The Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM) Dialogue is an informal consultative platform between migration officials in countries of origin, transit, and destination along the migration routes in Africa, Europe, and the Middle East. It operates at the technical level and its informal and nonbinding character enables an open exchange of perspectives that contributes to the opinion-forming of officials.

Initially focusing on transit migration, it has extended its scope over the years to cover a broad range of migration issues, including 'migration and development' and 'mixed migration'. Since 2015, the Dialogue also encompasses the local level, applying the concept of dialogue and information exchange to a network of five Northern and five Southern Mediterranean cities.

The MTM Dialogue follows the main global, African, and European policy guidelines, and fully respects the international legal framework pertinent to migration issues. Synergies and cross-fertilisation are ensured with other relevant initiatives.

The driving force of the Dialogue has always been to address not only current issues, but to adopt an innovative approach and anticipate future challenges. It reflects the diversity of migration actors and builds on their respective expertise. The Dialogue addresses issues in a sustainable fashion and ensures a regular and long-term transfer of results and methodologies to all participating states, maximising the benefits of inter-agency cooperation.

The Dialogue has been nurtured by supporting initiatives, such as the Interactive Map on Migration, (i-Map). The i-Map serves as a support instrument to intergovernmental dialogues on migration and currently hosts four Migration Dialogues. It facilitates access to and exchange of information through country profiles, visualisations and up-to-date news, available at www.imap-migration.org

Another flagship initiative developed in the framework of the MTM Dialogues was the project Strengthening African and Middle Eastern Diaspora Policy through South-South Exchange (AMEDIP).

The AMEDIP constituted the framework for the development of Operational Guidelines for South-South and triangular cooperation, which is considered a flagship output of the MTM Dialogue, along with the i-Map.

The working languages of the MTM Dialogues are Arabic, English and French.
Participants

**MTM Partner States**
Partner States’ involvement varies depending on the activities implemented. Since 2012, the following countries participate in the Dialogue: Algeria, Cape Verde, Egypt, Ethiopia, the EU 27 Member States, Ghana, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Senegal, Switzerland, Syria, Tunisia, and Turkey. In 2015, selected cities in five Northern and five Southern MTM Partner States joined the Dialogue.

**International Organisations**
Since its inception, the Dialogue has promoted and strongly relied on the principle of inter-agency cooperation and partnership with relevant international organisations. Various organisations hold the status of MTM Partner Agencies: Europol, Frontex, IFAD, Interpol, IOM, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), UN-Habitat, UNHCR, and UNODC. A large number of relevant actors are invited as observers, depending on the focus of the MTM activity.

**Donors**
Throughout the Dialogue’s development, MTM activities have received funding from numerous committed donors, i.e. Austria, Belgium, Caritas, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, European Commission, Europol, France, Frontex, IFAD, Interpol, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UNHCR, the United Kingdom, and UNODC.

Current Activities

**City-to-City project**
The MTM Dialogue extended its activities to the local level in 2015, through the project *City-to-City Migration Profiles and Dialogue*.

This project consists of three components:

The **dialogue** component will create a network of city stakeholders. This network will facilitate the exchange of good practices between cities on their experience related to migration planning. Representatives of city stakeholder groups will have to opportunity for in-depth exchange of knowledge and experience at peer-to-peer dialogue group meetings.

The **research** component supports an evidence-based approach to policy-making by providing analytic ‘migration profiles’ and ‘city priority papers’ for each of the participating cities.

In the **action-oriented** component, cities will receive guidance through policy options and to better address their priority areas. For the purpose, a toolkit on local-level migration planning will be developed. Based on this toolkit, concrete pilot projects will be implemented in five Southern Mediterranean cities to address the most pressing migration issues there.