



ICAO



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ICAO **TRIP**  
SYMPOSIUM

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# Capacity Building & Project Support

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Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

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# What is Capacity Building?

- **ICAO's concept of *No Country Left Behind (NCLB)***  
Assisting all States, regardless of size or capacity, in implementing ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs).
- **Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG)**  
*Realizing and committing to the NCLB in the traveller identification sphere.*



# Why Capacity Building?

*If all States are required to implement SARPs, SARPs must be developed with all States in mind (Standards and Recommended Practices)*

Many States and regions are under represented in ICAO forums where SARPs are discussed and developed.



Each State has unique in-country realities, infrastructure and priorities.



Increased membership in working groups and uptake of SARPs increases interoperability, and pushes the travel continuum forward.



# Misconceptions about Capacity Building

## Myths

Capacity Building activities are time intensive and expensive.



Financing for Capacity Building does not align with existing priorities.



Targeted States are not interested in participating or hearing about Capacity Building.



## Realities

Capacity Building can be done virtually and on the margins of ICAO events as has recently been done at ICBWG and PKD regional meetings.



Capacity Building can be and tied to a variety of priorities, including but not limited to irregular migration and border management, issuance and travel documentation, and can address large issues such as diversity and inclusion.



Many States note a lack of meaningful engagement and outreach as well as access as a barrier to entry. A wide range of States have not been meaningfully included rather than lacking interest.



# Approaches to Capacity Building

## *Canada's Strategy*



A forward-looking approach to **be more strategic** in leveraging **Canada's international engagement efforts** and **working with partners that share priorities**



Focus time, resources and energy on **actions that advance Canada's migration and travel priorities at home and abroad**



Reflect the **unique interests and opportunities of each region** in more concrete terms than a single international strategy would allow



# Capacity Building Focus

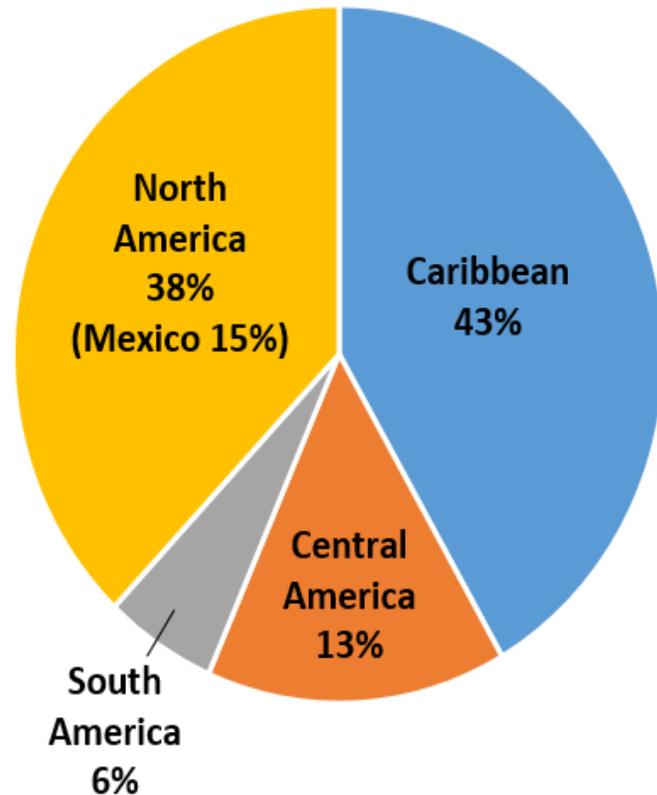
## *Inclusive Engagement*

- Canada (through IRCC) has a long history of supporting virtual and in-person ICAO capacity building events, primarily in the Latin America and Caribbean regions.
- In the future, Canada is moving towards more regionally targeted engagements that are programmed in partnership with participating states and delivery partners.
- Achieving our goals through:
  - Targeted Pre and Post event surveys.
  - Focusing on impactful priorities around borders, standards and traveler identification foundations.
  - Building for a future that incorporates broader diversity and inclusion.
  - Sustained Engagements and follow-up.



# Border Management Post COVID-19: Virtual Technical Seminar for the Caribbean and Central American Region

*Canada-ICAO Partnerships in Capacity Building Efforts*



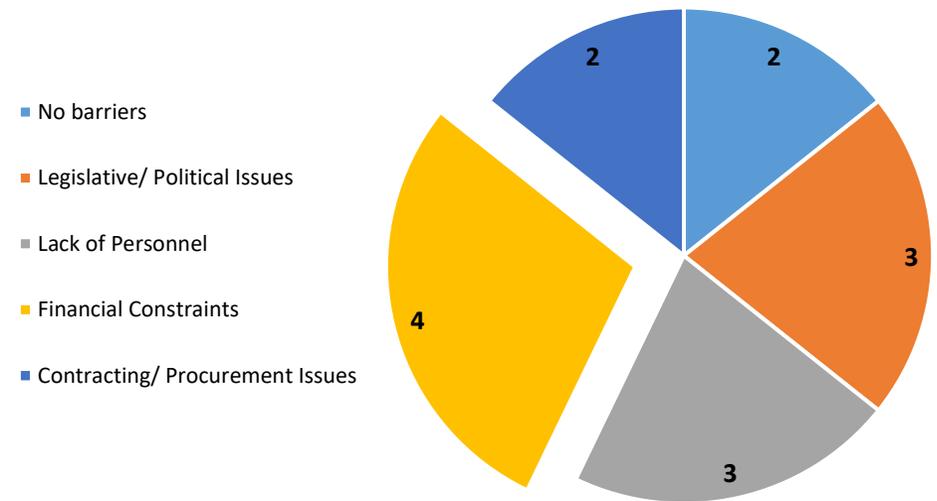
- Served as a starting pointing to target audience in Caribbean and Central American states.
- Participants were surveyed in advance to set the agenda:
  - How existing travel document and border management technologies can be leveraged to help address irregular migration threats; and
  - Minimizing the risks of COVID-19 transmission related to traveler screening practices.
- The seminar was held December 1-3, 2021 with 100 participants (60% from the Caribbean/Central American).
- Post-seminar survey identified interest in:
  - ePassports and ABCs information;
  - PKD Participation; and
  - Information for Canada and ICAO on existing challenges.

# Small & Small-Island States Focus Group: Grenada, June 2023

## Canada-ICAO Partnerships in Capacity Building Efforts

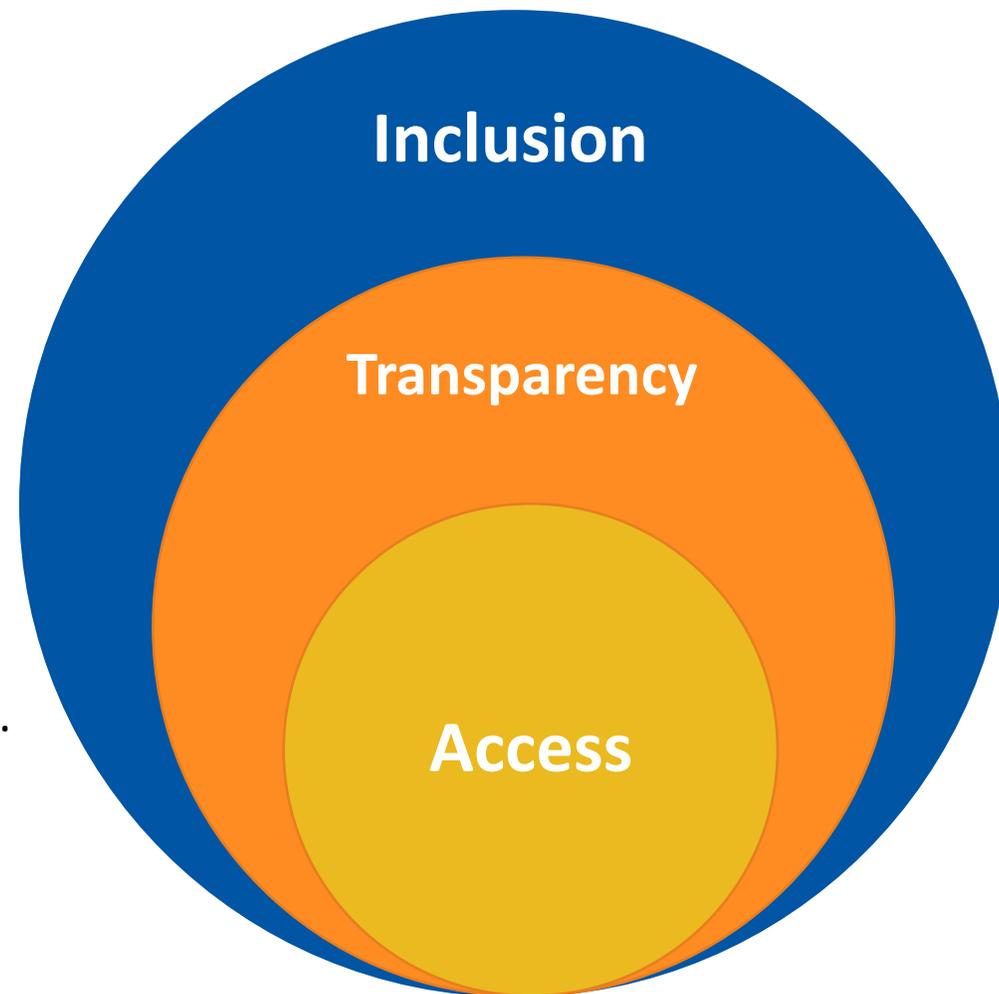
- Built on work and connections established at the Virtual Seminar December 1-3, 2021.
- A survey was developed and distributed to interested member states that participated in the Virtual Seminar.
- Survey was followed-up with a targeted workshop on ePassport issuance with Caribbean states, held on the margins of the *Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group* in June 2023.
- States requested focus on financial, legislative, and technical capacity elements of ePassport issuance, as identified in the virtual seminar and subsequent surveys.

Q2. Challenges and Barriers that have or are currently preventing ePassport issuance.



## — Impact & Importance of Capacity Building

- Ensures the most diverse representation of views with respect to ICAO's work and efforts.
- Ensures interoperability and uniformity across the widest range of countries and regions.
- Ensures problems are viewed from the perspective of numerous states and solved in the most impactful way possible.
- Recommended standards and practices reflect the desires, input and feedback of underrepresented states.
- Barriers to access are removed with inclusion and transparency at the forefront.



# Inviting new members!

*Do not hesitate to reach out for additional information.*

## ICBWG is seeking contributions to its work items:

Non-Compliant Travel Documents  
*Have you come across any travel document reading or verification issues at your borders?*

Engaging the Borders Community  
*Would you be interested in lending your border expertise to the ICBWG?*

Exploring Updates to Annex 9  
*Changes to Annex 9 impact all ICAO Member States – your input is encouraged!*

Assessing Implications of eMRTDs becoming a Standard  
*Views of small States and non-eMRTD issuers needed!*

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# Thank You



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