The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), in cooperation with the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), developed a capacity building training module on “Crisis Preparedness and Consular Contingency Planning”.

This hands-on training module, funded by the European Union within the framework of the project “Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC): Supporting an Evidence-based Approach for Effective and Cooperative State Action”, aims to capacitate consular staff to prepare and respond to the needs of their fellow nationals abroad in case of emergencies.

OBJECTIVES

1. Assist foreign posts in developing migrant-centred consular crisis plans;
2. Establish and build the capacities of multifunctional crisis management consular teams;
3. Train consular officials on crisis response;
4. Reinforce cooperation and coordination between consular posts and other key actors.

FORMAT & ACTIVITIES

The training module is made up of a 2-day introductory seminar, followed by a 2-day follow-up training. Participants are provided with concrete planning tools to be prepared in case of crisis. Activities include:

- Expert presentations & multi-stakeholder panel discussions;
- Case studies;
- Crisis management plan drafting and updating exercises through the use of a consular contingency plan template and an interactive step-by-step guide;
- Crisis scenarios and practical exercises.

PARTICIPANTS PROFILE

Consular representatives accredited to countries that have a large number of nationals in the region, who are responsible for migration, contingency planning, crisis management, humanitarian issues.

EXPERTISE

The training module draws on the expertise of the Foreign Service of the Philippines. Expertise of other countries, as well as of international and local actors is also valued.

THE EXPERT VOICE “When disasters come, I’m sure the teams you reach and coach will perform. That’s success beyond measure” – Expert participating in the introductory seminar in Bangkok, Thailand
CONTEXT

Over the past years, with the simultaneous fast-growing number of natural and man-made crises and the constantly intensifying human mobility, the specific issue of migrants caught in crisis has gained prominence on the international agenda. As an answer to the challenge of ensuring the safety of migrants, the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative was launched as a voluntary, bottom-up and state-led process to better coordinate the international response to these kinds of crises. As a member of the MICIC Working Group, within the framework of the EU-funded project “Migrants in Countries in Crisis: Supporting an Evidence-based Approach for Effective and Cooperative State Action”, ICMPD coordinated regional consultations that contributed to the development of a set of non-binding and voluntary guidelines: “Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster”. The capacity building component of the project implements the Guidelines and the research outcomes, and aims at enhancing states and other key actors’ prevention, preparedness and response capabilities to address the specific needs and mitigate the vulnerabilities of migrants in countries in crisis.