KENYA FACES A NUMBER OF FACTORS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO ITS VULNERABILITY, TRANSNATIONAL CRIME, AND IRREGULAR BORDER CROSSING.

The need to address security, the rule of law, and to secure its border has been noted as a priority by the Government of Kenya in its medium term plan for 2013 to 2017.

IOM in partnership with the Department of Immigration Services, in the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, aims to contribute to improved immigration and border management in Kenya.

IOM assists the Department of Immigration Services with countering security threats through capacity building in border management – with particular focus on document examination/fraud detection, East African Common Market Protocol, One Stop Border Post, transnational crimes and other immigration refresher courses.

IOM also aims to assist improving the capacity of individual officers to better undertake their immigration and border management tasks including the issues of human trafficking/smuggling, protection and referral of victims of trafficking, cross-border health issue and human rights.

The capacity of the Department of Immigration Services is also strengthened by upgrading immigration and border management infrastructure/equipment at key border crossing points and by updating border operational manuals.

Between November and December 2015, IOM undertook the first phase of border management assessment in Kenya in partnership with the Department of Immigration Services. This assessment reviewed the institutions with border management functions and the relationships between these institutions, the existing consultative committees, inter-ministerial agreements, and consultative processes and organizations structures within key departments. The assessment further reviewed the facilities and equipment in Nairobi, Mombasa, Namanga, and Busia, systems and infrastructure for border information management, document and identity management processes, the regulatory framework, threats, risks and priorities.

Some of the recommendations from the assessment will be addressed in the project with the financial support from the Government of Japan.