



**Making
Migration
Better**

ANNUAL REPORT

The background of the cover features a grayscale map of Europe with a network of orange lines overlaid, representing migration routes and connections between countries.

ICMPD in a Nutshell

KEY FIGURES

More than
70 projects

In over
90 countries

388
employees
61
nationalities
18
member states

29 duty
stations

€276 million
contracted
project
volume

THREE-PRONGED APPROACH



POLICY AND RESEARCH
Policy development and research, empirical research with a comparative, interdisciplinary and international approach covering numerous migration-related topics.

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

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

THEMATIC EXPERTISE

OUTREACH

34 conferences and 1,233 trainings,
meetings and workshops Totalling
1,778 days at 340 locations* with
34,662 participants and 243 partners

*including remote meetings

Border management
and security

Irregular migration
and return

Trafficking
in human beings
and Related Forms
of Exploitation

Asylum and
international Protection

Legal/labour
migration/Immigration

Social cohesion

Migration and
development



ICMPD is an international organisation based in Vienna and has 18 Member States: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Germany, Hungary, Malta, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.

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

Making Migration Better

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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PREPARING FOR RISING MIGRATION PRESSURE AFTER THE PANDEMIC

Michael Spindelegger, Director General of ICMPD, about the tremendous impact that COVID-19 has had on global migration, about how ICMPD has had to adapt and about how ICMPD can help to build a well-functioning European asylum system.

2020 was a very special year. How has the pandemic shaped the work of ICMPD?

It was without a doubt a big challenge. ICMPD's core work involves capacity-building projects and migration dialogues in different world regions. This usually entails traveling and bringing people together, conducting trainings and conferences. All this became impossible because of the pandemic. We therefore had to adapt our working style quite quickly. At the same time, we agreed with our partners and donors to use some funds to provide immediate aid to certain regions in response to the crisis. The creativity of our staff and their dedication to deliver the best outcomes for our partners also under these difficult circumstances made this possible.

How has the pandemic changed migration?

The implications were huge. Initially, the mobility restriction imposed by most states drove down migration numbers. But as soon as those restrictions were lifted, figures went up again to pre-COVID levels. Moreover, the people who migrated despite the pandemic often chose different routes than last year. The Central

Mediterranean route, for example, became more important again. This shift resulted from the situation on the Eastern Mediterranean route where large-scale arrivals prompted the Greek government to close external borders and suspend the admission of asylum applications. But it was also an indicator of the impact of COVID-19. An increasing number of citizens from North African countries tried to leave for Europe in response to the crisis of tourism in their own countries. Also, the route via the Western Balkans was chosen more often. The biggest increase was recorded on the route via Mauretania and Morocco. We also must realize that the economic downturn in the European Union impacts families and regions outside the EU. Global migrant remittances fell by 14 percent in 2020.

What kinds of effects do you expect the pandemic to have in the medium term?

Migration will pick up again as soon as border controls are lifted and economic growth resumes across Europe. Many migration projects were postponed because of the pandemic. Its economic impacts might lead to even stronger migration pressures.

The people who migrated despite the pandemic often chose different migration routes than in previous years.

Forecasts are hard to make on migration but there are good reasons why the European Union should prepare for increased migration flows.

Despite its New Pact on Migration and Asylum?

The New Pact is definitely based on more thorough and constructive discussions than previous attempts. It has undoubtedly brought quite a bit of progress, but some big questions remain unanswered. There was no breakthrough on the "cardinal issue" of solidarity in terms of a scheme for distributing asylum seekers among European Union Member States or in terms of ways they can better support each other on return. However, the New Pact has defined common goals. There will be a much stronger focus on migration partnerships with countries of origin and transit. This approach will hopefully offer these countries much more help in addressing the reasons that people feel com-

elled to migrate even if they must do so in an irregular way. That is also an area where we at ICMPD can make a big contribution based on our expertise and experience.

What other priorities is ICMPD pursuing in 2021?

We will work with the Bosnian government to help them cope with the extremely challenging situation. We are also trying to foster good cooperation on migration between Turkey and the EU. Turkey is not only an ICMPD member state but also faces specific challenges as host to the largest refugee population in the world.

It has been five years since you became director general of ICMPD. What has changed?

Meanwhile, there is broad consensus that we must give countries of origin concrete support to reduce migration pressures. It is also more widely understood that we must invest in migration partnerships, both to address irregular migration and to help people return to the countries they came from. Furthermore, it has become evident that we need to think

about opportunities for legal migration and border controls that work in tandem with each other. One cannot work without the other. There is also a broader understanding in the EU that it must work to improve the functionality of asylum systems in the Member States so decisions can be made much more quickly. Improvements have been made, but much remains to be done.

How has ICMPD developed over these five years?

Our staff has doubled and our budget for projects has tripled, which helps the organisation to thrive. With Turkey and Malta, two countries have joined ICMPD that play a key role in how we can manage migration responsibly. Last year Germany became a member, which is important for many initiatives our organisation is involved in. We are working hard to be the preferred partner for the European Union but also for the non-European countries when it comes to questions of migration.

What are your next objectives moving forward?

Our focus is on innovation, especially in multi-dimensional migration partnerships. We can be of great help to the European Union in this regard. To achieve effective migration partnerships, it is crucial to understand the fields in which the partner countries need concrete help. Partnership is a more complex arrangement than just paying the partner country to take back people. ICMPD can provide a broad range of ideas and inputs to make these partnerships work better in the future.

2021 has gotten off to a rough start. How does ICMPD plan ahead with so much uncertainty?

We concentrate on areas where we can help despite the pandemic. We are providing consultancy services to Portugal and Slovenia, holders of the EU Council presidency in the first

and second half of the year, respectively. The focus will be on return measurements. We will work together with the European External Action Service. As an organisation, we will try to achieve further growth. Greece and the Netherlands have already applied for membership; Denmark has signalled its interest. We hope that ICMPD becomes an even stronger voice on migration in the European Union but also the preferred partner for concrete initiatives and programmes.

If you could make a wish – what would you like to see happen in your next term to make migration better?

For ICMPD, I would like to see our organisation play a role in developing a truly common European asylum system and good, stable migration partnerships with our partners outside Europe. We should help to improve protection of European borders, which is vital to a well-functioning European migration system. And we should contribute to all policy initiatives that tackle root causes, that address migration pressures but also that develop opportunities for legal migration and labour migration. The cooperation with the private sector is essential in this regard.

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Michael Spindelegger, 61, 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). Mr. Spindelegger studied law, is married and has two children.



THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON TALENT ATTRACTION: AN UNEXPECTED OPPORTUNITY FOR THE EU?

Justyna Segeš Frelak, Oleg Chirita, Sergo Mananashvili

2020 will go down as a year that upended lives, systems and the modus operandi of the entire world. This past year saw severe public health and economic crises coupled with unprecedented changes in global mobility. Borders were closed, visa processes frozen and exceptional travel restrictions imposed – all overnight. The exponential loss of resources and livelihoods suddenly suffered by tens of millions of migrant workers has impacted well-being across the board.

2020: THE YEAR OF SHIFTING WORK AND MOBILITY PATTERNS

In the midst of efforts in Europe and elsewhere to grow the workforce, COVID-19 has caused a fundamental global shift in the ways in which people work and move. It has cast doubt on the importance of the physical dimension of work and pushed the adaption to the new work-from-home environment. It has also made mobility more costly and subject to changes as the health crisis continues to unfold.

The crisis has taken a heavy toll on many lesser-skilled migrants and those overrepresented in the sectors most affected by the crisis (e.g. hospitality or cleaning services). In particular, it has hurt labour market outcomes, including unemployment rates that are rising sharply alongside increased return to countries of origin.¹ While less skilled migrants have limited choices in a job-scarce labour market, international talent has gradually adapted to the new situation. With the shifting economy and changing work patterns, many have moved back to their country of origin, telecommuting across borders. The place of work and place of residence have thus become disconnected for many migrants, bringing about another shift in international migration patterns.

But not everyone can do their job remotely. This is especially true for workers in health and agriculture, sectors that employ a high number of migrants – and that have been deemed essential in responding to COVID-19

Through the pandemic, place of work and place of residence have become disconnected for many migrants, bringing about another shift in international migration patterns.

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and keeping our societies up and running. Recognising the critical role played by migrants in these sectors, several countries and regions moved swiftly to attract and keep international health care and other key workers. Such creative approaches, including easing accreditation restrictions and extending temporary residence, reflect the growing recognition that migrants, refugees and the diaspora are key to responding to, recovering from and "building back better" after the pandemic.² At the EU level, COVID-19 has made Member States more aware of their dependence on foreign labour in certain high-demand sectors.

THE EU AND THE GLOBAL RACE FOR TALENT BEYOND COVID-19

Population ageing has long been accelerating in Europe, putting pressure on labour markets throughout the continent. Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, estimates indicated that, across Europe, the labour supply was

growing by about 0.3% annually – whereas labour demand was increasing by approximately 1%. Growing labour market shortages, although spread very unevenly among Member States, and technological transformations that affect the composition of the workforce and labour market needs, will lead to higher demand for migrant workers with the requisite skills and qualifications. Given various economic, demographic and social considerations as well as upcoming transformations, the EU will need to draw on international talent if it is to recover from the effects of the pandemic and achieve a green, digital economic transition that keeps it competitive on a global scale.

Despite progress made towards a joint framework for legal migration and developments at the national level, EU Member States have been less successful than other OECD countries in attracting skilled migrants. The complexity of existing rules at both the EU and member state level and

1 OECD (2020). What is the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on immigrants and their children? OECD Policy Responses to Coronavirus (COVID-19), 19 October 2020.

2 EMN, OECD (2020). Inform # 3 – Maintaining labour migration in essential sectors in times of pandemic. Series of EMN-OECD provides information about the impact of COVID-19 in the area of migration, 21 October 2020.

At the EU level, COVID-19 has made Member States more aware of their dependence on foreign labour in certain high-demand sectors.

diverging national approaches hampers progress. For the most part, international job matching thus remains both costly and ineffective. This practice is further hampered by a lack of resources and know-how on employing migrant workers, especially among small- and medium-sized enterprises. The requirements of Europe's highly specialised and formalised labour markets also prove difficult to meet for many migrants.³

With the EU labour market groaning under the weight of COVID-19, June 2020 saw the release of the European Skills Agenda for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience, calling for a paradigm shift on skills across the EU's strategic approach to legal migration. The Skills Agenda is oriented towards better attracting and keeping talent and acknowledges the need to improve legal pathways, enhance skills matching and better recognise the competences of migrants.

In the same vein, the European Commission's New Pact on Migration and Asylum (September 2020) – aimed at giving a "fresh start" to a system that "manages" and "normalises" migration – placed an emphasis on increased cooperation with partner countries on legal pathways. The object is to address emerging demographic shifts, labour market needs and skills

Cooperation frameworks such as the EU Talent Partnerships can facilitate the mobility of international talent.

shortages in different sectors. The New Pact recognises that, while activating and upskilling the domestic workforce is necessary, these efforts will not sufficiently address all shortages in the labour market. The New Pact highlights the potential of foreign migrant workers, including in the COVID-19 context. Against this backdrop, it is invigorating to see the Commission propose an innovative tool in the New Pact, namely EU Talent Partnerships. This initiative is envisioned as a single framework aiming to "offer cooperation with partner countries and help boost mutually-beneficial international mobility".

WHAT ARE THE PREREQUISITES FOR EFFECTIVE BILATERAL COOPERATION ON TALENT?

A question remains as to whether enhanced bilateral cooperation on talent circulation alone will provide the necessary boost to the EU labour market. When designing talent attraction

frameworks and policies, policymakers often focus on single or ad hoc measures, e.g. determining who has access to the labour market or launching 'buzzy' attraction campaigns. In pursuing such an approach, they may be overlooking other issues of equal importance for talent attraction – and retention. For it is usually not just the job offer or legal pathway that attracts the highest level of talent – it is also career opportunities for partners, a good education for their children, and a high quality of life overall.

The OECD Indicators of Talent Attractiveness, for instance, highlight several policy areas that influence a talent's decision to move, including those related to integration (e.g. employment, income, citizenship) and the wider environment (e.g. tax rates, gender equality). Such considerations underscore the importance of aligning migration and integration policies with talent attraction aspirations and strategies, ensuring that they do not run in

The role of the private sector in designing and implementing the Talent Partnerships will be crucial to achieving their full potential.

opposite directions, while demanding that policy areas work together towards a common goal.

Cooperation frameworks such as the EU Talent Partnerships can facilitate the mobility of international talent. ICMPD's implementation of the Mobility Partnership Facility pilot projects on legal migration has shown the necessity of creating a supportive, inclusive ecosystem around such cooperation if sustainable results are to be achieved. This means not limiting the framework to effective migration regulations and bilateral cooperation but also building appropriate skills identification matching systems, (up)skilling and incorporating education components, both in countries of origin and destination. Especially when origin countries are facing acute brain drain, these types of partnerships can help strike the right balance between domestic needs and the demands of the international labour market.

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The role of the private sector in designing and implementing the Talent Partnerships will be crucial to achieving their full potential. This will require not only the involvement of businesses in need of international talent but also of European businesses operating, and perhaps wishing to expand, in partner countries – as well as those looking to invest.

There are several reasons why these groups can contribute to skills and talent development through mobility. Central among them is the fact that European businesses active in third countries have a vested interest in contributing to skills creation to ensure their own long-term prosperity both locally and internationally. Businesses could facilitate agile upskilling solutions by providing support for training activities (inside and outside the EU), particularly if they can provide

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internships or other on-the-job training opportunities to prospective migrants. The private sector is also best placed to assess third country skills shortages, and can be encouraged to support the development of the socio-economic fabric within which they operate by investing resources or promoting measures to meet current and future demand. If framed in this way, the Talent Partnerships hold the potential to unlock foreign direct investment and promote the competitiveness of SMEs in promising markets.

HOW SHOULD THE TALENT PARTNERSHIPS BE USED?

The global pandemic has brought to the surface a series of labour market needs and challenges. It has accelerated many existing trends, including remote work and technological transformation. New skills will also be required for recovery, chiefly in relation to the transition to greener, digitally driven economies. It is estimated that almost

The current crisis will change the migration landscape in a number of ways, but it will not close the skills gap experienced across the regions of the world, including the EU.

all growth in labour demand will occur in high-wage jobs, meaning that many low-wage workers would need to shift to higher wage occupations requiring different skillsets.⁴

The current crisis will change the migration landscape in a number of ways, but it will not close the skills

New skills will also be required for recovery, chiefly in relation to the transition to greener, digitally driven economies.

gap experienced across the regions of the world, including the EU. Reduced transnational mobility may further induce technological progress in sectors that typically depend on temporary migrants to fill labour shortages. To attract international professionals who are not physically bound to an employer, labour migration frameworks will need to respond better to remote working by incorporating tailored measures such as remote work visas, digital residency and revised taxation schemes.

The Talent Partnerships thus potentially represent a powerful instrument for cooperation between the EU and its key partner countries – to meet the labour market needs of both sides, as well as private sector priorities; to support the transition towards more inclusive, knowledge-based economies that are both digital and green; and, ultimately, to underpin the post-pandemic recovery. However, the

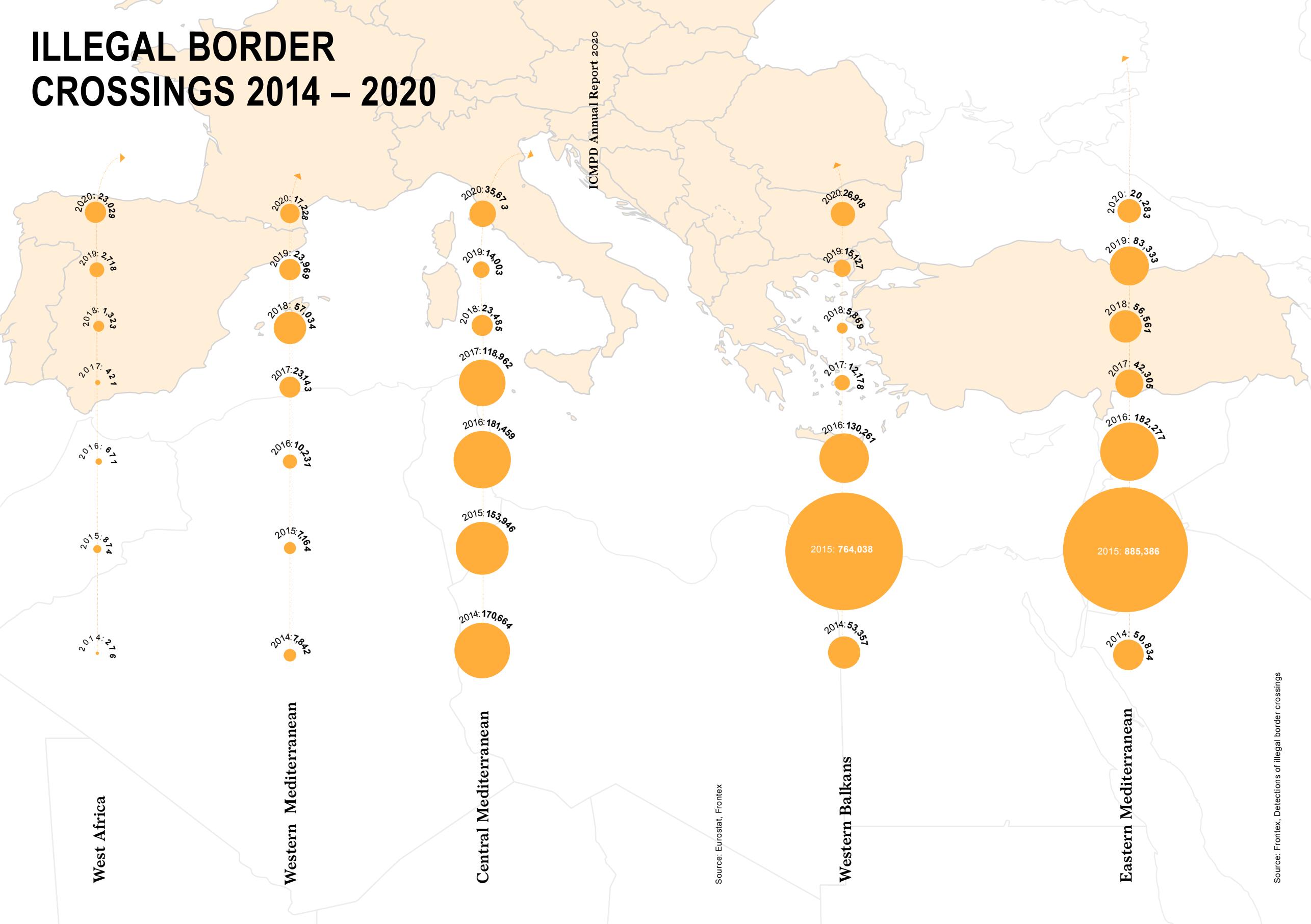
conceptualisation and operationalisation of the Talent Partnerships should be predicated on a number of policy, legal and institutional considerations, as well as on insights drawn from past experiences. In short, such schemes require establishing – and sustaining – enabling ecosystems, including robust governance structures, policy and legislative frameworks, administrative practices, institutional infrastructure, whilst building sustainable public-private and multi-stakeholder partnership. After all, it is the private sector which will play a make-or-break role in any success of such partnerships. Only when all these conditions are in place, will the Talent Partnerships prove truly successful and display the strength required to endure in the long term. ICMPD will continue to work with our public and private partners in Europe, Africa and Asia to untangle the complexities of talent partnerships and make them beneficial to all sides of the equation.

Such schemes require establishing – and sustaining – enabling ecosystems, including robust governance structures, policy and legislative frameworks, administrative practices, institutional infrastructure, whilst building sustainable public-private and multi-stakeholder partnerships. After all, it is the private sector which will play a make-or-break role in any success of such partnerships.

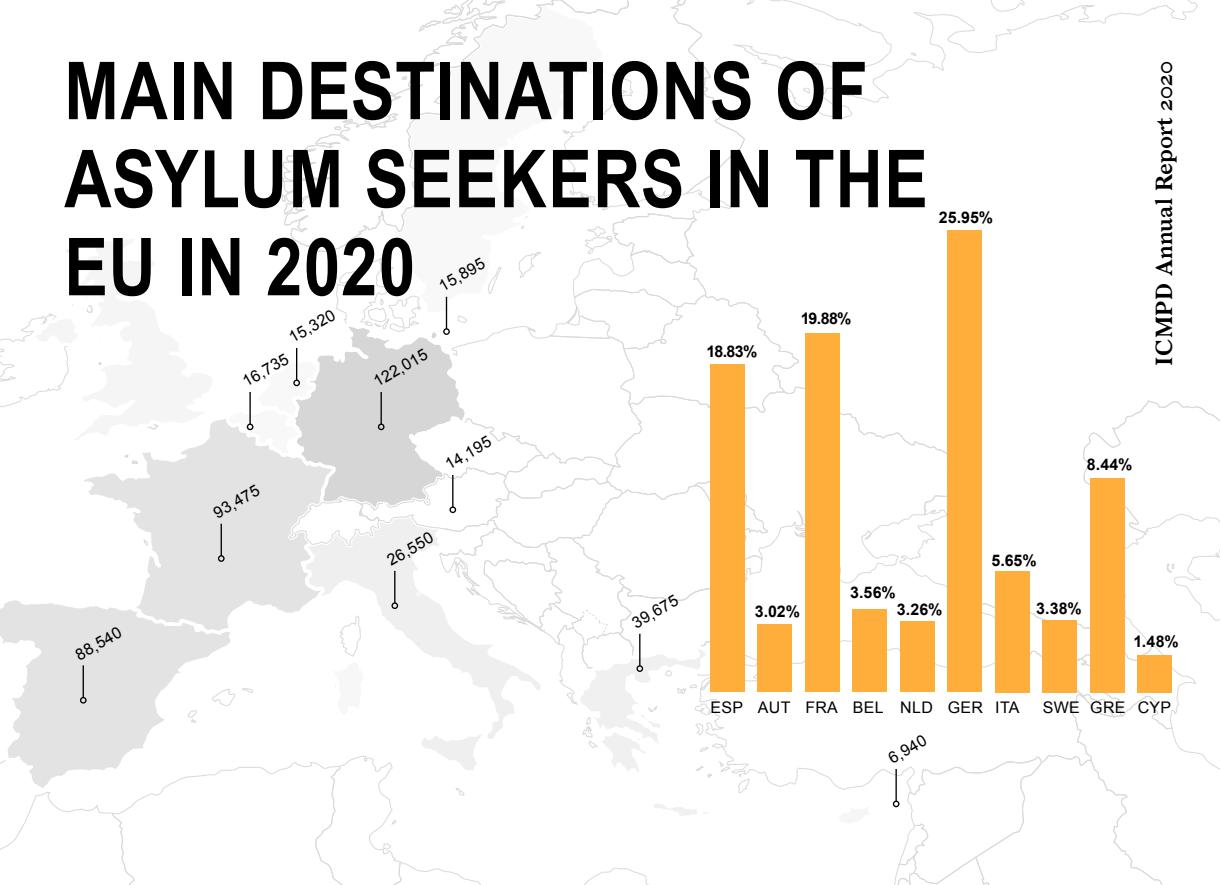
GLOBAL EMIGRANTS 2020 (IN MILLIONS)



ILLEGAL BORDER CROSSINGS 2014 – 2020

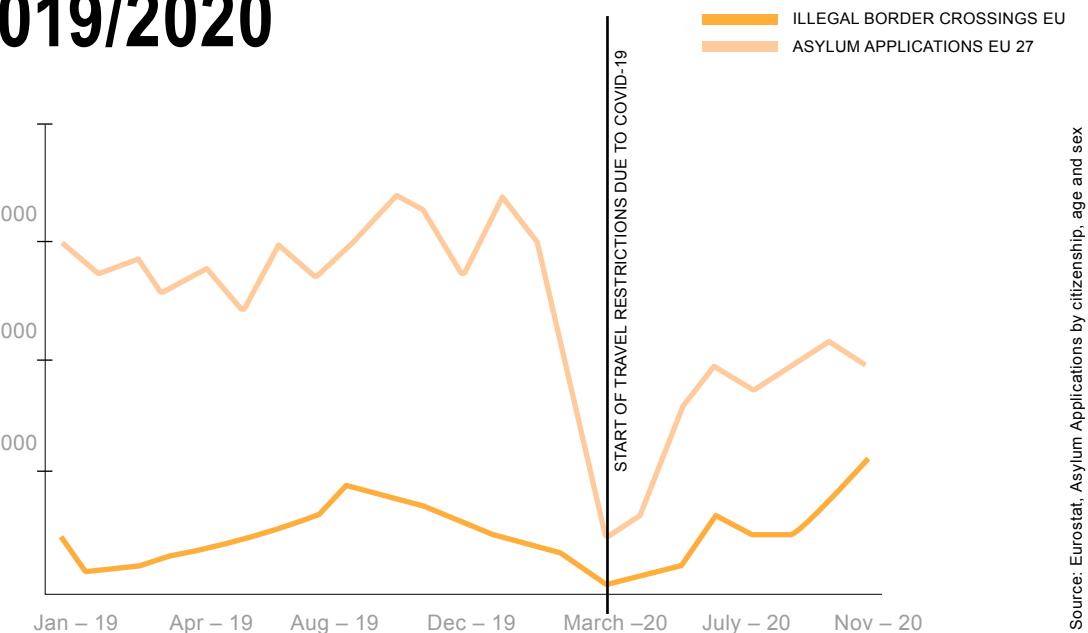


MAIN DESTINATIONS OF ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE EU IN 2020



ICMPD Annual Report 2020

EU ASYLUM APPLICATIONS AND ILLEGAL BORDER CROSSINGS 2019/2020



Projects 2020

Policy, Research and Strategy

Support for the completion and implementation of the monitoring and evaluation system for the North of Africa window of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (*MENOA*)

Developing a strategy for the implementation of a talent policy in Lithuania (*TALENTAS*)

Sustainable Practices of INteGration (*SPRING*)

Complementary pathways for adult refugees: the role of VET, skills and qualifications (*REF-VET*)

Translocal Figurations of Displaced Families (*TRAFIG*)

Labour market integration processes for young refugees in Austria (*FIMAS+YOUTH*)

Understand the impact of novel technologies, social media, and perceptions in countries abroad on migration flows and the security of the EU and provide validated counter-approaches, tools and practices (*PERCEPTIONS*)

Female beneficiaries of asylum and subsidiary protection on the labour market – information, mobilisation and integration in Austria, Germany and Norway (*FARIM*)

Sustainable Practices of INteGration (*SPRING*)

Africa

Support for free movement of persons and migration in West Africa (*FMM WA*)

Strengthening border and migration management in Ghana (*SMMIG*)

Strengthening border security and the fight against human trafficking in Ghana (*EUTF-SBS Ghana*)

Support to Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue II (*MMD II*)

Organised crime: West African response to trafficking (*OCWAR-T*)

A study on the situation of migrants/refugees in Tunis and Bamako and the impact of COVID-19 on them (*PPF*)

ICMPD Niger-Nigeria countering trafficking in human beings

Technical vocational education training and youth employment in Nigeria

Eastern Europe & Central Asia (EECA)

Sustaining migration management in Georgia (*ENIGMMA-2*)

Mobility Partnership Facility - Prague Process Phase II and III (*MPF -PP*)

Construction of temporary accommodation centre for asylum seekers in Armenia (*TAC Armenia*)

EU support to strengthening IBM in Ukraine (*EU4IBM*)

EU initiative to increase migrants' potential to act for the development of Armenia (*EU Impact for Armenia*)

Border management in Central Asia - Phase 10 (*BOMCA*)

Global/ Interregional

Mobility Partnership Facility Phase II and III (*MPF II*)

European Return and Reintegration Network (*ERRIN*)

Forced-Return Monitoring III (*FReM III*)

Global EU Diaspora Facility (*GDF*)

Trainings for development oriented migration (*Training DOM*)

EU-ICMPD joint initiative Migration EU Expertise: providing short-term expertise to partner countries to enhance migration governance (*MIEUX +*)

Logistical and technical support for migration seminars in the EU Neighbourhood and Enlargement Countries

Western Balkans & Turkey

Strengthening utilisation of additional policies and measures for reinforcing migration management in Turkey (*SUPREME*)

Supporting institutional capacity of DGMM (Directorate General of Migration Management) and policy development processes in the area of asylum (*PACT*)

Sustainable migration management through supporting implementation of development-sensitive migration policies and initiatives in Turkey (*SUMMIT*)

Technical assistance for cooperation with civil society on migration and international protection (*TACSO*)

EU support to effective management of green and blue borders of Albania (*EU4SAFEALB*)

Pooling diaspora resources and expertise for business creation and expansion into (mostly) rural regions of Serbia (*Link up 2019*)

Enhancement of entrepreneurship capacities for sustainable socio-economic integration (*FRIT Programme*)

Strengthening Migration Management Authorities in Kosovo* III (*MIMAK III*)

Drafting of a national IBM strategy and updating of the National Action Plan to implement Turkey's IBM Strategy

Research on child trafficking and labour trafficking in Turkey to support evidence-based policy formulation and DGMM decisions on Turkey's anti-trafficking response

Mediterranean

Enhanced capability for integrated border management in Lebanon (*IBM Lebanon - Phase II*)

Border management programme for the Maghreb region (*BMP Maghreb*)

Operationalisation of national migration strategy phase I (*PROGRESS*)

Mediterranean city-to-city migration profiles & dialogue (*MC2MC Phase II*)

Strengthening the evidence base for migration policies; a central migration data management solution for Jordan (*MIDAM*)

IBM Lebanon, Netherlands assistance to Lebanese border agencies (*IBM Lebanon Phase IV - NL*)

Swiss support to IBM in Lebanon (*IBM Lebanon Phase II - CH*)

Building, disseminating and operationalising evidence-driven migration governance policy and practice in North Africa (*eMGPP*)

Integrated border management support Jordan (*IBM Jordan*)

Enhanced capability for integrated border management in Lebanon (*IBM Lebanon - Phase III*)

Support to the mobility partnership (MP) between the European Union (EU) and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (*JEMPAS II*)

Support programme to integrated border management in Tunisia (*IBM Tunisia III*)

Euromed Migration V - Euro-Mediterranean dialogue and cooperation on migration, mobility and international protection (*Euromed V*)

Netherlands assistance to Jordanian border control agencies (*IBM*)

Support to the implementation of the national strategy on migration in Tunisia (*PROGRES*)

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Silk Routes

Improving migration management in the Silk Routes Countries (*Silk Routes – III*)

EU-India cooperation and dialogue on migration and mobility (*India CAMM*)

Integrated border management in the Silk Routes Countries (*IBM Silk Routes*)

Establishing responsive and sustainable migrant resource centres in Iraq (*MRC Iraq*)

Establishing migrant resource centres in Bangladesh (*MRC Bangladesh*)

Awareness raising on migration in Pakistan (*MARIP II PAK*)

Budapest Process activities

Awareness raising and information campaigns on the risks of irregular migration in Pakistan (*PARIM*)

Information and capacity building on asylum, legal and irregular migration in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Western Balkans (*IKAM*)

* All references to Kosovo in this document should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).



Research Unit

INFORMATION ON MIGRATION RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Interventions in countries of origin can empower migrants to make the informed decisions on migration that they need to make prior to migrating.

South Asian migrants are an important global force – they make up significant percentages of the workforce in Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East, and Europe. Research tells us that most of the emigration from this region occurs through legal channels, often organised through bilateral agreements with destination countries and transnational recruitment agencies. Forced displacement is an important push factor as well.

A subset of these migrants do, however, migrate irregularly and arrive in Europe in precarious circumstances. During their migration journey, migrants are faced with myriad risks of being defrauded, exposed to inhumane conditions, and subjected to exploitation or trafficking. For this reason, dedicated research supported ICMPD's Migrant Resource Centres in the region in their efforts to provide accurate information on the risks of irregular migration and to promote information on safe and legal migration.

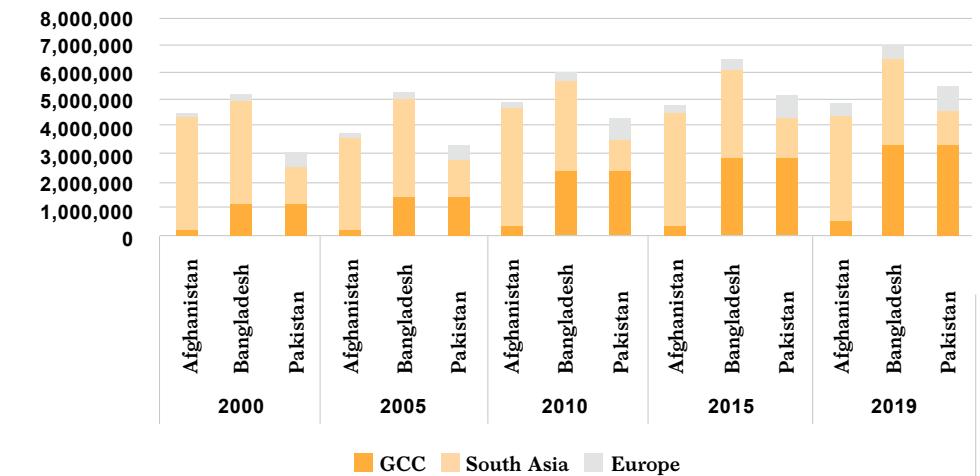
With a focus on Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, research among persons concerned indicates that access to reliable information on risks and opportunities is largely non-existent for many who consider emigration. Migrants from these countries are highly dependent on the services of intermediaries such as illegal recruiter sub-agents or other middlemen as their main sources of information. In Pakistan, for example, the vast

majority of intending migrants surveyed (67 per cent) were unaware of any legal migration opportunities. They received their information mainly from agents or agencies that often provided false or deceptive information and charged exorbitant recruitment fees.

There is a dearth of accurate information on migration opportunities, which also differs considerably by gender and across the urban-rural divide. Intending migrant women – a growing demographic for Bangladesh – have even more limited access to migration-related information than migrant men. Moreover, for rural populations, there is a substantial lack of access to official information on migration, as there are only a few or no institutions to provide migration-related information. As Afghanistan shows, they often cannot afford an internet connection or lack the e-literacy/computer literacy to find accurate information on their own.

We see from this research that more targeted information outreach in countries of origin is needed. ICMPD in the region is already adapting to better address the needs particularly of rural areas and to partner with trusted local actors. Cutting out the middlemen – whether illegal sub-agents, smugglers or traffickers – would go a long way towards improving migrants' experiences and expectations as regards migration.

International Migrants



Source UN DESA

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Understanding and tackling processes of radicalisation and violent extremism

Last year's terrorist attacks in several European cities reminded us that extremism and radicalisation have not waned but are a main concern for both the public and policy-makers. In the framework of ICMPD's Annual Policy Initiative and in exchange with renowned experts from academia, civil society and ICMPD's Member States, we asked the most fundamental

research question: Do we, as migration and integration experts, know enough? Radicalisation and violent extremism are processes that draw on a polarisation between different groups in society. Social cohesion, a fundamental pillar in any society, is seen as a key factor in preventing radicalisation and violent extremism.



Policy Unit

SECURITY: A CONTENTIOUS AND PERMANENT FEATURE OF MIGRATION AND MOBILITY DEBATES

Mobility and the way migration is managed are intrinsically connected to state and human security. Threats to state and human security have both limited and spurred movement in the past. No situation, however, affected mobility and migration as much as the COVID-19 pandemic did in 2020.

Migration and security are separate policy fields, although they do actually overlap as part of border control, international protection and other issues. Landmark events, including acts of terrorism and large movements of migrants and refugees to Europe in 2015 and 2016, have fuelled the debate over the relationship between migration and security. In such debates, human security and state security are often portrayed as opposing aims, meaning that emphasis on one aspect detracts from the other. In our Annual Policy Initiative 2020, we examined the increasingly complex relationship between migration and security, including the new salience that the pandemic has given biosecurity and public health issues as well as the latest policy developments, most notably the New Pact on Migration and Asylum.

The outbreak of COVID-19 might ultimately have the most far-reaching impact on migration in the security context, given the way it has reshaped all aspects of our lives. The pandemic has already resulted in immediate restrictions on entry, whether taking the form of border closures, tightened screenings or testing and quarantine requirements. Movement restrictions have had a significant impact on the global economy and the availability of foreign workers in migrant-dependent sectors. In our work on labour migration, we focused on the ways in which Member States' talent attraction efforts can pivot to meet new challenges and opportunities. At the same time, the pan-

demic has disproportionately affected migrants, including those seeking protection in Europe. Our work on international protection included a look at the ways in which asylum systems are responding to the evolving situation, whether this means putting elements on pause or working creatively to keep systems running.

While temporarily overshadowed by the health crisis, climate change remains a top policy issue in Europe and one with important and increasing implications for both human and state security. Although climate change itself is rarely the only aspect spurring migration, it can exacerbate difficulties related to conflict, poverty, and other factors that can drive migration and displacement. The Policy Unit co-authored a report for the European Parliament that offers recommendations on better addressing protection needs arising in the context of environmental migration and displacement in Europe and beyond.

Our expert discussions in 2020 covered the security-related aspects of proposals included in the new Pact on Migration and Asylum in addition to policy developments in our Member States. These exchanges showed that indeed there is space for a pragmatic agenda in many migration-related policy areas that can serve to safeguard both human and state security. Taking Europe as an example, a better functioning security policy at the external border that enjoys high confidence across the Schengen

area would act as a major enabler of secure intra-EU mobility and aid a return to free internal circulation sooner rather than later.

This was echoed in our other analysis for the European Parliament, which found that an effective mechanism for evaluating and monitoring the implementation of Schengen rules and legislation helps ensure the mutual trust that is fundamental for the removal of internal borders. Thus, our conversations underscored that an effective system is one that can integrate the protection of legitimate security concerns regarding human and state security in a holistic approach – and that these can even reinforce each other.

SELECTED READINGS

- Safeguarding human and public security in the new migration agenda [Report on ICMPD's Annual Policy Initiative 2020]
- The state of play of Schengen governance. An assessment of the Schengen evaluation and monitoring mechanism in its first multiannual programme [Study for the European Parliament]
- Climate change and migration: Legal and policy challenges and responses to environmentally induced migration [Study for the European Parliament]
- Blogs on "COVID-19 – Migration in the age of biosecurity", "Refuge in the time of corona", "Schengen's summertime blues" and "Asylum reception during the pandemic: How can systems become more resilient?"

State Security, Human Security, and Migration





Migration Dialogues

39

THE PIVOTAL ROLE OF MIGRATION DIALOGUES IN THE MIGRATION GOVERNANCE PROCESS

Migration dialogues play a critical role in the process of linking countries and regions and in developing important networks among migration administrations. By providing strategic advice, expertise and administrative support, ICMPD actively engages in several important intergovernmental migration dialogues.

ICMPD was founded in 1993, at a time when migration in Europe saw dramatic changes following political developments in Eastern Europe and the wars leading up to the dissolution of Yugoslavia. Politicians realised they needed a new platform for discussing migration among states that had very different interests and priorities. States were seeking an efficient way to build cooperation, forge new bonds and exchange information on migration.

They found it by creating the first truly inter-regional migration dialogue, the Budapest Process. This dialogue created an informal political setting, providing an opportunity to agree on policy targets and standards for cooperation without legally binding the participating states. It gave states the freedom to engage in more ambitious cooperation, share information freely and create important professional networks. One of the first tasks of the newly founded ICMPD was to support the Budapest Process as its secretariat.

Nowadays, dialogues have become a powerful tool fostering migration cooperation and an effective way to drive a common migration agenda forward. Migration dialogues connect countries along migration routes,

Over the past 30 years, dialogues have become powerful tools for fostering migration cooperation and effective ways of driving a common migration agenda forward. ICMPD runs the secretariat for the Budapest Process, the Prague Process, the Rabat Process, the Khartoum Process and the Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue. In this role, the organisation supports the participating states by providing advice and information.

is needed to initiate operational cooperation, and have become an essential part of how we govern migration. ICMPD now supports some of the most important migration dialogues linking Europe, Asia and Africa.

CONNECTING REGIONS

The organisation fulfils the secretariat role for the Budapest Process, the Prague Process, the Rabat Process, the Khartoum Process and the Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM) Dialogue — all of which cover

important migration regions. In its secretariat role, ICMPD supports leading and participating states by providing strategic advice and information, migration expertise and administrative support. Serving in this capacity puts ICMPD in a unique position in terms of regional networks and knowledge as well as geographic and thematic outreach.

In most dialogues, the policy direction is decided upon at ministerial level. Ministerial declarations, sometimes with accompanying work plans, set the thematic priorities, specific objectives and targets for cooperation for a specific period. Dialogues include several activities: working group meetings, capacity-building measures and national implementation activities planned to reach the cooperation objectives. In many processes, this work is overseen by high-level senior officials' meetings that are mandated to follow up on ministerial conclusions.

Considering how important the regional perspective is in international migration, ICMPD has adopted a regional approach in its work and is fostering close relationships with regions that connect with Europe. The aim is to create efficient cooperation and partnerships along migration routes.

ICMPD has organised its work in priority regions closely connected to the migration dialogues it supports. The dialogue activities are flanked by capacity-building measures as well as policy and research activities. These three approaches mutually reinforce their respective impact and quality.

FOSTERING DIALOGUE, COOPERATION AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS ON ALL LEVELS

With regard to the cooperation between Africa and Europe the Rabat and Khartoum Processes serve as a forum for political dialogue and cooperation on migration between countries of origin, transit and destination. The Khartoum Process engages the EU and the Horn of Africa countries in tackling irregular migration, such as human trafficking and migrant smuggling, while the Rabat Process brings together national governments in Europe as well as North, Central and West Africa to discuss migration under a broad strategic framework.

The Rabat and Khartoum Processes continue to monitor the implementation of the JVAP, a political declaration and a common action plan adopted during the 2015

Valletta Summit on Migration, where African and European partners agreed upon concrete operational measures to address migration.

The Continent-to-Continent Migration and Mobility Dialogue (C2CMMDD) builds on the strategic partnership between the African Union and the European Union to address migration issues in a spirit of partnership and shared responsibility and in full respect of international law.

In 2020, the Rabat Process strengthened Member States' ownership of the dialogue and their participation in its operational direction through the appointment of reference or "champion" countries for each domain under the Marrakesh Action Plan. In 2020, new tools including studies, collections and guides were shared with Member States to support their development of and decision-making on migration policy. In that same year, the Khartoum Process further consolidated its framework for policy and dialogue among its Member States under the chairmanship of the Netherlands.

Within the framework of the Valletta Process, to fulfil the mandate conferred at the 2018 Senior Officials' Meeting in Addis Ababa by the Valletta partners, the Steering Committees of the Khartoum and Rabat Processes guided the Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP) update exercise with the aim of determining delivery to date and acknowledging recent policy developments.

C2CMMDD continued to pursue its operational objectives by facilitating activities to advance the stakeholders' priorities of mutual interest linked to improving the governance of safe and regular migration and mobility within Africa and between Africa and Europe.

In the Mediterranean region, the City-to-City Migration initiative (under the MTM Dialogue) entered its fifth year of operation. In 2017, a network of nine major cities in the Mediterranean working on improving local migration governance was consolidated and will be enlarged to include several more cities in the future.

Throughout 2020, the Prague Process continued to implement a range of activities in its Migration Observatory and Training Academy. While the outbreak of COVID-19 led to the cancellation of all planned face-to-

face events, the contingency plan put forward by Lithuania (former Prague Process Chair) in April 2020 resulted in the successful implementation of over a dozen remote activities ranging from the newly introduced webinar series to online trainings and policy talks on key migration policy developments. The past year also saw the release of a dozen analytical publications and the elaboration of a first online course (on labour migration), which will feature on the forthcoming Prague Process e-learning platform, a distant learning tool reserved exclusively for state officials of the Prague Process states. A survey carried out among all Prague Process states in 2020 allowed their thematic needs and priorities to be identified as well as their overall expectations of and contributions to the process. The annual Senior Officials' Meeting provided an opportunity to reflect on the key findings of this survey and offered the attending states another chance to share their latest policy developments and cooperation needs. At the meeting, the Prague Process chairmanship was also handed over from Lithuania to the Czech Republic. The new chair introduced its roadmap up to the 4th Ministerial Conference, set to take place in Prague during the Czech EU Council presidency in the second half of 2022, and beyond to 2027.

In 2020, the Budapest Process continued to advance the commitments made in 2019 on the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration with a focus on Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan: commitments to partnership, comprehensive migration management, human rights, solidarity and knowledge. The dialogue reacted swiftly and flexibly to the new conditions and restrictions it faced from COVID-19, leading to a successful launch of the implementation of the Call for Action. The dialogue partners have been focusing on two priority areas, namely labour migration, including skills development, and irregular migration, covering migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings, return and reintegration. Furthermore, the Budapest Process adapted some meetings to include specific considerations on the effects of COVID-19 on migration in the short, medium and long term, specifically on irregular flows and labour mobility. The Budapest Process has operational ties along the Silk Routes through two regional multi-year projects, which provide knowledge

on emerging needs of partner countries on the ground. Through these projects on enhancing migration management and integrated border management, equipment was procured to respond to the countries' needs arising from COVID-19. The Silk Routes online training platform was also established. Support to policy and strategy development continued in different aspects of migration governance. In addition, awareness-raising activities through the Migrants Resources Centres continued, using social media in particular.

Supporting migration dialogues over the past 25 years has also influenced ICMPD. These efforts have convinced ICMPD that migration management requires cooperation and partnership at all levels. ICMPD now uses this same approach to facilitate cooperation between partners in several areas of migration management, for example, integrated border management, the fight against trafficking and diaspora matters.



Western Balkans and Turkey

ICMPD HAS FURTHER INCREASED ITS IMPACT ON MIGRATION MANAGEMENT IN TURKEY AND THE WESTERN BALKANS

Both Turkey and the Western Balkans remained focal points with respect to international migration routes in 2020. ICMPD extended its portfolio of activities in Turkey, which range from policy development to support and training for entrepreneurs. In the Western Balkans, ICMPD focused its activities on capacity building for institutions and diaspora matters.

TURKEY

With return and reintegration being a topic of central importance for Turkey, ICMPD focused its migration management activities on strengthening the development of policies and operational strategies for irregular migration and return, on supporting national operations for assisted voluntary return, on exploring possibilities for introducing reintegration policies, and on enhancing cooperation with countries of origin. All this was done through the UK-funded project Strengthening Utilisation of Additional Policies and Measures for Reinforcing Migration Management in Turkey (SUPREME).

The project successfully contributed to the strengthening of Turkey's migration partnerships with Pakistan and Afghanistan, the two main countries of origin for migrants in Turkey, and to the establishment of a national system for assisted voluntary return. ICMPD also continued to support the strengthening of the capacity of the Turkish national asylum system and the promotion of evidence-based, decision-making

Throughout 2020, ICMPD continued to extend its portfolio in Turkey. This portfolio covers a wide range of thematic areas including regular and irregular migration, migration policy development, asylum and international protection, trafficking in human beings, migration and civil society, and migration and development. Notable efforts were made in the socio-economic integration of migrants and refugees, as well as in inter-regional and cross-regional cooperation.

procedures in the asylum context. This support, provided within the framework of the ongoing UK-funded PACT project, had a specific focus on developing alternative policy scenarios on the future of the temporary protection regime for Syrians in Turkey. It also involved analysing the existing international protection system, supporting the improvement of refugee status determination procedures and strengthening Turkey's country of origin information mechanism through capacity-building activities.

Capacity-building support to national institutions in the field of anti-trafficking started with providing trainings to the staff of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services. It then continued with a new project focusing specifically on research to expand the knowledge base and to fill the gaps for evidence-based policymaking in Turkey on child and labour trafficking affecting Syrians under temporary protection.

In a whole-of-society approach, ICMPD helped to strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations working on migration and international protection and to foster their cooperation with public institutions through the TACSO project funded by EU IPA.

SUPREME
Strengthening Utilisation of Additional Policies and Measures for Reinforcing Migration Management in Turkey is a project aimed at further strengthening migration management in Turkey. It takes a complementary approach to cover all indispensable elements of the full-fledged work being done in this area. The project is funded by the United Kingdom; ICMPD is responsible for its management and implementation.

The project started on 1 April 2019 and runs until March 2021. It focuses on developing policies and operational strategies and on enhancing co-operation with countries of origin. It also aims to support the proper functioning of the national operations for assisted voluntary return and to explore possibilities for introducing reintegration policies and programmes.

SUPREME benefits the Directorate-General for Migration Management of Turkey (DGMM) and its relevant departments including the one for combating irregular migration. This project follows several preceding ones that focused on institutional development and the enhancement of operational capacity.

The signature activities of the above projects include feeding expertise to potential entrepreneurs in trainings and mentorships and staging business-to-business events to improve entrepreneur networks and cooperation among Turkish and Syrian business owners. They also include targeting businesses to promote investment, drawing the entrepreneurs' attention to production that can contribute to local value chains, and expanding the market.

These activities are designed on the basis of evidence from implementation and from tailored research conducted through a migration-sensitive lens. They are complemented by grants targeting potential entrepreneurs, existing businesses and cooperatives, and ecosystem institutions

MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

On migration and development, ICMPD and national counterparts invested throughout 2020 in designing and effectively implementing an integrated and sustainable long-term migration policy framework in Turkey that was sensitive to development. A specific focus has been to integrate migrants in the labour market by improving their employment and livelihood opportunities. These efforts are supported by the two projects SUMMIT and ENHANCER, funded by the Swiss and by EU FRIT, respectively.

SUPPORT FOR ENTREPRENEURS

Apart from capacity development efforts tailored to assisting national and local institutions with development-sensitive policies, other tailored activities were initiated to support entrepreneurs, the migrant labour force and service-providing institutions. These activities, in turn, provide concrete implementation evidence for improving the policy and coordination framework. To this end, pioneering activities have been put into practice based on central and local circumstances and on the specific characteristics of the target groups.

SHIFT
After eighteen months, September 2020 saw the end of a SHIFT project in Turkey entitled Enhancing Occupational Staff Capacity of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services Working in the Field of Women Fighting Against Human Trafficking.

Its aim was to enhance the capacity of the occupational staff of the ministry at the central and provincial levels to evaluate and help actual and potential victims of trafficking who were receiving women-targeted services from the services units of the ministry. The main target group was the staff working for the Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centre that provides 7/24 counselling to people who are at risk or victims of violence. Also, staff of women's shelters were targeted.

The overall goals were to enhance the knowledge and capacity in the evaluation of, provision of assistance to and referral of victims of trafficking. A series of trainings were developed and implemented. A training of trainers programme was also established. ICMPD was responsible for management and implementation.

management structures in 2020.

To strengthen diaspora engagement in Serbia, the Link Up! Serbia II project successfully began its work to foster transnational entrepreneurial activities with and

that provide entrepreneurial or labour market services at the national or regional levels.

WESTERN BALKANS

ICMPD focused its work in the Western Balkans on capacity building activities for migration management authorities, on diaspora matters, and on support to institutions to fight trafficking in human beings and to improve border

through the Serbian diaspora in Austria, Switzerland and Germany (DACH countries) by facilitating access to knowledge, networks and financial resources. The project is teaming up with and providing support to Chambers of Commerce, national and local development agencies, as well as municipalities to lay the groundwork for increased diaspora investments in Serbia and to help small and medium-sized Serbian enterprises (SMEs) to internationalise with an eye to the DACH markets.

STRENGTHENING MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

ICMPD also continued to help in efforts to strengthen the capacities of the migration management authorities by offering training and support to improve management structures and to develop policy. Strengthening Migration Management Authorities in Kosovo* (MIMAK) is a project aimed at further building up government-authorities and related inter-institutional mechanisms in migration management. The goal is to improve evidence-based migration and

* All references to Kosovo in this document should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

LINK UP! Serbia II
Funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the project runs for a period of 28 months. ICMPD is responsible for project management and implementation, its partners being six regional development agencies and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia. The national partner is the Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia.

The project builds on the work that started with Link up! I. This project already demonstrated the need to implement measures to develop engaging diaspora policy and programmes on national and local levels and to implement concrete measures to overcome market impediments.

migration-related policies and to inform the population of the benefits of regular migration and the consequences of irregular migration.

Short-term Technical Assistance on Asylum, Migration, and Mobility in Western Balkans (STAMM) is a project that was continued in 2020 to respond to ad-hoc and small-scale requests from authorities in the Western Balkans. Its work included trainings for national authorities and an assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the migration situation and on migration management in the Western Balkans.

Serbia, Kosovo* and Albania also participate in a global project funded by GIZ and successfully launched in 2020. It offers to provide government officials with tailor-made training on migration and development. Capacity-building support to institutions in the field of anti-trafficking continued with a project that facilitates the designing of effective anti-trafficking strategic responses in the Western Balkans.

* All references to Kosovo in this document should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

BORDER MANAGEMENT

In border management, ICMPD commenced an EU-funded project in 2020 to assist the Border and Migration Police (BMP) of Albania in achieving effective border control and surveillance to prevent and combat trafficking in narcotics. Specifically, the project helps to enhance BMP capacity to counter organised cross-border crime and drug trafficking by providing modern specialised technical resources and by building the capacity of BMP staff.

Link Up! Serbia II focuses on four different areas. With mentorship programmes it aims to improve competitiveness and opportunities for diaspora business engagement in DACH markets. A national online platform is being piloted to secure direct and transparent access to projects and their stakeholders. And a Diaspora Business Hub will start having the diaspora pitch the best projects from Serbia to DACH countries.

SPECIAL PANDEMIC SUPPORT

In addition to project-related work, the Western Balkans and Turkey Regional Coordination Office (WB&TR RCO) continued in 2020 to support the authorities on arising priority areas by providing inputs on policy, strategy development and research activities, most notably on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and on preparations for a post-pandemic reality.

In Turkey, a high-level webinar was organised in April under the direction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey and in cooperation with the Member States Programme. It elaborated on the implications of the pandemic for refugees in the region. Ministers of Foreign Affairs from Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Pakistan as well the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the European Commissioner for Migration and Home Affairs and the Deputy Director-General of WHO attended the webinar, along with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey.

Moreover, an extensive assessment of the implication of the pandemic for migration management in Turkey was prepared

by the ICMPD Turkey Office for use by public authorities.

In 2021, ICMPD WB&TR RCO will continue to work on migration management and plans to expand its already growing portfolio in several thematic areas by launching several new projects.

Eastern Europe and Central Asia

STRENGTHENING ICMPD'S POSITION IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Due to its robust presence and broad portfolio in the EECA region, ICMPD is widely recognised as a strong partner for innovative approaches to helping develop migration and border management policy and capacities to implement this policy. Moreover, ICMPD is seen as an honest broker of dialogue and cooperation through the Prague Process. ICMPD's coordination of the EECA Regional Coordination Office (RCO), with the global initiatives managed by the Brussels Mission, further supports targeted thematic assistance in the region.

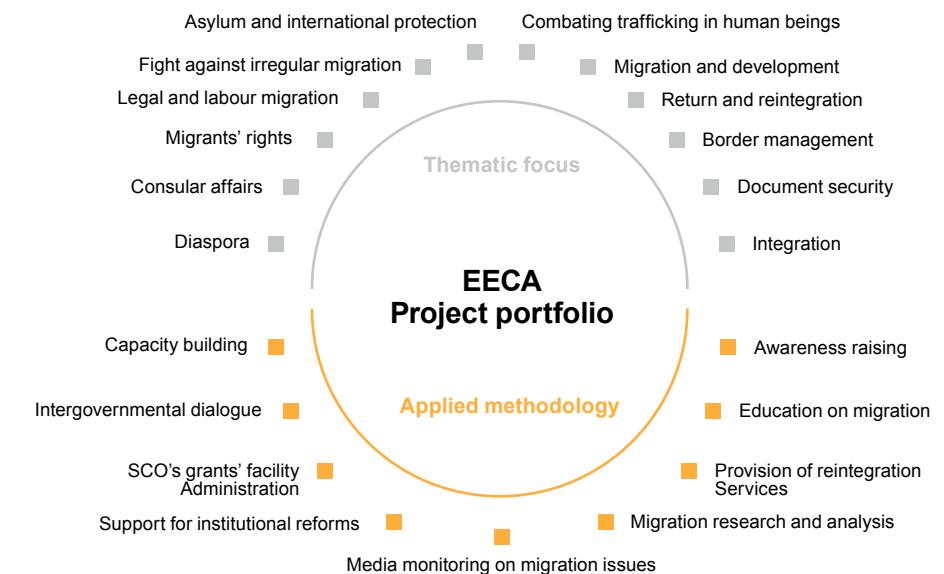
Throughout 2020, EECA RCO ran its operations from its offices in Vienna, Austria; Yerevan, Armenia; Baku, Azerbaijan; Tbilisi, Georgia; Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; and Kyiv, Ukraine. The presence of project teams in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan; Dushanbe, Tajikistan; Ashgabat, Turkmenistan; and Tashkent, Uzbekistan, will be strengthened in the next phase of the BOMCA programme and in the case of Dushanbe, also with the Migrant Resource Centre building upon Silk Routes expertise.

One of the defining features of ICMPD operations in the EECA region is a diversity of intervention areas ranging from cross-cutting support for the migration and border management policy cycle to implementation of specific fields of this policy. Moreover, while implementing projects in the EECA region, ICMPD focuses on issues contiguous to migration, such as migration perception, protection of human rights, regional development, capacity building for data research and analysis, and others. This approach was further strengthened by more than ten projects that ICMPD implemented, completed or initiated in the region throughout 2020.

A holistic perspective on migration that links all aspects of migration management using a broad set of methodological tools was promoted in multi-disciplinary capacity building initiatives such as the ENIGMMA-2 project in Georgia and the MIBMA project in Armenia. The EU4IBM Ukraine project focused on in-depth support to develop a strategic approach to border management that emphasises increasing the efficiency and transparency of border procedures.

Successful reintegration of returning nationals not only guarantees efficient returns, but significantly contributes to a country's economic development. With this in mind, reintegration schemes were developed and successfully piloted in Armenia

The EECA Region—Thematic focus and methods applied



and Azerbaijan (for instance, in the ERRIN and RESTART projects, respectively).

Other initiatives directly linking migration and development involved designing business grants for the diaspora and returnees in the IMPACT project (Armenia) and supporting informed migration through the Migrant Resource Centre in Tajikistan. To ensure the protection of migrants' human rights during the return procedures, the FReM III project initiated capacity building for forced return monitoring in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Through its reporting on migration issues, the media has a vast influence on the formation of a broad image and perception of migrants and migration, which, in turn, may affect

and shape the approaches and decisions that states take on policy. In light of this, the MOMENTA II project provided practical recommendations on how to reinforce balanced and fact-based migration coverage by the media in Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries. Technical assistance for migration management is provided through a temporary accommodation centre (TAC) built in Armenia, a project for supporting police reform in Moldova and other efforts.

ICMPD will continue to explore additional possibilities for regional, sub-regional and bilateral cooperation by proactively identifying new opportunities. The results and achievements of the projects that ended during 2020 are currently informing the design of follow-up actions or new initiatives. EECA RCO 2020 lessons learnt and best practices are being proactively shared with relevant EU institutions and partner countries as a contribution to ongoing programming.

PRAGUE PROCESS

In 2020, a survey among the 50 Prague Process states identified the following thematic priorities: (1) promoting readmission, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration; (2) preventing and fighting illegal migration; (3) legal migration with a special emphasis on labour migration. Future Prague Process activities will reflect the priorities set.

Hosted by Germany, the annual Prague Process Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) took place remotely on 16 November 2020. The 36 participating countries shared their current migration policy priorities and international cooperation needs, while taking stock of the Prague Process' most recent achievements and its work plan for 2021.

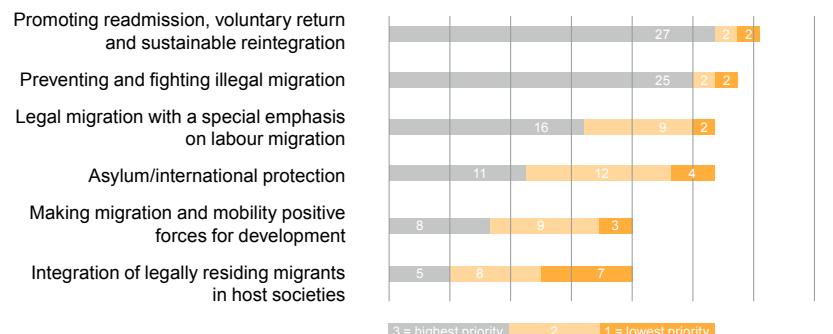
The SOM also saw the handover of the Prague Process chairmanship from Lithuania to the Czech Republic. The new chair introduced its roadmap for the coming years, culminating in the fourth Ministerial Conference, which will take place during the Czech EU Council presidency in 2022.

Throughout a challenging 2020, the Prague Process managed to adjust to the new work realities by launching its webinar series, carrying out its first online training and continuing to produce analytical

outputs on key migration issues across the region. Thus, both the Migration Observatory and the Training Academy remained operational, generating considerable interest among state and non-state actors.

In 2021, the Prague Process will launch the process for reviewing the political commitments set forth in the Action Plan of 2011 and the Bratislava Ministerial Declaration of 2016 and will lay the groundwork for defining a new political mandate for the years 2023-2027. Meanwhile, the forthcoming e-learning platform will provide state authorities with a set of distance learning tools available in English and Russian.

States' Interest in the PP Thematic Areas



Silk Routes

REMOTE AND IN-PERSON CAPACITY BUILDING

During 2020, the Silk Routes Regional Coordination Office (RCO) continued to provide policy development support in several areas of migration governance, ranging from labour migration to integrated border management. With the pandemic, the RCO rapidly shifted to remote capacity-building on irregular migration, border management and trade facilitation, also through the establishment of the Silk Routes Online Training Platform. The RCO provided personal protection equipment (PPE) for returning migrants and officials at border crossing points (BCPs) and supported the authorities in nationwide COVID-19 awareness raising campaigns for returning migrants.

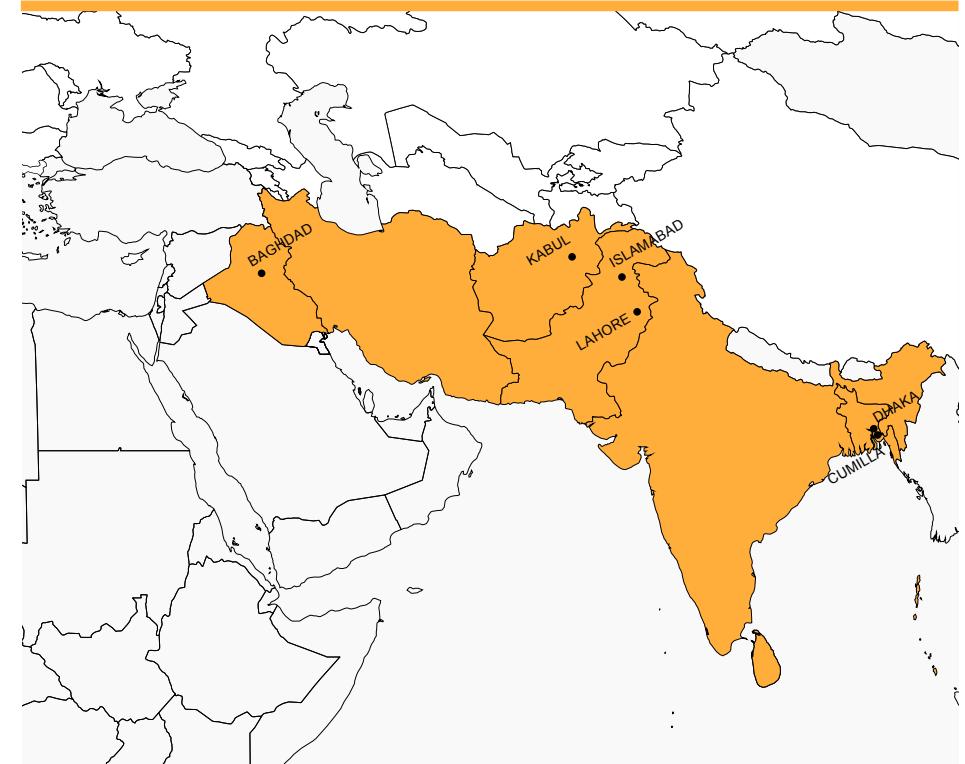
A crucial step in 2020 was the official recognition of the importance of migration policies developed earlier with ICMPD support in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan. The pandemic highlighted their significance and accelerated their adoption process, allowing the focus in 2021 to be primarily on their implementation. In Afghanistan, the Comprehensive Migration Policy has been recognised as the de facto national migration management framework that will govern all areas of migration. It is also among the targets in the Afghanistan Partnership Framework adopted in Geneva in November 2020.

Marked by the pandemic, 2020 also witnessed increased engagement with migrants through the use of social media, enabling access to people in remote areas. Seven Migrant Resource Centres are operational in five countries and reached out to 25 million outgoing, returning and potential migrants through social media and

information campaigns. Around 1.2 million were counselled directly or participated in training and information programmes. A wide range of issues were addressed, from combatting COVID-19, human trafficking and illegal recruitment to making use of loans, skills training and psychosocial programmes. An online platform covering pre-migration, pre-departure and post-arrival orientation for migrant workers was launched to expand access, provide continuing education to migrants and ensure their protection and welfare. Rules and processes for the regulation and management of labour migration were adopted in Iraq and Afghanistan. Health and food supplies were provided to 4,500 migrant workers returning to Bangladesh because of COVID-19.

Following the onset of the pandemic, the RCO quickly mobilised support for law enforcement and border authorities to respond to the pandemic. Over 360,000

Migrant Resource Centres in the Silk Routes Region

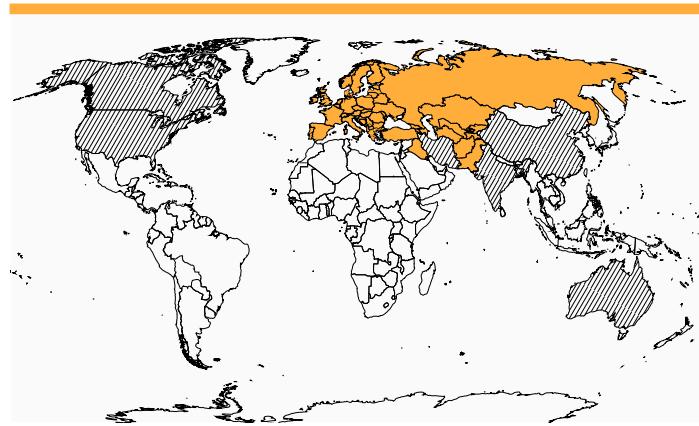


Climate migrants pushed to the brink in South Asia: In recent years, Afghanistan has been suffering intense drought followed by floods. Pakistan ranks among the ten countries in the world most affected by climate risk. Rise in sea level and consequent salinisation of agriculture undermine food security and could displace more than 200,000 people annually in Bangladesh. Together with partner organisations, the Silk Routes RCO worked to develop a knowledge base on the current and future impact of climate on migration trends in the three countries and sought to raise awareness among policymakers on what has to be done to address the needs of migrants affected by climate risk.

units of specialised PPE were delivered to frontline border officers as well as durable equipment such as power generators to BCPs in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq and Pakistan. Whilst several hundred frontline border officers were trained on irregular migration and document security issues, progress was also made in the development of integrated border management policies and strategies in the countries concerned.

Despite the challenging context, the Silk Routes RCO sustained its support to the EU-India Common Agenda with a view to fostering regular migration (enhancing the exchange and mobility of students) and maximising the developmental impact of migration (harnessing the contributions of the diaspora and facilitating the secure and cost-effective transfer of remittances during a global pandemic).

The Budapest Process— a Silk Routes Partnership for Migration



Following the adoption of the Istanbul Commitments on the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration in 2019, the Budapest Process focused its attention on implementing the adopted Call for Action. 2020 kick-started the implementation plan with a focus on priority goals on irregular migration and labour migration. The dialogue reacted swiftly and flexibly to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and resorted to virtual settings. It utilised the shift in pace to strengthen its knowledge base throughout the year, publishing several briefing notes on return and reintegration, skills development and labour mobility, the gig economy as well as public attitudes towards migration.

In two thematic meetings, Budapest Process partners investigated the structural challenges to effective return and reintegration, skills making and skills matching for sustainable labour mobility, amongst others. Over 400 participants from 43 countries and 22 organisations actively took part in seven meetings. Specific discussions took place on the effects that COVID-19 will have on migration in the short, medium and long term, specifically in the areas of irregular flows and labour mobility. Partners were given space to voice their immediate needs and challenges.

In 2021, senior officials agreed to continue prioritising the thematic areas of labour migration and irregular migration with a specific focus on pursuing skills development and countering smuggling and trafficking networks, respectively. In addition, an event will be dedicated to supporting vulnerable groups on the move.

Promoting regional cooperation through the Implementation Plan

As the Implementation Plan is both a living and a guiding document, the dialogue partners are invited to support its priorities. Upcoming multiannual projects open to funding provide an opportunity to continue pairing the dialogue with flanking projects. The Budapest Process continues to strive for a strong link between states' needs voiced in a dialogue setting and project activities in the Silk Routes countries.

Mediterranean



THE FUTURE OF MIGRATION PARTNERSHIPS

“In the midst of every crisis, lies great opportunity.”
This famous quote resonates all the more when the crisis affects all countries equally in various ways and forms. In the Mediterranean, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on movement of people provides an opportunity to reflect upon the future of migration partnerships.

The Mediterranean region continues to be a laboratory of ideas, promoting innovation and spearheading the development of timely and relevant initiatives. Two notable initiatives addressing identified needs of the sector are in development. One focuses on the mobility of health workers in the region in partnership with the WHO; the other, on redefining the approach to capacity development and migration partnerships through a professionalisation of the migration sector. This entails establishing a training institute on migration capacity partnership for the Mediterranean (MCP Med) as a permanent and accredited vocational migration training provider for the Mediterranean region.

Narratives and communication on migration are essential to creating a context that enables evidence-driven migration governance. This idea was initiated in 2012 in EUROMED Migration, and ICMPD established it as an overarching priority for the region. In 2020, this significant contribution gained global traction and was integrated in the Global Forum on Migration and Development's working group on public narratives on migration. A step closer to field realities, the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project piloted innovative actions on communication at local level.

The Regional Coordination Office for the Mediterranean was highly responsive to the new context and challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, adapting its methodologies and operational modalities for the implementation of actions and leading on innovation and development of approaches to continue to address the identified needs and priorities of the region.

Narratives and communication on migration are essential to creating a context that

Evidence-driven migration governance must also rely on solid data. In this context, ICMPD supported the first-ever survey on international migration in Tunisia (Tunisia-HIMS) covering more than 30 thousand households. The survey will provide a clearer view of the dynamics and consequences of migration in Tunisia.

NORTH AFRICAN MIGRATION ACADEMIC NETWORK

Additionally, strong cooperation between national authorities and research institutes is instrumental in achieving efficient national migration governance. Launched in 2020, the North Africa Migration Academic Network (NAMAN) brings together migration academics, researchers and institutional and governmental representatives from Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia and will strengthen rights-based, evidence-driven migration governance in North Africa.

MIGRATION CAPACITY PARTNERSHIPS

Supporting capacity development is equally essential. ICMPD believes that, in shaping the future of migration cooperation, capacity development will be at the core of progress towards the new generation of engagement, i.e. migration capacity partnerships.

Capitalising on a number of actions and notably the Netherlands Assistance to Lebanese Border Agencies Project, ICMPD has continued to innovate with regard to

distance learning, delivering virtual and blended learning in addition to traditional face-to-face methods and training facilities.

Finally, modern migration governance increasingly requires upgraded or new equipment in various sectors. In a world of international cooperation shaken to its core by the limitations imposed on mobility, the Border Management Programme for the Maghreb Region (BMP Maghreb) completed a full e-tendering process to ensure continuity and timely delivery of equipment.

EUROMED MIGRATION IV AND V (EMM4-5)

2020 marked the last year of the fourth phase of EUROMED Migration IV (EMM4), which is primarily dedicated to dialogue facilitation and knowledge development. Due to the impact of the pandemic on the public debate, 2020 was mainly focused on narratives and communication on migration. EUROMED Migration has been mandated to work on this complex issue ever since the major Director General Conference that was held in Rome in 2014 during the Italian EU Council presidency. Partner countries are considered instrumental in achieving successful evidence-driven migration governance. The EMM framework is the only dialogue that is piloting a dedicated set of activities related to migration narratives and contributes to a variety of major forums.

The fifth phase (EMM5), launched on 1 December 2020, capitalises on the quality of the work carried out so far. Decision-mak-

ers at the heart of EUROMED Migration, National Focal Points actively participated in thoroughly assessing the past phase, shaping the next phase and ensuring a smooth transition between the two. These efforts ensure that the programme responds to regional and country priorities and needs. Due to its technical and flexible nature, EUROMED Migration has, over the years, gradually consolidated its role in supporting forward-thinking dialogue and cooperation and notably its use by partner states as a laboratory of ideas.

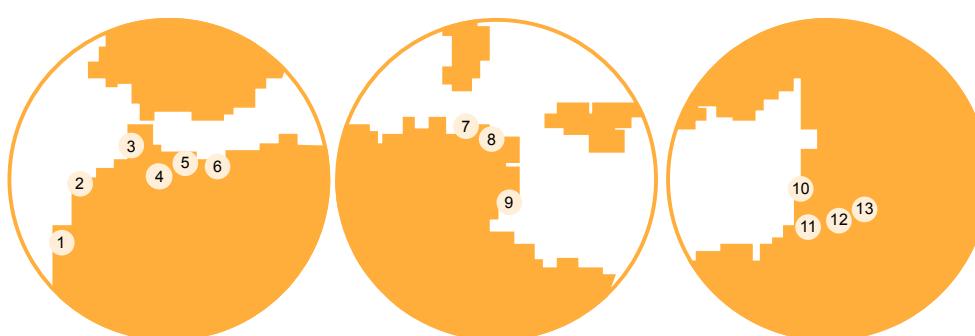
In partnership with the Observatory on Public Attitudes to Migration (OPAM), the EMM4 publication provides recommendations to public communicators on how to communicate migration in a balanced way using values. By formulating actionable recommendations, this publication will serve as a basis for further support to practitioners.

MEDITERRANEAN CITY-TO-CITY MIGRATION

Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) is an ICMPD flagship project on urban migration governance. The initiative brings together 20 major cities in the Euro-Mediterranean region, such as Amman, Rabat and Tunis in the South and Madrid, Lyon and Naples in Europe.

In 2020, MC2CM played a significant role in helping local governments define and

City-to-City Migration Targeted City Actions



1. Towards Evidence-Based Migration Policy-Making in Rabat
City: Rabat (Morocco)

2. Increasing the Positive Contribution of Migration in Casablanca
City: Casablanca (Morocco)

3. Tangeraccueil
City: Tangier (Morocco)

4. Building Coexistence in Moroccan Cities
City: Tétouan, Larache, Alcazar-Quiriv (Morocco)

5. Governance and Interculturality in Morocco
City: Oujda, Al Hoceima, Fnideq (Morocco)

6. Nador, an Active City of Living Together
City: Nador (Morocco)
Nador Social and Sustainable
City: Nador (Morocco)

7. Inclusion, Migration, Integration and Governance in Raoued and La Marsa
City: Raoued-La Marsa (Tunis-Tunisia)

8. Strengthening Migrants Social Inclusion Through Arts
City: La Marsa (Tunis-Tunisia)

9. ACMALS
City: Sfax (Tunisia)

10. Beirut Social and Protective
City: Beirut (Lebanon)
Local Governance of Migration in Lebanon
City: 18 Lebanese Municipalities (Lebanon)

11. Ramallah Inclusion Policy
City: Ramallah (State of Palestine)

12. Enhancing Social Cohesion in Zarqa Through Public Spaces
City: Zarqa (Jordan)

13. Safe, Inclusive and Accessible Public Space in Amman
City: Marka (Amman-Jordan)

implement their urban COVID-19 responses in ways that were sensitive to migrants and refugees. MC2CM focused on specific vulnerabilities of migrants in time of crisis by rebalancing the narrative on migration at local level, addressing the needs of women migrants in an urban context and showcasing migrant workers' contribution to facing the outbreak.

Alongside its partners UCLG and UN-Habitat, ICMPD also contributed to mainstream migration narratives and migrants' contribution to local sustainable development in the policy and institutional debate at the World Urban Forum in Abu Dhabi. This global gathering brings together over 20,000 representatives from interna-

The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 highlighted the crucial role of local governments and of proactive efforts to push inclusive recovery strategies for host communities, migrants and refugees, in line with global agendas.

tional, national and local institutions, governments and stakeholders. The main lesson MC2CM learned this year: Whole-of-society and whole-of-gov-

ernment approaches are essential in migration governance to ensuring inclusive responses to crisis and to making sure no migrant or refugee is left behind. The role of local authorities in migration governance needs to be institutionalised. Their role should be better clarified and their contributions capitalised on.



AFRICA-EU MIGRATION AND MOBILITY DIALOGUE (MMD)

This multi-faceted support programme continues to focus on maximising the potential for development from migration and mobility and on increasing responsible migration and mobility within Africa and between Africa and the European Union.

The support programme to the Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue (MMD) is part of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. Now in its second phase, the multi-faceted programme continues to support ICMPD-facilitated migration dialogues (the Rabat Process, the Khartoum Process, and the AU-EU Continent-to-Continent Migration and Mobility Dialogue), to follow-up on the Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP) and to strengthen the role of the African diaspora through the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT). The programme focuses on maximising the potential for development from migration and mobility and on increasing orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility within Africa and between Africa and the EU. It contributes to the development and operationalisation of cooperation frameworks, facilitates the identification and exchange of approaches and good practices, and delivers tailored technical assistance to increase capacities of migration actors at national, regional, and continental levels.

RABAT PROCESS

The Rabat Process adapted to major changes in the global context due to COVID-19 and kept the dialogue thriving by holding virtual meetings and thematic webinars and by developing written documents to share knowledge with partners. Examples include two publications: "Assessment of Anti-Traffick-

In 2020, the reference country system was developed to enable selected countries to coordinate the implementation of activities under the five domains of the Marrakesh Action Plan. Reference countries contributed ideas and developed and planned activities together to achieve the plan's objectives. This new system strengthened cooperation among African and European countries and reinforced their ownership of the dialogue.

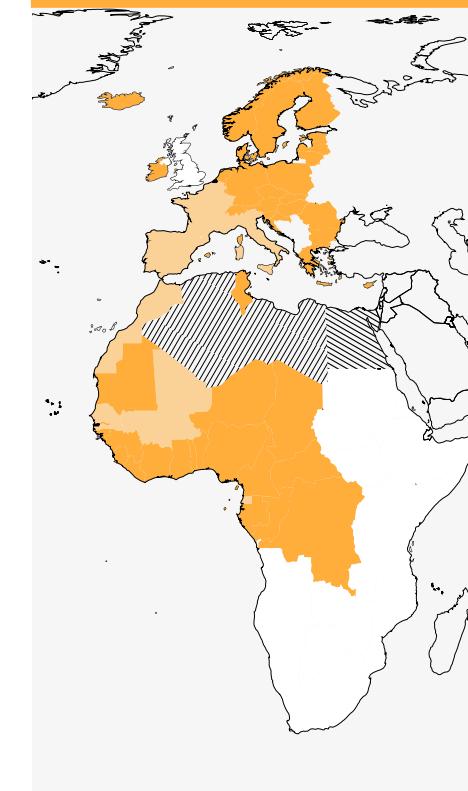
ing Gaps, Needs and Transferrable Practices in the ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania" and "Collection of Diaspora Engagement Practices". A partnership developed between the ICMPD and the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC), producing two studies to guide the Rabat Process partners in making decisions

and policies. These case studies examined mixed migration dynamics in Tunis and Bamako, looking at urban opportunities for migrants, risks they face and the impact of COVID-19.

KHARTOUM PROCESS

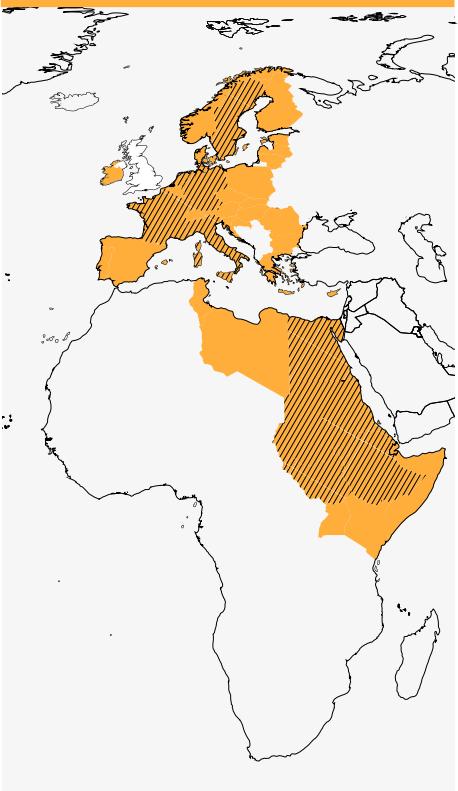
As a result of the ongoing global health crisis, the Khartoum Process adjusted its modus operandi and explored new ways of incentivising cooperation, proving once again its dynamic nature and flexibility in responding to new trends. The staging of virtual meetings, webinars and a virtual steering committee meeting have facilitated the mapping of responses to the pandemic and of its impact on mobility in the Khartoum Process region. Emerging practices stimulated a forward-looking discussion on the future of migration gov-

The Rabat Process – The Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development



■ PARTICIPATING STATES
||||| OBSERVER STATES
||||| PARTNER STATES UNTIL 2014
■ PART OF THE RABAT PROCESS STEERING COMMITTEE

The Khartoum Process—Between the Horn of Africa and Europe



■ PARTICIPATING STATES
||||| STEERING COMMITTEE

ernance in the Khartoum Process region and on how the process can support partners in addressing new migration realities. In 2021, the process will further explore digital tools for online dialogue as cost-effective and environmentally friendly platforms for mutual learning and constructive cooperation and as complements to face-to-face meetings beyond the end of the health crisis.

C2CMMMD

The Continent-to-Continent Migration and Mobility Dialogue (C2CMMMD) builds on the progress achieved in 2019 to revive the cooperation framework between the African Union Commission (AUC) and the EU. To these ends, MMD provided ongoing backstopping

and technical support during the first phase. In 2020, C2CMMMD continued to pursue its operational objectives by facilitating activities to advance priorities of mutual interest, which are linked to improving the governance of safe and regular migration and mobility within Africa, and between Africa and Europe. It continued extending secretarial support to the dialogue, providing a platform for knowledge exchange and technical assistance to the European Union and African Union (AU) stakeholders.

Beyond secretarial tasks, ICMPD's support to C2CMMMD focused on three areas: information and intelligence sharing around trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants; remittances; and return, re-admission and reintegration. Furthermore,

SUPPORT TO FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS AND MIGRATION IN WEST AFRICA

C2CMMD facilitated exchanges on the progress of the AU Protocol on the free movement of people, the AU Diaspora Legacy Projects, the transition from the Regional Operational Centre in support of the Khartoum Process and AU-Horn of Africa Initiative (ROCK) to the Continental Operational Centre, as well as the establishment of the African Centre for Study and Research on Migration, the agenda of legal pathways to migration, and the development of the AU-EU Joint Framework.

THE JOINT VALLETTA ACTION PLAN

In 2015, the Valletta Summit on Migration brought together European and African leaders to strengthen co-operation between the two continents.

Knowledge Generation on Return, Readmission and Reintegration (RRR)

During 2020, a study on RRR in Africa was conducted to analyse, review and learn lessons from legal, institutional, programmatic and cooperation frameworks in selected AU Member States. The study benefited from the coordination between the AU and EU within the framework of C2CMMD and will contribute to the development of AU guidelines on return, readmission and reintegration.

the five thematic domains and 105 priorities of the JVAP.

In 2020, a third data collection cycle took place. JVAP partners collected data internally and reported them to the JVAP database. Data collections keep the JVAP database up to date with new initiatives and reflect each

An innovative activity was piloted in 2020: a participatory scenario-building exercise, led by the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC) and carried out during the Senior Officials' Meeting in March. MMC experts guided delegates through a process of strategic analysis of possible future situations and reflected on their key assumptions and factors related to migration for which they are least prepared.

JVAP partner's latest efforts in developing projects and policies that align with the JVAP.

2020 also saw major developments in JVAP communication and dissemination outputs. Following the recommendations of the lessons learnt exercise undertaken throughout 2019, communication and dissemination efforts were intensified. Two major tools were developed: an online portal and a data visualisation tool (DVT) connected to the database. The DVT supports the partners by providing up-to-date charts, graphics and analysis. This contributes to the discussions of the respective dialogues, substantiates reports, and drives fact-based policy and decision-making processes.

ADEPT

The Africa-Europe Development Platform (ADEPT) is devoted to enabling African diaspora organisations to play a meaningful role in maximising the development potential of migration and to positively affect social, economic and cultural developments in Europe and Africa. Following a transition phase during which ADEPT became a fully autonomous and independent organisation, MMD focussed in 2020 on supporting the platform by strengthening its governance, increasing membership of African Diaspora Development organisations (ADDOS) and delivering services to its members and partners, including the organising of Diaspora Development Dialogues, capacity building, and policy and advocacy activities.

The new executive director took office in February 2020. Throughout the year, ADEPT responded to calls for proposals and worked on the establishment of new partnerships. In terms of capacity building, ADEPT organised an internal survey on its services and activities, which yielded valuable insights, such as members confirming their interest in online training. It also pointed to different areas of possible intervention and support.

The calls for capacity development support (CDS) and diaspora technical support (DTS) led to 14 organisations being awarded grants. A call for expression of interest was also launched by ADEPT to expand its pool of consultants.

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Within the framework of the FMM West Africa Project, in consortium with IOM and ILO, the Demand Driven Facility (DDF) is being implemented by ICMPD. The DDF encourages national institutions to submit specific requests for technical assistance in addressing institutional gaps and capacity building needs of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania.

NIGER

In 2019, ICMPD organised a summit in Abuja to promote cooperation between the governments of Niger and Nigeria by bringing together their national anti-trafficking agencies to collaborate on advancing key regional agendas of mutual interest to both countries. To this end, ICMPD facilitated the drafting of a cooperation framework between ANLTP/TIM (Niger) and NAPTIP (Nigeria) to share information and to protect victims of trafficking. This initiative has attracted additional funding from the Netherlands in a new two-year project entitled Strengthening Niger-Nigeria Cooperation on Countering Trafficking in Human Beings.

NIGERIA

In DDF Nigeria, ICMPD supported the infusion of trafficking-in-persons concepts into the training curricula of colleges of education and assisted the Ministry of Education in training 400 teacher-trainers. These trainers are expected to train classroom teachers in pri-

mary and secondary schools across Nigeria. DDF Nigeria also collaborated with the National Youth Service Corps to sensitise 6000 university graduates on the dangers of irregular migration.

SUB-REGIONAL DDF – TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

A TIP sub-regional action (including Senegal, Gambia, Mauritania, Guinea, and Guinea-Bissau) facilitated the signing of a memorandum of understanding among the five countries to establish a sub-regional coordination mechanism to strengthen the fight against TIP and the referral of victims.

ECOWAS REGIONAL DDF – BORDER MANAGEMENT

A series of training of trainers was organised across the region using the border management training manual that was developed within the framework of the FMM West Africa project to harmonise the operational policies, procedures, and practices across ECOWAS

Border Management and Security Programme

countries. Additionally, nine Member States successfully conducted follow-on trainings using the training manual without any technical support from ICMPD. In 2020, ICMPD developed an online training platform, using the ECOWAS BM training manual.

GHANA – BORDER MANAGEMENT

DDF Ghana supported the Ghana Immigration Service (GIS) in developing a new strategic plan for 2018 – 2022. In 2019, ICMPD supported GIS in developing a new project that was presented for EUTF funding. The project to strengthen border security in Ghana (SBS) covers the six components of the GIS strategic plan. The EU approved the project and ICMPD has commenced its implementation.

TOGO – LABOUR MIGRATION

In Togo, the DDF supported the Ministry of Labour (Direction Générale de l'Emploi) to develop a labour migration strategy and action plan. In 2019, a cooperation framework between the governments of Togo and Tunisia was facilitated by ICMPD and culminated in a study visit by Togolese officials to Tunisia.

SIERRA LEONE – LABOUR MIGRATION

In Sierra Leone, the DDF strengthened the capacity of the government of Sierra Leone to

develop and effectively manage a labour migration policy. An inter-ministerial group was established to work on three labour migration issues: (i) labour migration governance; (ii) protection and empowerment of migrant workers and their families; and (iii) maximising the development impacts of labour migration.

SUB REGIONAL DDF - LMMIS

This sub-regional DDF action (including Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Mauritania, Niger and Nigeria) supported the creation of a labour market and migration information system (LMMIS) by establishing a mechanism for reporting labour market and migration information on a minimum set of standard indicators. A harmonised methodological guide on key indicators of international labour migration and harmonised questionnaire modules were developed for the collection of qualitative, sustainable, timely and comparable data that could enhance the results of labour force surveys and population census operations. In 2019, all six countries agreed on a list of 26 labour migration indicators in accordance with the guidelines of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), AU and UEMOA/W.

A VERY NEW EXPERIENCE IN BORDER MANAGEMENT

Border management was globally affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020. Global mobility dropped to the lowest point in decades, bringing regional and global trade to a standstill and raising new security concerns. Border management was one of the first areas that faced an immediate need to adopt and adjust new procedures at borders and to define a new form of coordination and cooperation with public health services

These dramatic changes required ICMPD to adapt the way it provides technical assistance to the border agencies in various regions. It had to put certain planned activities aside temporarily and support national border agencies with quick delivery of protection equipment varying from face masks to thermal cameras. This enabled our counterparts to deal with the new environment and protect themselves and travellers.

After the first wave of the pandemic when the global situation stabilised for a while, ICMPD proposed to change the focus of its planned activities to concentrate on activities that would help border agencies cope with the completely new security environment. To this end, ICMPD launched several activities related to contingency planning, to COVID-19/sanitary emergency procedures at the borders and to a revamping of cooperation with public health providers and services to make it more effective and efficient.

The concept of integrated border management (IBM) set forth in the Guidelines for Integrated Border Management for the European Commission – External Cooperation was instrumental in this respect, as several good practices served as a basis for developing functional and operational contingency plans. Already at the outbreak of the pandemic, the Border Management and Security Programme (BMS Programme) published articles and raised expert concerns about the future of border management in times of COVID-19. Questions today about the new work modalities

The BMS Programme within ICMPD has built a strong in-house expert team made up of senior experts with professional backgrounds in border management, security, trade facilitation and liaison work with border communities. Our objective is to share this knowledge with junior colleagues and create a border management hub that provides state-of-the-art support to the field operations in border management.

at borders, new requirements for travellers and use of modern technologies are already shaping future border management. This will trigger adjustments in our capacity building activities, a process that is already underway. With its strategic approach to increasing capacities of border agencies, ICMPD succeeded in keeping the balance between security and trade facilitation high on the agenda of our counterparts globally.

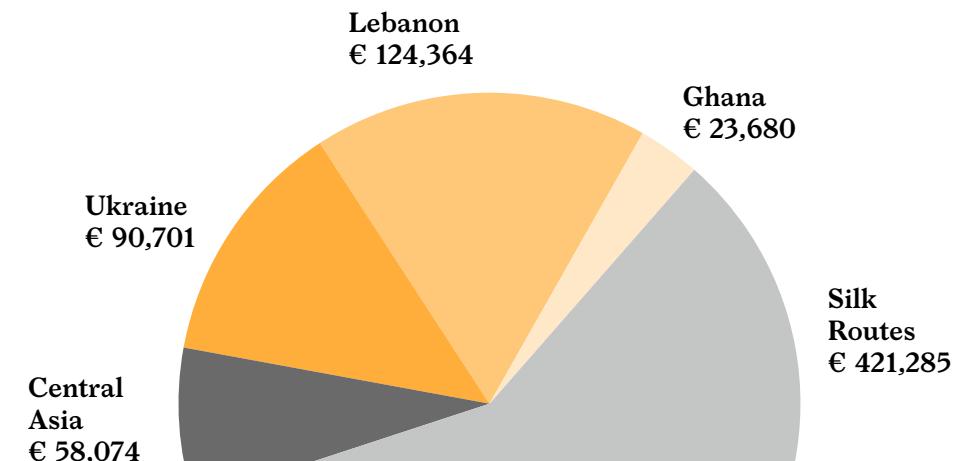
In the post COVID-19 era, modern and well-prepared border management will be decisive for the recovery of the global economy and of mobility. As part of a new dimension of 21st century border management, several crosscutting issues are taken into consideration when developing new projects. These issues include professional standards, ethics and integrity,

respect of human rights, gender sensitivity and inclusion of border communities in national and regional border activities. New work environments and continuous changes require border agencies to keep or adopt lean and agile organisational structures.

Within the EU-funded project on border management in Ukraine, for instance, the BMS Programme introduced a new lean methodology. Based on business process analyses, measures are being implemented to optimise all types of resources and processes. This innovative approach will help to bring border agencies in Ukraine to an advanced level, where human, material and financial resources will

be used in the most effective ways in terms of cost and time.

COVID-19 Support in the Region



**OVER 0.7 MILLION EUROS
in Personal Protective
Equipment (PPE)**



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT



TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT
TO SUPPORT
DISTANCE
WORKING



WORKSHOPS
AND WEBINARS
ON AWARENESS



THERMAL
FEVER
SCREENING
SYSTEMS



5 VEHICLES,
5 MOTORCYCLES

Anti-Trafficking Programme

INCREASING THE PORTFOLIO OF THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING RESPONSE

2020 was a year of great challenge, but also of learning, adapting and achieving. The Anti-Trafficking Programme (ATP) adjusted its approach, to implement the planned actions and to increase its portfolio in capacity building, research and policy efforts related to trafficking in human beings and other interconnected topics.

RESEARCH AND POLICY ACTIONS

WEST AFRICA

ATP released the report entitled "Assessment of Anti-Trafficking Gaps, Needs and Transferrable Practices in the ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania" in collaboration with the Rabat Process Secretariat. The report includes a toolbox with promising practices and analyses of their replicability in different contexts. ATP also released "Mapping of Mechanisms for Safe Return and Reintegration of Victims of Trafficking in Nigeria."

WESTERN BALKANS

ATP evaluated the National Strategy and the National Action Plan for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Illegal Migration (2017-2020) of North Macedonia and concluded assessment of the anti-trafficking strategies and responses in the countries participating in the Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative (MARRI) by elaborating on discovered gaps, needs and successful practices. ATP completed both documents in cooperation with German International Cooperation (GIZ) and MARRI, with funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

TURKEY

Together with Turkish researchers and the Turkish Directorate-General for Migration

Management, ATP launched a research project focused on the incidence of child and labour trafficking and the factors of vulnerability and resilience (to be conducted in 2021).

Annual Review Meeting of National Focal Points for Combating THB in the ECOWAS Member States (14-15 December 2020)

The meeting was organised as an online event due to COVID-19 restrictions, and brought together 13 ECOWAS Member States. Its main goals:

- 1) Taking stock of anti-trafficking activities 2019-2020;
- 2) Challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3) 2021 priorities.

The meeting's success encouraged the ECOWAS Commission to consider similar formats to get the National Focal Points (NFPs) more involved in the Commission's activities and thereby ensure the implementation of the ECOWAS Plan of Action against TIP in West Africa (2018-22).

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

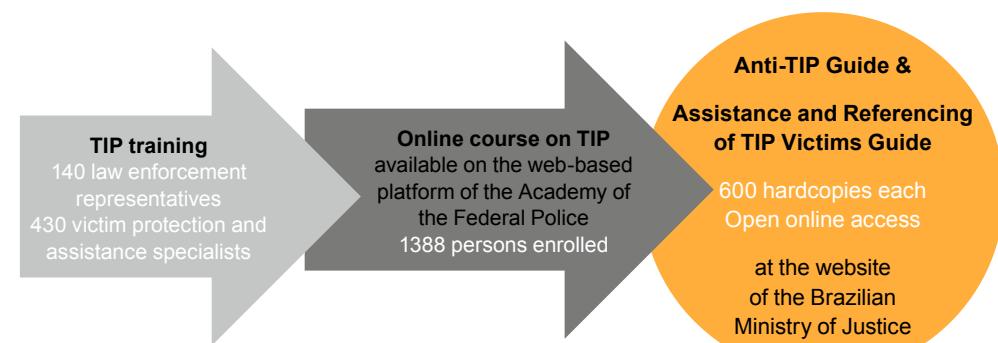
TURKEY

68 social workers, psychologists, sociologists, and child development specialists working at Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres and shelters were trained in identification and referral services for victims, bringing the number of trained personnel to 245. A guidebook was developed to further facilitate capacity building.

NORTH MACEDONIA

In cooperation with the Council of Europe Skopje, ATP trained Macedonian journalists on guiding principles for media reporting on trafficking and for the development of THB-related investigative stories.

Fig. Brazil: Stakeholders Trained to Tackle THB in 2020



INTERNATIONAL POLICY-ORIENTED ACTIONS

- Written input to the targeted consultations for the new EU Strategy towards Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings.
- Written input on the progress achieved by ICMPD on the pledge made to ILO at the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour.
- As the secretariat of the Network of Anti-Trafficking Coordinators of South-East Europe, ATP supported the development of the Network's Strategy Paper 2020 – 2024, adopted at a meeting on the margins of the Brdo Ministerial Meeting (3 March 2020, Ljubljana, Slovenia).
- ATP continues to take an active part in initiatives and platforms such as the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), Alliance 8.7, the UNODC GloTIP Expert Working Group, and the OSCE Alliance.

Europe, ATP supported the development of the Network's Strategy Paper 2020 – 2024, adopted at a meeting on the margins of the Brdo Ministerial Meeting (3 March 2020, Ljubljana, Slovenia). ATP continues to take an active part in initiatives and platforms such as the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), Alliance 8.7, the UNODC GloTIP Expert Working Group, and the OSCE Alliance.



Global Initiatives Programme

NAVIGATING CHANGE THROUGH PRACTICES

Global migration governance is grounded in practices that have been established and replicated by a wide range of actors. A practice is either a results-driven solution to an emerging, urgent or settled challenge, or a modality to undertake action. Throughout 2020, the Global Initiatives Programme put significant emphasis, through its four ongoing projects, on establishing and sharing new practices.

In concrete terms, the Joint EU-ICMPD **Migration EU eXpertise (MIEUX+)** initiative launched a publication offering a broad range of thematic and multi-stakeholder tried and tested practices that it has established with its partners worldwide. Aptly named “Building Bridges”, the publication summarises a decade (2009 – 2019) of MIEUX’s achievements, impact, and role in network-building among public officials, practitioners and institutions in Europe and partner countries.

The challenges faced globally in 2020 inspired a raft of diaspora-led actions and invigorated government interest in engaging their diasporas. The **EU Global Diaspora Facility's (EUDiF)** aspiration to build a truly informed, inclusive and impactful diaspora-development ecosystem has never been so relevant. Therefore, in addition to its global mapping of diaspora engagement of 100 countries to identify tested, emerging and promising practices in facilitating engagement between homelands and diasporas, EUDiF began research into diaspora humanitarianism practices; results will be published in spring 2021.

EUDiF also continued its series of diaspora consultations with organisations in Europe and launched the Capacity Development Lab and Diaspora Professionals 4 Development mechanisms through which it will co-develop actions and test new ideas in diaspora engagement across the globe.

Practices inspire action, solutions and mutual learning between governments and other stakeholders working to harness the positive effects of migration and meet its inherent challenges. During 2020, practitioners, academics, governments and civil society have turned to each other to source creative and rights-based solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Against the backdrop of emerging policy frameworks heralded by the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration and the EU's New Pact on Migration and Asylum, ICMPD's Global Initiatives Programmes have supported and will continue to support partners in their efforts to build a sustainable architecture of migration worldwide.

Global Initiatives in 2020



The **Mobility Partnership Facility (MPF)** contributes to creating and piloting innovative practices that facilitate mobility to Europe by funding legal and labour migration schemes as well as supporting the priorities of the EU's migration partnerships with third countries.

In mid-2020, the MPF released a timely policy brief describing lessons learned from the first cohort of labour mobility pilot projects and highlighting key factors to consider in the design of new projects moving forward.

The EU's New Pact on Migration and Asylum demonstrates that the MPF remains highly relevant as a tool to support the realisation of the EU's external dimension to migration policy in the years to come.

Finally, the **Capacity Development for Development-Oriented Migration Project** started its operations in eight countries by generating capacity development practices that support the nexus between migration and development and the implementation of various international policy frameworks.



External and Member States Relations

ICMPD – A GROWING ORGANISATION

In 2020, ICMPD continued to expand its membership base. Germany, a key country in the field of migration, joined the organisation. With Greece and the Netherlands in the membership process, ICMPD is on its way to further increasing the organisation's outreach and relevance.

The ICMPD Member States represent a variety of European countries bringing different perspectives and dynamics to cooperation activities. In the field of migration, they are key European countries of vital significance both for building migration management systems and for improving cooperation on migration in a sustainable way.

These dynamics were further strengthened in 2020 when ICMPD continued to carefully expand its membership. In spring, Germany became the 18th member to join the organisation. The accession of Germany to ICMPD was an important development for the organisation and for European cooperation on migration as such. Germany has a central role in developing migration policy in Europe and is a key international partner. The addition of Germany to ICMPD's membership base will help the organisation and its Member States to increase the impact of their work on migration policy development and cooperation along relevant migration routes.

In addition, Greece commenced membership procedures in 2020. In December, the country was unanimously invited to join ICMPD by the organisation's Steering Group. Greece is already participating as an observer in the Steering Group pending national accession procedures. These developments show that ICMPD is also increasing its Mediterranean base, especially in light of the 2018 accessions of Turkey and Malta. This will facilitate a more targeted contribution to cooperation around a regional migration system in this area.

The Netherlands, an observer country since 2018, has experienced some delays in the national accession procedures,

mainly due to COVID-19. However, the ICMPD Member States remain committed to soon welcoming the Netherlands as a full member of the organisation.

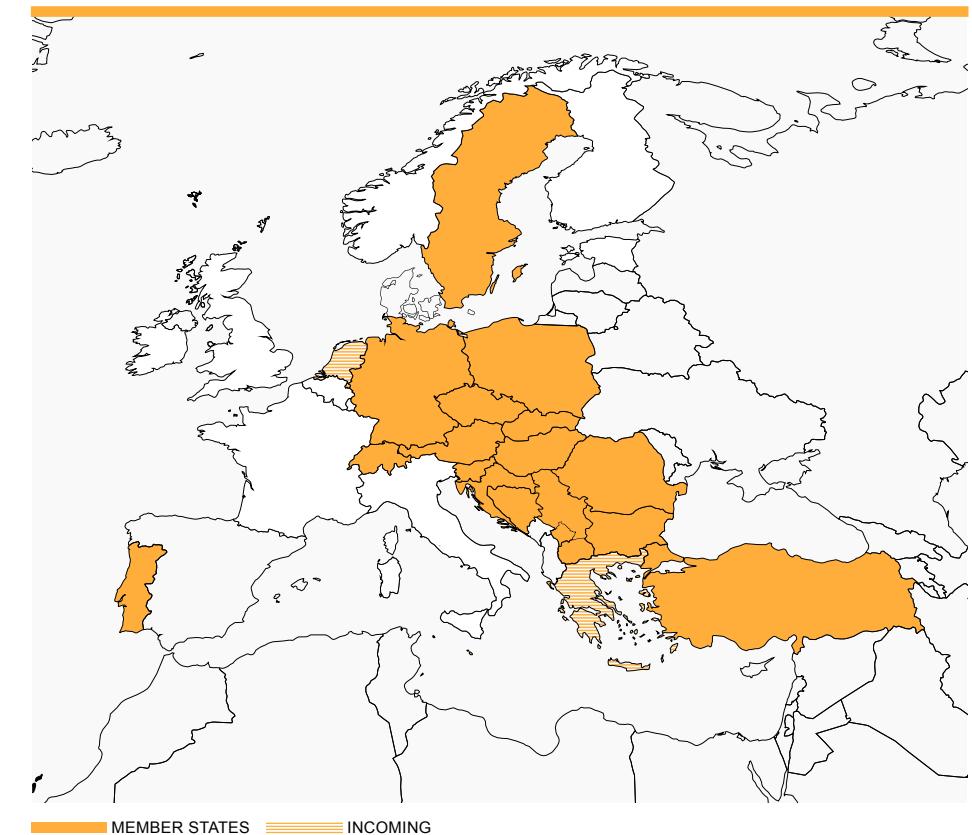
Against the background of the developing accession dynamics, and in line with the new strategic framework of ICMPD, the Steering Group set out in December 2020 to take a fresh look at ICMPD's enlargement strategy and priorities in 2021.

CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE STEERING GROUP

Switzerland, one of the founding members of ICMPD, can look back on a successful chairmanship of the ICMPD Steering Group in 2020 despite the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. 2020 has been a special and important period, not only because of the enlargement process described above, but also because of the new strategic framework that the Steering Group adopted for the period 2021–2025.

During its chairmanship, Switzerland also had a clear focus on content cooperation with respect to safeguarding human and state security in the new migration agenda. This topic was flanked by ICMPD's Annual Policy Initiative (API) 2020 and became even more relevant due to the pandemic. Several events were staged for Member States and experts. Their aim was to look at the interplay between human and state security in asylum procedures, at borders and within integration and to address the need to find ways of safeguarding both.

At the end of 2020, Malta was elected chair of the Steering Group for 2021 and selected "Redefining Migration Partner-



ships" as the topic for its chairmanship.

A NEW STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK - PURPOSEFUL RELATIONS WITH MEMBER STATES AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS

ICMPD has grown substantially over the last few years – in terms of budget, geographic coverage, staff, and Member States. It has effectively embarked on a process of regionalisation and decentralisation. To meet these new demands, the organisation adopted a new strategy in 2020.

Strong and sustainable external relations are key assets and resources for achieving the ambitious strategic objectives. Strategy 2025 places a strong focus on reinforcing relations both with the growing membership base and with strategic partners. External relations play a key role in executing Strategy 2025 and in the next chapter of ICMPD's development.

Of course, cooperation with Member States in 2020 was also characterised by following and supporting EU Council presidencies. After all, the current presidency trio is made up of three ICMPD Member States: Germany (July–December 2020), Portugal (January–June 2021) and Slovenia (July–December 2021). ICMPD worked especially closely with Portugal to help it prepare for its EU Council presidency.

The COVID-19 pandemic made 2020 an especially eventful year for ICMPD. The organisation continued to grow, with a focus on countries vital for building migration management systems. It welcomed Germany as a new member state. Discussions with the Netherlands and Denmark continued and Greece commenced membership procedures.

MEMBER STATES PROGRAMME 2020

In 2020 the ICMPD Member States Programme organised several activities for its Member States. The focus was on the COVID-19 outbreak, which also increased the use of webinars as a tool for engaging with Member States and for sharing information.

The ICMPD Member States Programme is geared exclusively to Member States. It draws on the organisation's deep thematic and geographic migration expertise to organise activities that address the specific priorities of states. In 2020 the Member States Programme focused on the COVID-19 outbreak and offered a series of webinars that monitored the evolving migration situation in priority regions and Europe. The aim was to share information and provide a platform for exchange among Member States.

COVID-19 Webinars

The webinar series started at the beginning of April 2020 when many countries were proceeding into lockdowns and continued until summer. The first webinar focused on how COVID-19 was impacting the migration situation in three priority regions: the Silk Routes, the Mediterranean as well as the Western Balkans and Turkey. ICMPD's regional coordinators and their teams on the ground presented updates from these regions.

In the weeks thereafter, webinars were organised to zoom in on these four regions: Western Balkans and Turkey, the Silk Routes, the Mediterranean, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Two other webinars that were held were entitled "Tools for Crisis Preparedness and Crisis Communications" and "The Future of Care Workers' Mobility".

In 2020 the Member States Programme focused on the COVID-19 outbreak and offered a series of webinars that monitored the evolving migration situation in priority regions and Europe. The aim was to share information and provide a platform for exchange among Member States.

High-level Events

As part of its Member States activities, ICMPD also organised a high-level virtual event together with Turkey entitled "The Situation of Refugees and Other Displaced Persons during the Pandemic: The Need for International Cooperation". This webinar reached around 500 people. It was hosted by Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu and co-moderated by ICMPD Director General Michael Spindelegger and Co-coordinator of the Antalya Diplomacy Forum, Ambassador Murat Karagöz. The event brought together a highly distinguished panel consisting of four foreign affairs ministers, namely, Ayman Safadi from Jordan, Fuad Hussein from Iraq, Nassif Hitti from Lebanon and Shah Mahmood Qureshi from Pakistan, as well as EU Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, Deputy Director-General of

the World Health Organisation Zsuzsanna Jakab and former Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs Karin Kneissl.

On 6 October 2020, a further event was staged for Member States and the public to discuss the new EU Pact on Migration and Asylum. ICMPD Director General Michael Spindelegger led a virtual discussion with European Commission Vice President Margaritis Schinas and Austria's Europe Minister Karoline Edtstadler on the future of EU migration policy. The event counted more than 800 participants.



Human Resources

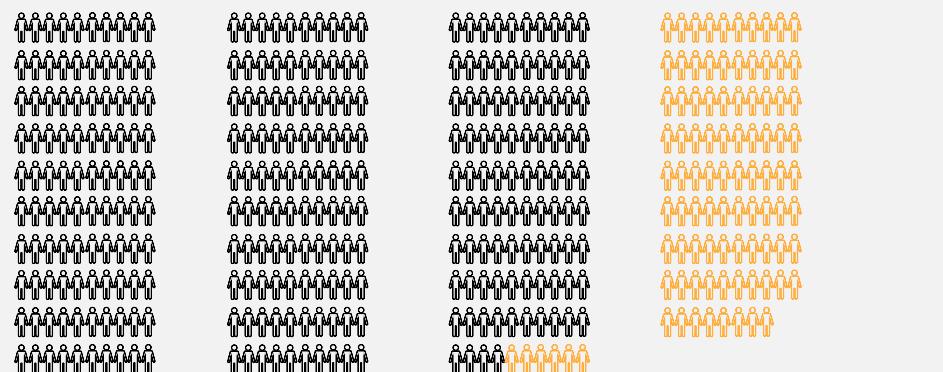
WHO WE ARE

Over the past year, ICMPD has seen a continuation of its growth, with a significant expansion of its workforce to a current total of nearly 400 employees. The ICMPD staff are international and increasingly diversified, comprising 61 nationalities working in 29 duty stations and field offices across four regions of the globe.

Of particular note is the high share of female employees in the professional category at 63 per cent. ICMPD's expanding profile enhances its attractiveness as an employer for highly qualified professionals with expert knowledge of and insight into the migration field. Indeed, the organisation has established itself as an employer of choice for those embarking on a career in migration policy, as is clearly reflected in the broad range of expertise that its staff bring to bear.

Working at ICMPD promises exposure to cutting-edge concepts, a diverse variety of stakeholders and partners in multiple national and international contexts, as well as unparalleled opportunities for learning. The evolving nature of the organisation and its work provides the necessary dynamism for the development of new approaches and the foundation of new partnerships.

Employee Growth 388 EMPLOYEES 94 NEW EMPLOYEES IN 2020



Gender Balance

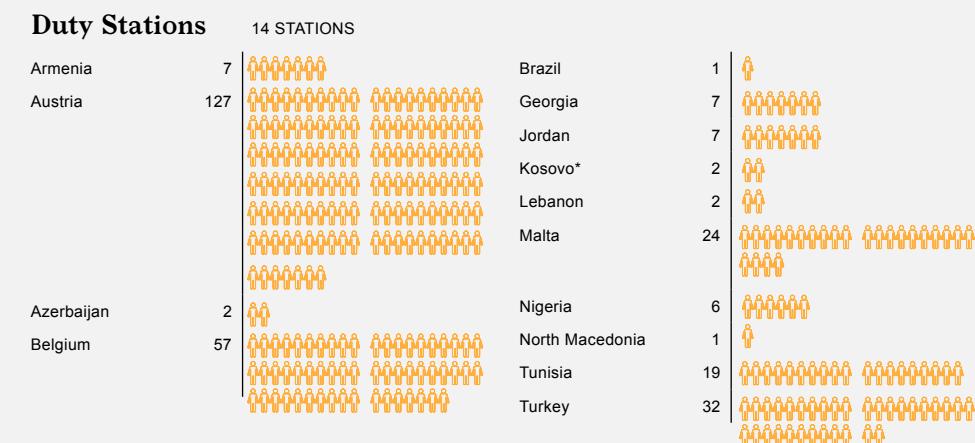
235 FEMALE
153 MALE



Age Profile

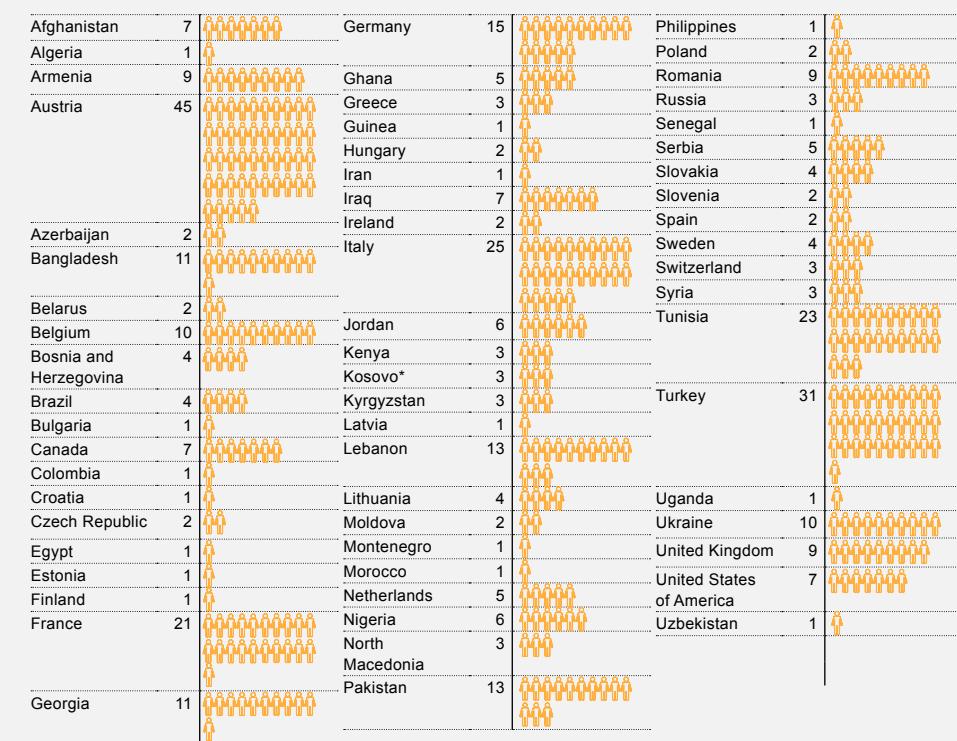


Duty Stations



Nationalities

61 DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES WORKING TOGETHER



EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

International Centre for Migration
Policy Development (ICMPD)

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Policy Development (ICMPD)
Austria, 2021

Boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by ICMPD



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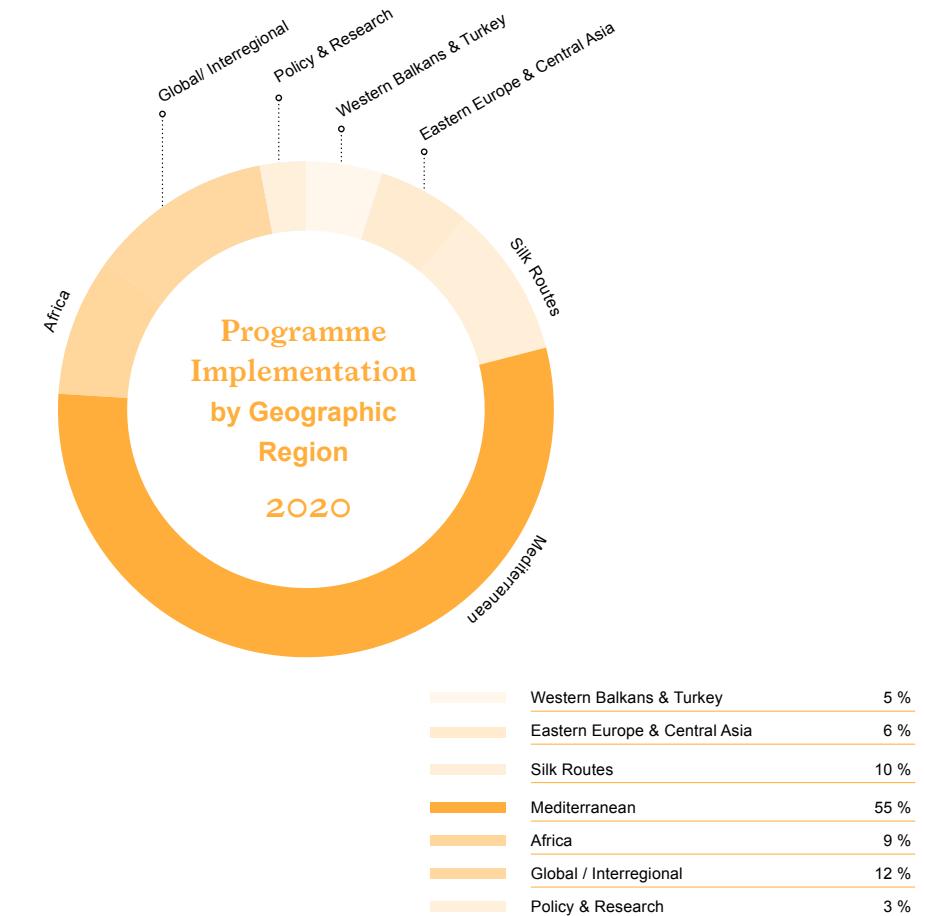
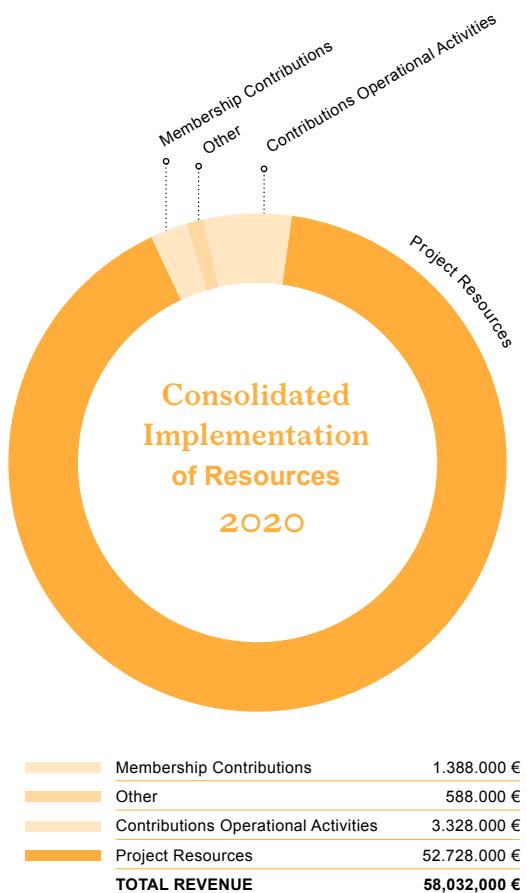
Ralph Genetzke
Head of Brussels Mission

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial statements of the ICMPD are prepared in accordance with the rules governing the financial framework of the organisation and the relevant decisions, taken by the Member States. These statements are prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and the International Standards of Public Accounting applied.

The 2020 consolidated budget (Regular and Programme Budget) implemented the amount of EUR 58 Million. The budget was financed by the Membership Contributions from the Member States, other revenue and to a larger extend by donor contributions for project resources.

The consolidated budget includes two budget parts. The Regular Budget, which finances administrative costs including management and infrastructure expenses, and the Programme Budget, which includes earmarked resources for project implementation, specific programs for Member States and support functions.



Consolidated Implementation (Increase of 27% in 2020 in comparison to 2019)

