Making Migration Better

ANNUAL REPORT
ICMPD
In a Nutshell

KEY FIGURES

257 Staff Members
16 Duty Stations
55 Nationalities
Euro 230 Million Contracted Project Volume
More than 75 Projects
In over 90 Countries
17 Member States

OUTREACH

103 Conferences and 489 Trainings, Meetings and Workshops for 1,206 Days at 292 Locations with 27,342 Participants and 739 Partners

THREE-PRONGED APPROACH

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

MIGRATION DIALOGUES

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

THEMATIC EXPERTISE

Border Management and Security
Asylum and International Protection
Irregular Migration and Return
Legal/Labour Migration/Immigration
Trafficking in Human Beings and related forms of exploitation
Social Cohesion
Migration and Development
ICMPD is an international organisation based in Vienna and has 17 Member States: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, 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.
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2019 brings elections to the European Parliament. The last EU elections were held in the aftermath of the financial crisis and were dominated by topics relating to it. Will migration be the decisive topic this time?

Migration is seen as a central topic even though the number of people coming to Europe has decreased since the peak we saw in 2015. However, the underlying reasons of the migration crisis have not been solved. We are in a quieter phase of a long-term challenge. Given current demographic and other trends, the overall pressure to migrate will increase, not decrease.

You have been Director General of ICMPD for three years now. What has been significant in 2018?

The focus of ICMPD has shifted. The topic of return has become much more vital for states. Furthermore, there is increasing awareness that we need new ideas in the field of labour migration. Fighting the root causes of irregular migration has emerged as another key topic. Another topic is a true partnership between Europe and Africa, with Germany, for instance, calling for a “Marshall Plan with Africa.” We are developing new initiatives in all of these fields so that all parties involved can benefit from new solutions.

What were ICMPD’s top projects in 2018?

We have been carrying out projects in border management for years, but 2018 changed the scope for projects in this field. Our new, EU-funded Border Management Programme for the Maghreb Region (BMP Maghreb) not only involves training on border management in Tunisia and Morocco, but also the procurement of equipment needed on this long border. Another new project aims at fighting the causes of migration from Nigeria with training to impart practical skills. Together with our partners, we want to provide vocational training to 1,000 people a year in different occupations. We advocate genuine private sector involvement in this project, which has been hard to achieve in the past. The project was unveiled at the EU-Africa Summit in Vienna in 2018.

Which projects or ideas have worked out particularly well?

Our return project for Austria and Nigeria, for example. We managed to organise the return of people in a new project that combines training in Austria, a new job for the returnee at an Austrian company in Nigeria and thus, direct investment for Nigeria. This has changed our overall relationship with Nigeria for other projects as well. It proves that true partnerships can open doors for solutions to migration issues. Another example is our Information Centre in Afghanistan, which provides potential immigrants with realistic information about what to expect in Europe.

Which ideas have turned out to be more difficult to implement than expected?

In some cases, bureaucracy can make things more difficult than they need to be. ICMPD will suggest that the next European Commission reflects on the bureaucratic requirements for projects such as those covered by the aid the EU as stipulated in the EU-Turkey deal. Applying for European assistance alone requires tremendous effort. This is frustrating to our member state Turkey.

In 2018, several states refrained from ratifying the United Nations’ Global Compact for Migration. What kind of consequences do you expect for 2019?

It is vital that IOM, as the UN institution in charge, now approaches those countries and finally discusses their reservations. In the end, it is crucial that we all work together, as migration requires global answers.

What kind of new steps and efforts will ICMPD take in 2019?

We are working on a catalogue of recommendations that we will present to the next European Commission. It will include suggestions based on what our member states regard as necessary steps and actions on migration policies over the next five years. ICMPD comprises very diverse countries, including the Visegrad
States, Switzerland, Malta and Turkey (the latter two since 2018). Our organisation also facilitates dialogues with Africa and Asia and our finding of solid compromises could be a promising contribution. Furthermore, the Netherlands is in the process of ratifying its ICMPD membership and Germany has also signalled its interest in becoming a member. This would give us even more weight in the debate about finding effective ways of managing migration in Europe.

Reaching compromises on migration issues has proven to be a tough task recently. Why do you believe that ICMPD member states can agree to a joint catalogue?

As the list of member states goes beyond EU states, we can look at and discuss other issues. EU member states very often end up reverting all too quickly to discussions about the European asylum process, which always causes tensions. As ICMPD, we can and must consider the needs of our member states such as Turkey or Portugal as well as those of Malta or Sweden. This approach will help us to focus on practicable solutions, which, in turn, could pave the way to finding solid compromises.

Would it help if Europe would finally accept that it is a continent of immigration?

That is simply a fact and we must find solutions for coping with it. Legal migration will be an important topic in the future. European countries will need legal migration to address their shrinking labour forces. This need could lay the foundation for true migration partnerships with third countries.

Michael Spindelegger, 59, 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.
2018 was meant to mark a major achievement and way station towards the creation of a global policy framework for migration. With the adoption at the United Nations level of two Global Compacts—one on Refugees and another one for Migration—a two-year process of intense global negotiations on the respective global frameworks was coming to an end. The agenda for the processes leading to the two Global Compacts was set down in 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. Back then, because of an unfolding refugee and migration crisis in the Middle East and in Europe and the apparent inability of individual governments to agree on how to respond to it, the international community was consensus in entrusting the UN with the fulfillment of decades-old visions of a global migration regime.¹ Over the course of the subsequent two years, however, something changed. The ongoing migration crisis in the region started to have its impact on the political discourse, especially in the US and in Europe but also in other regions. Public and political debates became increasingly polarised in a number of countries. Anti-immigrant and anti-migration positions competed with more liberal views on how to best frame global migration. Early signs of fundamental disagreement emerged when the US administration announced its withdrawal from the negotiation process. While there were some signs of a growing polarisation also at the level of the UN General Assembly, negotiations progressed steadily, even if not uncontested or unchallenged in some core respects. When the negotiation process was completed in July 2018, only few would have anticipated the public and political reaction in several countries. The growing unease and concern of certain parts of societies, especially in receiving countries and regions, about the ability of leaders to effectively regulate and, to some extent, control international migration were not met with sufficient information about the aims and objectives of the Global Compact. More so, the fact that both Global Compacts would not produce (additional) legal obligations on States to accept more migrants or refugees was neither sufficiently nor proactively communicated to the public. Under these circumstances, the public debate in many countries, especially in Europe, became fairly uninformed, heated and divisive.

The broad range of political, legal and policy arguments caught the public rather unprepared, clouded the discussions and created pressures for decision makers. Moreover, it obscured and obstructed a more nuanced technical assessment of the negotiation processes, its resulting compromises, and the strengths and weaknesses of the policy proposals with regard to real life challenges. As a global framework for international migration has never been negotiated at the UN level before, a more robust plan for the negotiations and the adoption of the Compacts could have proved more supportive of a global-level migration governance framework, at least from a European perspective. More specifically, the stress levels of concerned societies and communities and the political playing field could have been taken into consideration during the negotiations.

On 19 December 2018, the UN General Assembly endorsed the Global Compact for Migration with a rather significant majority: 152 votes in favour and five against the agreement, 12 abstentions and 24 States absent. Still, one out of five UN Member States did not support the first-ever global framework agreement on migration.

At the European level, where one-third of the EU Member States did not join the Global Compact for Migration, the situation is more complicated, reminding that the division and disagreement over migration policy objectives on the regional level go deeper. Against this background, the contribution of the Global Compact on Migration towards better policy outcomes in the short-run will be difficult to assess. In a longer-term perspective, it will be decisive how the Global Compact will be able to deliver on its objectives to create “safe, orderly and regular migration” and how the UN structures will define and arrange their relations with the countries that did not endorse it. This will require continuous engagement and dialogue.

1) ICMPD’s first Director General, Jonas Widgren, said in 1989: “It is obvious that the existing international system is not adapted to deal with all the problems involved in modern mass migration and its causes. A number of intergovernmental agencies are involved in various aspects of international migration [...] However, what is lacking is a joint conceptual framework. The world has changed, and so has the pattern of human migration. What is needed more than ever is an effective intergovernmental machinery to deal with all the new challenges of the future.” Widgren, J., 1989, “Europe and International Migration in the Future. The Necessity for Merging Migration, Refugee, and Development Policies”, in Loescher, G., Monahan, L. (eds.), Refugees and International Relations, New York, Oxford University Press, p. 59-60.

REGIONAL DIALOGUES

In times like ours, multi-lateral Dialogues on any topic, and especially on migration, which has the potential to create strong tensions not only within a society
but also and especially among the States concerned, are a sign of strength. As long as States find the willingness and the strength to share their ideas, their visions but also their disagreements and seemingly opposing objectives or opinions, they can try to find understandings on a way to move forward both at strategic and operational level. As one of the essential tools for improving migration governance, dialogues build networks, insights and trust. These essential ingredients for successful operational cooperation developed as a result of getting to know and listening to each other.

One place where dialogue among all States continues notwithstanding their position regarding the Global Compact is within the various regional fora established to discuss migration at regional and interregional levels. As secretariat, ICMPD supports a number of these migration dialogues, namely the Prague, the Khartoum, the Rabat and the Budapest Processes. These regional dialogues also played an important role in the preparation for the Global Compact. Many of the proposed global actions were already part of political declarations adopted at the regional level. As such, the political declaration were preparing the grounds for a global system that started regionally.

At the same time, the preparation for, and adoption of, the Global Compact also affected the regional dialogues. Both the Rabat and Budapest Processes prepared and/or held ministerial level meetings in 2018. Whilst all participating States maintained their strong interest in continuing their participation in the dialogues, the Global Compact led to intense debates, or indeed to abstentions regarding the adoption of ministerial declarations.

Together with concrete projects, bilateral initiatives and formal negotiations, structured but informal dialogues have become essential elements of international cooperation on migration, especially between different geographical regions connected by the movement of people. How does the situation look in these regions? Below, light will be shed on the 2018 developments in both Europe and Africa.

DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE IN 2018

At the European level, in addition to the disagreement on the Global Compact on migration, the deadlock over central aspects of the migration policy framework was not dissolved, and positions remained entrenched. As a result, the EU and its Member States remain vulnerable to and are most likely still unprepared for another refugee and migration crisis. Collective efforts aimed at reducing irregular migration flows in the neighbourhood have resulted in reduced numbers of new arrivals. This has led some to conclude that the migration crisis was finally over. Whilst it is important to de-escalate the rhetoric, the consequences of the crisis of 2015-2016 will continue to be felt. Challenges regarding both integration and return/reintegration remain significant, secondary movements within the EU are on the rise, and the situation on the Greek islands are below acceptable European standards. Moreover, many of the underlying reasons and dynamics that shaped the crisis remain largely unaltered. Forecasts and longer-term scenarios, furthermore, underline the urgency for action on all levels to address effectively the drivers and causes of irregular migration and forced displacement as well as the adoption of functioning migration policy frameworks. At the end of 2018, the EU remains ill-prepared for the challenges to come.

Even though most migrants arrive in Europe through labour and family-related processes, the European migration debate is dominated primarily by irregular migration and asylum. Consequently, indicators relating to these two aspects deserve special examination. In the course of 2018, the situation regarding irregular arrivals and asylum applications has eased up gradually. This has been recognised in the political as well as in the public debate. Reference is often made to a substantial reduction in irregular arrivals to the EU. It reached its lowest level since five years. Although this viewpoint is not incorrect, it requires a closer analysis. A total of 150,000 illegal border crossings were registered in 2018. This number in fact represented a pre-crisis level of 2013 and amounted to only about one-twelfth of the figure recorded for 2015 (1.82 million). The main routes shifted last year from the Libya – Italy route in the central Mediterranean (a reduction of 8% compared to 2017) to the Morocco – Spain route in the western Mediterranean (an increase of 100% compared to 2017). However, the figures for asylum applications suggest that the Mediterranean routes may not be the only way of getting to Europe. The number of asylum applications fell again in 2018 but not as sharply as the number of identified irregular border crossings, suggesting not only that other routes still exist, but that individual asylum seekers submit multiple applications and finally, that irregular arrival is
not the only channel to enter asylum systems. Some 640,000 asylum requests were registered in EU Member States in 2018. This is about 11% fewer applications than in 2017 (712,000) and about 31% lower than in 2015 (1.3 million). The figure for 2018 would nonetheless be the fifth highest in the past 25 years.

The nations topping the list for most applications in 2018 were Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Nigeria, Iran, Turkey, Albania, Eritrea, Russia and Somalia. These figures underline that asylum migration is to a considerable extend conflict-induced in the European context. This means, in turn, that developments in global conflicts will fundamentally shape what happens in the asylum sector in the future, too.

As in the past, the asylum applications were concentrated in a handful of host countries within the EU. In 2018, about 75% of all asylum applications were submitted in just five EU Member States: Germany (31.2%), France (17.5%), Greece (9.8%), Italy (8.5%) and Spain (7.9%). This clustering with changing countries of destination has been observed time and again in the past as well.

2018 REFORMS OF EU MIGRATION AND REFUGEE POLICY

The reform of the internal dimension made some—but still too limited—progress in 2018 in several areas, such as the strengthening of the mandate and institutional capacities of Frontex and EASO, the new version of the Eurodac Regulation, the Asylum Procedures Directive, the Qualification Directive and the Reception Conditions Directive.

In some respect, 2018 also brought clarity on how extensive the reform of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) would be, namely a central element of internal EU refugee and migration policy. The most controversial point in this regard was, and remains, the reform of the Dublin II Regulation. It sets down the criteria for determining the responsibility for processing an asylum application. The first-country principle in the Regulation puts more or less the entire burden of all EU asylum procedures on the Member States along the external borders, while in reality, over 50% of the asylum applications are submitted in EU Member States without an external border.

Under the impression of the de-facto collapse of the Dublin-based system in 2015 and under the headings of solidarity and responsibility-sharing, this system was to be reformed to provide a fair and also mandatory distribution, key for asylum applicants. The approach entailing mandatory quotas was never capable of gaining a majority and 2018 gave final proof of that fact. The Bulgarian presidency still tried a last attempt at rescuing the Dublin Reform by devising a number of compromise proposals that would have softened the obligations regarding a mandatory distribution key. This attempt, ultimately, bore no fruit either. The Dublin Reform came to a standstill and is not expected to gain steam quickly in 2019.

Implementing other new instruments of EU migration policy prominently discussed in 2018 also proved difficult. The creation of Regional Disembarkation Platforms in North Africa was met with objections by EU neighbouring States. The idea of Controlled Centres within the EU aimed at facilitating the initial examination of applications, and distribution within the EU experienced a similar fate. By contrast, there was a clear commitment to increase the capacities and competencies of the European Coast and Border Guard Agency (Frontex), although again, no final decisions were yet taken.

All these reform proposals—from distribution quotas to asylum procedures outside the EU—basically have one common objective, namely to decouple an applicant’s asylum procedure from access to EU territory or to the territory of a certain Member State. In other words, the objective is to delink the granting of a protection status from immigration into a specific country or to the EU at large. This specific link between immigration and protection in the EU is characteristic of the present system and is a determining factor of irregular migration to the EU. Better organising international protection in the EU context, which is defined by freedom of movement between its Member States is a legitimate, yet complex, endeavour. It will be decisive in reforming the European migration and asylum system into a responsive and rules-based migration governance system.

DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA

The images the media often produce suggest that African migration is huge. Compared to many other regions in the world, this is however misleading. When looking at persons who have left their home country from a continental perspective, about 9% of Europeans, 6% of Latin Americans but only 3% of Africans and 2.4% of Asians live outside their home country.
Among the ten fastest growing economies in the world, there are no less than seven African countries. Therefore, we can expect a growth in African migration resulting from significant economic development.

In total, there are roughly 36 million African emigrants. About 53% of them have migrated to another African country; 26% (or 9.4 million) to Europe, and another 21% to Asia, North America or Australia.

More than poverty, development combined with economic inequality drive migration. Development provides people with the education, skills, financial means and information to go to a place where the situation is better than at home. This is exactly the situation when it comes to African migration. Many African countries show strong economic development and this trend will continue. However, the average GDP per capita in Europe is about 10 times higher than in many African countries, a disparity that is not expected to change for some time. At the same time, demography will remain an important driver for African migration. There are different scenarios which are closely linked to economic development. The "low-economic-development" scenario speaks about 2.5 billion Africans for the year 2050, a doubling of the current population, and a doubling of the annual African emigration rate from 1.4 million to 2.8 million.

The "high-economic-development" scenario speaks about 2.8 billion for the year 2050, but a tripling of the annual African emigration rate to 3.5 million. Higher development means lower birth rates but also better education and more financial means for people to move abroad. All evidence up to now points towards the "high-development" scenario. Among the ten fastest growing economies in the world, there are no less than seven African countries. Therefore, we can expect a growth in African migration resulting from significant economic development. Most of these migrants will move within Africa and utilise new opportunities on the continent. Of course, an increasing number of Africans will also try to move to Europe, but a mass exodus is not to be expected, rather gradually increasing numbers.

It is for these and other reasons that African States, Regional Economic Communities and the African Union Commission (AUC) all placed migration high on the agenda since several years. Not only because of the need for cooperation on migration between Africa and the rest of the world, but especially because of the relevance of the topic for the development of the continent as a whole. The importance of promoting freedom of movement and improved mobility was recognised by the adoption of the Freedom of Movement Protocol. In addition, thanks especially to the efforts and initiatives of the African Union. The continent has one of the most comprehensive policy frameworks and action plans.

Based upon a 2016 review of the existing 2006 AU Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA) a new document was adopted in 2018: the "Migration Policy Framework for Africa and Plan of Action (2018 – 2030)". The document takes into account AU priorities, policies, Agenda 2063, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and international migration management policies and standards. Taking a truly comprehensive approach, it focuses on Migration Governance, Labour Migration and Education, Diaspora Engagement, Border Governance, Irregular Migration, Forced Displacement, Internal Migration, and Migration and Trade.

For Africa’s Global and European partners, the developments in Africa create huge opportunities for cooperation. Sharing the positive experiences in establishing the Schengen area or supporting the inclusion of common features in African passports is one area. Another area for cooperation can surely be found in developing skills and opportunities for African entrepreneurs and workers, ensuring that these skills can contribute to both foreign and domestic labour markets. To make this work, a much stronger involvement of the private sector is needed in terms of investment and in terms of know-how on training and professional education. ICMPD is working with a number of private and public sector partners from Europe and Africa to pilot new initiatives.

THE NEED FOR STRONG COOPERATION AND MATURE PARTNERSHIPS

Addressing the challenges of irregular migration will need close international partnerships. It requires a combination of strong regulations as well as openings for labour migration based on close political cooperation between countries, also with regard to return and reintegration of persons. Intelligent and humane return and reintegration policies and practices are needed which can create win-win situations for sending and receiving States and for migrants who have to return. As an implementing partner, ICMPD supports the Netherlands since June 2018 within the European Return and Reintegration Network to devise such solutions.

Looking ahead, migration governance at global, regional and national levels will remain a challenge. The international community of States, organisations and academics actually have many of the insights to manage migration much better. All opportunities for closer and more constructive cooperation should be seized, to work in a spirit of partnership, of respect and trust.
EU EXTERNAL BORDERS
1993–2018

EU enlargement has more than doubled the length of the EU’s external land borders. Together with the vast EU coastline, the challenges for managing the external borders have increased as well.

Length of EU’s External Land Borders

2018: 13,180 km
1993: 5,234 km

Detections of Illegal Border Crossings at the EU’s External Borders

2018: 13,180 km
1993: 5,234 km
Major Host Countries of Refugees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Accessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>3,480,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>1,393,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>1,350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>998,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran (Islamic Republic of)</td>
<td>979,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>970,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>932,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>906,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>889,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>691,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UNHCR Global Trends 2017

Accessions of ICMPD Member States

- Austria
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Hungary
- Portugal
- Poland
- Romania
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- North Macedonia
- Malta
- Bosnia and Herzegovina

This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244.

Projects 2018
Policy, Research and Strategy

A Study on Refugee Protection and Development
Youth work in the context of integration of young refugees and migrants in Austria (YRMA)

Evaluation of the Common European Asylum System under Pressure and Recommendations for Further Development (CEASEVAL)

Migration. Communication. Education. (MIKS)
Mapping specific incentives for countries of origin to facilitate cooperation on return (MAPIN)

Processes of labour market integration of refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection in Austria (FIMAS-INTEGRATION 2)

Sharing of Medical Country of Origin Information, further cooperation with collecting new Med COI, extra training for national authorities officials aimed on the collection and usage of MED COI (MED COI IV – Phase 2)

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)

Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC)
Impact of refugee flows on territorial development in Europe (MigrARE)

Migrationskommunikation (MIKO)
Perspectives and future prospects of young, unaccompanied refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. Implications for integration policy (PERSPEKT)

Complementary Pathways for Adult Refugees: the Role of VET, Skills and Qualifications (REF-VET)
Role of European Mobility and its Impacts in Narratives, Debates and EU Reforms (REMINDER)

Technical support on the implementation of the labour migration strategy in Poland

Africa

Support to Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue (MMD)
Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa (FMM West Africa)
SUPREM: Supporting Sustainable Return of Migrants through Private-Public Multi-Stakeholder Partnership

Rabat Process (Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development)
Khartoum Process (EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative)

Eastern Europe & Central Asia (EECA)

Border Management Programme in Central Asia – Phase 9 (BOMCA 9)
Prague Process: Dialogue, Analyses and Training in Action (PP DATA)
Eastern Partnership ( EaP) – Integrated Border Management – Capacity Building Project
Sustaining Migration Management in Georgia (ENIGMMA 2)
Support to Implementation of the Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan (MOBILAZE)
Support to Migration and Border Management in Armenia (MIBMA)
Global/Inter-regional

- Trafficking Along Migration Routes (TRAM): Identification and Integration of Victims of Trafficking among Vulnerable Groups and Unaccompanied Children
- Swiss-Bulgarian Cooperation on Identification and Long-Term Assistance of Children and Adult Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings (BG/NATCOM)
- Forced Return Monitoring II (FReM II)
- Forced Return Monitoring III (FReM III)
- ATENÇÃO Brasil: Enhancing the Capacity of the Brazilian Government to Tackle Trafficking in Persons law
- Migration EU eXpertise (MIEUX III)
- Mobility Partnership Facility (MPF)
- European Return and Reintegration Network (ERRIN)
- Study on Trafficking Resilience and Vulnerability en route to Europe (STRIVE)

Mediterranean

- Enhanced Capability for Integrated Border Management in Lebanon (IBM Lebanon Phase 2)
- Dutch Support: Developing National Capability for Integrated Border Management in Lebanon (IBM Lebanon Phase 2-NL)
- Swiss Support: Developing National Capability for Integrated Border Management in Lebanon
- EUROMED Migration IV (EMM4)
- Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Phase 2
- Support Programme to the Government of Tunisia in the area of Integrated Border Management (IBM Tunisia)
- Support Programme to the Government of Tunisia in the area of Integrated Border Management – Phase 2 (IBM Tunisia 2)
- Operationalization of the implementation of Tunisia’s National Migration Strategy (ProGres Migration)
- Support to a rights-based Migration Management and Asylum System in Libya
- Support to the Mobility Partnership (MP) between the European Union (EU) and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (JEMPAS)
- Border Management Programme for the Maghreb Region (BMP Maghreb)

Western Balkans & Turkey

- Support the Implementation of Development-sensitive Migration Policies in Turkey (SIDEM)
- Strengthening the Operational and Strategic Capacity of the Directorate General of Migration Management in Turkey (DGMM III)
- Supporting the Asylum Decision Making Capacity of Turkey’s DGMM – ASCAP II
- Short-term Technical Assistance on Asylum, Migration and Mobility – Western Balkans (STAMM)
- Link up! Serbia II
- Strengthening Migration Management Authorities in Kosovo (MIMAK II)

Silk Routes

- Budapest Process 2018
- Support to the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration under the Budapest Process (Silk Routes III)
- EU-India Cooperation and Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (EU-India CDMM)
- Excellence, Knowledge and Rule of Law, Addressing Organised Immigration Crime in Pakistan (EXCEL)
The Brexit debate made clear that intra-EU mobility of workers and others deserves much more attention than it has been given. Since its early days, the free movement of labour has been a cornerstone of the European Union policy agenda. The enlargement of the EU has led to the transformation of a former hard border into an open border crossing zone since 2004. Focusing on Austria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, ICMPD illustrates the diversity of the kinds of mobility that have developed between “old” and “new” EU member states. Freedom of movement has produced a labour market that extends across national borders. Cross-border mobility has become a daily practice for many inhabitants of the former Iron Curtain border zones. Where border regions have truly integrated, mobility goes beyond regular trips from the place of residence to the place of work but includes residential mobility, such as Slovaks living in Austria and commuting to Slovakia for work, or educational mobility, such as Hungarian families sending their children to bilingual schools in Austria. Still, while there are strong economic and other incentives to migrate from East to West, there is little economic push towards the opposite direction. A specific case of cross-border commuting concerns care work. As Europe ages, demand for care work increases and shows imbalanced effects on old and new member states. Care work is made possible by Eastern European women and has become indispensable for care systems in Western Europe. This, however, creates a “care deficit” in the care systems of the sending countries, which affects children’s education and care for dependant family members most particularly.

ICMPD’s research provides insight into the impact of intra-European mobility on affected regions and delves into narratives and (mis)perceptions by people on the move towards Europe. Understanding Migrants’ Narratives and (Mis)Perceptions of Europe
Narratives and imaginations about an expected future have always shaped human migration. The “PERCEPTIONS” project seeks to identify and understand perceptions of the EU abroad that may lead to dissatisfaction. Victim vulnerabilities to crime or radicalisation occur when expectations turn out to be misperceptions. Particular focus will be given to the Mediterranean region and to the role of new communication technologies. The project will develop a framework model to counteract such perceptions by policy makers, practitioners and civil society organisations.

Dynamics and challenges of intra-EU mobility are illustrated in the case of Poland, which has become one of the main source countries for intra-European labour migration. Though a sizeable portion of workers abroad moved to Poland, the vast majority of migrants practise circular migration rather than returning permanently. Despite greater economic activity, the unemployment rate is higher for those who return than for those who never left, and over-qualification of citizens with experience abroad results in skills wasted upon return. In view of demographic aging, emerging skills gaps in European labour markets and persistent wage differentials between EU member states, a general and intensifying trend in intra-EU labour migration can be expected that will pose additional challenges for labour market and employment policies as well as social policies, welfare and public finances within the European Union. ICMPD will continue to monitor the respective developments.
ASYLUM, SOLIDARITY AND RESPONSIBILITY SHARING: STILL OUT OF SQUARE

Discussions around intra-EU as well as international solidarity continue to shape public debate – a reverberation of the 2015 large-scale arrivals, labelled by some as a “refugee crisis,” by others as a “solidarity crisis.” In 2018, ICMPD focused on the challenges and opportunities of harmonization and solidarity as essential tools to move from crisis management to future governance.

On the one hand, despite falling numbers of arrivals in the EU, solidarity and responsibility sharing have dominated the negotiations on, and been a major obstacle to, an agreement on reforming the Common European Asylum System in 2018. On the other hand, ever increasing displacement numbers at the global level led to a much needed discussion on solidarity in the global context culminating in the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees in December 2018.

In several working papers, infographics, blogs and policy events, ICMPD’s Policy Unit analysed the discussion around solidarity and the pitfalls of flexible arrangements of such an essential concept, so intrinsically linked to core European values. Solidarity is, in many ways, practised by EU member states, but lacks a common purpose in the EU’s asylum system. ICMPD illustrated how far away the current system is from a fair sharing of responsibilities, and discussed the challenges of measuring different efforts as part of a more flexible or comprehensive understanding of solidarity instead of the contested “fair” distribution of asylum applicants.

REGIONAL MOBILITY AND LABOUR MIGRATION

Another strand of ICMPD’s policy work in 2018 centred on regional mobility patterns. While labour market mobility for refugees as complementary pathways to protection is still in its infancy, there is a broad variety of regional cooperation frameworks fostering work-related mobility around the globe. ICMPD contributed to this discussion at the 11th GFMD Summit and in side events to the UN Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Marrakech in December, as well as at ICMPD’s Vienna Migration Conference in October 2018.

SELECTED READINGS

▪ Expert Voice: What remains “common” in the “European Asylum System” if Dublin fails?
▪ Expert Voice: Negotiating the Common European Asylum System’s third generation — stubborn on vision, flexible on details...
▪ Expert Voice: Making the case for regional cooperation on migration and mobility
▪ Infographic on Harmonisation Tools
▪ Infographic on Responsibility Sharing
▪ Working Paper on Sharing Responsibilities in the Common European Asylum System
▪ Working Paper on Solidarity – an integral and basic concept of the Common European Asylum System?

Times of high influx exacerbate existing inequalities in the distribution of asylum applicants among European countries. In the pre-crisis years, Germany was responsible for less than 20 percent of the asylum decisions taken in the EU. From 2015 to 2017, Germany issued more than half of all asylum decisions in the EU.
BUILDING EXPERTISE ON THE PROTECTION OF MIGRANTS IN EMERGENCIES

The effects of conflicts or natural disasters spare no country. Every year, millions of migrants are disproportionally affected by such tragedies. The EU-funded project “Migrants in Countries in Crisis” (MICIC) builds the capacities of countries and relevant stakeholders to better serve and protect migrants facing distress and humanitarian crisis.

In 2018, the validity of the results of MICIC comparative research was enhanced through publications and a series of promotional events. Major highlights included thematic capacity building and technical support, which translated the MICIC Guidelines into practical action in Africa, the Middle East, Central Europe and Asia.

ADVOCATING AND RAISING AWARENESS

All year round, ICMPD maintained a strong focus on raising awareness of the protection needs of migrants in emergencies through targeted promotional activities, including at the Vienna Migration Conference, as well as the dissemination of findings of the research on the socio-economic impact of crisis on migrants.

ADVANCING CAPACITIES

The MICIC project implementation of 2018 was marked by 34 capacity building activities with milestones involving:

• Training of trainers on consular crisis management in Jordan, Georgia and Ukraine in collaboration with the national diplomatic academies. The programme in Georgia culminated with the delivery of practical courses to acting consular staff, led by the newly trained trainers. Policy guidelines were also developed to institutionalise such training programmes, thus ensuring the improvement of capacities over time.

• Training of key responders on migrant children in emergencies, both at the national and local level, in West Africa. In Burkina Faso, the programme developed a national action plan to enhance the protection of migrant children during crisis.

• Creation of multi-stakeholder crisis coordination platforms in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana, supported by toolkits including terms of reference and action plans. The valuable partnership and dialogue fostered through such platforms will guarantee the commitment of national authorities to maintaining these innovative coordination mechanisms.

• Kick-off of a new training initiative in Sierra Leone and Bangladesh to enhance diaspora engagement for the protection of fellow nationals abroad, in the country of destination experiencing an emergency, and in the home country upon return. Technical assistance under this initiative will deliver policy recommendations for improved diaspora-government cooperation in crisis response.

In order to guarantee their relevance and sustainability, all these capacity building interventions are: 1) continuously tailored to the needs of the partner countries; 2) supported by peer learning and local expertise; 3) characterised by the strong element of country ownership.

DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO MIGRANT NEEDS

During its final year of implementation, in 2019, the MICIC project will further build capacities at the regional, national and local levels on the protection of migrant children in emergencies, diaspora-government cooperation and consular crisis management.
Member States Relations
A GROWING MEMBER STATE BASE

For the last 25 years, ICMPD has been involved in forming migration policies in Europe and beyond and has built up significant networks, profound migration expertise, the capacity to innovate and form strategic partnerships – making it a main migration partner for its Member States, partner countries, relevant organisations and other stakeholders.

FROM REGIONAL TO GLOBAL
ICMPD works with a regional perspective to create efficient cooperation and partnerships along migration routes. From a European base, ICMPD has taken its three pillar approach to migration management – structurally linking policy and research, migration dialogues and capacity building – world-wide.

2018 was a year of growing dynamics for ICMPD, adding two countries to its Member State base – Malta and Turkey. These countries have historically and geographically always been at the forefront of migration movements and bring rich migration management experience to the table. The memberships of Malta and Turkey will contribute to both regional outreach and strengthening operational cooperation. ICMPD now has 17 Member States across Europe. As another significant development, in 2018 the Netherlands signed a letter of intent to become an ICMPD Member State and is, pending national procedures, participating in the ICMPD Steering Group as an observer.

ICMPD Member States represent a variety of European countries, all bringing different perspectives to the cooperation. The Member States set the strategic direction of the organisation, and are given access to knowledge, networks, strategic thinking and innovation.

Member States benefit from:

- Substantial networks among migration administrations in Europe, Asia and Africa.
- Capacity for developing innovative approaches to deal with migration challenges based on knowledge and understanding of migration realities.

In 2018, Romania held the rotating chairmanship of the ICMPD Steering Group and will be followed by North Macedonia in 2019.

WIDER EXTERNAL RELATIONS

All work of ICMPD is guided by a partnership approach. ICMPD is fostering close relationships with regions that connect with Europe, aiming to create efficient cooperation and partnerships along migration routes.

The organisation has built strategic and long-lasting partnerships with governments and relevant stakeholders in all regions it operates in, including with European Union institutions, and is continuously building on these relations through high-level and technical visits and consultations as well as through its regional coordination offices and the Brussels mission. ICMPD sees outreach and strong relations as main ingredients in successful migration cooperation, an approach that also characterised the external relations work in 2018.

MEMBER STATES PROGRAMME

The ICMPD Member States Programme is shaped exclusively for member states. It uses its deep thematic and geographic migration expertise to organise activities according to the specific priorities of states. The main strands of the programme are:

1. National initiatives – taking the results of ICMPD to the doorstep of the Member States
2. Dialogue and exchange on specific topics – in 2018 a roundtable on “Skills based Complementary Pathways to Protection for Refugees and/or Asylum Seekers in Europe”
3. Support to members holding relevant chairmanships (for example the EU Council presidency)

In 2018 work was also put into the further development of the programme through consultations with the Member States. Furthermore, there were discussions on an initiative to start an Annual Report on Migration and Media. This initiative will be taken forward in 2019.

A PROGRAMME EXCLUSIVELY FOR ICMPD MEMBER STATES

Through a programme building on the key results from priority regions, research and policy development, Member States get access to the knowledge, experience, networks and ideas of ICMPD.
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 who 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 true inter-regional migration dialogue, the Budapest Process: a dialogue that created an informal political setting, providing an opportunity to agree on policy targets and standards for cooperation without legally binding the participating states. This gave states the freedom to engage in more ambitious cooperation, overcome differences and find commonalities on all topics. They build trust between partners, needed to initiate operational cooperation, and, as such, 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.

CONNECTION REGIONS

The organisation runs the secretariat for the Budapest Process, the Prague Process, the Rabat Process, the Khartoum Process and the Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM) Dialogue — all covering important migration regions. In its secretariat role, ICMPD supports leading and participating states with strategic information, providing migration expertise and administrative support. Having this function 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 the cooperation for a specific time period. Dialogues include several activities: working group meetings, capacity building measures and national implementation activities planned in order to reach the cooperation objectives. In many processes, this work is overseen by high-level senior officials’ meetings, 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 the work in priority regions closely connected with the migration dialogues it supports. The dialogue activities are flanked with 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

In the African region, the Rabat and Khartoum Processes act as a forum for political dialogue and cooperation on migration. The Khartoum Process engages the EU and Horn of Africa countries in tackling irregular migration and human trafficking and smuggling of migrants, while the Rabat Process brings Europeans together with North, Central and West African policy makers under a broader migration and development remit.

In 2018, Rabat Process partners welcomed the adoption of the Marrakesh Political Declaration and Action Plan 2018-2020, the new strategic framework governing the dialogue for the period 2018-2020. During the same year, the Khartoum Process further consolidated its framework for policy and dialogue among its member states under the Italian chairmanship. The Rabat and Khartoum Processes also represent the two platforms that monitor the implementation of the Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP), which was adopted during the Summit on Migration held in 2015. Within this framework, a JVAP Senior Officials’ Meeting took place on 14 and 15 November 2018, in Addis Ababa, leading to the adoption of Joint Conclusions with a view of addressing the implementation of the five priority domains of the JVAP.

In the Mediterranean region, the City-to-City Migration initiative (under the MTM Dialogue) entered its fourth year of operation. In 2017, a network of major cities in the Mediterranean, working on improving local migration governance, was consolidated and will be extended to include several more cities during 2019 and beyond.

As tasked by the Bratislava Ministerial Declaration of 2016, the Prague Process successfully launched its Migration Observatory and Training Academy in 2018. The products developed to date include several training manuals, policy briefs, analytical reports, country factsheets, media digests and expert interviews. The year 2018 also saw the implementation of a number of workshops and trainings addressing the priority areas as identified by the Prague Process states.

The Senior Officials’ Meeting in December 2018 focused on the 10th anniversary of the process in 2019, looked at its role in the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration on a regional level and considered the extension of its mandate and thematic focus for the period of the ministerial mandate (2017-2021) and beyond.

In the Silk Routes region, the Budapest Process moved towards a new Ministerial Conference in Istanbul in February 2019, which also celebrated its 25th year of operation. In 2017, the Budapest Process dialogue also piloted a methodology with annual focus topics. For 2017 and 2018, the thematic area was focused on return and reintegration. Flanking capacity building work in the Silk Routes region has deepened, mainly with Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan.

Supporting migration dialogues for the past 25 years has also influenced ICMPD. It has convinced them 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.

MIGRATION DIALOGUES

AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF GOVERNING MIGRATION

Migration dialogues successfully link countries and regions as well as create important networks among migration administrations. ICMPD supports several key inter-governmental dialogues on migration with strategic advice, expertise and administrative support.
Western Balkans and Turkey
TURKEY – A KEY PRIORITY COUNTRY

ICMPD’s Western Balkans and Turkey Regional Coordination Office continued its support to Turkish institutions on several thematic areas of migration management, ranging from irregular migration and return to supporting development of strategies for legal migration and efficient asylum procedures, implementation of sensitive migration policies and supporting the development of migration policies.

THE WESTERN BALKANS

A FRAMEWORK APPROACH

Priority needs of ICMPD Member States in the Western Balkans were identified through the Short-term technical assistance project initiative (STAMM) to conduct country or regionally based activities in order to develop complementary migration approaches in the region. The concrete activities of the project were launched in December 2018 and the first planned activity is a Negotiation Skills Training for the representatives of the ministries of interior/and or security of the Western Balkan countries.

LINK UP! SERBIA

In Serbia, the aim of the Link Up! Serbia project has been to stimulate investments from Serbian diaspora in Austria into Serbia. During 2018, the project team held intensive consultations with the Austrian Development Agency as the donor and the Ministry for European Integration of Serbia as the potential national counterpart, as well as other project partners and stakeholders in Serbia (Serbian Chamber of Commerce, regional development agencies).

MIGRATION MANAGEMENT IN KOSOVO

ICMPD’s MIMAK project, funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration and implemented in partnership with Maastricht University, supported the Government Authority on Migration (GAM) in improving the legal framework of migration management structures and providing support to policy development through developing a Government regulation on the work and functioning of the GAM, through revising the structures of the authority and defining the functions of its member institutions, and regular advice and support provided to the National Coordinator on Migration (NCM).

In addition, MIMAK raised awareness amongst the population on the benefits of regular migration and consequenc-es thus discouraging irregular migration and safeguarding regular migration and mobility.

IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND RETURN

ICMPD’s projects implemented in Turkey are designed to complement each other through focusing on all pillars of migration management such as irregular migration and return, legal migration, international protection, migration and development, anti-trafficking, border management, and migration policy development in general.

Through the UK-funded DGMM III and of the DGMM IV projects (Strengthening the operational and strategic capacity of Directorate General of Migration Management of Turkey, ICMPD focused on improving capacities of the Directorate General of Migration Management to respond to the flow of irregular migrants, the establishment of a national Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) mechanism, and improved and enhanced return operations with the aim of realising sustainable returns.

Within this scope, a Strategy Paper for Establishing a National AVR Mechanism in Turkey, a Comparative Study on AVR practices of other countries, and a research paper on the Role of Civil Society Organisations in implementing AVR were prepared in 2018. Furthermore, the operational capacities and procedures of the DGMM on countering irregular migration, return and readmission matters were enhanced. A study visit to FRONTEX HQ was conducted. Principles were agreed to on cooperation between FRONTEX and Turkey and training possibilities for enhancing the capacities of Turkish institutions involved in return operations. A study visit offered the opportunity to learn from Italy’s experiences on the application of readmission agreements with third countries.

Finally, the project fostered cooperation with countries of origin, namely with Afghanistan and Pakistan, through establishing migration dialogues. A visit of a high-level delegation from Afghanistan was organised and complemented by an expert workshop focusing on areas of cooperation between the DGMM and countries of origin.
LEGAL MIGRATION

As part of the DGMM III and DGMM IV projects also a Legal Migration Strategy and Policy Development Support Paper and a Comparative Study on Stay and Residence document have been developed. Two study visits, on visa and residence policies and practices of Spain and workflow on visa and residence of France were undertaken.

IRREGULAR MIGRATION

INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

The ASCAP II Project (Supporting the Asylum Decision Making Capacity of Turkey’s Directorate General of Migration Management), which was funded by the UK and implemented through 2018, aimed to strengthen the procedures for determining international protect status of the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management in the areas of institutional setup, integration of refugees and asylum seekers, quality of decisions, establishment of special procedures, and collection and use of country of origin information. The project sought to enable smooth processing of new and pending asylum applications and support the provision of effective protection. In 2018 Turkey remained the largest refugee-hosting country in the world with around 4 million refugees, and the number of new asylum applications during 2018 was 114,537.

DEVELOPMENT OF SENSITIVE MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

The Swiss-funded SIDEM (Support the Implementation of Development-Sensitive Migration Policies in Turkey) project initiated a research process analyzing the relationship of migration and development in three NUTS 2 regions in Turkey. The Research provided an evidence base in order to increase institutional knowledge on migration as well as formulate strategic policy directions, design development-sensitive migration policies and establish a targeted programme supporting the labour market integration of migrants. As part of this project, a development-sensitive Migration Strategy and Action Planning Framework document was developed that presented evaluations and recommendations for all related institutions in designing development-sensitive migration strategies and action plans. A Training of Trainers programme was planned in order to develop institutional training capacities on migration and development. A study visit to Switzerland was organised to share ideas on migration. Technical support was provided for the drafting of the “International Migration” chapter of the 11th National Development Plan of Turkey. A Labour Market Integration Seminar Week for Practitioners was organised to initiate knowledge sharing between local and international experts. Two pilot projects on economic development and integration to the labour markets were funded to promote the positive synergies between migration and development, building a network of relevant participants to facilitate sustainable integration and develop a sustainable programme for labour market integration of migrants and persons with a protection status.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING RESPONSE

The biggest added value of the UK-funded P-TIP project (Preventing, Identifying and Combating Trafficking in Persons in Turkey) is its multi-agency/multi-disciplinary approach involving all key anti-THB authorities enabling their cooperation, thus leading to sustainability. The DGMM staff have received specific on-the-job trainings, especially those working at the removal centers in terms of identification of potential THB victims. International developments were discussed with relevant authorities such as the Council of Europe, UK Home Affairs, etc. Turkey’s anti-THB efforts were also profiled. In line with the communication strategy developed, information brochures and posters were developed and disseminated to 81 provinces. A road map was designed in line with the current needs/gaps and lessons learned. The ultimate objective, with possible future projects, will be to ensure better handling of THB victims in the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) through capacity building raising awareness of the DGMM and the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services.
Eastern Europe and Central Asia
INVESTING IN EVIDENCE-BASED MIGRATION GOVERNANCE: FOCUING ON YOUTH, MEDIA AND RESEARCH

In 2018, the Eastern Partnership deliverables for 2020 resonated strongly in the work of the EECA Regional Coordination Office. Youth, media, research, mobility, people-to-people contacts, visa liberalisation dialogues and mobility partnerships were addressed through concrete actions in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. The experience gained through the EU-funded multi-thematic projects ENIGMMA (1&2), MOBILAZE and MIBMA is applicable to other countries too, Belarus being the next suitable candidate to support in implementing the mobility partnership, followed by Ukraine as another priority country with which to strengthen cooperation.

Mock court competitions help build the rhetoric and argumentation skills of students in the areas of migrants’ rights, human trafficking and international protection.

The work with media was distinctive in Armenia. In 2018, the annual “Suitcase” journalism contest on migration issues awarded nine journalists, publishing in Russian, Armenian or English. The contest aims to unite the potential of central and regional media representatives who cover and report on migration issues, encouraging them to raise awareness and report on related challenges and opportunities.

In 2019, the ICMPD International Summer School will enter a new dimension by joining the efforts of three EU-funded projects - ENIGMMA 2, MOBILAZE and PP DATA, gathering youth and young professionals from EECA and WB countries. This unique effort shall further contribute to regional and international exchange. The school, taking place in Georgia, shall contribute to timely investment into the future of migration policy.

The fifth International Summer School in South Caucasus brought together 50 young participants with aspirations to pursue a career in migration policy and leading international migration experts from Oxford, Maastricht, Amsterdam, Sorbonne and Vienna Universities, and ICMPD. The week-long intensive training course covered a variety of topics from key migration terms and concepts to economic and legal implications for hosting and sending societies or the media’s role in shaping public debates and policies on migration. Practical areas such as data collection and data visualisation were equally addressed.

The close cooperation with academia, research institutions and think tanks has always been a priority for the EECA RCO. In 2018, the expansion of analytical capacities represented a major investment across the region and contributed to the EECA RCO becoming a genuine knowledge and experience hub.

Over 10 Migration Study Weekends were organised for students, young professionals and researchers in Azerbaijan. The weekends provided youth with an opportunity to learn from very prominent European migration scholars. Meanwhile, the research and analytical capacities of state representatives were enhanced through a number of targeted trainings.

Migration talks and mock court competitions contributed to the informal education in Georgia. The talks provide a forum for interested students, state institutions and researchers to learn and debate migration.

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The ongoing “Prague Process: Dialogue, Analyses and Training in Action” initiative (PP DATA), launched at the beginning of 2018, has been allocated €1.9 million to ensure implementation of the Bratislava Declaration in 2018-2020. The European Commission finances PP DATA through the Mobility Partnership Facility (MPF II). The aligning of these two important instruments of the EU’s Global Approach to Migration and Mobility shall enhance policy coherence and, whenever possible, create synergies between migration dialogue and concrete actions implemented by collaborating states under the Facility.

The overall dialogue function, the Migration Observatory and the Training Academy represent the three pillars of current work. In 2018, both the Migration Observatory and the Training Academy were launched and progressed through a set of activities (i.e. workshops, trainings, expert missions, internship programme etc.) and the production of numerous outputs. These include various training materials, policy and analytical publications, expert interviews and country factsheets, as well as the well-established Quarterly Review and the monthly Media Digest. The Prague Process has gradually become a centre of knowledge and expertise with a particular focus on the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region.

10TH ANNIVERSARY
Launched in Prague in April 2009, the Prague Process will mark its 10th anniversary during the SOM in Bucharest, organised under the Romanian EU presidency on June 10-11, 2019. This event will allow participating states to assess the achievements of the Process and provide input on its future direction.
For the organisation, 2018 marked a year of growth in activities and on-the-ground presence in the Silk Routes region. Project offices were set up in Baghdad, Dhaka, Ismailabad and Kabul. In addition to the existing EU-funded project on Improving Migration Management in the Silk Routes countries, ICMPD undertook new projects in the region with funding from the EU and other donors. The focus has been on policy development, migrant protection and awareness-raising in all aspects of migration.

The development of a Comprehensive Migration Policy for Afghanistan, a National Emigration and Welfare Policy for Overseas Pakistanis and a Policy on Engagement with Iraqis Abroad, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders in those countries, were the milestones for 2018. All three policies are in the process of finalisation and adoption. Focus will be on implementation in 2019.

Given that several thousand people are on the move within and from the Silk Routes region, both regularly and irregularly, protection of the rights and well-being of these people have been a priority. Capacity building efforts were initiated for representatives of Silk Routes countries such as labour attachés in destination countries. Outreach to diaspora and development of strategies for crisis management and contingency planning were also undertaken.

ICMPD operated three Migrant Resource Centres (MRCs) in Kabul, Afghanistan and Ismailabad / Lahore, Pakistan in 2018. The MRCs help people make informed decisions when considering to migrate. They provide information on a range of migration-related challenges and opportunities, raise awareness on the benefits of safe and regular migration and the dangers, risks and consequences of irregular migration. In 2018, the MRCs reached out to more than 25,000 potential and outgoing migrants through counselling, information sessions targeting youth and communities and pre-departure training. By the end of 2018, a fourth MRC was established in Baghdad, Iraq.

Migrant protection can be enhanced through awareness raising, and the Migrant Resource Centres operated jointly by ICMPD and government authorities in a number of Silk Routes countries were instrumental in providing correct and comprehensive information to the public on migration realities and processes (see box for further information).

In 2018, ICMPD forged a new partnership with one of the world’s leading migration countries – India. Through the EU-funded Cooperation and Dialogue on Migration and Mobility project, co-implemented with the ILO, ICMPD supported the application of the Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) signed between India and the EU (in 2016) and the ongoing High-Level Dialogue on migration and mobility between the two sides. ICMPD’s focus during the year has been on mapping of Indian diaspora within the EU (specifically Germany, Ireland and Italy), developing a migration profile on overall EU-India mobility trends, and empowering student mobility through the launch of an EU-specific checklist offering guidance on a safe and legal educational experience.
The Budapest Process—
a Silk Routes Partnership for Migration

In 2018, the Budapest Process celebrated 25 years of migration cooperation since its inception in 1993. Fittingly, the year was used largely to prepare the next large milestone of the process: the 6th Budapest Process Ministerial Conference on 19 and 20 February 2019, in Istanbul to adopt the “Istanbul Commitments on the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration” and the “Call for Action—a five year plan.” It was a year to look back at what has been accomplished since the 1993 Ministerial Conference in Budapest, with an ever growing dialogue, two geographical expansions and a wide thematic scope covering each aspect of migration cooperation. It was also a year to look forward to developing the right tools to handle the challenges of tomorrow’s migration cooperation. Three meetings, with over 100 delegates attending on average, were held for countries to develop, discuss and negotiate the Istanbul Commitments and the action plan. That will start a new phase for the Budapest Process as it continues to facilitate and encourage migration cooperation in the future. The countries have also reaffirmed the strong belief that political commitments must be accompanied by operational actions on the ground. For this reason, it is particularly positive that so many concrete achievements, flanking the dialogue, can be recorded in the Silk Routes region during this time.

In parallel, in 2018 the annual thematic focus on return and reintegration continued successfully with a regional working group meeting in Sarajevo in May focusing on good practices and ways to further cooperate in these fields.
 KNOWLEDGE, EVIDENCE AND FACTS

The Mediterranean remained of key importance in 2018. While migrant flows continued to decrease, the routes shifted westward and record numbers of crossings in the Gibraltar Strait were recorded. Political focus was intense in both the Central and West Mediterranean. Subsequently, emphasis was given to cooperation with EU’s southern neighbourhood.

In such a context, ICMPD considerably increased its role in the region, working in close partnership with European institutions, EU member states, southern partners and a number of stakeholders. ICMPD’s approach encompasses the whole spectrum of migration governance, touching upon various thematic fields at all levels, from global, regional and national to local. The significant increase of migrant flows in the recent past severely tested the ability of authorities on the local level by compiling and analysing the situation in 9 cities (Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangier, Tunis, Turin and Vienna). It offers the most comprehensive analysis on the local situation of migrants in the region.

The adoption of the Urban Challenges and Opportunities for the Mediterranean Region Policy Recommendations serves as a point of reference for local administration and reflects the MTM approach of sharing inspiring models and developing common views on shared challenges. Alongside its partners United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and UN-Habitat, ICMPD helped position the theme of migration at the 8th African Cities Summit in Marrakesh, a global gathering of over 8,000 representatives from local and regional governments.

Communication will continue as a connecting thread for MTM, bringing perspectives from local, regional and national governments and convening experts to share experiences and develop tools on how to support a fact-based and balanced narrative on migration.

MTM DIALOGUE

The Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM) Dialogue has continued to make a marked contribution to migration governance by bringing the urban dimension of migration to the fore of dialogue and technical cooperation.

Its flagship initiative, the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) project, developed a mapping on the state of migration at the local level by compiling and analysing the situation in 9 cities (Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangier, Tunis, Turin and Vienna). It offers the most comprehensive analysis on the local situation of migrants in the region.

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Objectives of MC2CM Phase II

EXPAND DIALOGUE

More cities and stakeholders involved in exchanges and an enriched panel of learning activities

DEVISE MORE ACTION

Supporting targeted city actions to address identified needs and priorities on the ground

INCREASE KNOWLEDGE

Collection and dissemination of migration-related knowledge and data

RAISE AWARENESS

Promoting a realistic and fair narrative on migration intercultural dialogue

A second phase of MC2CM, co-financed by the European Union through the European Trust Fund for Africa and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, was launched on July 1, 2018, and will work for the next 3 years to increase successes and strengthen the network of cities.

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A second phase of MC2CM, co-financed by the European Union through the European Trust Fund for Africa and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, was launched on July 1, 2018, and will work for the next 3 years to increase successes and strengthen the network of cities.

MTM DIALOGUE

The Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM) Dialogue has continued to make a marked contribution to migration governance by bringing the urban dimension of migration to the fore of dialogue and technical cooperation.

Its flagship initiative, the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) project, developed a mapping on the state of migration at the local level by compiling and analysing the situation in 9 cities (Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangier, Tunis, Turin and Vienna). It offers the most comprehensive analysis on the local situation of migrants in the region.

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The Migration Media

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The EUROMED Migration Programme—Strengthen the Dialogue

EUROMED Migration IV (EMM4) promotes a comprehensive approach to strengthen-
ing dialogue and cooperation between EU member states and European Neighbour-
hood Instrument South partner countries. The programme provides a constructive and op-
erational framework to reinforce regional and national tools and capacities to support evi-
dence-based and coherent migration policies.

In 2018 special attention was dedicated to the narrative on migration, combining the
priorities of EMM4 and identifying emerging priorities for national and international stake-
holders. The aim is to promote a more bal-
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to support development of evidence-based
migration policies.

Active cooperation was established with a large number of partners from international
organisations, research institutes and private companies as well as NGOs through partici-
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ICMPD IN AFRICA – WORKING IN CLOSE PARTNERSHIP

Striving to create a positive impact in both Africa and Europe, ICMPD’s efforts in the region span dialogue facilitation, operational support and capacity building, as well as data collection and monitoring.

AFRICA-EU MIGRATION MOBILITY DIALOGUE (MMD)

The close partnership on migration cooperation between the two continents is illustrated by the Africa-EU Migration Mobility Dialogue (MMD), as part of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and is a key element of ICMPD’s operational portfolio in Africa.

MMD supports migration dialogues such as the Rabat and Khartoum Processes and helps to build the capacities to address migration challenges through Continental Dialogues (Short Term Technical Assistances and one flagship project, the Joint Labour Migration Programme). Furthermore, the MMD Support Project follows-up on the Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP) and strengthens the role of the African diaspora via the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT).

RABAT PROCESS

For 12 years, the Rabat Process has enabled political cooperation on crucial migration and mobility issues. It has offered a framework for consultation, bringing together countries of origin, transit and destination of migration routes linking Central, West and Northern Africa with Europe, involving over 60 state partners as well as the European Commission (EC) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The result is an open political and technical dialogue among national administrations with a ministerial mandate.

Key results in 2018 were the adoption of the Marrakesh Political Declaration and Action Plan 2018-2020 through an inclusive and intense consultation process, as well as the elaboration of the Individual Analysis report of Valletta 2018, which takes stock of the progress achieved in the Rabat Process region on the Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP). The Marrakesh Action Plan is aligned with the five domains of the JVAP and reiterates the importance of a balanced and comprehensive dialogue with concrete results. The Rabat Process has also demonstrated its ability to be flexible and adapt to the new context. The Global Compact for Migration and migration issues at the global level will continue to be discussed and followed-up in the framework of the Rabat Process.

www.rabat-process.org
THE JOINT VALLETTA ACTION PLAN MONITORING AND REPORTING (JVP&M)

In 2015, the Valletta Summit on Migration brought together European and African leaders with the aim of strengthening cooperation between the two continents. In the spirit of solidarity, partnership and shared responsibility, the participating states adopted the Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP). ICMPD was mandated through the Support to Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue (MMD) project to monitor and report on its implementation. As a result, a unique database was set up to gather information on projects, programmes, legislation and policies in Africa and Europe, addressing the five thematic domains of the Valletta plan.

In 2018, the main results of the JVAP M&R were reflected in the creation and delivery of a coherent, structured and highly complex but accessible framework for data collection and analysis. The key results of the data collection were presented during the Joint Valletta Action Plan Senior Officials’ Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 14 and 15 November 2018, that reunited 280 senior officials from across Europe and Africa. The aim was to follow up on the conclusions established during the 2017 Senior Officials’ Meeting (SOM) in Malta, and the progress made under the five domains of the JVAP.

The 2018 Addis SOM saw the adoption of the Joint Conclusions by all partners. In 2019, the work of the JVAP database will focus on improving its functionalities and the available outputs by looking back at more than one year of implementation. There will be less lessons learnt exercise, and recommendations will be developed. In addition, tailored outputs that respond to the needs of the users, such as entity country/horn of Africa and Europe related to continental priorities. These were implemented via Short Term Technical Assistance (STA) and one flagship project, the Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP). In 2018, the MMD Support Project coordinated with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) the implementation of the Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP), more specifically the project on “Extending Access to Social Protection and Portability of Benefits to Migrant Workers and their families in Selected INF dwellings”.

CONTINENTAL CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

In 2018, the continental component of the MMD Support Project continued to focus on technical assistance and capacity building related to continental priorities. These were implemented via Short Term Technical Assistance (STA) and one flagship project, the Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP). In 2018, the MMD Support Project coordinated with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) the implementation of the Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP), more specifically the project on “Extending Access to Social Protection and Portability of Benefits to Migrant Workers and their families in Selected INF dwellings”.

AFRICA-EUROPE DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM (ADEPT)

ICMPD supports the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT) in its work to strengthen the capacity and impact of Europe-based African diaspora organisations involved in development activities in Africa.

In 2018, ADEPT celebrated its first year as a non-profit organisation based in Brussels, following the 2014-2017 Development project phase to design the platform and establish it as a diaspora-led and -managed organisation. The year culminated with the 10th Diaspora Development Dialogue (DDD) in Marrakesh that brought together diaspora development actors, governments, civil society organisations, private sector and other stakeholders to discuss practical ways to maximise diaspora contributions to development in Africa.
the involved RECs (ECOWAS, SADC and EAC) as well as at continental level with the African Union, which paved the way for 2019. Contribution via an STA was also provided by the MMD Support Project to strengthen the capacities of the African Institute for Remittances (AIR) to maximise the implementation of its mandate. Special emphasis was put on support to the AIR Technical Assistance programme to African Union Member States (AU MS). Key expertise support has been provided to improve AU MS statistical measurement, compiling and reporting capabilities on remittance data and to upgrade legal and regulatory frameworks. Furthermore, an experience sharing visit to Bank Al-Maghrib was organised and a study on the Zimbabwe-South Africa remittances corridor was initiated.

During 2018, support to the African Union Commission Department of Political Affairs (AUC DPA) included the extension of the secondment of the knowledge management and communication expert to strengthen the capacity of the AUC on this protocol.

In 2019, the MMD Support Project will continue to support the Technical Assistance programme and widen its activities with AIR communication, leveraging the potential impact of remittances on the social and economic development of member states, as well as promoting financial inclusion.

SUPPORT FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS & MIGRATION (FMM) IN WEST AFRICA PROJECT

The FMM West Africa project aims to maximize the development potential of the free movement of persons and migration in West Africa. The project is designed to support the ECOWAS Commission, the 15 Member States and Mauritania. FMM is jointly funded by the European Union and ECOWAS and implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and ICMPD.

Among the most notable results achieved by FMM in 2018 are the support to the ECOWAS Trafficking in Persons Unit for the organisation of the 2018 annual review meeting on member states’ implementation of the ECOWAS Plan of Action on Trafficking in Persons and the adoption of the ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual by ECOWAS heads of state and government. Additionally, the FMM’s Demand Driven Facility (DDF) registered a number of key activities in Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Mali, covering issues of Border Management, Trafficking in Persons, Labour Migration and Free Movement via trainings, capacity building, assessment studies, and development of policies and strategies. On a multi-country level, six countries signed an Memorandum of Understanding to establish a sub-regional coordination mechanism to strengthen the fight against Trafficking in Persons and victim protection. Based on a request from the ECOWAS Commission, ICMPD designed a successful DDF effort in the form of an awareness campaign to promote free movement within the ECOWAS migratory space. Additionally, on the DDF multi-country border management level, three regional trainings were concluded involving 70 trainees from 14 member states (except Cabo Verde). This resulted in an increase of knowledge and technical training skills and a shared understanding of recent developments in border management, leading to a greater willingness to implement all procedures articulated in the Border Management and Free Movement manuals.
BORDER MANAGEMENT – THE GREATEST CHALLENGE

In 2018, the Border Management and Security (BMS) programme worked closely with national partners, international stakeholders and donors in identifying approaches to address evolving global challenges both at national and regional levels.

2019 BMS PROGRAMME CHALLENGE

In light of the evolving global challenges at national and regional levels, the time is ripe to introduce a new concept of border management, thereby acknowledging the variety of tasks and persons present at the borders, and recognizing the responsibilities border professionals assume over the development, security and stability of their countries. Comprehensive Border Governance is the future. “Comprehensive” encompasses all present and future cross-border tasks and responsibilities, and “governance” implies an approach open to an integrated Border Management (IBM) Conference, held on 24 and 25 October 2018, in Beirut, became a flagship event of the programme. The conference aimed to nurture synergies amongst various EU-funded projects on IBM and other donors (i.e. the Netherlands, Switzerland and Denmark), thereby facilitating a targeted knowledge exchange between like-minded persons at strategic and operational levels. As a result, the conference facilitated a common understanding amongst participants on prerequisites to balanced approaches in border management, security, technological and educational advancements. These were the main areas of the BMS programme’s work in 2018.

Technologies have changed the way we travel. Recognising this nexus between technological advancement and border management, a “Smart Traveller” mobile app was launched in Tunisia. The app was developed under the supervision of a working group from the General Directorate of Customs in coordination with the ICMPD project team. It contains detailed information and practical recommendations involving procedures and customs regulations for travellers crossing the border, including information for Tunisians living abroad when re-entering and staying in Tunisia, and for leaving the country again.

The number of passengers travelling by air is constantly increasing, placing pressure on airlines, border guards and airports. With this in mind, in September 2018, ICMPD launched an aviation security project in Lebanon: “Reinforcing Aviation Security at the Rafic Hariri International Airport” (AVSEC). Being the first action of its kind in Lebanon, the project aims to reduce the probability of terrorist attacks against the airport and the use of the airport to carry out attacks against airlines or passengers, and to lower the risk of undetected use of airport facilities by terrorists and other criminals.

Compliance with national and international standards requires highly knowledgeable and trained national authorities at the strategic and operational levels. In May 2018, the Lebanese Armed Forces’ Central Training Centre at Rayak Airbase was inaugurated and received support from the BMS programme in the development of the border management curriculum and training. For the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Turkey, a unique training manual on IBM was developed. The manual targets the deputy province governors and district governors who play a key role in the coordination of border agencies in the country and provides them with the tools to make well-informed decisions and meet security challenges in border areas.

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What does BMS do?

- Supporting the drafting of national integrated Border Management guidelines and border management strategies for States;
- All the various aspects of border management, mobility, trade facility and migration governance policies;
- Strategic expertise for high-senior officials and decision-makers.

Capacity Building

- Capacity building activities on a wide range of border management related topics: strategic planning, joint patrolling, document security, vehicle search, risk analysis, anti-corruption;
- Developing fully-fledged e-learning platforms;
- From the highest level for the strategic issues down to officers and agents for the technical ones.

Provission of Equipment

- Refurbishing training centres;
- Equipping control rooms with IT equipment (hardware and software);
- Developing maritime surveillance and customs software;
- Provision for detection dogs.

2019 BMS PROGRAMME CHALLENGE

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Anti-Trafficking Programme
A YEAR OF EXPANDING PARTNERSHIPS

In 2018, the Anti-Trafficking Programme continued to provide expertise and technical assistance to our partners to support them in aligning their national and regional anti-trafficking responses with the latest policy developments. ICMPD continued to expand its knowledge on how migration, refugee protection and trafficking relate to each other by researching what makes migrants vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, which factors enable exploitation, and how practitioners can intervene in order to stop and prevent this crime.

SUPPORTING THE EU PRESIDENCIES IN 2018

ICMPD produced a non-paper on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the Western Balkans on the occasion of the international forum “The Western Balkans and the European Union: Systems for Combating Human Trafficking in South Eastern Europe in the Context of the Accession Process” in May 2018 in Sofia in the framework of Bulgaria’s EU Presidency Programme. The non-paper served to guide discussions on trafficking trends and provided indications for the EU’s upcoming anti-trafficking activities in the Western Balkans.

EU ANTI-TRAFFICKING DAY 2018

ICMPD cooperated with the Austrian Task Force on Combating Human Trafficking to organise a workshop on the EU Anti-Trafficking Day in the framework of the conference “Human Trafficking and Human Rights.” The workshop focused on the disconnect between anti-trafficking and asylum systems along the Balkan migration route. Furthermore, the Anti-Trafficking Programme organised the Vienna Migration Conference (VMC) side event “Regional Cooperation to Combat Human Trafficking – Lessons Learned from South-Eastern Europe.” The event was in line with one of the priorities of the Austrian EU presidency, on effective cooperation to fight human trafficking, and with the VMC’s thematic focus “From Crisis Management to Future Governance.”

CONTRIBUTION TO MIGRATION DIALOGUES

In the course of 2018, the Anti-Trafficking Programme provided thematic expertise to the regional migration dialogues. Within the Prague Process Migration Observatory and Training Academy, it developed a training manual on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings for the countries in the region and provided successful practices on developing, monitoring and evaluating national anti-trafficking action plans.

The Stocktaking assessment to identify thematic priorities in the area of human trafficking and smuggling of migrants in the Khartoum Process countries looks at current trends and the relevant legal frameworks, policies and responses. The assessment, still ongoing, provides action-oriented recommendations to overcome the challenges identified and to shape enhanced national and regional anti-trafficking responses.

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON REGIONAL COOPERATION IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE (SEE) TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

The role of ICMPD as secretariat of the Network of National Anti-Trafficking Coordinators in South-Eastern Europe was further strengthened. At the Brdo Ministerial Conference in March 2018, the Declaration for Regional Cooperation in SEE to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings was signed. Its adoption confirms the alignment of the Brdo Process countries with the priorities of the EU to address trafficking and provides a framework for future cooperation between the region and the EU.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ICMPD’S WORK WITH THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING AUTHORITIES IN JORDAN

TRAINING ROADSHOW

With the Ministry of Labour ICMPD organised a Training Roadshow on awareness and identification of human trafficking, reaching around 90 labour inspectors across Jordan. Prior to the Roadshow, it delivered a refresh course train-the-trainer course to the ministry’s training team and assisted them in the preparation of the training sessions.

Also, 2018 witnessed the conclusion of the process of development of the Jordanian National Anti-Trafficking Strategy and Action Plan 2018–2022. The support provided by the Anti-Trafficking team over the past three years contributed to the development of procedures that reflect the needs and respond to current anti-trafficking challenges in the country.

Strategic policy and training documents developed to support anti-trafficking stakeholders in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Global Initiatives
AN EXPERTISE-DRIVEN PROGRAMME WITH A GLOBAL FOCUS

Global Initiatives’ two capacity building projects with a global outlook, Migration EU eXpertise (MIEUX) and the Mobility Partnership Facility (MPF)

Since 2008, the joint EU-ICMPD Migration EU eXpertise (MIEUX) Initiative celebrated 10 years since its inception by inviting its partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America to discuss what achievements, impact and good practices the programme has helped to build since 2008 and by presenting its peer-to-peer formula for capacity building on migration at international forums on migration and development. Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods to request capacity building assistance on all aspects of migration. Ten years later, MIEUX’s portfolio of 141 requests spanning four continents and the 422 experts mobilised to share their knowledge and expertise bear witness to the programme’s recognition and added value.

MIEUX’s endeavours have corresponded with some of the key developments in migration governance in the last decade. In a crucial year for international migration governance, given the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration, MIEUX underwent an internal review exercise involving its partners from 100+ institutions, ministries and governmental bodies to reflect on what achievements the programme has supported during its 10 years of existence. Ultimately, the goal is to offer a greater reflection for all migration practitioners on the role of capacity building in improving migration governance.

Furthermore, in order to contribute to expanding the knowledge about this subject and the role of the EU as a regional leader in cooperation on migration, MIEUX presented its peer-to-peer capacity building formula to audiences at two key forums of international development: the European Development Days, held in Brussels in June, and the 11th Global Forum on Migration and Development Summit in December in Marrakesh.

During the course of 2018, the initiative gathered 1,237 participants spread across 61 capacity building activities, 22 of which took place in Africa, 18 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 12 in Asia, and 9 in the EU Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods. Some of the highlights included helping the Togolese government to draft standard operating procedures for return and reintegration of nationals and migrants; formulating a protocol for the Special Migratory Situations Team in Costa Rica; assisting Moldova with formulating a Crisis Communication Plan, among others. In the last 12 months, the team delivered 19 products, of which 21 percent were related to policy (from national policies to action plans), 11 percent were of operational nature (standard operating procedures and guidelines), 42 percent were information products (research reports and communication materials), and 26 percent were related to capacity building (handbooks and manuals).

A total of 58 experts (59 percent female and 41 percent male) were deployed. Forty-one percent of MIEUX experts in 2018 hailed from EU MS public administrations, 20 percent from public administrations in partner countries, and 39 percent from other backgrounds (academia, civil society and private consultants).

In 2019, MIEUX will concentrate on taking forward more than 60 activities in partner countries as well as disseminating the knowledge, practices and inputs gathered during the 2018 regional roundtables through a series of events aimed at stimulating debate among migration practitioners of the current role and the potential of capacity building in improving migration governance worldwide.

MIEUX
is a demand-driven global capacity building programme.
FORGING PARTNERSHIPS ON MIGRATION

During 2018, the MIGration EU eXpertise (MIEUX) Initiative celebrated 10 years since its inception by inviting its partners in Asia, Africa and Latin America to discuss what achievements, impact and good practices the programme has helped build since 2008 and presenting its peer-to-peer formula for capacity building on migration at international forums on migration and development.

Since its creation, the MPF has brought together and reinforced bi- and multilateral cooperation among public authorities of EU MS and partner countries. Over 850 officials have been involved in capacity building activities in fields ranging from integrated border management, return and trafficking in human beings to vocational training for labour inclusion, (social) economy and asylum procedures. At the same time, the MPF has contributed to supporting up to 80 migrants in establishing businesses, seeking better job placement or conducting labour market searches in their home countries, while safely returning over 250 citizens.

Since 2016, the Mobility Partnership Facility (MPF) has brought together European Union Member States (EU MS) and partner countries with the aim of strengthening dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility issues. Over the past two years, the first MPF Call for Proposals triggered 13 actions involving authorities from 16 EU MS and respective-ly six Mobility Partnerships (MP) and two Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) countries.

FOCUS ON LEGAL MIGRATION PILOT PROJECTS

Two new Calls for Proposals were launched in 2018, including, for the first time, a dedicated focus on Legal Migration Pilot Projects, extending the original scope of the MPF. These developments could not have been possible without the innovative character of the first round of MPF actions. Among them, MENTOR – “Mediterranean Network for Training Orientation to Regular Migration” was the first action piloting a migration scheme between Italy, Morocco and Tunisia. Thanks to this action, 19 young Moroccans and Tunisians experienced a professional traineeship in Italy. The programme included pre-departure training sessions and a mentoring phase following the internship and a focus on the development of business plans. The experience of MENTOR is now being shared with other EU member states willing to engage in the same type of actions. Under the Call for Proposals dedicated to Legal Migration Pilot Projects, two concrete ideas have already been approved. The first one seeks to pilot a temporary legal labour migration scheme that will bring young ICT specialists from Nigeria to Lithuania. Within the same field, a second action, led by Belgium, will support the mobility of Moroccan ICT workers through a labour migration scheme while strengthening the national capacities on employment and job-placement institutions. In 2019, MPF will continue focusing, inter alia, on this strategic topic.

The MPF is built around four strands:

- Horizontal activities supporting MP/CAMM constituents
- The Prague Process: Dialogue, Analysis and Training in Action
- Legal Migration Pilot Projects: Call for Proposals
- Support to Mobility Partnership (MP)/Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM): Call for Proposals

SUPPORTING MPS AND CAMMS

With its horizontal component, the MPF provides support to MPs and CAMMs through the creation of a solid knowledge basis for a more critical and sense-making review of ongoing activities and policy processes. In particular, the “Evaluation of the Mobility Partnerships between the European Union (EU) and Cabo Verde, Georgia and Moldova” carried out by the Graduate School of Governance of the University of Maastricht, offered the opportunity to assess the achievements of MPs over the past years, while reflecting on its implementing structures, relevance in an evolving EU policy landscape and disclosing useful elements to be taken into account for the future. The study aimed to carry out a multi-dimensional and independent evaluation of selected MPs and produced a report on the MPs’ impact on various levels, to formulate lessons learnt and to provide recommendations on the future implementation modalities and ways forward.
People Management
OUR PEOPLE

Over the last year, ICMPD has seen a continuation of its growth with a significant expansion in workforce, currently employing 257 staff. ICMPD staff are international and increasingly diversified, comprising 55 nationalities, working in 16 duty stations across 4 regions of the globe.

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

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.
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ICMPD’s financial statements are prepared in line with the rules governing the financial framework of ICMPD and relevant decisions reached by its Member States. They are drawn up in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and International Public Sector Accounting Standards as applied. In 2018, ICMPD disposed of a total contracted project volume of €230 million. The consolidated 2018 budget (regular and programme funds) amounted to €384 million. The budget was funded by membership contributions, voluntary contributions for projects, and other income. The consolidated budget comprises the regular budget, containing the essential management, administration, and infrastructure costs necessary for the steering and governance of the organisation, and the programme budget, containing dedicated resources for project implementation, specific programmes for Member States and support functions.

**Programme Outputs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Revenue</th>
<th>Consolidated Implementation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>€16,751,000</td>
<td>€15,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>€22,123,000</td>
<td>€20,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>€38,481,000</td>
<td>€35,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Programme Expenditures by Geographic Region**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2018 Expenditure</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>€6,412,000</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe and Central Asia</td>
<td>€4,735,000</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Balkans &amp; Turkey</td>
<td>€2,713,000</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mediterranean</td>
<td>€10,177,000</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silk Routes</td>
<td>€2,759,000</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
<td>€7,129,000</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy, Research and Strategy</td>
<td>€2,807,000</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>€36,750,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Programme Expenditures by Funding Structure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Structure</th>
<th>2018 Expenditure</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICMPD Member States</td>
<td>€1,108,000</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>€568,000</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions Operational Activities</td>
<td>€2,497,000</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Resources</td>
<td>€34,308,000</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>€38,481,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Programmes and Geographic Areas Funded**

ICMPD’s operational activities covered seven thematic migration management programmes: Border Management and Security, Asylum and International Protection, Irregular Migration and Return, Legal/Labour and Migration/Immigration, Trafficking in Human Beings and related forms of exploitation, Social Cohesion and Security, Migration and Development as well as Policy and Research-activities. Geographically, the areas of operation reflected the priority regions of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Silk Routes countries, the Southern neighbourhood with the Mediterranean region, Sub-Saharan Africa as well as Western Balkans and Turkey. ICMPD supported migration dialogues in the Southern and Eastern neighbourhoods and carried out research projects with a focus on the European migration policy agenda.