



ICMPD

International Centre for
Migration Policy Development



Making Migration Better

ANNUAL REPORT



**Making
migration and
mobility
of people orderly,
safe and
regular, including
through the
implementation
of planned
and well-
managed migration
policies.**

ICMPD is an international organisation based in Vienna and has 15 member states: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and Sweden.

Making Migration Better

**ANNUAL REPORT
2016**

ICMPD in a nutshell

KEY FIGURES

55 projects
in
over 90 countries

197 staff members

52 nationalities

15 Member States

over 200 partners

18 duty stations

€124 million contracted project volume

OUTREACH

34 conferences
and
330 trainings
at
58 locations
with
29,262 participants
and
183 partners

THREE-PRONGED APPROACH



RESEARCH:
Policy-relevant research, empirical research with a comparative, interdisciplinary, and international approach covering numerous migration-related topics.

MIGRATION DIALOGUES:
Support dialogue between Europe and its neighbours, East (Budapest Process, Prague Process), and South (Rabat Process and Khartoum Process, MTM, EUROMED IV).

CAPACITY BUILDING:
Training, capacity building programmes, workshops, study visits, facilitation of international and interagency cooperation and support in institution building.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Legal Migration
AND
Integration

Migration
AND
Development

Border
Management
AND
Visa

Irregular Migration
AND
Return

Asylum

Trafficking IN
Human Beings

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A FEW WORDS FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

Since the beginning of 2016, Michael Spindelegger has been the Director General at ICMPD. Here he presents his first impressions and analyses and describes the most important strategies and measures for the future.

You started your work as Director General of ICMPD at the beginning of 2016. What kept you busy in your first few weeks?

I had the pleasure to meet nearly all the ambassadors based in Vienna already on the day of my inauguration. That same day, I presented my basic concepts and intentions to the media. As a next step, I visited all our Member States in order to introduce myself and to become acquainted with my contact persons. It was an enriching experience to familiarise myself with the ideas, opinions, and concepts of our Member States and to understand their viewpoints. This exchange became the profound basis for all further ideas, initiatives, and steps that I took in 2016.

What were your most important measures and why did you take them?

First of all, the re-organisation of ICMPD was without any doubt the most decisive step. The reasons for this re-organisation are obvious: Migration is one of the most important issues of our time. It creates

opportunities and challenges that need to be addressed. And our partners need an organisation that can work with them to make the most of the opportunities and provide answers to related challenges. In order to correspond to these needs, it is crucial for us to grow and develop further as we strive to become the most important organisation for migration issues in Europe. In order to be prepared for this growth—which is already taking place—the re-organisation of ICMPD is a precondition.

What was key to successfully re-organising ICMPD?

The most important aspects of this re-organisation are a clear distinction between our projects on the one hand and our policy and research activities on the other. Since we want to keep our strength as a flexible and responsive organisation, we also rely on regionalisation and decentralisation. And finally, we enable value creation through policy focus and knowledge management, new approaches and expertise.

It was an enriching experience to familiarise myself with the ideas, opinions and concepts of our Member States and to understand their viewpoints. This exchange became the profound basis for all further ideas, initiatives, and steps that I took in 2016.

After more than one year as Director General of ICMPD—how would you describe the specific role and importance of your organisation?

As a former Minister for Foreign Affairs, I am convinced that migration is one of the crucial political issues in the current debates. These debates are very often connected to highly emotional, sometimes even extreme or populist, positions. ICMPD, as an organisation, strives to be a sober and neutral companion in this discourse. It does so by bringing together all important players. Furthermore, ICMPD provides policy-makers and politicians with the necessary groundwork, which they can base their decisions on. ICMPD is also present in the field—for instance, with its border management activities—and is therefore capable of bridging the gap between theory and practice.

ICMPD is in charge of around 60 different projects. Is there any project you would like to put a special emphasis on?

“Making migration better” is the claim of our organisation, and all of our projects are in fact important, necessary, and do their part to live up to this claim. One initiative that I would like to highlight is our work related to the Valletta Summit on migration. The Rabat and Khartoum Processes were assigned to monitor the related measures taken. ICMPD’s project Migration and Mobility Dialogue (MMD) is currently developing a digital reporting and monitoring tool for this purpose. Furthermore, ICMPD opened the Coordination and Cooperation Centre for Migration in the Mediterranean in Valletta. All future ICMPD activities in the Mediterranean will be coordinated at, and promoted through, this new hub.

Migration is one of the most important issues of our time. It creates opportunities and challenges that need to be addressed. And our partners need an organisation that can work with them to make the most of the opportunities and provide answers to related challenges. In order to correspond to these needs, it is crucial for us to grow and develop further as we strive to become the most important organisation for migration issues in Europe.

Besides these activities in the Mediterranean, are there any other new projects or initiatives you would like to highlight?

During the last months we have developed a new concept in order to pursue the following goals: creating perspectives for people who move back to their countries of origin and generating private investments for these countries. The concept was developed by ICMPD and is called Reverse Migration. The guiding principle of this initiative is partnership—partnerships between countries of origin and countries of destination, partnerships between public administration and private investors and partnerships with people who need a perspective for their life. We will run a pilot project on Reverse Migration with Nigeria and the renewable industries investors and sector in 2017.

In which respect is Reverse Migration a new kind of project for ICMPD?

With Reverse Migration ICMPD is taking a new step of development—ICMPD arises

not only as supplier of a certain project but also as inventor of this project. This example shows the new conception and identity of ICMPD as an organisation that creates new ideas, policies, projects, and perspectives in order to make migration better.

With this in mind, ICMPD for the first time hosted the Vienna Migration Conference, where more than 300 participants discussed the most burning issues of migration with particular consideration of the topics Refugee Protection and International Cooperation. It was my pleasure to welcome politicians like the Foreign Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Malta, the EU Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, the Secretary General of the OSCE, and numerous experts and high-level representatives from international organisations. And, of course, we will host the next Vienna Migration Conference in 2017!



Michael Spindelegger, 57, joined ICMPD as Director General at the beginning of 2016. During his political career he served as Austria's Vice Chancellor and was Minister for Foreign Affairs and leader of the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP). Spindelegger studied law, he is married, and has two kids.

MIGRATION PARTNERSHIPS— THE NEXT GENERATION

Lukas Gehrke, Martijn Pluim

In the face of the largest inflow of refugees and migrants from the Middle East, Asia, and Africa in recent history, the last two years have been characterised by hasty and often haphazard attempts at regaining control over the largely uncontrolled mixed migration flows towards Europe. Now, collective efforts need to be made on drawing the right conclusions from past crises to help prevent potentially much larger crises from happening in the future. The key to this lies in a new generation of inclusive and long-term migration partnerships.

COMPLEX MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS

The arrival of refugees and migrants en masse, which defined much of 2015, continued in 2016. A consistently high number of refugees from war-torn areas, such as Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and migrants searching for a better life—all found themselves arriving in the European Union via Greece and making their way to Europe across the Western Balkans route. European reception and processing systems—already strained by months of mass arrivals—proved ill-equipped to effectively deal with the situation. Simultaneously, the Central Mediterranean Route again became an important conduit for mixed migration flows from North Africa via Libya. According to UNHCR, more than 5,000 children, women, and men had lost their lives while trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea by the end of the year, a stark and urgent reminder that the crisis is far from over.

The policy framework, built up over two decades as a result of a series of compromises and imperfect ad hoc arrangements on the EU level, fell into disrepair as a result of these events. The confidence of practitioners and policymakers in their

own ability to find effective responses and solutions to the current crisis eroded as the crisis dragged on.

Intra-European solidarity and responsibility—the core pillars of European unity—continued to crumble under the weight of widespread paralysis. In the process, the wider public also started to lose trust in the ability of their political leaders to work together towards putting an end to the crisis. As approval ratings of the EU and its institutions plummeted, nationalists and Eurosceptics exploited the situation to advance their own agenda, and mainstream politicians adopted equally negative narratives. What started as a refugee and migration crisis has evolved into a broader structural crisis of the EU with global ramifications.

SHORT-TERM MEASURES

Policymakers have, by and large, resorted to a number of short-term measures aimed at fighting irregular migration and at regaining control over migration flows. These measures are part of the more traditional toolbox of migration management:

- Keeping refugees in countries of first refuge by addressing immediate

- living conditions and promising larger resettlement programmes.
- Investing resources in reinforcing border control and management arrangements in an effort to protect sovereignty over the EU's external borders.
- Increasing the return and readmission of irregular migrants.
- Stepping up the fight against smuggling and organised crime involved in the transport of irregular migrants.

Some additional emergency measures inside the EU were also undertaken, such as the creation of reception hot spots and the launching of a reform process for the Common European Asylum System, including the dysfunctional Dublin Regulation. Internal border controls originally reintroduced temporarily in the Schengen zone now seem to become almost a normal feature.

The urgency of the situation and the lack of clear alternatives prompted politicians and policymakers to apply short-term operational measures to a complex phenomenon defined by deeper structural causes and drivers. It has become abun-

dantly clear that these measures do not constitute workable solutions for the mid- to long-term future. The crisis has put in sharp relief that the current policy and institutional architecture has outlived its shelf life, which implies the urgent need for developing new arrangements for ensuring adequate protection for refugees both within the EU and globally. Having a sustainable and comprehensive system adapted to future migration realities is therefore absolutely crucial. Existing political, economic, social, demographic, and environmental scenarios for Europe, and the main countries of origin and transit, already outline potential future migration challenges and are a strong reminder that new conceptual frameworks are urgently needed to ensure that migration can be channeled for positive change. Global migration will remain a powerful force shaping global economic, social, and cultural developments of our increasingly inter-linked and mutually dependent societies.

MORE EQUITABLE COLLABORATION

Moving towards a sustainable and comprehensive migration system requires

In an era of uncertainty, partnerships should deliver solid and predictable frameworks for addressing all aspects of a highly dynamic and constantly shifting migration situation.

013

term investments over short-term gains and deal with the migration trajectory holistically rather than focussing only on

individual aspects. The question of next generation frameworks, therefore, relates to structure, content, and process.

NEXT GENERATION OF PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORKS

In the wake of the crisis, we have seen initiatives emerge that started to be more holistic in their scope, more inclusive in their approach, and more future oriented and transformational in their outlook. The EU-Turkey Statement, the Valletta Process, and the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa as well as the new Migration Partnership Framework with selected African countries on the regional level, the New York Declaration, and the two compacts on migration and refugees at the global level may turn out to be the prime opportunities to lay the foundations for a new generation of collaboration and partnership on migration that is informed and equipped to deal with future migration management challenges. Unfortunately, however, the

political climate with regard to migration is at present not conducive to far-reaching discussions. All States and organisations

involved in the discussions should put an effort in putting short-term interests aside and focus on the long-term prerogative of well-managed migration and protection systems.

The next two years will be a decisive period. We need to renew our collective efforts to make good use of the opportunity for creating the foundations for the next generation of partnership frameworks on the global and European level through the two UN Global Compacts processes and the EU Partnership framework, but also the many developments and initiatives on the regional levels in Asia, Africa, and the EU.

Here at ICMPD, we aim to support our Member States and all our partners around the globe in their work on establishing these new partnerships in the framework of our migration dialogues, in our capacity building initiatives, and in the research and policy work we do.

tion and participation, as well as return and reintegration. Most importantly, partnerships cannot be forged overnight—they take time to build.

Learning the right lessons might help us perceive the current crisis not merely as a perfect storm caused by exceptional circumstances, but rather as a sign of things to come, heralding fundamental change in the global system in which international migration takes place. Indeed, our global system will become increasingly defined by mixed migration flows over greater distances and on a much larger scale than before.

FAIRLY BALANCED PRIORITIES

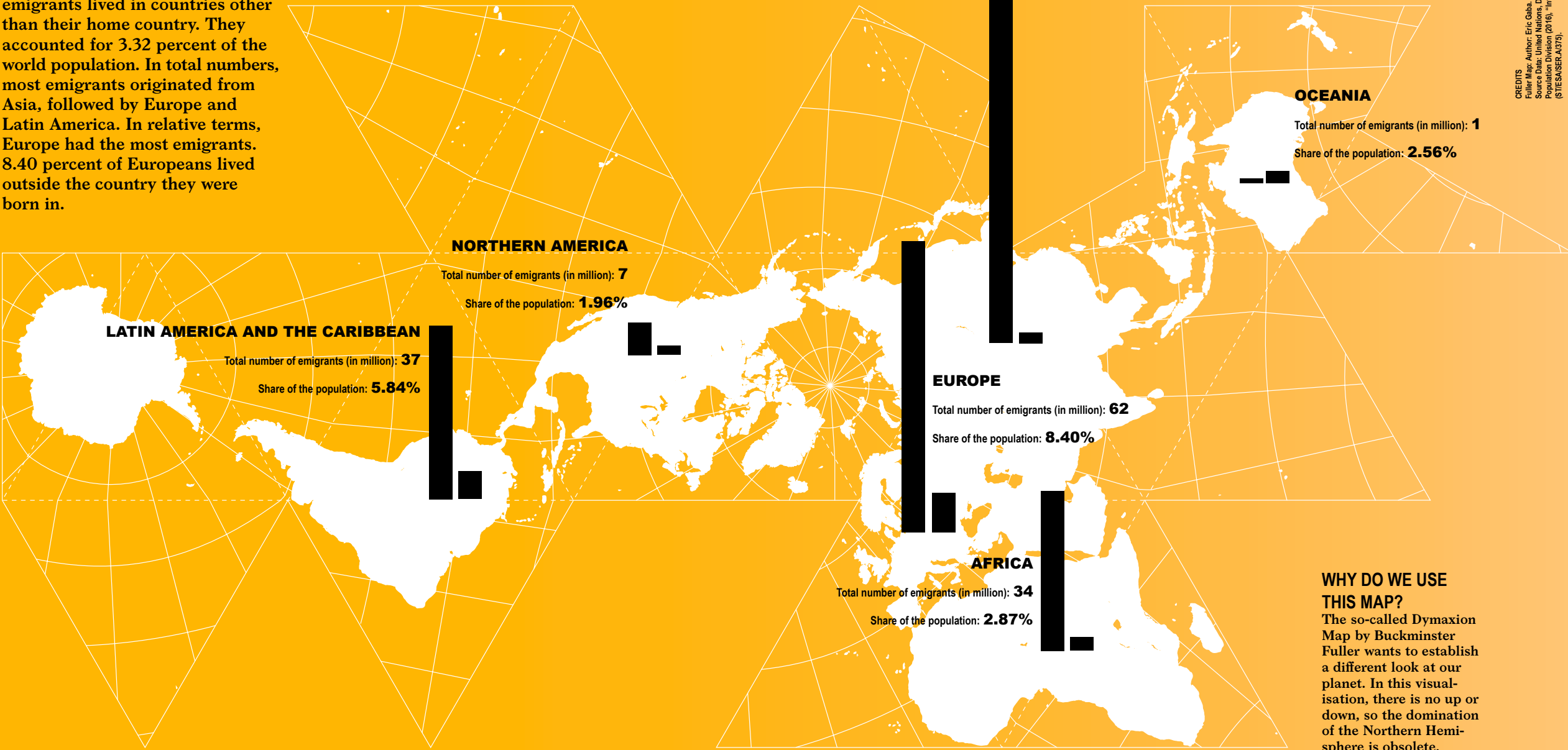
Upgrading existing partnership frameworks with this in mind is the key objective for the next decade, both conceptually as well as operationally. Such arrangements need to effectively and fairly balance the needs and interests of all partners involved, ensuring equal footing and ownership. They have to avoid asymmetrical and purely donor driven agendas that will ultimately undermine the sustainability of such frameworks. In order for partnerships to support effective migration management that is capable of dealing with the challenges and shocks of the future, they have to focus on the long term, incentivise long-

collaborative efforts both among EU Member States and also between the EU and its wider neighborhood. Without such an inclusive approach, migration management systems will not be able to deliver on their critical objectives. In other words, none of the emerging challenges can be addressed without genuine cooperation between countries that are connected through migration. The idea of having more meaningful partnership is, of course, nothing new. A closer look at the nature of existing cooperation frameworks, however, reveals significant shortcomings. Many of the existing partnership frameworks appear to be transactional in nature, aiming primarily at addressing individual aspects of the migration trajectory, such as return and readmission, without taking into account the broader context, and creating real mechanisms of cooperation on the key drivers of international migration.

In an era of uncertainty, partnerships should deliver solid and predictable frameworks for addressing all aspects of highly dynamic and constantly shifting migration situations. This includes taking a comprehensive approach to looking at drivers and root causes of irregular migration, the demand and supply for labour migration and mobility, questions related to integra-

GLOBAL EMIGRANTS IN 2015

Never before has the number of international migrants been as high as now. In 2015, 244 million emigrants lived in countries other than their home country. They accounted for 3.32 percent of the world population. In total numbers, most emigrants originated from Asia, followed by Europe and Latin America. In relative terms, Europe had the most emigrants. 8.40 percent of Europeans lived outside the country they were born in.



WORLD

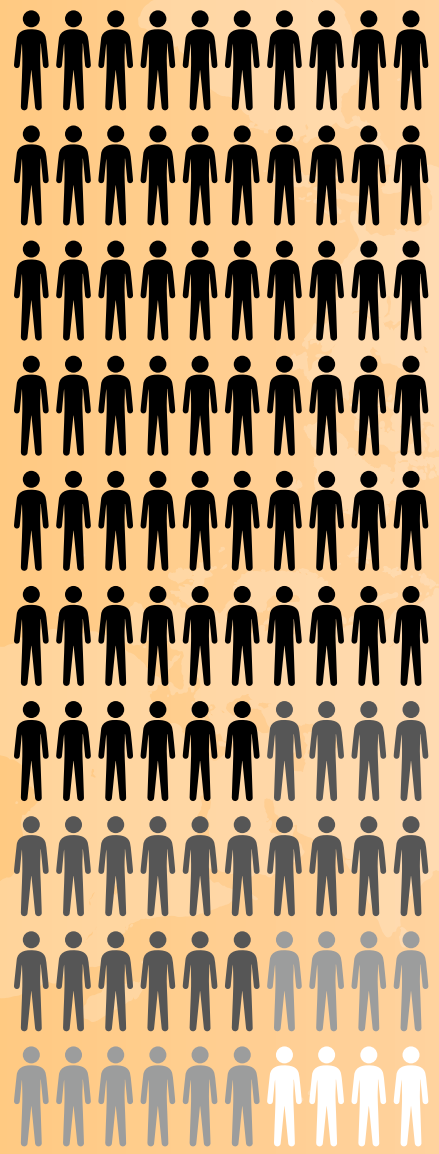


WHY DO WE USE THIS MAP?
The so-called Dymaxion Map by Buckminster Fuller wants to establish a different look at our planet. In this visualisation, there is no up or down, so the domination of the Northern Hemisphere is obsolete.

CREDITS
Author: Eric Gaba.
Fuller Map: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2016). "International Migration Report 2015: Highlights" (ST/ESA/SER.A/375).

ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE EU IN 2016

In 2016, approximately 1.03 million persons applied for asylum in the EU. Almost two-thirds of applicants originated from Asia and the Middle East. Every fifth asylum seeker was of African origin and every tenth came from Europe or Turkey.



ASIA AND MIDDLE EAST
Total: 680,115 ▶ 65.91%
AFRICA
Total: 208,115 ▶ 20.17%
EUROPE AND TURKEY
Total: 104,555 ▶ 10.13%
OTHERS
Total: 39,140 ▶ 3.79%

Source: Eurostat



STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE RETURN

Return of irregular migrants and rejected asylum seekers is often a hard case for all actors involved. Several approaches aim to combine return with a new perspective for a better future in their home countries. Private investors could help to increase the chances that they succeed.

In 2016, European authorities made 1,130,000 asylum decisions; hundreds of thousands are still pending. Those decisions certainly can change lives. They can give hope and bury hope. They can mean the beginning of a new life or the end of a dream.

In 2016, 57 percent of asylum seekers in the EU received asylum. The remaining 43 percent knew that they had or would have to leave the place where they planned to find a somehow better future. “Return is one of the major topics in the field of migration today,” says Sergo Mananashvili. He is an advisor on return and readmission at ICMPD with many years of experience. As the rate of returns—currently used as a main indicator by the European countries to measure the success of the return system—remains relatively low, European stakeholders feel under pressure. Therefore, the EU institutions and individual Member States have accelerated their relevant efforts lately. The European Commission considers an effective return system key to maintain trust in the European asylum system and emphasises that it needs to go hand in hand with the efforts to protect those in need.

VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

It looks so easy on the surface: Just take a person back to where he or she came from in a humane way, and that’s it, the problem is solved.

Of course, this is shortsighted. In most cases, the reasons that made these people leave their homes, families, and friends in the first place still remain. Drivers of migration, such as the lack of jobs and economic perspectives, do not change within a few months. In many cases, migration also is a household strategy. The families, who have sent one of their members to Europe, still need the additional money they had expected to receive or this kind of security system that one family member in Europe could have sent to them. “As very few drivers of migration change quickly, chances are high that people who migrated once will do it again,” says Sergo Mananashvili. Thus, only bringing people back is not a sustainable solution.

Several approaches try to change this situation. Many countries provide packages to increase the number of voluntary returns. They offer lump sums or in kind support, which should allow the returnees

to start a new life in their home countries. “While such assistance might be invaluable in the short-term, sustainable reintegration requires a more complex approach that takes into account various aspects both at the individual and country level. The challenge is also how to devise an attractive reintegration programme so that not only those irregular migrants who have already received return decisions but also those who have not been detected yet would opt for it,” says Sergo Mananashvili.

There are various approaches for reintegration strategies. Some destination countries work together with sending countries that will provide returnees with, for example, livelihood or immediate access to basic services. Very often, however, the long-term perspective is missing, despite all the efforts taken.

OVERCOMING CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

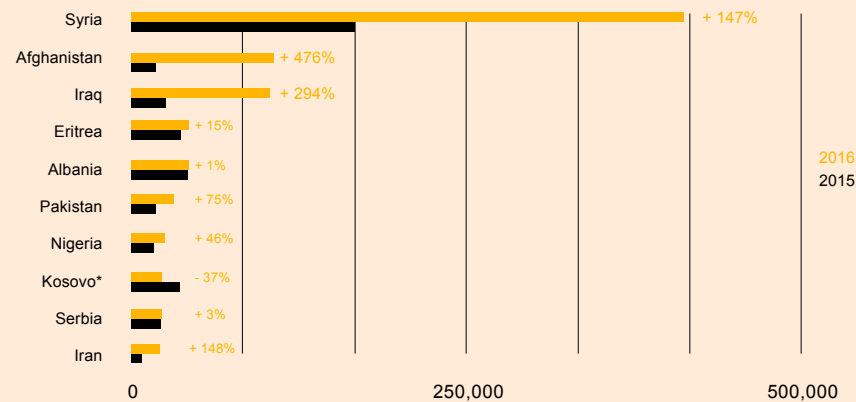
“The starting point for returns is always difficult,” says Sergo Mananashvili. All the actors involved follow very different strategies; there is a conflict of interest. Migrants, in many cases, do not want to go back. Either the drivers of migration

still exist, they do not want to lose their face in front of family and friends, or they actually have found a life that suits them better in the country of destination, despite living there illegally. The home country, on the other hand, is hesitant to take migrants back, especially those without a reintegration perspective, as this would not only mean less remittances but also more unemployment. This leaves the country of destination in the situation where it is often not able to act on its obligation to return irregular migrants.

“As these three actors can hardly find common ground, the involvement of the private sector can be a game changer,” says Sergo Mananashvili. In most cases, private investors are very welcome in countries that are faced with people migrating. States are willing to guarantee investment security and other incentives if international companies build new businesses that offer jobs as well as development. The international company, on the other hand, is interested in having employees who are familiar with its headquarters and its international company culture, as well as with the culture in the new market. Thus, a returning migrant, who has been living in

Number of asylum decisions taken by EU+ countries in 2016

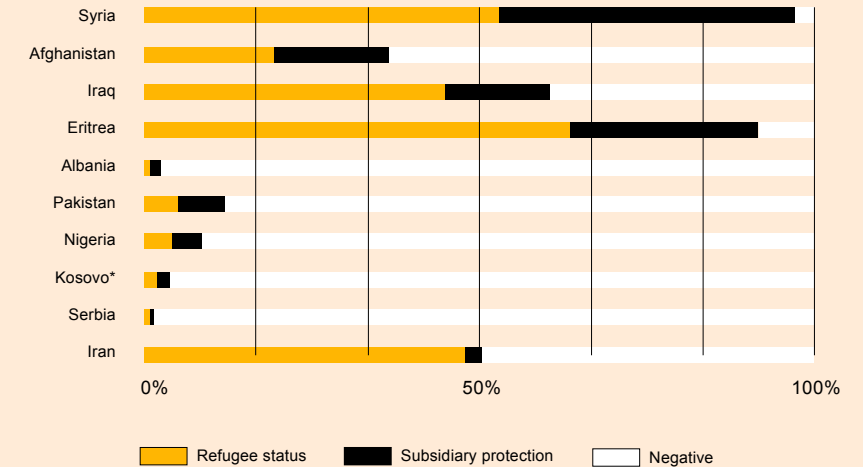
In 2016, Syrian applicants received the most decisions at first instance. This number was more than twice the number in 2015.



* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

Type of asylum decisions taken by EU+ countries in 2016

While applicants from Syria received positive decisions in almost all cases, only 37% of all first-instance decisions for Afghan applicants were positive.



Reverse Migration and is run by a non-profit association that goes by the same name. “The main idea is to bring Western companies to African countries and create jobs for both locals as well as returnees,” says Ketson Egbon, who is a founder and the head of Reverse Migration.

The Vienna-based real estate developer has Nigerian roots, his parents migrated to Austria decades ago. He has worked on different international projects before and was always faced with the question: How could this project, this foreign investment be more beneficial to the local community?

His newly founded association tries to give an answer to that and follows a holistic approach that combines foreign investment, local employment and job opportunities for returnees with training facilities. The long-term objective is to create a sustainable perspective in countries that are faced with people leaving, by ensuring that economic activities are embedded in working value chains.

If and how this works best will first be tested with an Austrian engineering company in Nigeria, further projects with construction companies, in agriculture and tourism are also already in the pipeline.

The engineering company plans to build a power plant for renewable energy. They will recruit local staff, but also among Nigerians who live in Austria without having the right to stay there. Those migrants will receive two months of training in the Austrian premises of the company, and a further seven months in the new plant in Nigeria. They will be the ones who already know what is expected by this foreign investor when they come home.

“We want to replicate the dual-apprenticeship that is so successful in Austria,” says Ketson Egbon. People will receive training on the job in Austria, as well as in Nigeria. The middle-term objective is to install training centres in Nigeria and further countries. Foreign companies request certain qualities in their employees, and local employees should be able to fulfil them in the future. That’s Ketson Egbon’s idea of sustainable investment that helps to develop the country where it happens. And that’s why his association will also fund a firm that provides companies interested in investing in foreign countries with consulting and will combine this with platforms for crowdfunding and other forms of investment possibilities.

a European country, could be a great asset. There are success stories, where migrants, who were living in the diaspora, returned to their home countries as actual entrepreneurs. ICMPD has been closely watching how this happens, for example, in Kosovo. As the safety situation in Kosovo improved in the early 2000s, many Kosovars, who had been living in Austria before, went back to their home country. Some of them chose to use the fact that they had contacts in Austria and had learnt German. They saw a business opportunity arising and set up call centres for Austrian companies in Kosovo—speaking German, but a lower cost. But not everyone can become an entrepreneur by themselves. They can, however, be a great asset to any company going to the country of their origin.

Companies who are looking for investments abroad are often faced with severe market entry barriers. Political instability could be one deal-breaker for investing in an otherwise attractive market. Questionable legal protection or issues with corruption are also among the reasons why some companies refrain from entering new markets. In some countries, it might be hard to get any valid data on consumers, in

many others the requirements for setting up a business are difficult to understand. Especially when the home country of a company has no business history there. Also, companies always ask themselves if they would find the right workforce in the country they would like to invest in.

The idea of combining private investors with returnees from European countries and the authorities of their home countries could help to overcome those entry barriers, especially when an independent actor such as an international institution is involved. In such cases, ICMPD can facilitate things in a way companies on their own could not do by bringing together the right people and ensuring, for example, that there is no issue of corruption. In addition to that, the European funds that have been set up to tackle the root causes of migration could be another incentive for private companies to invest. They can give financial guarantees, as well as subsidise investments in certain areas.

A PILOT PROJECT IN NIGERIA

One way to form such a public-private partnership could be a new project that will receive ICMPD support. It is called

NIGERIA—A COUNTRY WITH OPPORTUNITIES

The Nigerian economy has seen a great rise for two decades. In 2016, however, the economy saw two quarters of contraction and crisis. There are first signs of recovery, but still the country is faced with many difficulties. The government plans for economic reforms that should help the country, whose economy is heavily depending on oil exports, to find its way back to growth.

The country that reached its independence from the United Kingdom in 1960 now has a GDP per capita of 2,578 US-Dollars (at price parity). Its economy is the biggest African economy, as it surpassed that of South Africa. Traditionally depending on agriculture, it has made itself into an oil country attracting mainly oil industry related foreign businesses.

While foreign direct investment (FDI) has been strong after the millennium—Nigeria constantly ranked among the top three African destinations for FDI—there has been a slowdown as of 2013. In 2016, the numbers were especially disappointing, with FDI down to 5.1 billion US-Dollars, the lowest in nine years.

On the other hand, remittances, which already traditionally have surpassed FDI by far, grew further. In 2016, remittances to Nigeria amounted to 35 billion US-Dollars, according to the Federal Inland Revenue Service.

Tremendous Population Growth

Nigeria has experienced an incredible population growth. From 1991 to 2016, the population grew from 100 million people to over 180 million. The UN predicts that Nigeria's population will surpass that of the US before 2050. By 2100, it should reach over 900 million people.

This major development makes Nigeria an interesting developing market. However, it is still faced with many problems. This is, for example, reflected in the "Ease of Doing Business" index, which is issued by the World Bank Group. In 2016, Nigeria ranked 169 out of 190 countries. In 2008, it ranked 120. Especially in the areas of getting electricity, paying taxes, trading across borders, and dealing with construction permits it is ranked very low.

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ICMPD will assist the project in Nigeria by bringing together the right people, facilitating communication and consulting on proceedings with local authorities. "This could be a great project in many aspects, as it could be truly beneficial to all actors involved," says Sergo Mananashvili. As with all projects, this one will also require monitoring to allow for constant learning.

But it's already the very point where this project starts that makes it very different.

Sergo Mananashvili says: "The returnee would no longer come back home in handcuffs or with a lost face not living up to his or her family's expectations that he or she had carried all the way to Europe. He or she would come back as an employee of an international company, who received training and who is already an asset not only for that company but also for his or her family and country."

MALTA: WHY A SMALL ISLAND BECAME ICMPD'S HUB FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

In May 2016, ICMPD established its first ever regional coordination office. Here's the story of how Malta, one of the EU's smallest Member States in the centre of the Mediterranean, became the host country of this new hub.

"There are many reasons why we are in Malta," explains Julien Simon, the Regional Coordinator and head of ICMPD's Regional Coordination Office for the Mediterranean. "On the one hand, its geographical location is very suitable and seems just perfect for addressing migration with a truly Mediterranean approach. On the other hand, at the crossroads of Mediterranean cultures, the island has a unique and very long history related to many facets of migration. Due to its past, its cultural mix is rare. While Malta's population is very catholic, the language—Maltese—is to a large extent Semitic, as it originated from an Arabic dialect."

In the recent past, Malta emerged as a destination or transit country for irregular immigration flows via the Mediterranean Sea. Most of these immigrants originated from Sub-Saharan Africa. Being at the forefront of migration challenges in the Mediterranean for many years, Malta adopted the "three M's"—Mediterranean, Migration, and Maritime—as the three strategic priorities of its 2017 presidency of the EU Council. Malta's own history of emigration has resulted in a large diaspora not only within the region, particularly in Algeria and Tunisia, but also in many English speaking countries over the world, including the UK, Ireland, Australia, Canada, and other countries. Migration is at the heart of Malta's identity as almost any family has relatives abroad or has origins in other countries, or both.

After a relatively short negotiations period in 2015–2016, ICMPD established the Regional Coordination Office for the Mediterranean in May 2016. Since its inauguration, the office has had seven staff members who come from Malta and all over the world, including the US, Belgium, Venezuela, Germany, France, and even Andorra. As the number of programmes and projects coordinated from this new hub—and first ever ICMPD regional office—grow, there will soon be 13 staff members. And the growth continues: At least 20 staff members are expected to work in the regional office by early 2018.

How did this collaboration and hosting arrangement unfold so easily and quickly? And what does Malta have to offer which other countries don't? "While looking for a host city and country for the regional office, we also considered various other locations, Barcelona, Marseille, Rome, or Athens, for example. Lisbon and Istanbul were also on the list," Julien Simon explains. "What made Malta stand out, however, is the unique mix of Malta's history, a dose of pragmatism, and the government's proactive approach in migration matters." Malta has a reputation as an active mediator on both sides of the Mediterranean. Because of its broker role and due to its small size, "Malta is not considered to be frightening, but a friend of many. That is incredibly important for the type of work we do," emphasizes Julien. "In 2003,

"What made Malta stand out, however, is the unique mix of Malta's history, a dose of pragmatism, and the government's proactive approach in migration matters."

Julien Simon

ICMPD organised the first migration conference between Arab and European countries here in Valletta—not

even two hundred meters from where our office is today. Ever since 2004, Malta has been the Mediterranean EU Member State ICMPD developed the most cooperation with." This fruitful cooperation is about to translate into Malta becoming ICMPD's 16th Member State. Moreover, on the practical side, Malta is the only English-speaking country of the Mediterranean and a regular destination for many professional events. "Delegations who come for workshops, conferences, or other meetings feel very comfortable here, no matter where they come from," adds Julien Simon.

DIPLOMATIC STRENGTH

Malta's combination of political and diplomatic strength with geographic and historic relevance in migration matters serves not only ICMPD but the whole issue of migration in the Mediterranean. In November 2015, around six months before the ICMPD office opened, Malta hosted the Valletta Summit on Migration. The 64 participating countries agreed on a five point action plan and a large EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. ICMPD supported the event at the time, but it was after the event that ICMPD's role became really and increa-

singly important: The summit led to a political declaration and Joint Valletta Action Plan where the partners of the

Valletta framework decided to give a strong mandate to the two existing and most important regional migration Dialogues, the Khartoum and Rabat Processes (see pages 48 and 46). "These Dialogues—both of which are facilitated by ICMPD—were mandated to follow up on the implementation of the Joint Valletta Action Plan," explains Audrey Jolivel, who is the project manager of the Rabat Process and West Africa Focal Point at ICMPD. The organisation then ensured and implemented various tasks related to the follow-up of the summit and, among other things, supported the organisation of the Senior Officials Meeting of the Joint Valletta Action Plan in February 2017. "Simply put, our task is to facilitate the dialogue process within both regional dialogues, enhance constructive and positive synergies under the Valletta framework and follow up the implementation of the Joint Valletta Action Plan with an established and jointly approved reporting tool," says Audrey Jolivel.

NEW APPROACHES NEEDED

Despite Europe stepping up the efforts, in 2016 the Central Mediterranean saw the highest number of arrivals from refugees



BALANCING THE NARRATIVE ON MIGRATION

One of the key challenges for developing and providing alternatives to the current shortcomings of migration policies is also related to the overall negative perception of migration.

A more balanced narrative—and less negative public opinion—on migration could enable political leaders to shape and implement well-informed and more sustainable migration policies. “We need to invest in better communicating—and actually explaining—migration—with all its pros and cons,” claims Julien Simon. A step in this direction is the Media Award for Journalistic Excellence on Migration in the Euro-Mediterranean region, which was recently launched and coordinated by ICMPD. The award ceremony of the competition’s first edition will take place on 14 June 2017 in Malta. “Where else?,” says Julien Simon.

and irregular migrants from Africa ever recorded in the Mediterranean region. While the numbers from the Middle East declined sharply (less than 200,000 instead of well over 850,000 arrivals), the number of arrivals from mainly West and East Africa increased by 18 percent. Most of the migrants travelled irregularly to Europe, and chose Libya as their exit from Africa.

The root causes for these movements are very different: Terror attacks of Boko Haram in Nigeria, for example, the war in Somalia, or the lack of economic perspectives for many people in Mali and many of its neighbour countries. “The objective of the Valletta Summit on Migration was to tackle some urgent issues and specific migratory routes,” says Audrey Jolivel. Summer 2017 could show if the programme in certain countries like Niger or Mali has already made an impact in terms of numbers of arrivals in Europe. “But maybe that’s too soon to tell,” says Audrey Jolivel.

Julien Simon also emphasises that the process of implementing the decisions from the Valletta Summit—and for them to bear

fruit—will take time. He expects that the irregular migration flows from 2016 will continue, if not in 2017 at least in the years to come. “We need a rethinking of these developments,” he says. “Migration is not only men, women, and children desperately looking for a better life and attempting to cross the Mediterranean, sitting in a crowded boat, and hoping to be saved.”

It is a major challenge to find answers on how to avoid people dying at sea—or on any other point of the routes. “The alternative is a legal alternative for migration in various sectors. I know that this is a very sensitive issue,” Julien Simon admits. “Nevertheless, to make migration better, people need to have options. Options to stay, options to change one’s mind, options to achieve one’s dream—and the option to get the protection you deserve when your life is in danger. We are very confident that our new regional office in Malta will contribute to better migration policies and are grateful for Malta’s support and collaboration in these matters,” concludes Julien Simon.

FIRST VIENNA MIGRATION CONFERENCE

On 10 and 11 November 2016, ICMPD's first annual Vienna Migration Conference took place in Vienna. More than 300 high-level politicians and experts from the academic world as well as from international organisations met to discuss the most burning issues of migration.

European migration policy has been challenged like never before, with 1.3 million people seeking asylum in the EU in 2015 and more than 1 million in 2016. Many of the instruments in place have proved to not be sufficient or adequate in this particular situation. "It is important to start acknowledging that the migration issue is the most important, most pressing topic of the 21st century not just for Europe but on a global scale," said Johannes Hahn, EU Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, in the opening panel of the conference. He was one of the 300 high-level attendees at the first Vienna Migration Conference in November 2016. Two months after the UN General Assembly hosted the Summit for Refugees and Migrants, this was a great opportunity to break down the global debate to the European level and develop possible scenarios for its actual implementation.

Bringing together political decision makers, government experts, researchers, and representatives from the academic world is one of the core strengths of ICMPD and its daily work. In this day and age, organising a conference like this seemed a necessity. Migration policy requires new thoughts, new approaches, and new cooperation to make safe and orderly

migration a reality and ICMPD wants to be at the forefront of this development.

For two days the celebration hall of the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the rooftop of the Vienna Hofburg were filled with in-depth debate and discussion. The Conference was devoted to two key topics: The question of "International Refugee Protection and the European Responses" and the issue of "European Migration Policy and International Cooperation". Following the opening remarks of Sebastian Kurz, Austrian Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, and Wolfgang Sobotka, Austrian Federal Minister of the Interior, Sir Paul Collier from the University of Oxford delivered a number of thought-provoking views on the current migration and refugee system.

Together with the more than thirty panel statements, contributions, and inputs from the floor, a broad number of conclusions and recommendations were put forward, which indeed provide the basis for a new foreign migration policy in Europe.

REFUGEE PROTECTION, EUROPEAN RESPONSES AND MIGRATION POLICY

The first panel—"European Migration and Refugee Policies"—opened the conference with high-level politicians and international experts discussing new ways

Cooperation on creating prosperity, wealth, and jobs in Africa has to be the number one priority to address dysfunctional migration.

on how to deal with today's major challenges. In his opening remarks, Sebastian Kurz recalled the events and root causes that led to what now is called the migration crisis. He opened

the discussion among politicians such as Nikola Poposki, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Johannes Hahn, George W. Vella, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and representing Malta's chair of the 2017 EU Council Presidency and OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier, IOM Deputy Director General Laura Thompson and Demetrios Papademetriou (President Emeritus, Migration Policy Institute).

The panel concluded that protection and migration will require more targeted actions, both in terms of asylum systems as well as in terms of integration measures. European governments have to regain the trust of the European voters by better controlling external borders and distinguishing between refugees and migrants. The biggest challenge ahead will be to create perspectives for the millions of young people in African and Asian countries. The second panel—"International

Refugee Protection and European Responses"—gathered experts to discuss more viable solutions in the area of refugee protection. How European States can and

should practice solidarity and what perceptions civil society actors have on the issues of responsibility sharing inside and outside the EU were only two of the many topics the panelists discussed. Nils Coleman (Migration Policy Department, Ministry of Security and Justice, the Netherlands), urged Europe to immediately implement the measures that will preserve the European system. Henrik Nielsen (Directorate-General, Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission) said that the crisis also taught the lesson that solidarity must be part of the future Dublin system.

There was wide consensus on the panel regarding legal, financial, and operational solidarity, but not regarding the relocation of asylum seekers. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro (UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons), Sophie Magennis (UNHCR) and

Catherine Woollard (Secretary General, European Council on Refugees and Exiles) emphasised the importance of Europe getting serious about tackling the root causes of poverty, conflict, and bad governance, as well as supporting first asylum countries outside Europe.

The third panel—“European Migration Policy and International Cooperation”—dealt with the question of whether a new foreign migration policy in Europe is needed to better address the migration challenges of today and tomorrow. Gunther Krichbaum (Member of Parliament, Germany) pointed out that solidarity should go way beyond Europe: “It is our responsibility to convince European companies to invest more in African states,” he said. Leonello Gabrici (European External Action Service) also stressed that Europe needs to become more credible in terms of developing real partnerships with non-European countries, which no single Member State could do on its own. Olawale Maiyegun (Social Affairs Department, African Union Commission) reminded the

panel that most of the African migrations actually take place on the African continent. He urged Europe to support the establishment of a clear regime of free movement and free trade on the African continent. The panelists agreed that cooperation on creating prosperity, wealth, and jobs in Africa has to be the number one priority to address dysfunctional migration.

CONCLUSION

What are the key messages to take away from two lively days? The root causes for migration need to be addressed by the global community a lot better than in the past. This is especially true, if migration is to be made a matter of choice rather than of necessity, and if confidence should be restored that migration can be managed in a truly beneficial way. Michael Spindelegger, Director General ICMPD and host of the conference: “Solutions to the challenges can only be found when all States linked by migration work together on the basis of joint responsibility and respect.”

Gabriela Abado
Deputy Director General,
International Centre
for Migration Policy
Development (ICMPD)

Alema Alema
Deputy Minister, Ministry
of Refugees and Repatriation
of Afghanistan

Mihail Beregoi
State Secretary at
the Ministry of Internal Affairs
of Moldova

Nils Coleman
Deputy Head of Unit for
Asylum, Reception and
Return of the Migration
Policy Department, Ministry
of Security and Justice, the
Netherlands

Paul Collier
Professor, Blavatnik
School of Government,
University of Oxford

Igor Crnadak
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Gibril Faal
OBE, Interim Director of
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Development Platform
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Partners

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UN Special Rapporteur
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Lukas Gehrke
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Ralph Genetzke
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Grigol Giorgadze
First Deputy Minister at
the Ministry of Internally
Displaced Persons from
the Occupied Territories,
Accommodation and
Refugees, Georgia

Johannes Hahn
Commissioner, European
Neighbourhood Policy &
Enlargement Negotiations,
European Commission

Edward Hobart
Migration Envoy, Europe
Directorate, Foreign and
Commonwealth Office,
United Kingdom

Gunther Krichbaum
Member of Parliament and
Head of the Committee on
the Affairs of the European
Union, Germany

Sebastian Kurz
Federal Minister for Europe,
Integration and Foreign
Affairs, Austria

Michael Lindenbauer
Regional Representative
for Western Europe, United
Nations High Commissioner
for Refugees (UNHCR)

Jana Ljubičić
State Secretary at the
Ministry of Interior of the
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Sophie Magennis
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Olawale I. Maiyegun
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Martijn Pluim
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Nikola Poposki
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Tomáš Urubek
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George W. Vella
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Catherine Woollard
Secretary General, European
Council on Refugees and
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Lamberto Zannier
Secretary General,
Organisation for Security
and Co-operation in Europe
(OSCE)

Research



UNDERSTANDING THE NEEDS

Border control, humanitarian aid, integration, and the economic potential of migrants—ICMPD’s continued research provides valuable insights.

ADDRESSING DEMAND IN THE CONTEXT OF THB

The obligation to address the demand-side has been introduced with the promise of improving the efforts to prevent THB. The ICMPD-led study DemandAT (2014–2017) shows that the economic understanding of “demand” and supply is only useful when applied to situations where goods and services are traded or labour is contracted. Regarding other aspects of THB, such as exploitative employment relationship “demand” is not a useful concept. In any case, demand-side measures can never substitute other approaches (such as the enforcement of labour or criminal law), but can provide an additional angle to address situations in which THB occurs. Finally, demand-side interventions should focus on the exploitative purpose, whether occurring in the context of THB or outside this context.

The ongoing refugee and migration crisis in Europe has shifted attention to borders. Some of the recent developments may be read as the return towards a traditional understanding of border control focused on policing of the physical border. However, striking a balance between facilitation of movement and enhancing security continues to inform border policies.

ICMPD’s continued research activities suggests that balancing these objectives is an important driver for the continued expansion of the use of technology (such as databases, surveillance tools, and automatic border control gates) and the involvement of a wide range of non-state actors in border control.

Humanitarian aid is a major instrument to address crisis situations. The aim of aid usually is to rebuild in order to allow people to return to the crisis area and continue their life there. As non-citizens, migrants, however, may be particularly vulnerable when caught in a country affected by humanitarian crises.

Humanitarianism as a policy field is rightly governed by a philosophy of equal treatment of all victims regardless of origin. Research conducted in the Migrants in Countries in Crisis project (MICIC) suggests that migrants often may show particular vulnerabilities and may therefore not benefit from general aid programmes. Several examples may be highlighted: As in many countries, residence is not automatically registered and rescue teams face difficulties reaching migrants; relevant information is not provided or not communicated to migrant communities in an adequate way. Furthermore, as non-citizens, in many countries migrants are disadvantaged in accessing provisions of rescue services, for example relocation or access to shelters. As a result, migrants often have to rely on their own personal creativeness, both during and after a crisis, which is problematic especially for those not having the relevant resources.

NOT ONLY A HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGE

The arrival of significant numbers of individuals seeking international protection in Europe is not only a humanitarian challenge, but also a challenge in terms of integration. As refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection should be enabled to become economically independent, a better understanding of their labour market trajectories is needed. By building on earlier ICMPD activities on monitoring integration of migrants, a new survey on the integration of beneficiaries of international protection will contribute to this goal.

Furthermore, migration profiles developed by cities in the greater Mediterranean region show that migrant integration needs and the respective local level response are met by various initiatives implemented by civil society organisations in cooperation with local

authorities. While a city’s recent history and experience in dealing with incoming or transiting groups shape local policy making, cities are also adapting their responses in order to maximise the social and economic development potential of their migrant populations.

Countries we and our project partners worked in: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Ivory

Coast, Lebanon, Libya, Liberia, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, South Africa, Thailand, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States of America, Zimbabwe.

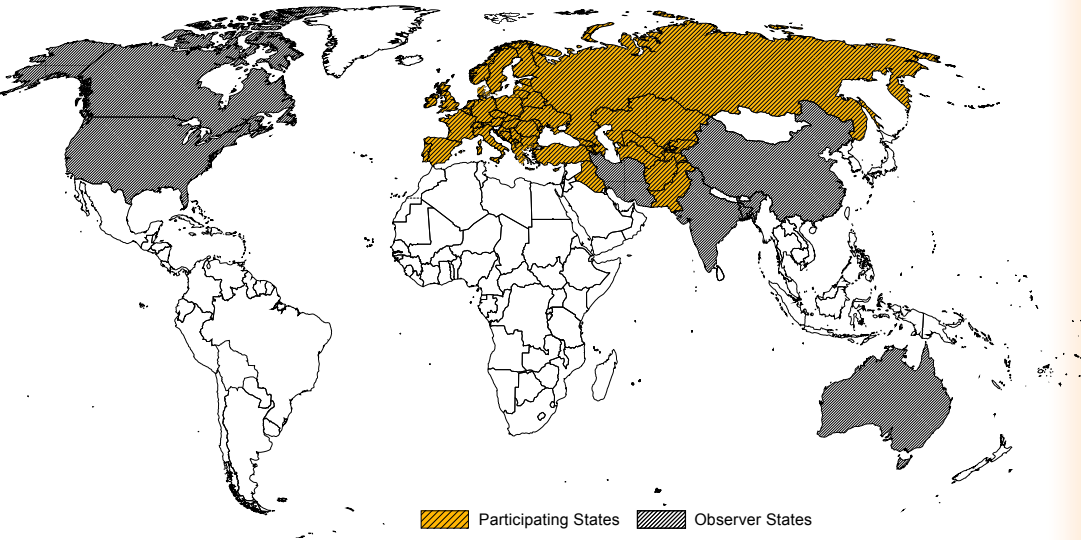
► Research projects or projects with research component: MICIC, DemandAT, Mediteranian City-to-City Migration, ENIGMMA, MOBILAZE, FastPass, FIMAS.

Migration Dialogues East



Budapest Process

The focus of 2016 for the Budapest Process was international protection and integration. These two priority areas, anchored in the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration, were addressed in depth in Tehran and in Belgrade for the first time within the framework of the Silk Routes Region Working Group.



Meeting in Iran, the countries agreed that there is an urgent need to address the root causes of forced migration in the region more effectively and at the same time look for suitable durable solutions such as voluntary returns, resettlement, and integration. Supporting the integration of migrants is an emerging policy area in the Silk Routes region as well as the reintegration of returning migrants and returnees. Countries concurred in Belgrade that both integration and reintegration policies do not only concern migrants or refugees, but should aim at improving the social cohesion of increasingly diverse societies, including at the community level, and should ideally kick-in at an early stage.

THE BUDAPEST PROCESS: is a consultative forum with over 50 governments and 10 international organisations aiming at developing comprehensive and sustainable systems for orderly migration. It was established in 1993. In the past 23 years, it has developed into a far-reaching European-Asian forum for improving migration management.

TWO NEW MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRES

2016 also saw some significant concrete developments within the framework of two pilot projects under the project “Support to the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration”. In partnership with ILO, two Migrant Resource Centres

were established in Lahore and Islamabad and an information campaign is under way.

REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION has been stepped up and the countries participating, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, and Turkey have together been developing an MOU laying down principles for police cooperation to counteract migrant smuggling and human trafficking. A main follow-up initiative to extend the network of Migrant Resource Centres and further the Regional Law Enforcement Cooperation has been planned by the EU entitled “Improving Migration Management in Silk Routes Countries”. This project should start implementation in summer 2017.

PREPARING THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE 2018

At the end of 2016, the Turkish Chair of the Budapest Process announced two important developments; firstly it proposed to hold a 6th Budapest Process Ministerial Conference in 2018 and secondly it announced the intention to provide a Budapest Process contribution to the preparatory process for a Global Compact for safe, orderly, and regular Migration and through this link the regional and global dialogues.

THE SILK ROUTES REGION

With the objective to further promote dialogue and mutual cooperation in managing migration flows taking place along the Silk Routes, a “Silk Routes Partnership for Migration” was established in 2013 as the Budapest Process priority. Since then efforts have been made to develop targeted responses to the migration realities in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan and on a regional level also with Bangladesh and Iran.

The countries of the Silk Routes Region are connected through past and ongoing flows of migrants, refugees, and returnees, but also have their distinctive migration situation and specific challenges. Together, Iran and Pakistan have been hosting about five million documented and undocumented Afghan refugees for decades. In 2016, Afghanistan was faced with the challenge of managing more than one million returns of Afghans from Pakistan, Iran, and Europe in addition to the challenges presented by almost one million displaced within the country. More than 750,000 people left Bangladesh and

more than one million left Pakistan in 2016 to work abroad, including in Iraq. Thus, both countries are striving to enhance their system for skills development, diversification of markets for their labour and welfare, and protection extended to overseas workers and their families left behind. At the same time, all five countries experience the adverse effects of irregular

THE SILK ROUTES COUNTRIES ARE:
Afghanistan,
Bangladesh,
Iran, Iraq, and
Pakistan

migration, migrant smuggling, and human trafficking at different levels as countries of origin, transit, and destination.

COMPREHENSIVE MIGRATION POLICY

Currently support is provided within the framework of the Silk Routes Partnership project in order to strengthen comprehensive policy development and sustainable, local training structures in the area of migration in the countries. The project provides support to Afghanistan in the development of a comprehensive migration policy, to Iraq in the area of diaspora engagement policy and to Pakistan in the formulation of an emigration and welfare policy of overseas Pakistanis.

Navigating a comprehensive and adequate approach to migration in the political, security, economic, and social environment of the Silk Routes Region continues to be challenging and complex, but all the more needed. Several policy and capacity building responses at multi-sectoral levels are needed both in the short term and the long term to address protracted refugee situations, improve labour migration, and further the protection of migrant workers whilst counteracting irregular migration and managing return and reintegration. It is important that these responses are realistic, feasible, sustainable, and able to produce a large-scale impact. Efforts will be stepped up under the Budapest Process in 2017 with more resources made available.

PRAGUE PROCESS

2016 brought the political mandate for the coming five years, as well as the conclusion of three Pilot Projects dedicated to the identification of irregular migrants, student mobility, and quality in the asylum process.



THE PRAGUE PROCESS: The Prague Process is a political initiative that developed out of the “Building Migration Partnerships (BMP)” Ministerial Conference, which took place in Prague on 28 April 2009. The main aim of the Prague Process has been to promote migration partnerships between the states of the European Union/ Schengen area, Western Balkans, Eastern Partnerships and Central Asia, as well as Russia and Turkey, in line with the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM), which constitutes the overarching framework for the external dimension of EU migration policy. The Process is led by Poland, while the Core Group, comprised of dedicated EU and non-EU states, the European Commission and ICMPD, support the Senior Officials Meetings. The Senior Officials Meeting constitutes the decision-making body of the Prague Process.

Since August 2012, the Prague Process worked on seven Pilot Projects, of which four ended in 2014 and the last three were finished in 2016. The concluding events were held in Bucharest for the project dedicated to the identification of irregular migrants; the project on student mobility was concluded in Prague; and the project on quality in the asylum process

was concluded in Berlin. The work on the Prague Process knowledge base within PP TI was concluded in Prague, representing at the same time the ground for establishing of the Migration Observatory East.

The outcomes of this expert-level cooperation were subsequently presented to the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) for their endorsement. The handbooks and guidelines

developed on the above topics and a set of Migration Profiles Light were made available online in English and Russian for further use by interested partners and the wider public.

At the strategic level, the two preparatory SOMs (Cracow, Bratislava) paved the way for the 3rd Prague Process Ministerial Conference, organised by the Slovak EU Presidency in Bratislava on 19–20 September 2016. Participants expressed their appreciation of the accomplishments made since 2009. They underlined the importance of the Prague Process and, by adopting the Joint Declaration, extended its mandate until 2021. The following SOM in Vilnius (November) in general terms agreed on the work plan for the coming five years.

ENTERING A NEW PHASE

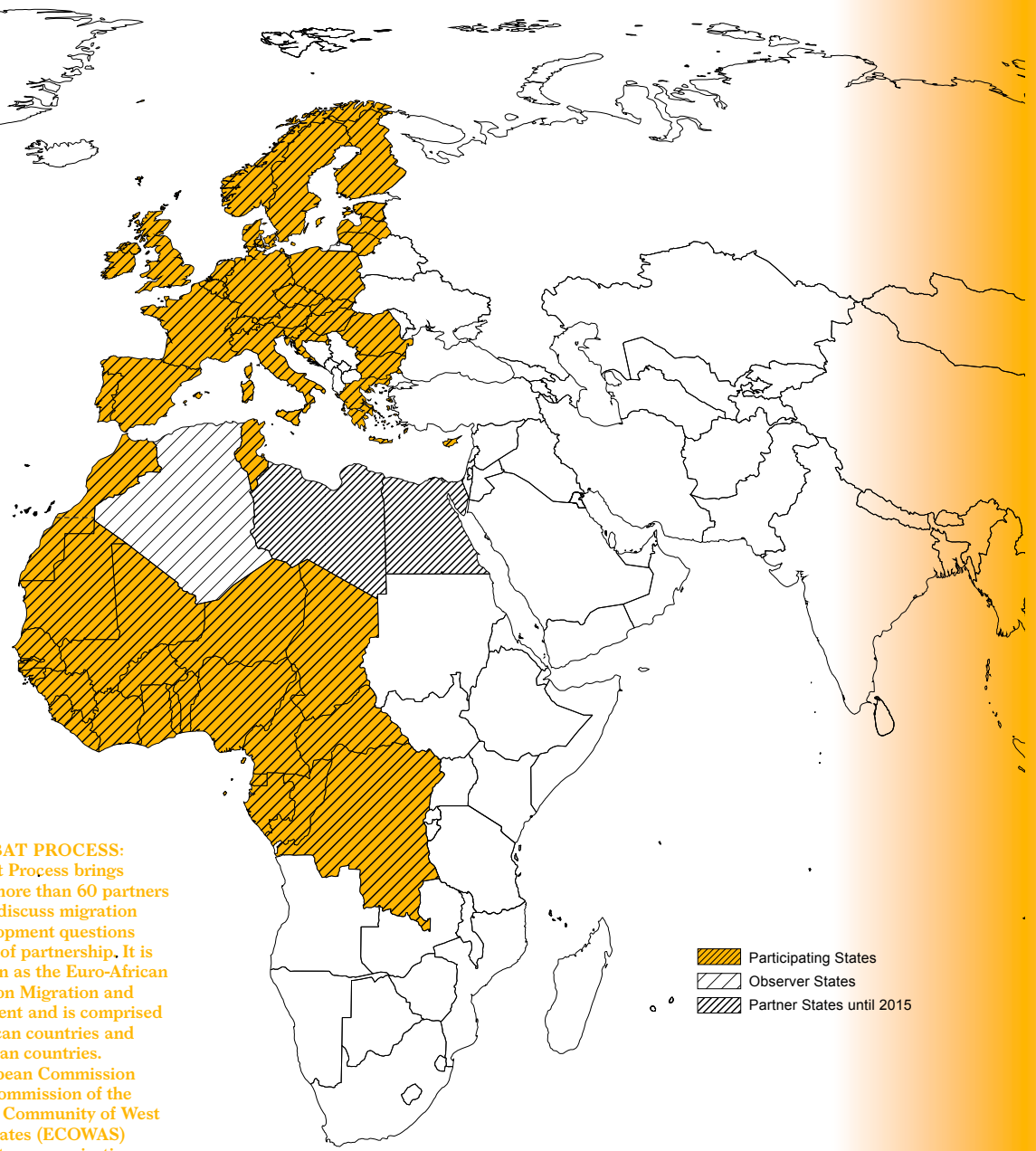
The European Commission as the main donor granted a no-cost extension of the Targeted Initiative until June 2017. The leading states of PP TI, supported by ICMPD as the Secretariat, shall jointly agree on future scenarios for the Process beyond this period.

In 2017, the Prague Process will enter a new phase aiming to translate the political mandate granted for the years 2017–2021 into concrete actions. The management and funding structures will be reviewed and adjusted in a way to further ensure the efficient functioning of this intergovernmental dialogue on migration.

Migration Dialogues South

Rabat Process

The Dialogue's work has recently focused on meetings and trainings in the areas of irregular migration, migration and development, and legal migration.



THE RABAT PROCESS: The Rabat Process brings together more than 60 partners to openly discuss migration and development questions in a spirit of partnership. It is also known as the Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development and is comprised of 27 African countries and 31 European countries. The European Commission and the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) act as partner organisations and Algeria and a number of international organisations as observers.

For over a decade, the Rabat Process has established itself as a balanced and constructive Dialogue that contributes to meeting the challenges posed by migration and encourages opportunities for exchange and development. To facilitate the Dialogue and support its operational implementation, the Rabat Process has benefited from a Secretariat led by ICMPD in close cooperation with the Steering Committee since 2008.

In its capacity as a neutral broker, the Secretariat plays a key role in building trust among the Dialogue partners, supporting the Chair of the Dialogue, and facilitating the decision-making process while ensuring a high quality of discussions.

In alignment with the defined strategic framework by the Rome Declaration and Programme 2014–2017, the Dialogue's work in 2016 focused on the thematic areas of irregular migration, migration and development, and legal migration. The Secretariat has facilitated thematic meetings and trainings on trafficking and smuggling; return, readmission, and reintegration; diaspora engagement strategies; and visa facilitation, in which high-level representatives from partner countries and organisations have participated.

The recommendations that emerged from these discussions will contribute towards the 5th Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development (2018), during which a new political declaration and programme on Euro-Africa migration will be adopted.

CLOSER CO-ORDINATION

In order to better respond to the challenges of migration in the global context, the Rabat Process has developed a closer coordination with other regional consultative processes in the African continent and focused on the operational aspect of the Dialogue by increasingly facilitating the identification of projects to better respond to the need of partners.

Moreover, it also jointly led the discussions for the 2017 Senior Officials Meeting held in Malta as one of the two leading regional Dialogues mandated to monitor commitments under the 2015 Joint Valletta Action Plan.

MEETING IN MALI: As Chair of the Steering Committee, Mali hosted the thematic meeting on diaspora engagement strategies, focusing on entrepreneurship and investment in Bamako on 5 and 6 September 2016. This meeting brought together for the first time a wide-range of civil society, academic and private sector actors, promoting an inclusive process and creating a space for expression for diaspora organisations in order to positively contribute to migration and development.

KHARTOUM PROCESS

In the course of 2016, the Khartoum Process covered the topics of people smuggling as well as returns, readmissions, and re-integration. They serve as the basis for upcoming training and are only a few examples of a busy year of activities.

ICMPD has significant experience in migration Dialogue facilitation in Africa, namely in West Africa, with the well-established Rabat Process. Through the Khartoum Process support project, ICMPD has also more recently worked in the Horn of Africa and along the Central Mediterranean routes, where various factors (political, social, and environmental) create both internal and international regional mixed migration patterns.

The Khartoum Process, also known as the EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative, is a platform for political cooperation to tackle human trafficking and smuggling amongst the countries along the migration route between the Horn of Africa and Europe. It was established in 2014 and comprises of 37 Member States.

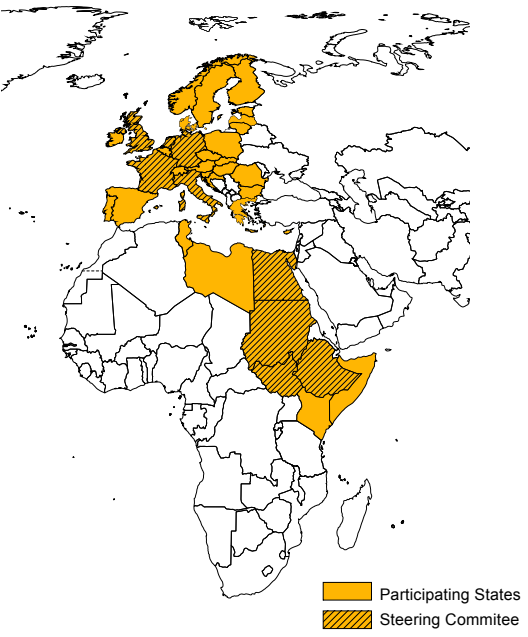
ICMPD provides support to the Khartoum Process in both the organisation of its meetings and trainings under each annual chairmanship and technical support in the field of Dialogue facilitation and short-term technical assistance, as well as providing migration expertise where needed.

2016 was a busy year for the Process, where two thematic meetings, hosted by Sudan on people smuggling and hosted by Ethiopia on returns, readmission, and reintegration, were convened. The aim in 2017 is to translate the thematic focuses of these two meetings into training.

France and Italy also hosted two working group meetings in 2016, which focused specifically on the operationalisation and activities of the Dialogue and provided updates on the activities taking place and their implementation. The Khartoum Process delegates were also invited to participate in the Technical Meeting on Visa Facilitation

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held in Cabo Verde in November, which was chaired by the Rabat Process. The year closed with a Senior Officials Meeting in December where Ethiopia took over the Process Chairmanship and Italy was chosen to chair the Process in 2018.

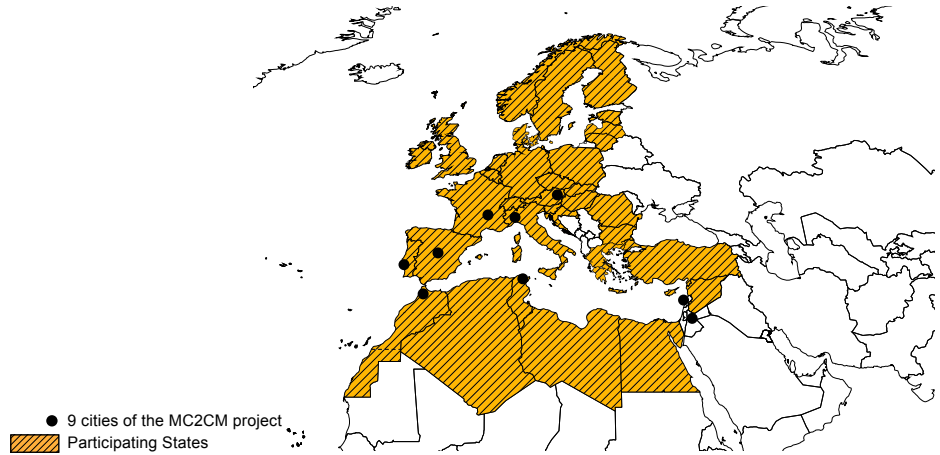
THE KHARTOUM PROCESS' WEBSITE

A key achievement in 2016 was the launch of the Khartoum Process' official website, which is managed by ICMPD; it is the first official informative and communicative tool for the Dialogue since its inception and publishes its news and events as well as providing historical background and political framework of the Dialogue.

Finally, ICMPD continued its role in monitoring the Process by mapping the implementation of the Joint Valletta Action Plan in preparation for the Valletta Joint Action Plan 2017 and Senior Officials Meeting of February 2017.

Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM)

With more and more people living in urban areas, the number and diversity of migrants in cities will increase, making cities a key reference point for migration governance.



In a world where hundreds of millions of people are migrants and in a context of increasing urbanisation when about two thirds of the world population will live in urban areas by the mid-century, the number—and the diversity—of international and also domestic migrants in cities will continue to grow. Their social, economic, and cultural impacts in their “host cities” are, and will increasingly be, significant.

In 2011, acknowledging this emerging reality ICMPD integrated the urban dimension in the MTM Dialogue. Since 2015, through dialogue, knowledge, and action, ICMPD has been supporting Partner Cities Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangiers, Tunis, Turin, and Vienna in its new flagship Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM), bringing migration to the fore of their urban development agenda.

LOCAL MIGRATION GOVERNANCE

This approach led the MC2CM to be among the few migration-focused selected projects showcased at HABITAT III. Illustrating that the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito considers the governance of migration a key element to sustainable cities. The MC2CM is funded by DG NEAR of the European Commission and by the Swiss Agency

for Development and Cooperation, and involves partners UN-Habitat and UCLG.

MC2CM consolidated its city network and Partner Cities and developed nine City Migration Profiles to pave the way for the setting of future priorities and actions for each municipality. Interest in the MC2CM grew and the EU committed to support a second phase. Talks on development in other regions are also ongoing.

THE MEDITERRANEAN TRANSIT MIGRATION

(MTM): This dialogue is a forward-looking, informal intergovernmental consultative platform between migration officials along migration routes. For over 15 years, MTM has put a strong emphasis on potential future developments and innovative approaches to address emerging trends on migration in the region.

EUROMED MIGRATION

In its fourth phase, this programme aims to implement a comprehensive and shared approach between EU Member States and Southern Partners. With migratory pressure rising in Eastern and Central Mediterranean, this becomes even more relevant.

EUROMED MIGRATION IV: This programme (2016–2019) is financed by the EU and implemented by ICMPD with the objective to support EU Member States and ENI Southern Partner Countries in establishing a comprehensive, constructive, and operational dialogue and cooperation framework. It has a particular focus on reinforcing instruments and capacities to develop and implement evidence-based and coherent migration and international protection policies and activities.

In recent years, as migratory pressure kept on continuously increasing in the Eastern and Central Mediterranean,

the issue consequently moved to the heart of the political agenda of Europe and its partner countries in the Southern neighbourhood.

It is in this context that the relevance of the EUROMED Migration programme must be measured. In its fourth phase (EMM4—2016–2019), ICMPD aims to implement a comprehensive and shared approach to strengthen effective dialogue and cooperation on migration, mobility, and international protection issues between EU member states and Southern Partners.

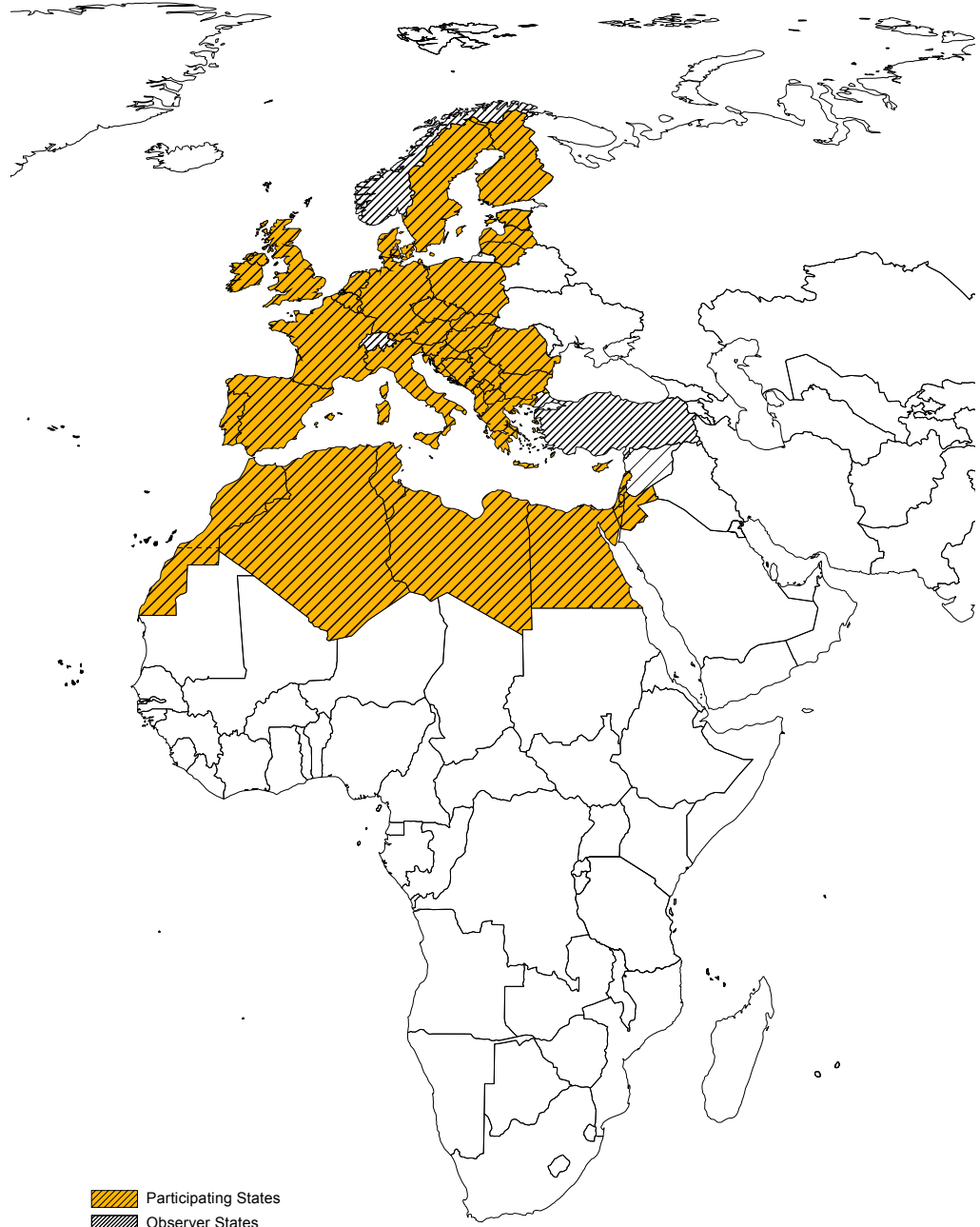
During 2016, the programme delivered support to the EC and EU Delegations with a workshop on shaping strategy and cooperation on migration issues for the Neighbourhood South region. Furthermore, it focused on two of its main streams with a conference on connecting, communicating, and networking with diasporas and a peer-to-peer meeting on migration governance, as well as the preparation of the relaunch of both

the Migration Governance Process and the Migration Governance Tool.

FOCUS ON COMMUNICATION ON MIGRATION

EMM4 also strengthened its focus on the communication on migration with several initiatives such as a study on “How do media on both sides of the Mediterranean report on migration”, and the development of a Euro-Mediterranean Migration Media Award, both to be launched and presented in 2017.

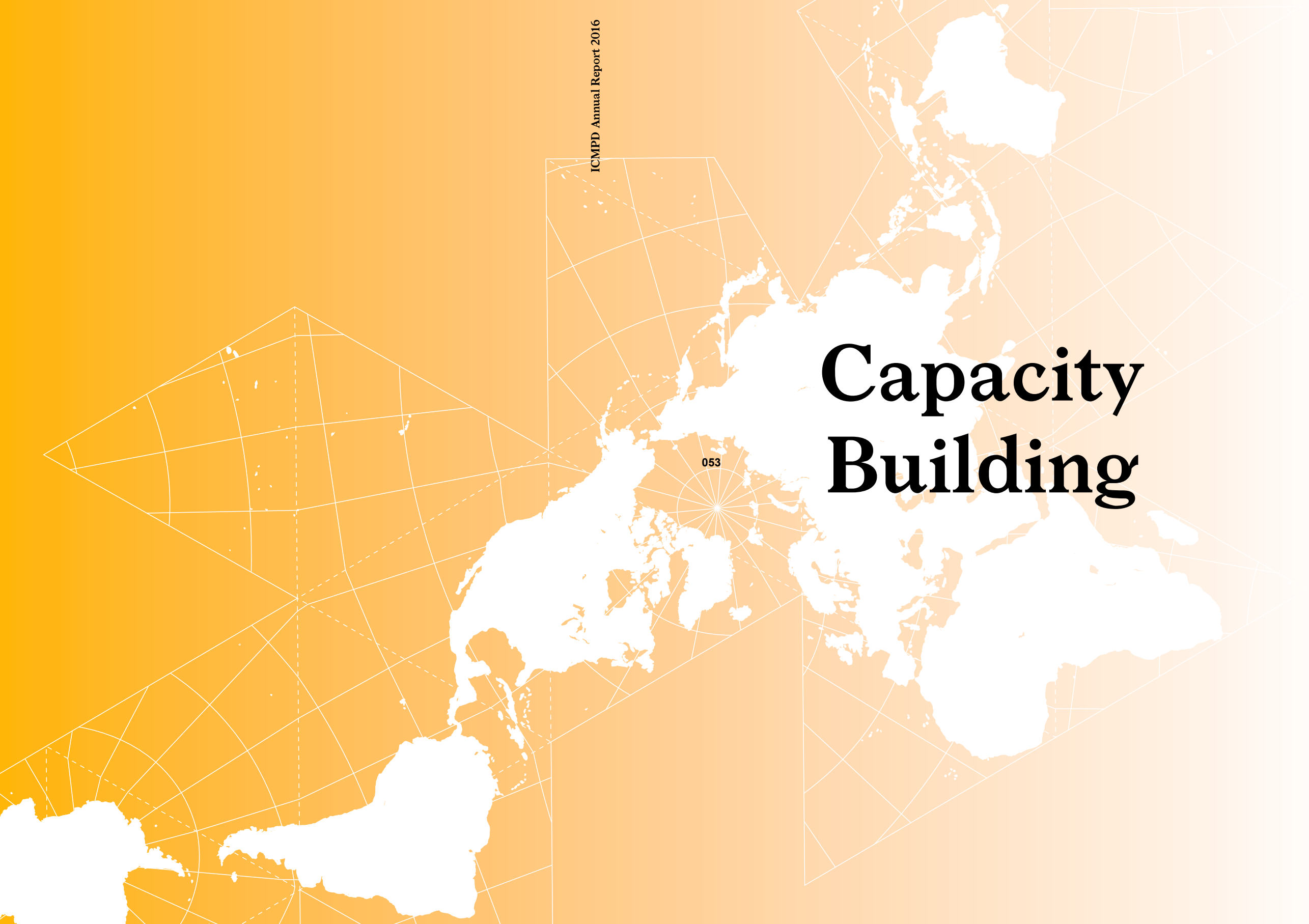
Furthermore, EMM4 paved the way for the 3rd generation of the interactive Map on Migration (i.Map) with a benchmarking study and user analysis of 30 existing information portals on migration. The results will feed into the development of the new i.Map as an innovative, tailored, and accessible knowledge and communication tool on migration.



Participating States
 Observer States
 Syria's participation is currently suspended

Capacity Building

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Asylum—A Research-based Input for a European Discussion

The arrival of approximately 1.3 million asylum applicants to Europe in 2015 shook the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) to its very foundation. ICMPD research provided a new impetus for the ongoing discussion on how to overcome European shortcomings.

Over 1 million people fled to Europe in 2015 and applied for asylum. Their arrival and its resulting complexities overwhelmed the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). The reasons for the failure of the CEAS are manifold. However, ICMPD research showed that the EU, at the core, lacks a common understanding of its responsibility towards people forced to flee in a global as well as in an intra-EU context. Starting in 1951, when the Geneva Refugee Convention was created, and to date, this and further essential questions lack answers at the EU level.

Against the background of large inflows of people seeking international protection the European Parliament (EP) requested the provision of external expertise, in the form of a study, on “The Implementation of the Common European Asylum System”. The study, which was conducted by ICMPD and presented at the EP in May 2016, provided an accurate picture of the current implementation of the CEAS by EU Member States from both a legal and practical perspective.

The experiences deriving from the migratory flows in 2015–2016 and their impact on the CEAS led to ICMPD’s thematic focus on the “International Refugee Protection and European Responses” at the ICMPD Vienna Migration Conference that took place in November 2016. Well ahead of this event, ICMPD engaged with its Member States for

a preparatory discussion on the “future of protection” with the aim to test and develop further ICMPD’s positions.

ICMPD’s research identified the lack of European solutions to questions such as “solidarity”, “responsibly sharing” and “access to protection” as weaknesses of the international refugee protection regime and shortcomings of the CEAS. The resulting working paper aimed to providing a new impetus for the ongoing discussion.

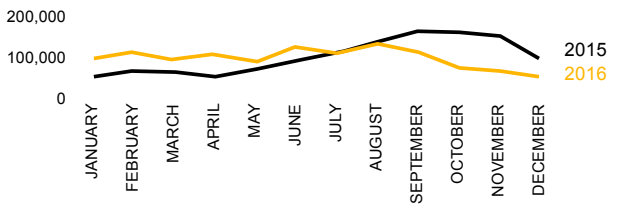
UNDERSTANDING ASYLUM DESTINATION CHOICES

The increased migration flows of persons seeking international protection to Europe have also revealed an unbalanced distribution of asylum applications within Europe. Some countries have been attracting significantly more asylum seekers than others. While these gaps are commonly attributed to differences in asylum systems, previous research has emphasised more the role of networks and existing family ties.

A survey conducted by ICMPD among asylum seekers in Austria cast a light on the factors taken into account when deciding on an asylum destination country and showed that asylum seekers lack a detailed knowledge of asylum systems. Family ties on the other hand, are indeed a decisive factor for the choice of a destination country, as well

Source: UNHCR

Asylum applications in the EU



as the overall image of a country as a place offering protection, stability, and welcoming refugees.

Additionally, the survey assessed the skills and qualifications of asylum seekers, adding to the increasingly important literature focusing on the potentials and the challenges of labour market integration of refugees.

SUPPORTING ASYLUM AUTHORITIES

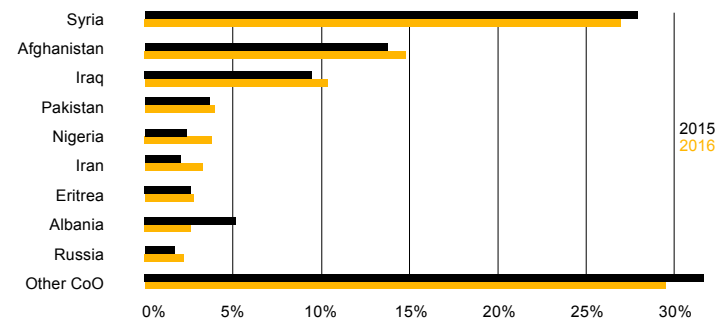
Besides policy-related work in asylum, ICMPD continued to provide expertise and practical training for asylum authorities in Georgia, Turkey, and Azerbaijan for policy officers, decision makers, COI researchers, judges, as well as border guards and police officers.

Furthermore, ICMPD continued its role as an independent researcher supporting the MedCOI network (Medical Country of Origin Information), which provides 14 partner countries with information regarding the care and medical services in countries of origin, a topic that has continuously been gaining significance for migration authorities in Europe.

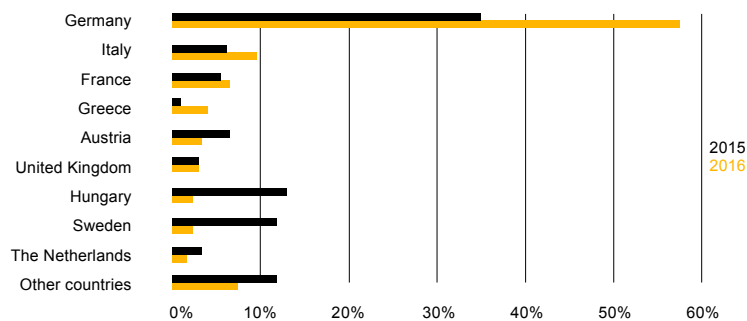
HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN A REFUGEE AND MIGRATION CONTEXT

Protecting refugees and migrants from exploitation and analysing the intersection of migration policy and anti-trafficking policy were the key areas of our work in 2016.

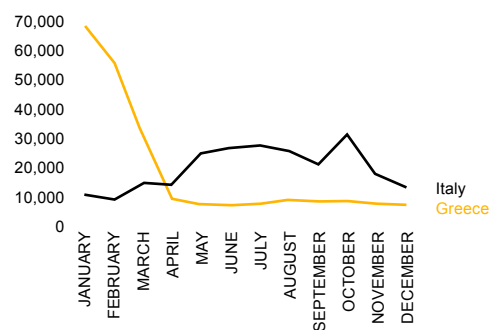
Countries of Origin of Asylum Seekers (2015–2016)



Countries of Destination for Asylum Seeker (2015–2016)



Sea Arrivals 2016



Source: Eurostat, UNHCR

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During 2016, ICMPD's Anti-Trafficking Programme focused on the nexus between human trafficking and migration and refugee issues, in recognition of the particular vulnerabilities of refugees and migrants to exploitation en route or at their destinations. In this context, we were able to put ICMPD's expertise on migration governance in general to good use.

This approach required us to work on preventing refugees and migrants from being trafficked, and on identifying and protecting them if they become victims of this crime. In addition, at a structural level, we assessed the legal and policy frameworks regulating migration and asylum in the regions we work in, in order to contribute to preventing the possible unintended consequences of these frameworks in terms of vulnerability to trafficking.

This is why we worked with the Jordanian Government and certain EU and ICMPD Member States to improve Jordan's capacity to respond to trafficking of migrants and displaced people in the country, as well as of Jordanians, under a Mobility Partnership programme.

Similarly, in Turkey, we focused on the risks of trafficking for the large population of Syrians, in addition to Turkish people

and other migrants. And we strengthened cross-border cooperation between European and Asian countries to fight trafficking along migratory routes in the Silk Routes region, with a major ongoing EU-funded multi-country project.

We also supported West African countries and the ECOWAS Commission to combat trafficking among both internal and cross-border migrants, as well as within individual countries, in the context of another large multi-thematic project supporting free movement and migration in West Africa.

IN 2016, ICMPD JOINED:

- ICAT, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, a policy forum mandated by the UN General Assembly to facilitate a comprehensive approach to preventing and combating trafficking in persons among UN agencies and other international organisations

- ALLIANCE 8.7, a coalition committed to achieving Sustainable Development Goal Target 8.7, which aims to assist UN Member States in eradicating forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and all forms of child labour.



NON-GOVERNMENTAL

Academics and research institutes

International NGOs

Local anti-trafficking NGOs

Local child rights NGOs

Local NGOs working with refugees and migrants



GOVERNMENTAL

Asylum and Refugee Services

Border and Immigration Officers

Child Protection Workers

Judges

Labour Inspectors

National Anti-Trafficking Coordinators and Rapporteurs

Police Officers

Policymakers

Prosecutors

Social Workers



INTERNATIONAL

European Union (EU), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Council of Europe (CoE), Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Council of the Baltic States (CBSS)

International Organisations working on Child Rights,

International Organisations working on Migration and Refugee Issues

International Organisations working on trafficking

Similarly, in 2016, we contributed to addressing exploitation and trafficking at the land borders that Brazil shares with other South American countries. Based on our work in Bulgaria and other South Eastern European countries in 2016, we will also address the risks of trafficking along migration routes through the Western Balkans to the EU in the coming years.

PROTECTING REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS FROM EXPLOITATION

Indeed, the urgent need to protect refugees and migrants from exploitation was one of the key points we made in our statement at the High Level Meeting on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants at the UN General Assembly in New York in September 2016.

ICMPD's recommendations in relation to the intersection of migration and anti-trafficking policy, and to the vulnerability of refugees and migrants to trafficking were also taken into account in influential international reports. These included the 2016 Report on trafficking and conflict by the Special

Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons to the UN Human Rights Council, and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime's 2016 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons. We also contributed recommendations on this topic at EU level in a consultation process for the development of a new EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings.

The migration landscape in many regions of the world is currently characterised by high numbers of people using irregular migratory routes, and by high numbers of refugees, particularly in Turkey, Pakistan, Iran, the Middle East, and East and Central Africa, as well as in EU countries. So reducing the vulnerability of migrants and refugees to trafficking remains a pressing concern.

Border management is at a crossroads

A major concern of border management is to put people at the centre of its processes without neglecting security aspects.

2016 highlighted, once more, the fact that border management is a dynamic concept. Open borders, increased mobility of people, humanitarian crises and associated population movements, trade facilitation, organised crime, and smuggling of migrants are only a few of the continued challenges related to managing international borders, which calls for soft as much as hard approaches.

Our work over the past year has consisted of employing a mix of expertise, knowledge, people, and processes aimed at supporting our partners in transforming their organisational practices in such a way that they effectively meet these various challenges. We have seen the need for an enhanced focus on the soft aspects of border management in addition to the traditional concepts for strengthening technical capacities related to border management and security within the frame of the IBM concept. For this reason, a major concern in the past year has been to explore ways in which border management can better address the preoccupation of putting people at the centre of its processes and institutions' strategies, without neglecting security aspects.

A key feature of our border management projects in 2016 has been the demand-driven approach to project development and implementation, as well as activities designed to address gaps and needs identified jointly with national partners, such as in the case of our newly launched project Technical Assistance

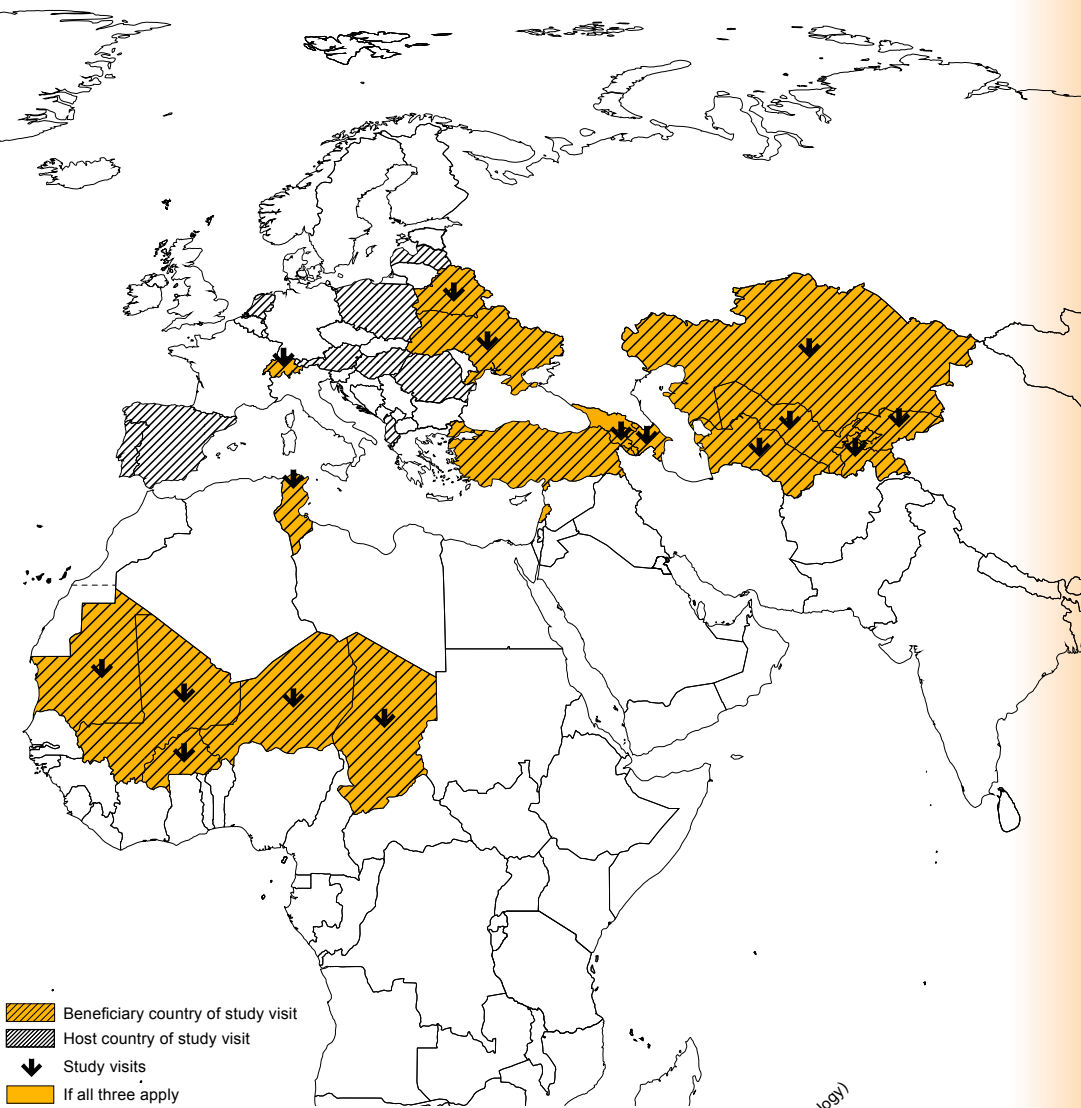
for Improving Administrative Capacity of Border Management at Local Level in Turkey, where a unique configuration of actors involved in border management and coordination activities called for a customised capacity building model.

“ONE SIZE FITS ALL” DOES NOT WORK

Rather than employing a “one size fits all” approach, our border management work aims at transferring international good practice examples and models, contextualised to the realities on the ground. For example, the Support Programme to the Government of Tunisia in the Field of Integrated Border Management has continued its work initiated in 2015 with the view of formulating a customised national version of Integrated Border Management, with all of its associated processes.

In 2016, this work included a feasibility study laying the foundations for work on the modernization of the operational coordination capabilities of the Land and Sea Border

IBM CONCEPT: Integrated Border Management (IBM) is a concept of modern border management with the focus on improved cooperation and coordination among all border agencies (border police, customs, migration agencies, veterinary and phytosanitary service, transport, and business alike). IBM at the global level relies on striking the right balance between facilitation of legitimate movement of trade and travellers across borders, and controlling borders in order to identify and prevent cross-border crime, smuggling of migrants, and terrorism. Ultimately, IBM should result in smoother, hassle-free, border crossing for travellers and achieve its overall objective of open but secure borders.



Beneficiary country of study visit
 Host country of study visit
↓ Study visits
 If all three apply

	intra-agency cooperation (IBM's 1st pillar)	inter-agency cooperation (IBM's 2nd pillar)	international cooperation (IBM's 3rd pillar)	maritime surveillance	land borders surveillance	Border Control (document security, BC technology)	training institutions	mixed migration flows
Uzbekistan								
Kazakhstan								
Kyrgyzstan								
Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan								
Armenia								
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine								
Georgia								
Tunisia								
Sahel Zone								
Lebanon								

Guard (DGGF) and of the Border Police (DFE) in Tunisia.

Our extensive pool of experts has enabled us to channel relevant expertise in a timely fashion towards various capacity building activities on crosscutting issues, moving beyond IBM and its security aspects. Building on the success of the previous phases of the project, BOMCA9 continued interventions in the areas of development, management of migration flows, and trade facilitation in Central Asia. Activities under the MIBMA project were aimed at building institutional capacity with the view of increasing security, facilitate trade, and support the possible visa liberalisation dialogue between the European Union and Armenia.

Study visits, enabling exchange and sharing of good practices, were successfully implemented thanks to longstanding partnerships with EU Member States as well as other relevant countries and counterparts.

COMMUNITIES ARE KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The need to recognise borderlands communities as key stakeholders of border guarding activities has been reflected in our work in the Sahel region, our efforts being directed at ensuring that the involvement of border communities is reflected in policy and plans in three trans-boundary areas of the Sahel.

Last, but not least, our flagship project in Lebanon—Enhanced Capability for Integrated Border Management in Lebanon, inter alia, focuses also on the human aspects of border management. It follows a multi-thematic and complex approach and also

characterises our work in Lebanon. The project aims to increase the effectiveness of Lebanon's border management-related security agencies in line with democratic norms and their credibility and legitimacy in the eyes of citizens in general and migrants in particular.

MORE PEOPLE IN THE FIELD

The work of the Border Management and Visa Competence Centre was also facilitated in 2016 by an increasing number of field offices, bringing us closer to relevant stakeholders, beneficiaries, and the donor community, while enabling us to better liaise and coordinate with other international organisations. Our presence through our field offices has also ensured immediate feedback and response to developments on the ground, as well as strengthened national ownership.

Assisting our partners in meeting the competing demands of facilitating mobility while ensuring security, remain a major priority of the Border Management and Visa Competence Centre. At the same time, an increasing concern for issues such as human rights, the border management—development nexus, and the need to include border areas communities as actors in the integrated border management processes continue to set the course of our work.

FORCED RETURN AND THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Mobility and Refugee Integration

In 2016, the European Parliament finally approved the Georgia visa waver. We hope that our ongoing efforts in cooperation with other countries will support achieving similar results.

Bringing refugees back to sending countries continues to be an important topic for EU Member States as well as third countries. In 2016, ICMPD built on the success of its pilot project on monitoring and shared knowledge with over 30 States.

Building on the success of our pilot forced return monitoring project (FrEM), implemented in 2013–2015, ICMPD continued its work on building European forced return monitoring capacities with the launch of the FREM II in 2016 with fourteen partner countries and the support of Frontex and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA).

As has been the case in the past, ICMPD's primary aim on return is first and foremost to make sure that the fundamental human rights of returnees are protected. To that end, we are working towards enlarging the pool of forced return monitors as part of our FREM II objectives. At a pre-project capacity building workshop for forced return monitors at Frontex headquarters in Warsaw, FREM II shared its accumulated knowledge and lessons learned with representatives and monitoring trainers from over thirty EU member states as well as third countries.

Working in close cooperation with state authorities, Frontex and FRA, ICMPD organised the project's first steering group meeting in Vienna where all participants expressed their interest in having access to a common pool of forced return monitors as well as improving their own monitoring systems. FREM II puts the guidelines and training manual on forced return monitoring developed under the previous project into practice by supporting the establishment of a large and highly qualified pool of trained forced return monitors. This ensures that when forced returns do occur they are conducted in a fashion that is transparent, accountable, and compliant with fundamental rights.

CAPACITY BUILDING IN TURKEY

Beyond our work at the EU level to ensure human rights compliance in forced return

procedures, we are also actively working with third countries on issues related to readmission and return through a number of capacity building activities. As part of our growing presence in Turkey, we are in close contact with the Directorate General of Migration Management under the Turkish Interior Ministry regarding migration management.

Specifically, in 2016, we launched a project on training DGMM staff in processing individual readmission requests in line with provisions in the EU-Turkey Readmission Agreement (READMIC). In keeping with ICMPD's commitment to ensuring that the human rights of returnees are respected in compliance with national and international law, the READMIC project includes activities regarding the enforcement of human rights norms. This includes applying international standards in return and removal centres as well as making sure return procedures to and from Turkey are in full accordance with existing legislation.

Looking back at 2016, ICMPD has strengthened its capacity building activities on return through a number of new projects as well as via existing inter-state dialogues. We are particularly pleased to see the benefits of our efforts as a facilitator between stakeholders in terms of safeguarding the rights of returnees. Thanks to our continued dedication and the support of multiple partners, there is now a EU-wide commitment regarding the importance of ensuring common standards and procedures on return and readmission that place an emphasis on protecting the rights of returnees.

Working towards mechanisms for visa free travel or free movement between and within regions is a challenging and at times cumbersome undertaking. But when carried out in a sustained and patient manner this process has high potential not only in the area of migration but also in terms of economic, political, and cultural cooperation.

In 2016, we continued our cooperation with Azerbaijan and Georgia on the implementation of EU Mobility Partnerships. In acknowledgement of Georgia's efforts to carry out far-reaching and difficult reforms, the European Parliament approved the Georgia visa waver at the beginning of 2017. We hope that the cooperation with Azerbaijan will ultimately see a similar development.

THE BENEFITS OF VISA FREE TRAVEL

As stated above, visa free travel or free movement can be very beneficial also in economic terms. Many experts consider the establishment of a clear regime of free movement and the creation of a continental free trade area as pre-conditions for creating more jobs and prosperity in Africa. In West Africa, ICMPD continued its support for the

implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocols and the ECOWAS Common

Approach on Migration. Related capacity building activities included assessments of labour migration policies and administrative capacities, labour migration strategies, and the establishment of a labour market and migration information system.

SPECIFIC INTEGRATION CHALLENGES OF REFUGEES IN EUROPE

The large numbers of arrivals of refugees and asylum seekers who had arrived in 2015 and 2016 pose specific challenges in the area of integration. A majority of them are male and younger than 35 years old. As a rule, integration measures for this target group must also address specific challenges resulting from flight and displacement, such as disrupted educational biographies, trauma, or problems in adapting to new cultural environments. Those who are granted

GEORGIA—A LONG JOURNEY TO VISA FREE TRAVEL:

On 2 February 2017, the European Parliament voted on a draft law giving Georgian citizens the right to travel to the EU without a visa. Once the vote has been formally approved by the Council and the visa suspension mechanism has entered into force, Georgian passport holders will be able to enter the Schengen area for holiday, business, or any other purpose except working. ICMPD has cooperated with Georgia for many years, supporting its efforts to fulfil the requirements for visa free travel, and is very happy to have made a small contribution to achieving this milestone in the relations between Georgia and the EU.

CREATING BETTER CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT

Building on nearly a decade of expertise, we stepped up efforts worldwide to create better conditions, capacities, and policy frameworks to support and promote diaspora engagement. Particular attention was paid to enhance the developmental impact of diaspora investments towards their origin countries.

When world leaders gathered in September 2016 to agree on the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, they once more recognised the important role of diasporas in economic development. Beyond their significant monetary contributions, diasporas also bring new skills and technologies, as well as global market expertise and businesses to their origin countries.

In 2016, ICMPD supported a number of initiatives to provide technical assistance and facilitate policy discussions on remittances and economic development in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

AFRICAN DIASPORA ENTREPRENEURS AND INVESTORS

In Africa, we worked with DR Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi, Mauritius, and Togo on migration and development issues, ranging from drafting policy documents, creating diaspora networks, mapping diaspora communities to supporting joint forums with civil society organisations.

Mali hosted a Rabat Process meeting bringing government representatives from 29 African and European countries together with regional, international, and civil society

“We recognise the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development.”

(2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)

organisations and the private sector agreed to provide innovative and targeted products and initiatives to benefit diaspora entrepreneurship and investments.

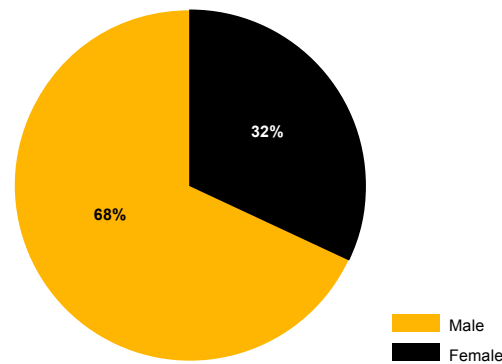
We also launched the MEETAfrica initiative, implemented by Expertise France, which supports African entrepreneurs with a French or German diploma to start up a business in their country of origin in the fields of agriculture, industry, and services.

We commenced collaboration with the African Institute for Remittances to support their work in lowering costs for sending money within Africa and enhancing the economic impact of remittances. Furthermore, we continued our support for the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform, which organised its first diaspora-development dialogue in Africa on the topic of reducing remittance costs.

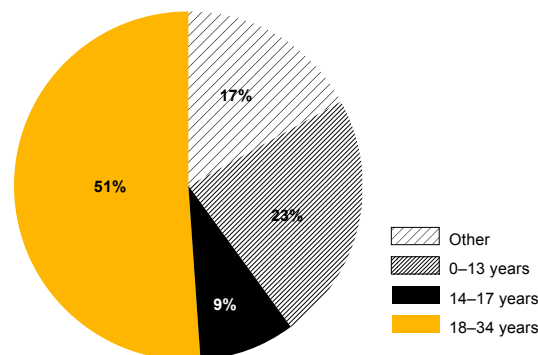
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CHARACTERISTICS OF ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE EU 2016

68% of asylum seekers are male



83% of asylum seekers are younger than 35 years



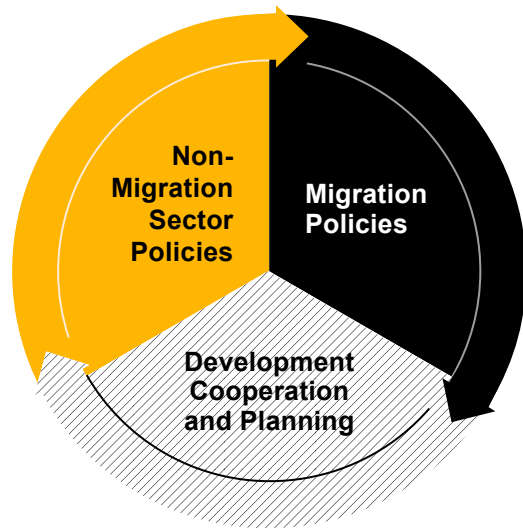
refugee status in the end will need more time and support to integrate in the labour market than other migrant categories.

Language will be key and refugees must have access to integration and language courses. It is also paramount to ensure that they can obtain the necessary qualifications for successful participation in the labour market.

Together with the colleagues from ICMPD research, we have developed a number of studies, which will be conducted in 2017

and aim at identifying the specific integration challenges of refugees and at proposing options for how to address them.

Countries we worked in: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Poland, Slovenia, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, the Czech Republic, and the ECOWAS countries.
Countries we have worked or partnered with: Finland, France, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands,



DEVELOPMENT SENSITIVE MIGRATION POLICY:

This concept stands for the belief that the migration policies that are put in place should be in line with the country's development objectives and development commitments and support these objectives or, as a minimum, not hinder their achievement. In migration policy making, it is therefore crucial to take into account the expected consequences of these policies on socio-economic development at all levels.

STRONGER DIASPORA OUTREACH

Elsewhere in the world, ICMPD continued to support Lebanon in devising a diaspora direct investment strategy. We started to support Iraq to develop a comprehensive diaspora policy.

And in Serbia, we started laying the foundations for a financial scheme to facilitate and leverage diaspora investments from Austria. In Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, and Paraguay, diaspora engagement is also part of ICMPD's support to develop comprehensive national migration policies.

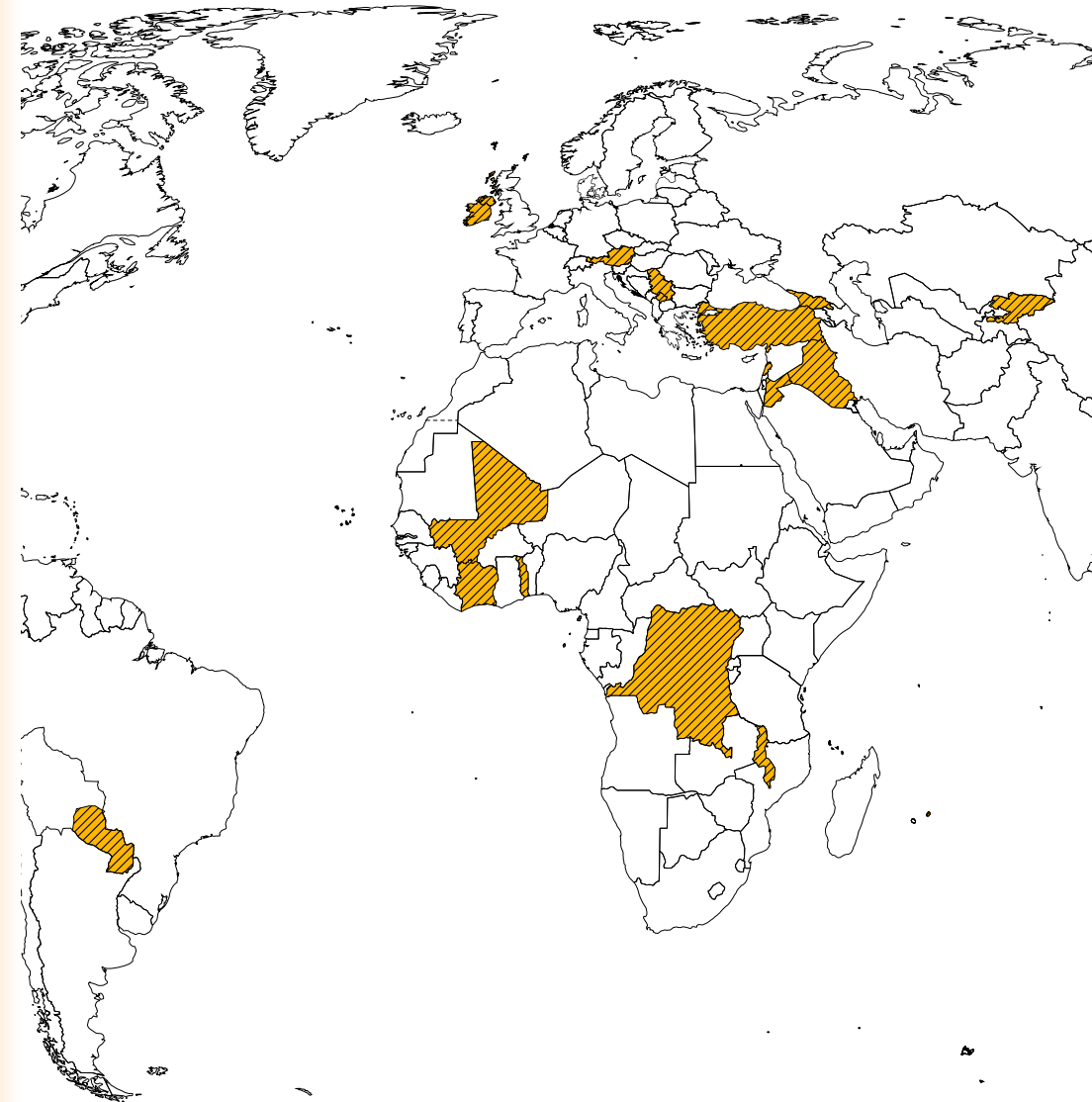
The importance of effective outreach to migrant and diaspora communities was underlined in a EuroMed conference that brought 75 governmental and non-governmental representatives together in Dublin to share good practices and lessons learnt on connecting, communicating, and networking with diasporas. These are also key

aspects of our support to Jordan to engage with their Jordanian community abroad.

Another important part of our work in 2016 was to equip governments with the right tools and know-how to work towards a sustainable and whole-of-government approach for migration governance, as is the case in Turkey and Kosovo.*

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

Capacity Building Activities 2016—Where We Worked





Cross- Cutting Initiatives

069

Forging Migration Partnerships at A Global Level

An effective global migration governance relies on increased collaboration and exchange, including between EU Member States and partner countries. ICMPD helps to nurture these partnerships.

MIGRATION EU EXPERTISE (MIEUX)

2016 highlighted once again the importance of effective migration management through targeted cooperation. By fostering exchange, and creating robust links between migration administrations of EU Member States and partner countries, Migration EU expertise (MIEUX) contributes to solid partnerships based on mutual understanding, knowledge sharing, and learning from each other.

Moreover, it supported dialogues within partner countries, including among governmental bodies and civil society organisations. During 2016, MIEUX supported the elaboration of 25 national migration management instruments, including seven strategies and policies, and five handbooks. Since its inception in 2009, 122 countries have been benefiting from MIEUX peer-to-peer expertise. In total, 137 requests have been submitted to date.

In the coming years, MIEUX will continue its efforts to broaden the range of partners, such as local administrations, parliamentary bodies, and civil society organisations, whilst capitalising on the knowledge and experiences acquired.

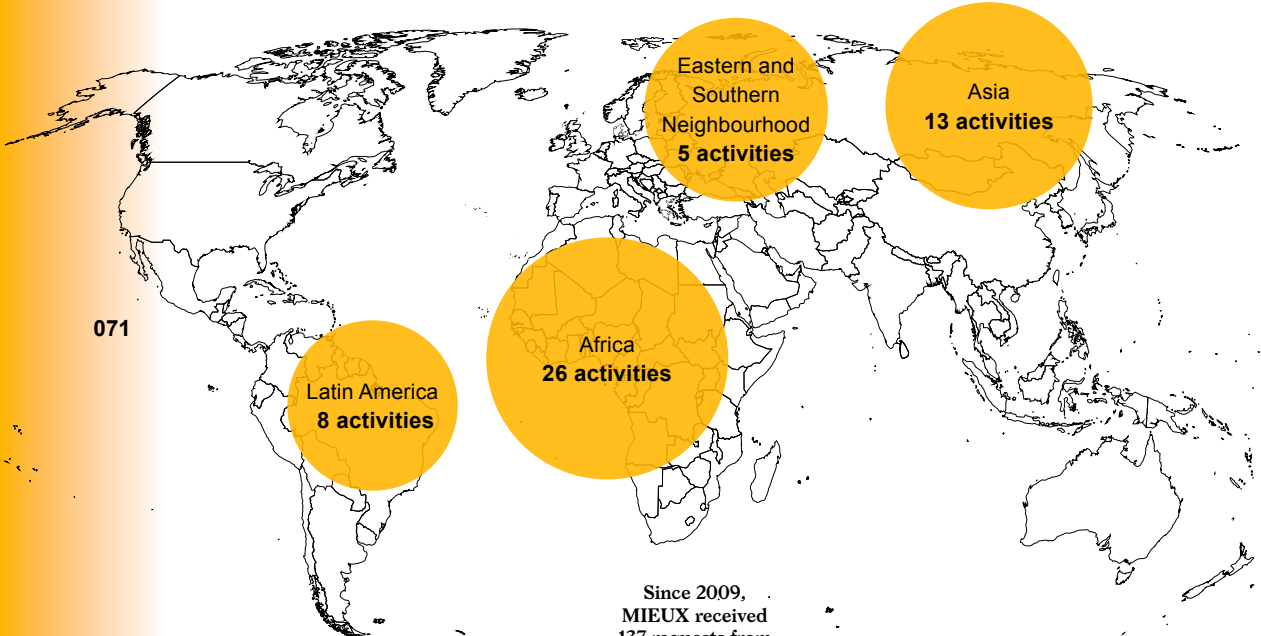
MOBILITY PARTNERSHIP FACILITY (MPF)

The MPF was established in 2016 as a new facility to support the preparation and implementation of Mobility Partnerships (MPs) and Common Agendas for Migration and Mobility (CAMMs) through actions implemented by EU Member States administrations in close cooperation with partner countries.

The MPF aims at making the most of MPs and CAMMs by capitalising on good practices, transforming results into new actions, networking, collecting and disseminating knowledge, and organising targeted events.

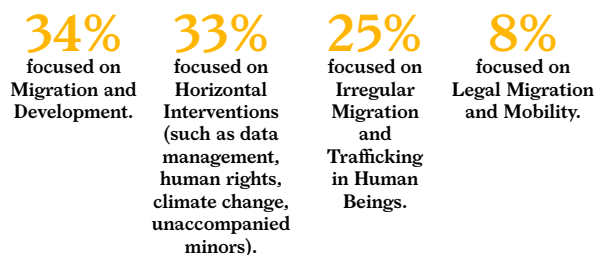
In 2016, a Regional Workshop on the impact of MPs in Eastern Neighbourhood was held, seven applications were received under the MPF Call for Proposals and an action—led by France—on return and reintegration in Armenia was launched.

MIEUX
is a
demand-driven
global
expertise
programme.
It is fast,
efficient, and
multi-dynamic.



Since 2009, MIEUX received 137 requests from 123 countries, 2016 saw 23 new requests.

In 2016, 52 activities were implemented. By theme:



ASSISTING MIGRANTS DURING EMERGENCIES— EVIDENCE AND ACTION

The EU-funded Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) project supported the development and launch of new practical guidelines to protect migrants in countries experiencing conflict or natural disaster.

2016 has been a very productive year for the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative. ICMPD, in charge of the EU-funded project that complements the global MICIC Initiative, has moved ahead with several activities to strengthen ways to protect and assist migrants in crises.

The consultative process, which kicked off in 2015, was completed during the first half of the year. ICMPD facilitated the exchange of the expertise and experience of nearly 300 representatives of countries of origin, transit, and destination, as well as international and regional organisations, civil society and the private sector in Costa Rica in February, in Malta in March, and in Rwanda in May.

The outcome of the consultative process directly fed into the development of the MICIC “Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster”. These practical and non-binding Guidelines were presented by the MICIC Co-Chairs, composed of the governments of the US and the Philippines, together with the MICIC Working Group—which includes ICMPD and other international organisations as well as governments and academic institutions—at the Palais des Nations in Geneva in June 2016 and at the UN Headquarters

in New York in the margin of the High Level Summit for Refugees and Migrants.

ICMPD also released an initial comparative study of six crisis situations in September 2016. The report presents emerging findings from ongoing research on migrants caught in countries experiencing crisis, with a particular focus on socio-economic and long-term implications for development.

BUILDING CAPACITIES OF CONSULAR STAFF AND OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS

One of the MICIC Guidelines specifically underlines the importance of building capacities to improve emergency response and post-crisis recovery for migrants. As an immediate response to this request, in October 2016, ICMPD kicked-off a comprehensive, hands-on programme to operationalise the Guidelines and strengthen the capacities of key actors in countries affected by crisis. It started with a series of trainings on contingency planning for consular staff in Lebanon, South Africa, Thailand, and Côte d’Ivoire. Further trainings and follow-up seminars will take place in Mexico and Ukraine in 2017.

2017 will be as decisive as 2016. The EU-ICMPD MICIC capacity building programme will greatly expand, further turning

recommendations into action. The upcoming months will see the launch of “Partners in Preparedness”, an initiative which aims at creating sustainable and inclusive platforms at national level to strengthen multi-stakeholder dialogue and coordination to better assist and protect migrants in times of crisis. It will also see the development of a series of awareness-raising infographics to illustrate the MICIC Guidelines.

FURTHER BUILDING EVIDENCE AND BETTER MIGRATION POLICIES

The 2017, the research component will deliver the final results through the publication of case studies and the comparative analysis. These findings will better inform policies, actions, and capacity building activities.

Last but not least, the project will contribute to the international migration agenda. It will input thematic work in the context of the Global Forum on Migration and Development and the development of the Global Compact on Migration, hence ensuring that global efforts build upon existing recommendations and principles.



Policy Development

075

Bridging the gap between theory and practice

What a debut: The first Vienna Migration Conference brought together experts, civil society, and decision makers to discuss the most burning issues in the field of migration.

In 2016, the focus of ICMPD's policy development work was on the preparation of the first Vienna Migration Conference. The Vienna Migration Conference is an event where ICMPD wants to discuss the most burning issues in the field of migration together with political decision makers, government experts, and representatives from the academic world, the media, and the civil society.

This shall be achieved from a European perspective but also from the perspective of our many partners from outside Europe. The aim is to identify those areas where progress has been made but also to see where gaps persist and questions are open. The discussions at the Vienna Migration Conference should set the priorities for further developing the ideas and proposals put forward at the conference, together with ICMPD's Member States and all other European and non-European partners.

TWO CORE QUESTIONS

The Vienna Migration Conference 2016 was devoted to two key questions of today's international and European migration policy.

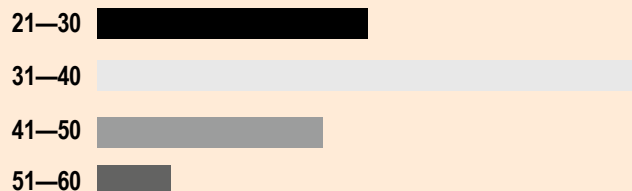
The first one was the question of "International Refugee Protection and the European Responses"; the second referred to the issue of "European Migration Policy and International Cooperation". The conference discussed the policy developments of 2015 and 2016, analysed their main features, and analysed whether they represented a breakthrough towards new thinking in European migration policy and towards durable solutions in the European and international context.



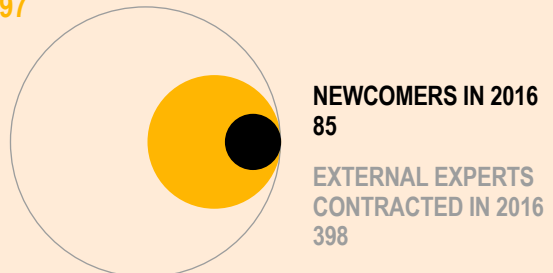
OUR PEOPLE

As an expert organisation ICMPD is an attractive employer for highly-qualified professionals with outstanding knowledge and dedication to the migration field. Being part of a highly diversified, globally operating workforce is a strong motivation for people to join ICMPD. Working at ICMPD holds the promise of getting exposed to world-class knowledge on migration, first-hand experience with partners and stakeholders in countries of operations, and working with colleagues from 52 different nationalities. We are proud to have a high share of women in our workforce, the great majority of them at the professional level. Given the development of the organisation in recent years, staff are part of a dynamic, fast-paced working environment, providing opportunities for personal and professional growth. ICMPD's achievements in 2016 were made possible by 197 talented, committed, hard-working, precious colleagues in 18 different ICMPD offices worldwide. They were the drivers, enablers, and enrichers of ICMPD's contribution to making migration better.

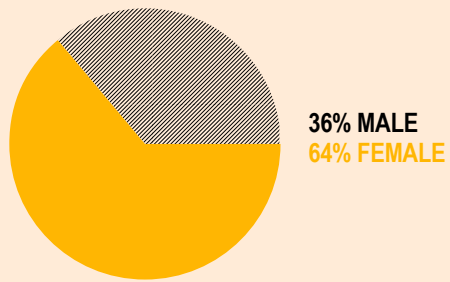
AGE AVERAGE: 37



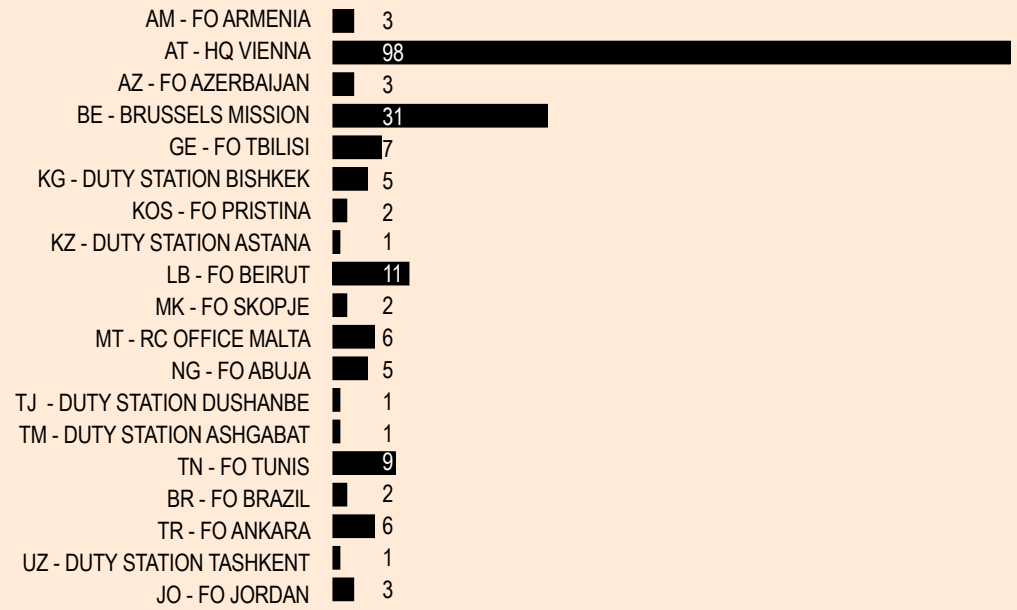
STAFF MEMBERS TOTAL 197



GENDER RATIO OVERVIEW



STAFF MEMBERS IN 18 DUTY STATIONS

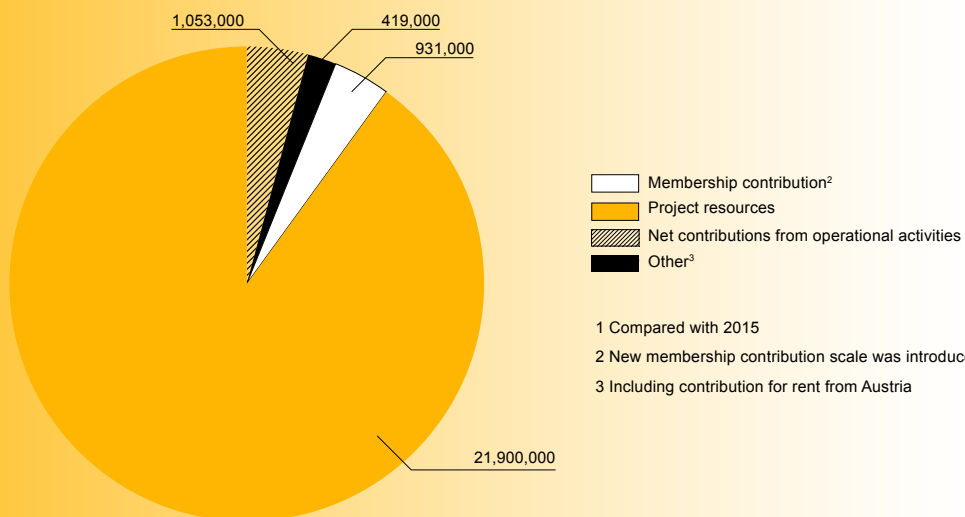


FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ICMPD's financial statements are prepared in line with the rules governing the financial framework of ICMPD and relevant decisions by its Member States. They are drawn up in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and International Public Sector Accounting Standards as applied. In 2016, ICMPD disposed of a total contracted project volume of €121 million. The consolidated 2016 budget (regular and programme funds) amounted to €24.3 million. The budget was funded by membership contributions, voluntary contributions for projects, and other income. The consolidated budget comprises the regular budget containing the essential management, administration, and infrastructure costs necessary for the steering and governance of the organisation and the programme budget containing dedicated resources for project implementation, specific programmes for Member States and support functions.

IMPLEMENTATION 2016

€24,300,000
(INCREASED BY 45%)¹

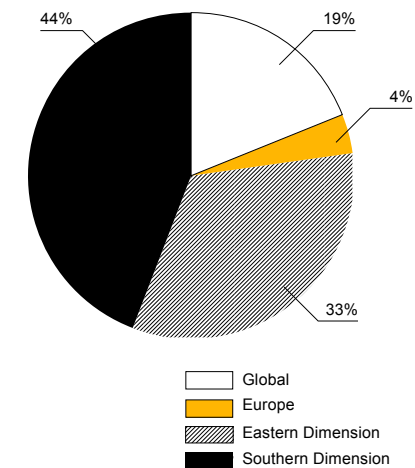


1 Compared with 2015
2 New membership contribution scale was introduced
3 Including contribution for rent from Austria

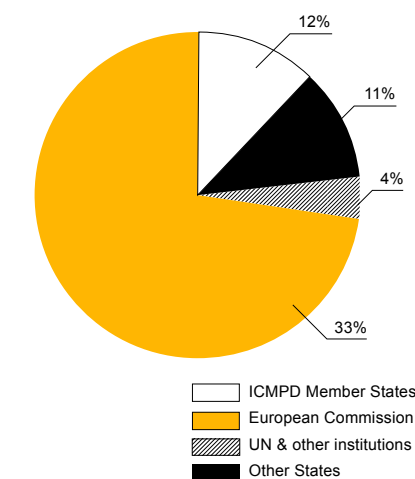
PROGRAMME AND GEOGRAPHIC AREAS FUNDED

ICMPD's operational activities covered six thematic migration management programmes: Asylum, Border Management and Visa, Irregular Migration and Return, Legal Migration and Integration, Migration and Development as well as Trafficking in Human Beings. Geographically, the areas of operation reflected the priority regions of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, South-Eastern Europe and Turkey, Silk Routes countries, Southern neighbourhood with the Mediterranean region, and Sub-Saharan Africa. ICMPD supported migration dialogues in the Southern and Eastern neighbourhoods and carried out research projects with a focus on the European migration policy agenda.

PROGRAMME EXPENDITURES 2016 BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION IN %



PROGRAMME EXPENDITURES 2016 BY FUNDING STRUCTURE IN %



EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT



Michael Spindelegger
Director General



Gabriela Abado
Deputy Director General
Director of General Management



Lukas Gehrke
Director; Policy, Research and Strategy



Martijn Pluim
Director; Migration Dialogues and Cooperation



Ralph Genetzke
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International Centre for Migration
Policy Development (ICMPD)
Austria, 2017

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