



Conferencia Regional sobre Migración
Regional Conference on Migration



Concept Note

Webinar for the Presentation of the Regional Instrument for the Identification of Vulnerabilities of Migrants at Borders

BACKGROUND

The human mobility in the region has experienced a significant increase in recent years, characterized by mixed migratory flows that include an increase in the number of vulnerable people with specific protection needs. In this context, the Member Countries of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) face the challenge of early identification of migrants and asylum seekers who require differentiated attention, thus ensuring access to their rights and avoiding practices that could jeopardize their safety and integrity.

The RCM, as a space for dialogue and multilateral cooperation, has recognized the importance of strengthening border protection mechanisms to ensure coordinated responses based on respect for human rights. Within this framework, the Regional Instrument for the Identification of Vulnerabilities at Borders has been developed, a tool designed to support States in the detection and assistance of people in contexts of mobility with specific protection needs.

Given this need and importance, the Regional Integrated Framework for Protection and Solutions (MIRPS) joined the effort to develop this instrument and strengthen the identification of international protection needs at borders, which represents a joint work of both mechanisms promoted by the Costa Rican PPT.

This instrument seeks to optimize the processes of identification, referral and channeling of cases, ensuring attention with a differentiated and intersectional approach. Its implementation will contribute to improve coordination between migration authorities, international organizations and civil society actors, promoting more effective and humanitarian responses at the region's borders.

JUSTIFICATION

Linking the activity to the RCM's Strategic Plan

a. Specific objective of the EP:

1. To promote improving the design and management of policies, procedures, and activities for safe, orderly, and regular migration and mobility.
2. Strengthening coordination among the Member Countries for assistance, care, and protection of migrants in vulnerable situations, as well as the prevention of irregular migration.
- v. **Synergies with Other Regional Forums and Processes** given the need to optimize resources and avoid duplication, collaboration with other regional and subregional mechanisms and processes will be promoted, as well as exchanges of information and the development of joint



agendas to address issues of common interest.

- v. **Effective execution of the RCM Work Plan.** The implementation of the activities approved by the RCM for the year 2025 is essential to guarantee the continuity of the commitments assumed and the materialization of efforts in the region. During Costa Rica's PPT 2025 exercise, the implementation of these activities will be monitored, promoting their fulfillment within the established deadlines and ensuring that their results contribute to the achievement of the strategic objectives of the RCM. The instrument is part of the Protection and Assistance Pillar of the RCM Strategic Plan, specifically in the area of identification and care of people in vulnerable situations. It contributes to strengthening the capacity of States to detect and respond to the protection needs of migrants and asylum seekers at borders.

Linkage of the activity with objectives and statements in the Strategic Plan.

Pillar and RCM Theme	Migration Governance 2) Integrated border management 4) Promoting safe, orderly, and regular migration 11) Addressing irregular migration Protection, Preparedness, Assistance, and Irregular Migration 5) Mixed migration flows 11) Attention of people in mass migration flows
GCM Objectives	The Instrument responds to several objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, particularly: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Objective 7: Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration• Objective 10: Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration• Objective 13: Use migrant detention only as a last resort and seek other alternatives• Objective 14: Improve consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle.

Human mobility in the region continues to evolve, presenting significant challenges for States in terms of the identification and protection of vulnerable people at borders. In this context, the Regional Instrument for the Identification of Vulnerabilities at Borders is a concrete response to strengthen protection mechanisms and ensure a human rights-based approach to migration management.

Relevance within the RCM's Annual Work Plan

This instrument has been included in the Annual Work Plan of the Regional Conference on Migration because:



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- Responds to the commitments of the States regarding the protection of migrants, aligning with the strategic axes of the RCM.
- Contributes to strengthening the capacities of migration and protection authorities in the region, promoting a better response to situations of vulnerability.
- Facilitates regional cooperation through a common tool to standardize the identification of vulnerabilities and improve coordination between States, international organizations and civil society.

Contribution to Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

The instrument advances the implementation of a safe, orderly and regular migration because:

- Prevent risks and rights violations by early identification of vulnerable profiles, avoiding practices such as arbitrary detention or rejection at the border without proper evaluation.
- Support access to protection and assistance mechanisms, facilitating the channeling and referral of people with specific needs, such as refugee or asylum seekers, survivors of violence, unaccompanied children and victims of trafficking.
- Strengthen regional migration governance, providing concrete tools for informed decision-making and the implementation of more effective public policies.
- Promote a human rights-based approach to migration management, aligned with the principles of the Global Compact on Migration and the RCM Declarations.

OBJETIVES

General Objective: Present the Regional Instrument for the Identification of Vulnerabilities at Borders to the Member Countries of the RCM and the MIRPS, in order to strengthen the understanding of its scope, usefulness and potential implementation in the region, promoting its adoption as a key tool for the protection of people in mobility.

Specific objectives:

1. Explain the context and justification of the instrument, highlighting its importance in the identification and protection of vulnerable migrants and asylum seekers.
2. Describe the structure and methodology of the instrument, including its guiding principles, approaches and border application mechanisms.
3. Foster dialogue among Member Countries, promoting interest in the implementation of the instrument and exploring possible collaborations for its use in the region.
4. Collect feedback and recommendations from participating countries to strengthen the implementation process and improve the tool.



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INDICADORES EXPECTED RESULTS AND INDICATORS

At the programmatic level:

1. Generated interest in RCM and MIRPS Member Countries for the implementation of the Instrument as a key tool to be integrated into their protection mechanisms for the identification of vulnerabilities at borders.
 - a. Indicator: Number of participants who recognize the relevance of the instrument to identify vulnerabilities at the border.
 - b. Indicator: Number of RCM and MIRPS countries interested in using the tool after submission.
2. Increased knowledge and understanding among key stakeholders of the methodology and protection approaches contained in the instrument.
 - a. Indicator: Number of participants who indicate that they have a better understanding of the methodology and approaches provided by the instrument.

At the capacity building level:

1. Improved technical capacity of RCM and MIRPS countries to implement vulnerability identification policies and practices effectively and with a differentiated approach.
 - a. Indicator: Number of participants who consider that the tool will help them improve their technical capacity to identify border vulnerabilities in an effective manner and with a differentiated approach.
2. Strengthened regional coordination in terms of identification and assistance to vulnerable migrants and refugees at the border.
 - a. Indicator: Number of participants who consider that having a regional instrument will help strengthen regional coordination in terms of identifying and assisting vulnerable migrants and refugees.
3. Member Countries are trained in the use and application of the instrument, promoting the exchange of good practices among them.
 - a. Indicator: Number of participants trained in the use and application of the instrument at the border.
 - b. Indicator: Percentage of countries willing to start a pilot plan to use the instrument at their borders
 - c. Indicator: Percentage of countries that wish to provide feedback to improve the instrument.



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RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ORGANIZATION

Coordination: RNCOM

Support: ES RCM

METHODOLOGY

Methodology for the presentation of the Regional Instrument for the Identification of Vulnerabilities at Borders will be designed through a webinar with the aim of promoting dialogue, cooperation and exchange of knowledge between the countries of the RCM, MIRPS, and other relevant actors. The activities will be structured in a way that guarantees an interactive and productive environment, with a focus on coordinated regional action and capacity building.

PARTICIPANTS PROFILE

Technical Profile: The event is aimed for technical officers and those responsible for migration and protection management who can take advantage of the knowledge of the Regional Instrument for the Identification of Border Vulnerabilities to implement and strengthen national and regional border protection policies. This includes those who work directly in the identification, care and referral of people in vulnerable situations on the move, such as:

- Officials in charge of border management and the protection of refugees, asylum seekers, and other vulnerable groups belonging to the RCM and MIRPS.
- Representatives of RCM observer bodies.
- Representatives of the RNCOM and the civil society mechanism of the MIRPS.

Institutions Type:

- Ministries and agencies responsible for migration, security, health and justice.
- International agencies and organizations: IOM, UNHCR, ICRC, UNICEF, UNODC, among others.
- Non-governmental organizations: Entities that work in the protection of human rights, humanitarian assistance and care for people on the move and that belong to both CRM/MIRPS mechanisms.
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Positions:

- Directors and Coordinators of migration and protection policies in national and local governments.
- Field technicians and migration experts from United Nations institutions and agencies.
- Project leaders on protection and humanitarian assistance issues of non-governmental organizations.

Gender Participation Goals and Other Variables:



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- Gender Goal: A balanced participation between men and women is sought, with an ideal proportion of 50% female and 50% male participants.
- Regional Diversity: Representation from RCM countries will be encouraged, with the objective of ensuring that the experiences and challenges of different countries are discussed and reflected.
- Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups: The participation of organizations representing vulnerable migrants, such as migrant women, LGBTTIQ+ people, and people with disabilities will be encouraged, ensuring that discussions on the instrument are inclusive and address the needs of diverse groups.