The Rabat Process
An original and operational Dialogue on migration and development issues

The Dialogue has been mandated, with other mechanisms, to monitor the implementation of the priority actions included in the Valletta Action Plan for the period 2016–2018.

From Dialogue to action: the Facility

The Facility – an operational component of the Dialogue – supports the implementation of projects that respond to the need of partner countries. The Facility offers a flexible and unique framework and work in synergy with other financial instruments such as the EU Trust Fund for Migration in Africa, also known as the Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa.

This project is funded by the European Union and implemented by ICMPD.
The Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development, also known as Rabat Process was created in 2006, on the basis of the need to bring together the countries of origin, transit and destination affected by the migration routes linking Central, West and Northern Africa with Europe. For more than a decade, this Dialogue has brought together almost 60 European and African countries, as well as the European Commission (EC) and the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), to discuss questions raised by the migratory challenges.

The Rabat Process is a consultation framework stimulated by political and technical meetings. The Dialogue allow a partnership approach to new challenges. The location for each meeting is defined by political and technical meetings. The Dialogue guarantee the continuity of the actions, and training sessions alternate between Africa and Europe, bringing together almost 60 European and African countries, as well as the European Commission (EC) and the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), to discuss questions raised by the migratory challenges.

The Rabat Process has developed a network of active National Focal Points (NFPs) who animate the Dialogue, guarantee the continuity of the actions, and training sessions alternate between Africa and Europe.

The Steering Committee (CoP) is the strategic governing body of the Rabat Process; it stimulates cooperation between the States and prepares the political orientations of the Dialogue. The CoP is composed of Belgium, Burkina Faso, Equatorial Guinea, France, Italy, Mali, Morocco, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, the European Commission (EC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

The Dialogue is facilitated by a Secretariat implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and funded by the European Union as part of the Africa-EU Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (Hidro) Support Project.

A functional governance at the service of a dynamic Dialogue

Ministerial Conferences take place regularly. The ministers in charge of migration and development convene to define the strategic framework of the Dialogue and ensure it works with the migratory context.

Senior Officials Meetings (SOMs) are the main fora for policy Dialogue, where the Dialogue partners debate strategic objectives in detail. Each SOM is officially hosted by a country taking part in the Dialogue.

Thematic meetings are dedicated to a specific topic, which stems from the strategic framework and its priorities. They provide the participants with the opportunity to share their experiences and good practices.

A technical programme that complements the three levels of Dialogue and constitutes an operational follow-up to the Thematic Meetings.