Supporting Institutional Capacity and Policy Development Processes in the Area of Asylum (PACT)

INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION 2019–2021

Executive Summary

The PACT project aims to support the Turkish asylum system in handling the current asylum caseload and addressing future needs in terms of processing new asylum applications and developing effective policies in the area of international protection and temporary protection through capacity building activities and provision of evidence-based policy recommendations.

The project is funded by the United Kingdom, project beneficiary is the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is responsible for its management and implementation.

Current Context

Turkey has been the main transit country for migratory movements towards Europe and also became a major destination country for migrants in the last decade. Asylum seekers and refugees constitute the largest migrant group in Turkey with a rapid increase since the start of the Syria-crisis in 2011. Hosting approximately 3,9 million asylum seekers and refugees, Turkey is the largest refugee-hosting country in the world since 2015.

In addition to the start of the Syria-crisis and the sharp increase in the asylum seeker and refugee numbers in Turkey, another important development in the area of asylum and migration took place in 2013-2014. With the adoption of the new Law on Foreigners and International Protection, DGMM was established in April 2013 and became operational in April 2014 as Turkey’s migration management authority to carry out the processes and procedures related to all international migration including asylum procedures.

ICMPD has been implementing projects in Turkey, focusing primarily on topics related to migration management and policy development, but also providing
support to the establishment and capacity development of DGMM as an institution.

The PACT project has been preceded by respectively the ASCAP and ASCAP II projects, which aimed at providing support to the institutional development and operational capacity of the DGMM in the area of asylum.

Objectives
The overall objective of the proposed project is to support the Turkish asylum system in handling the current asylum caseload and addressing future needs in terms of processing asylum applications and implementing effective policies in the area of international protection and temporary protection through capacity building activities and provision of evidence-based policy recommendations. This objective will be reached through activities and outputs under 2 main components:

- The first component focuses on research, analysis and scenario and policy recommendation development.
- The second component is focused on delivering capacity building activities with regard to the functioning of the country of origin information (COI) system and the functioning of the International Protection Bureaus (IPBs).

Beneficiaries
The beneficiary of the PACT project is the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM), specifically the International Protection Department.

Project Duration
The PACT project is running for a duration of 24 months from 01 April 2019 to 31 March 2021.