practical cooperation on refugee protection and international migration, including human trafficking and smuggling, and other components of migration management in the region.

The RSO implements activities under the RCF and acts as a focal point for members in relation to: facilitating information sharing on refugee protection and international migration; supporting capacity building and exchange of best practices; encouraging pooling of common technical resources; and offering logistical, administrative, operational and coordination support for joint projects.

This Forward Work Plan developed with oversight and direction from the Co-Chairs of the Bali Process and in consultation with IOM and UNHCR sets out the RSO's programme of work between 2015 and 2017. The activities outlined in this plan contribute to or are informed by Bali Process Senior Officials' dialogues, the Bali Process Strategy, the Jakarta Declaration, and seek to complement the forward work programmes of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons and the Working Group on the Disruption of People Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons Networks.

Through this Forward Work Plan the RSO aims to provide practical support to countries of source, transit and destination. The practical activities outlined in this document have been recommended by Bali Process members as activities which will support and strengthen practical cooperation on refugee protection and international migration, including trafficking in persons and smuggling by enhancing access to tools, information, and training.

Each of the activities outlined in this Work Plan will be developed through a process of consultation with Bali Process members including through the establishment of committees, written consultation, consultation workshops or secondments to the RSO. Cooperation and commitment from Bali Process members is critical to the implementation of this Work Plan.

2. Forward Work Plan

2.1 Work plan objectives

Between 2015 and 2017 the RSO will continue to support and strengthen practical cooperation on refugee protection and international migration, including human trafficking and smuggling, and other components of migration management in the region with the objectives of:

- Facilitating information sharing on refugee protection and international migration;
- Supporting capacity building and exchange of best practices;
- Encouraging pooling of common technical resources; and
- Offering logistical, administrative, operational and coordination support for joint projects.

2.2 The framework of the Work Plan

In working towards these objectives the RSO will aim to contribute to one or more of the following goals:

Early Detection goals

- Facilitate and strengthen data and intelligence sharing between source, transit and destination countries.
- Increase public awareness to discourage smuggling and trafficking in persons networks and improve mechanisms to share information.

Prevention goals

- Expanding the border management continuum in collaboration with source countries.
- Support border management professionals and law enforcement agency efforts to dismantle people smuggling and trafficking in persons networks.

Protection goals

- Increase awareness, assistance and support for those found to be in need of protection.
- Strengthen capabilities and mechanisms for identification, profiling, registration, and referral of persons with specific protection needs.
- Strengthening comprehensive responses to irregular movements by sea.

Migration Management goals

- Support comprehensive approaches to migration management.
- Improve bilateral and regional cooperation on voluntary return.
- Enhance border control systems and mechanisms to strengthen identity management.

2.3 Activities to support the Work Plan

Early Detection Goal Work Plan Deliverables

Designing an Information Campaign Strategy

A training programme will be developed on designing an effective information campaign strategy. The programme will enable participants to identify the best information campaigns to respond to their countries' issues and priorities in addressing human trafficking and migrant smuggling. It will facilitate government officials' understanding of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that can be embedded into an information campaign strategy.

Regional Intelligence Analysis Training Programme

A regional intelligence analysis training programme will be developed to assist border officials and decision makers to utilize a regional intelligence life cycle, collect, analyse and share information using a regional perspective, consider existing models and their regional application, and understand the value of information in developing policy.

Privacy Assessment Tools

The RSO will develop training and privacy assessment tools to support the implementation of the safeguards under the policy framework developed in 2015 to support the exchange of data between Bali Process members. Training materials for government officials will be developed on best practices for collecting, using and disclosing personal information, obtaining informed consent, ensuring data quality, and conducting privacy impact assessments. Privacy assessment tools such as template notices and consent forms, template privacy impact assessments, and procedural checklists will be developed and made available to members on the RSO website.

Prevention Goal Work Plan Deliverables

Risk-based Approaches to Border Management

The RSO will focus on risk based approaches to border management which will include developing, guidelines around establishing identity, strengthening identity verification tools and processes, and managing visa caseloads.

A risk tiering programme will be developed for offshore visa managers which will provide tools to profile risk, create risk management strategies and the develop risk tiering frameworks. This work will be enhanced by the development of a comprehensive training programme on visa integrity for foreign mission staff, delivered in collaboration with regional centers of excellence.

Immigration Liaison Officer Training Programme

Building on the Immigration Liaison Officer training pilot programme conducted in 2014, a comprehensive modularized training programme will be developed to enable States to strengthen borders in a domestic and international context. This training will be delivered in collaboration with regional centres of excellence.

Protection Goal Work Plan Deliverables

Protection training manual

A protection training manual for officials will be produced to assist with national training on the rights of refugees in the context of mixed migration movements. Training on the use of the manual will be delivered through centres of excellence and made available for translation into the national language/s of members. This resource will be developed in a modularized format to enable adaptation for a range of training environments and audiences.

Training on comprehensive approaches for addressing irregular movements by sea

A training programme for senior and mid-level officials on comprehensive approaches for addressing irregular movements by sea will be developed. The programme modules will include training on international obligations, standards and good practices by developing comprehensive training modules. This activity will build upon the detailed training outline on irregular maritime movements developed by IOM and UNHCR in April 2015.

Policy Guide on Irregular movement by sea: Assistance to persons in need of international protection

Building on past and ongoing RSO initiatives related to irregular movements by sea and disembarkation to places of safety, the RSO will develop a policy guide on search and rescue at sea, disembarkation, and post-disembarkation assistance (including reception, screening and referrals) as a practical tool for decision and policy makers.

Refugee Status Determination Study Exchange

Support regional study exchanges on refugee status determination (RSD) for government officials of countries with national asylum systems and potentially officials of other interested States.

Interviewing techniques for persons with specific needs

Develop a practical, hands-on training programme for relevant government officials, and staff of UNHCR and other international organizations on interviewing techniques for persons with specific needs, including survivors/ victims of trauma and children, as well as in the context of the protection of refugees and victims of human trafficking.

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

Develop and pilot a methodology that supports Bali Process States to undertake a baseline assessment of their civil registration and vital statistics (“CRVS”) systems focused on barriers faced by asylum-seekers, refugees and stateless persons in accessing civil registration and documentation, in support of 44 States in the Asia Pacific endorsing universal CRVS by 2024.

Migration Management Goal Work Plan Deliverables

Bali Process working-level dialogues

A series of dialogues for immigration practitioners will be conducted to improve members' understanding of the regional linkages between migration and refugee protection issues and develop a community of practice on addressing the challenges associated with people smuggling, human trafficking and related transnational crime in the Asia-Pacific Region. Over the course of two years the Bali Process expert dialogues will consider the themes of: Comprehensive Approaches to Migration Management; Border Management Systems; International Carrier Responsibilities; Integration of Migrants; Migration and Citizenship; Return Migration; Management of Operational Data and Intelligence Systems; Protection in the Context of Mixed Movements, Asylum Procedures, Durable Solutions, Alternatives to Immigration Detention, and Differentiated Processes to assist Groups with Specific Needs.

Thematic briefs will be produced as an outcome of each dialogue. Thematic briefs, case studies, tools and other materials utilized in the expert dialogues will form an online library for members.

Policy Guides on Identity Management

Building on past and ongoing initiatives the RSO will develop policy guides which will set out definitions, legal standards applicable and good practices that exist with regard to identity management in the Asia-Pacific region.

Regional Induction Training for Frontline Border Officers

The regional induction training for frontline border officers developed in 2015 will be made available to all members and translated into the national language of interested states. A Train-the-Trainer programme will be made available to States as part of this programme.

Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration

The Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration programme will continue with an emphasis on exploring the possibility of developing bilateral and/or regional arrangements to waive administrative penalties/sanctions for vulnerable groups to facilitate return to their country of origin.

Research Project on avenues for legal migration and work opportunities in selected countries of arrival

As part of a comprehensive approach to address irregular maritime movements, the RSO will commission research on existing avenues for legal migration and work opportunities in selected countries of arrival which could be realistically open to persons arriving by sea.

Special Projects

Regional Mapping

Identify regional capacity building activities being undertaken in the Asia-Pacific Region which relate to people smuggling, trafficking in persons, protection of refugees and, other vulnerable groups with specific needs including, stateless people and separated and unaccompanied children.

Regional roadmap/strategic plan against trafficking

Promote awareness and strengthen our collective efforts to combat trafficking in persons, by developing a voluntary regional roadmap/strategic plan which allows states to monitor their own progress across a continuum based on the priority list developed by the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons. The road map will inform members of options to strengthen approaches to trafficking.

Training on Victim Centred approach: the identification, assistance and support of victims of human trafficking

The RSO, CIFAL and IOM will continue with its partnership established in 2014, with the delivery of further training workshops on the identification, assistance and support of victims of human trafficking. The workshops will continue to work with local government and NGOs from Bali Process Member States and provide an opportunity to share expertise on human trafficking and victim-centred approaches.

RSO-JCLEC Regional Training Coordination Mechanism

The Regional Coordinated Training Mechanism (RCTM) will enhance collaboration by supporting greater engagement between Training Directors from regional centres of excellence (COEs) in Asia - Pacific, develop a catalogue of training courses available for delivery by the membership at a regional and national level and, enable interested States the ability to nominate the type and frequency of courses required to improve national and regional border management capabilities. This activity will build upon the catalogue on Regional Capacity Building Initiatives, developed by the RSO.

2.4 Implementing the Work Plan

Implementation of these activities and achieving the stated outcomes are reliant on Bali Process Membership cooperation and active engagement. To this end, the RSO will:

- identify Bali Process members willing to partner in RSO activities;
- undertake necessary project / programme reviews in support of desired outcomes on behalf of the membership;
- develop proposals which support the Work plan and have regard to other Bali Process initiatives.

Effective implementation of the Work plan requires all RSO stakeholders, including Bali Process Members to participate to achieve desired outcomes. Each member is therefore encouraged to consider the contribution that each government and international agency can make in supporting the stated aims of this work plan through in kind expertise, secondment of officials and/or funding.

2.5 Staffing the Work Plan

The RSO will achieve the stated outcomes through a core group of staff, supported by officers seconded by governments and international organisations on short term assignments. The RSO will

also seek to contract the services of experts and specialist to undertake key components of the work plan where skills do not exist, or are not able to be drawn from the Bali Process membership.

The responsibility of managing staff will fall to the RSO. To this end, the RSO will need to:

- identify members willing to second officers to undertake RSO activities; and
- identify and recruit specialists and experts.

Effective staffing of the work plan will require expertise from Bali Process Members. Each member is therefore encouraged to consider identifying and seconding officers to undertake some elements of the work plan.

3. Outcomes and Evaluation

3.1 Governance and reporting arrangements

The Co-Managers of the RSO will be responsible for the implementation of the work plan with oversight from the Bali Process Steering Group. The Co-Managers will report in session to the Steering Group on the RSO's progress against the work plan and in writing on a bi-annual basis to the Bali Process Membership. Given the direct links to the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons and the Working Group on the Disruption of criminal people smuggling and trafficking in persons networks, special attention will be given by the RSO to ensure that its activities are complementary to the activities being undertaken in these forums and therefore implementation will be conducted in close coordination with the Co-Chairs of these working groups.

3.2 Responsibility

Overarching responsibility and coordination of activity outlined in the work plan rests with the RSO Co-Managers.

3.3 Additions to the Work Plan

The work of the RSO will not necessarily be limited to the scope and the recommendations presented by the work plan. The RSO must be able to adapt to changing circumstances and environmental considerations. Subject to funding, new projects by members will be considered by the RSO Co-Managers, in consultation with the Bali Process Co-Chairs and more broadly with the Steering Group, as appropriate. Therefore, the work plan will be a living document and will change in line with the regional environment.

Attachment A

Funding requirements

Goal	Project	Funding
Early Detection Goal Work Plan Deliverables	• Privacy Assessment Tools	Funded
	• Regional Intelligence Analysis Training Programme	Funded
	• Designing an Information Campaign Strategy	Not Funded
Prevention Goal Work Plan Deliverables	• Risk-based Approaches to Border Management	Funded
	• Immigration Liaison Officer Training Programme	Funded
Protection Goal Work Plan Deliverables	• Protection training manual	Partially Funded
	• Training on comprehensive approaches for addressing irregular movements by sea	Funded
	• Refugee Status Determination Study Exchange	Not funded
	• Interviewing techniques for persons with specific needs	Funded
	• Policy Guide on irregular movement by sea: appropriate treatment of people in need of international protection	Not Funded
	• Civil Registration and Vital Statistics	Partially Funded
Migration Management Goal Work Plan Deliverables	• Bali Process expert dialogues	Partially Funded
	• Policy Guides on Identity Management	Funded
	• Regional Induction Training for Frontline Border Officers	Funded
	• Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration	Funded
	• Research Project on avenues for legal migration and work opportunities in selected countries of arrival	Not Funded
Special Projects	• Regional mapping	Partially Funded
	• Regional roadmap/strategic plan against trafficking	Partially Funded
	• RSO-JCLEC Regional Training Coordination Mechanism	Partially Funded
	• Training on Victim Centred approach: the identification, assistance and support of victims of human trafficking	Funded