Support to Implementation of Development-sensitive Migration Policies in Turkey (SIDEM)

MIGRATION and DEVELOPMENT 2017–2019

Executive Summary
Support the Implementation of Development-sensitive Migration Policies in Turkey (SIDEM) constitutes the continuation of previous initiative “Sessiz Destek - Support of a Development-sensitive and Coherent Turkish Migration Policy Framework” that demonstrated the need to study the impact of migration on several sectors as well as regions in Turkey and to develop specific policies in this regard. Implementation of Development-sensitive Migration Policies in Turkey (SIDEM) Project” aims to contribute to the establishment of an integrated, long-term, development-sensitive and sustainable migration policy framework taking into account Turkey’s socio-economic and human development context. The project is funded by Switzerland and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is responsible for its management and implementation.

Current Context

Over the past 50 years, Turkey experienced a rapid transition, developing from net emigration to an immigration country. While during the 1960s and 1970s, large scale emigration from Turkey took place, rapid globalisation, economic growth and political stability in Turkey are now attracting more and more immigrants, mainly from neighbouring regions of the Middle East, EU and CIS countries. At the same time, while Turkey prospers, economic and political instability in its neighbouring countries Syria and Iraq have made it a major destination country for refugees. All these large-scale migration movements affect Turkey’s demographic, economic and social development. Since the beginning of the Syrian crisis in 2011, Turkey has been providing effective emergency response and temporary protection regime for Syrian refugees, ensuring both protection and assistance in and outside accommodation centres. Nevertheless, the livelihood and long-term approach received little attention so far and should be linked to local economic and development plans. The level of knowledge on the development and
implementation of policies addressing development aspects in the context of forced migration, migrants’ integration and the utilisation of development potentials for the benefit of local communities is still low. The SIDEM project will support Turkey in gradually moving from a crisis-management and temporary approach to the establishment of an integrated, long-term and sustainable migration policy framework.

Objectives
SIDEM Project aims to contribute to the establishment of an integrated, long-term, development-sensitive and sustainable migration policy framework taking into account Turkey’s socio-economic and human development context. The Project has been implemented via a list of activities of four interrelated components. The Project is designed in a way to reflect the whole policy cycle from analysis/research, strategy development to action implementation, monitoring and evaluation to ensure the maximum level of capacity development.

Specifically, the main objectives and components of the SIDEM project are:

- To increase the institutional knowledge regarding the impact of migration on geographical regions in Turkey to formulate strategic policy directions (Component I and IV)
- To increase the institutional capacities and inter-agency cooperation at the central level to design and implement integrated, evidence-based and development-sensitive migration policies (Component II and IV)
- To increase the institutional capacities and inter-agency cooperation at the regional level to design and implement targeted programmes that promote the labour market integration of international migrants, including those with protection status in Turkey (Component III)

Beneficiaries
The beneficiary of the SIDEM project is the Directorate General for Migration Management (DGMM), the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services (MoFLSS) and the Presidency of Strategy and Budget formerly under the institution title of “Ministry of Development (MoD)” and relevant regional development agencies.

Project Duration
The SIDEM project is running for the duration of 24 + 2 months from 14 May 2017 to 14 July 2019.