



ICMPD Info Sheet - Türkiye

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ICMPD General Information

The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is an international organisation with 19 Member States and more than 460 staff members. Active in more than 90 countries worldwide, it takes a regional approach in its work to create efficient cooperation and partnerships along migration routes. Priority regions include Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Mediterranean, Silk Routes, Western Balkans and Türkiye.

ICMPD was established on 1 May 1993 upon the initiative of Austria and Switzerland and its mandate, objectives and functions are defined in the 'Agreement regarding the Establishment and Functioning of the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) in Vienna'. The ICMPD Agreement was amended four times; on 27 March 1996, 26 April 1996, 25 June 2003 and 26 May 2014. The April 1996 amendment transformed ICMPD into an international organisation under international law. The original ICMPD Agreement and its later amendments are registered in the United Nations Treaty Series under registration number 53733. The Vienna-based organisation has a mission in Brussels, regional offices in Ankara and Malta as well as project offices in several countries. ICMPD receives funding from its Member States, the European Commission, the UN and other multilateral institutions, as well as bilateral donors. ICMPD holds UN observer status and cooperates with more than 240 partners including EU institutions and UN agencies. ICMPD is a nine-pillar¹ assessed organization and one of the main implementing partners of EC. The ICMPD Steering Committee, which is chaired by one of its member states every year, is being chaired by Germany in 2022. In 2023, Türkiye will carry out assume the ICMPD Presidency Chairmanship of the Steering Committee.

ICMPD bases its work on knowledge and tangible evidence and has extensive experience in bridging the gap between theory and practice. Thus, the ICMPD provides policymakers and politicians with the necessary grounding to make critical decisions. In addition, ICMPD provides support to the migration management of countries by carrying out capacity-building activities in various fields.

In addition, ICMPD carries out support and secretarial duties for the comprehensive migration dialogues between countries, the Budapest Process and the Prague Process. It aims to develop comprehensive and sustainable systems for regular migration with 10 international organizations. Türkiye holds the presidency of the process since 2006. Türkiye hosted the 6th Ministerial Conference of the Budapest Process in Istanbul on 19-20 February 2019, bringing together 46 participating countries, the European Commission, European institutions and 10 regional and international organizations. In addition to 20 Ministers, the European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship Dimitris Avramopoulos and 15 Deputy Ministers and Secretaries of State attended the conference.

¹ Internal Control System, Accounting System, independent External Audit, Grants, Procurement, Sub-Delegation, Exclusion from access to funding, Publication of information on recipients, and Protection of personal data



ICMPD Western Balkans and Türkiye Regional Office

The Western Balkans and Türkiye Regional Office work with all countries in the region by dealing with all aspects of migration to contribute to better migration management in this strategically and operationally important geography. The Regional Office based in Istanbul coordinates ICMPD's work in the region and supports the implementation of projects in the field through country offices in Ankara, Belgrade, Pristina, Sarajevo and Skopje. Currently, there are 49 staff employed in ICMPD Offices in Türkiye.

As of fall 2022; field monitoring officers are to be deployed in 11 provinces (Istanbul, Sanliurfa, Gaziantep, Adana, Mersin, Bursa, Izmir, Ankara, Konya, Hatay, Kayseri), to enforce the implementation of ENHANCER Project² grant programme, which is funded through EU Facility for Refugees in Türkiye. Depending on the confirmed scope and manner of implementation of the projects in the pipeline, ICMPD also plans to deploy further staff to work in the above-mentioned or other provinces of Türkiye to work in cooperation with the project beneficiaries.

ICMPD's current portfolio of projects in the Western Balkans and Türkiye covers topics related to overall migration management institutional framework, irregular migration, return, border management, international protection, human trafficking prevention, migration and development, strengthening cooperation between public institutions and civil society, legal migration and labour migration as well as diaspora issues. The Western Balkans and Türkiye Regional Office also focus on improving interregional dialogue and cooperation by facilitating migration dialogues. The main donors are the EU, Austria, Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

ICMPD work in Türkiye

Since the establishment of ICMPD, there has been cooperation with the authorities of Türkiye in several areas through projects implemented in and/or related to Türkiye. Türkiye has been part of international migration dialogues such as the Budapest Process and the Prag Process. Budapest Process is currently co-chaired by Türkiye since 2006. Türkiye has become an ICMPD member state as of 2018 and will chair the ICMPD Steering Group in 2023.

ICMPD intensified its work in Türkiye during the establishment process of the Directorate General of Migration Management as of 2013, particularly focusing on issues such as institutional structuring, management support, the establishment of a legal framework and special procedures, and general and specialist trainings of newly recruited personnel. With the gradual launching of new projects, especially in the fields of border management, irregular migration and return, socio-economic integration as well as regional cooperation, ICMPD has expanded areas of support in migration and border management. The current portfolio of ICMPD in Türkiye covers areas related to border management, irregular migration and return, trafficking in human beings, legal migration, socio-economic integration as well as migration data analyses and policy development. An overview of the ongoing projects is provided in the Annex of this note.

ICMPD work in Türkiye is conducted through capacity building at institutional and individual levels, facilitation of *ad hoc* and structural cooperation with countries of origins and destinations, and supporting

²Enhancement of entrepreneurship capacities for sustainable socio-economic integration



infrastructural set-up through procurement as well as grant programmes for implementing partners at the local level.

In addition to the project implementation-related work; ICMPD regularly follows the current developments in migration and the fields affecting migration at regional and global levels, organizes expert meetings in these areas, prepares analyses and policy recommendations and information notes and presents them to policymakers in Türkiye.

ICMPD works in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Interior, including the Presidency of Migration Management and Directorate General of Public Administration, the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, and the Ministry of Industry and Technology as main beneficiaries. ICMPD also cooperates with other relevant public institutions and organizations at national and local levels, such as municipalities and regional development agencies, as well as the private sector, civil society and universities.

ICMPD Türkiye Office aims to continue its project studies by taking into consideration the arising operational needs in Türkiye and along the relevant migration routes as well as priorities of public institutions and organizations and EU and other partner countries. With an aim to support the developing needs in the field of migration and border management in Türkiye and the nearby region, ICMPD will continue providing contributions for migration management in Türkiye through the facilitation of regular consultation and cooperation processes with countries along the migration routes.

Through the establishment of the planned International Migration International Border Management Migration Cooperation Centre Istanbul, of which Türkiye will be one of the main constituent elements; in addition to being able to provide support for efforts in the field of stopping irregular migration, migrant smuggling, combating transboundary crime and border protection, it is expected to provide very important and beneficial results for Türkiye's overall migration management, regional role and overall cooperation.

Encl.: Note on ongoing projects in Türkiye.