

**FIFTEENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations Secretariat  
New York, 16-17 February 2017

**CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE FIFTEENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION<sup>1</sup>**

*International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)*

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<sup>1</sup> The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.

Since its establishment in 1993, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) has worked on numerous aspects of migration with the purpose of promoting innovative, comprehensive and sustainable migration policies. ICMPD's approach combines research, support to intergovernmental migration dialogues along key migration routes and systems, and technical cooperation and capacity building on all migration issues.

A. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING 2016 TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
MIGRATION-RELATED COMMITMENTS OF THE 2030 AGENDA

In 2016, ICMPD's operational activities covered six thematic programmes: Asylum, Border Management and Visa, Irregular Migration and Return, Legal Migration and Integration, Migration and Development, and Trafficking in Human Beings. ICMPD's foundation is European but its operations span the globe; the geographic emphasis in 2016 was on Eastern Europe, Western, Central and Southern Asia, and Northern and Western Africa. ICMPD also supported major migration dialogues in the Southern and Eastern Neighbourhoods of the European Union and carried out research projects with a focus on European policy questions.

ICMPD's contributions to the implementation of the migration-related commitments of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1) can be illustrated and summarised as follows:

1. With reference to refugees and internally displaced persons [23], ICMPD supported the Ukrainian government to develop a policy on internally displaced persons. ICMPD also facilitated technical workshops with its Member States on international protection, in particular solidarity and responsibility-sharing, irregular migration analysis, prognosis and forecasting. International Refugee Protection and the European Responses was one of two themes addressed in the 2016 Vienna Migration Conference.
2. ICMPD worked extensively with both governments and migrant/diaspora organisations to enhance the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development [29]. Work continued to establish the Africa-Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT) which serves to improve and enhance the capacity and impact of African diaspora organisations involved in development activities in Africa. MEETAfrica, an initiative by Expertise France, was launched in 2016 and will support African entrepreneurs with a French or German diploma to start a business in their country of origin with a strong technological or innovative component in the agricultural, industrial or service sectors. ICMPD also cooperated on diaspora policy development and outreach with Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malawi, Mali, Paraguay, Serbia and Togo, as well as the African Union.
3. The recognition in the 2030 Agenda that migration is a multi-dimensional reality for all countries, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses [29], is echoed in all of ICMPD's work, in particular multi-country approaches and projects that foster state cooperation, coordination and policy coherence, as well as ICMPD's support and secretariat functions for regional and inter-regional migration dialogues, connecting Europe, its Eastern neighbours and Asia (Budapest Process and Prague Process) on the one hand, and Europe, Africa and the Middle East (Rabat Process, Khartoum Process, Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue, MTM Dialogue and EUROMED Migration IV) on the other. While each dialogue has its own operative framework, agenda and thematic priorities, they share the common principle of strengthening international cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration through facilitated technical and policy dialogue on migration.

4. In line with the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship [29], ICMPD continued to contribute to a functioning EU Return System that protects the fundamental rights of returnees through the establishment of independent and transparent monitoring.
5. With reference to the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) on eradicating human trafficking [5.2, 8.7, 16.2], the Targeting Vulnerabilities study of Syria, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq on the impact of the Syrian war and refugee situation on trafficking in persons provided important new evidence and recommendations for improved policy-making. In 2016, ICMPD also continued its support the development and implementation of national anti-trafficking strategies, action plans and mechanisms, such as transnational referral, in cooperation with Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Jordan, Moldova, Pakistan and Turkey, as well as numerous countries in Western Africa. ICMPD is a member of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons and has joined Alliance 8.7.
6. In view of ICMPD's specific migration mandate, the organisation's contribution to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration [target 10.7] is encompassed in most of its work. In the field of migration governance and management, ICMPD works on strengthening institutions and legal frameworks, developing strategies and action plans, building capacities and providing technical assistance, and supporting bilateral, multilateral and multi-stakeholder partnerships.
  - In 2016, ICMPD supported the development of coherent and comprehensive migration management in Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Cape Verde, Georgia, Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Sierra Leone and Turkey. Specifically in the field of labour migration policies, ICMPD supported Brazil, Mali, Mauritius, Nigeria, Togo and Turkey. Targeted migration management support, especially through peer-to-peer exchanges and triangular cooperation, is promoted through MIEUX, an EU-funded global facility for strengthening all aspects of migration governance capacities. In Mexico, for example, ICMPD helped strengthen efforts to assist and protect unaccompanied minor migrants.
  - In the framework Support to Silk Routes Partnership for Migration under the Budapest Process, Migrant Resource Centres were opened in Islamabad and Lahore.
  - In the framework of the global Migrants in Countries in Crisis initiative, ICMPD conducted six regional consultations, published an Emerging Findings comparative study of six crisis situations, and kick-started its capacity building component for states, civil society, regional organisations and other actors to better assist and protect migrants caught in countries affected by crisis.
  - Activities to strengthen international and inter-agency cooperation and coordination on borders, develop integrated border management strategies and action plans, improve procedures and training standards took place across Central Asia, Western Asia, Northern and Western Africa. In Lebanon, for example, ICMPD fosters a rights-based approach to managing the arrival, stay, and exit of migrants and refugees.
  - The 2016 Vienna Migration Conference took stock of developments in the areas of migration and migration policy and provided a forum for political decision makers, government experts, academia, the media and the civil society to discuss “European Migration Policy and International Cooperation” and “International Refugee Protection and the European Responses”.
  - In 2016, ICMPD started support projects for the implementation of the Mobility Partnerships between the EU and Azerbaijan and Jordan respectively. Through the EU-

funded Mobility Partnership Facility, ICMPD also organised a workshop for the Eastern Neighbourhood to discuss the relevance and success factors of their implementation.

7. With reference to target 10.c, and as part of our cooperation with the African Union on diaspora engagement, we launched support to the important work of the African Institute for Remittances in lowering transaction costs for sending money within Africa and enhance the economic impact of migrant and diaspora remittances.
8. In support of SDG 11 to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration initiative brought together Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangiers, Tunis, Turin and Vienna to share knowledge and experience, develop ideas and help shape the future of cooperation on migration and integration. Furthermore, and related to SDG 13, ICMPD supported Benin, Guinea-Bissau and Togo to enhance action and cooperation on climate change and migration at national and regional levels.
9. With reference to targets 17.16 and 17.17 ICMPD encourages multi-stakeholder approaches in its projects, programmes and dialogues; this is particularly promoted in order to reach broad and sustainable diaspora engagement in economic development.
10. In support of target 17.18, ICMPD assisted Georgia, Jordan, Lao PDR and Paraguay to enhance government capacities to collect, analyse and use migration-related data for policy-making purposes.

**B. INITIATIVES THAT WILL BE UNDERTAKEN DURING 2017 TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW YORK DECLARATION FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS**

Partnership will be one of the overriding themes of ICMPD's work in 2017; partnership on migration, partnership within Europe, between Europe and its neighbours, between Europe and the global community and last but not least, between Europe and the European voters. ICMPD aims at supporting its partners in establishing these partnerships in the framework of the migration dialogues it facilitates (Budapest Process, EuroMed Migration, Khartoum Process, Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue, Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue, Prague Process and Rabat Process), in its research and policy work, in capacity building initiatives and, as requested, in its partners' work on the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. The broad topics to be covered are: asylum and international protection, border management, combatting trafficking in human beings and related forms of exploitation, legal/labour migration/immigration, migration and development, preventing and curbing irregular migration, as well as social cohesion and integration.

Concretely, ICMPD expects to continue work on many of the strands mentioned under section (A) of this paper, which directly support the commitments of the New York Declaration for refugees and migrants. The following examples illustrate ICMPD's planned contribution to the implementation of the New York Declaration:

1. ICMPD expects to continue or initiate new cooperation on capacity building on all forms of migration management with more about 150 partners in over 90 countries around the globe. Key projects and programmes in 2017 are:
  - The joint EU-ICMPD global technical assistance facility MIEUX, now in its third phase (2016-2019) that works on strengthening the migration governance capacities of governments in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America by mobilising peer expertise.

- The Silk Routes Partnership for Migration project under the Budapest Process will open a Migrant Resource Centre in Kabul and start developing new centres in other partner countries. A flagship project the protection of migrant workers for all partner countries will also be launched.
  - The EU-funded Migrants in Countries in Crisis support project’s capacity development programme will train consular staff and support contingency planning.
  - Support for migration governance processes for countries in the Middle East and North Africa is foreseen to commence through the EuroMed Migration project.
  - In the framework of the FMM West Africa project, ICMPD will continue support to Guinea Conakry, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal and The Gambia to strengthening coordination mechanisms within and between the countries to combat trafficking in persons. Throughout 2017 the new ECOWAS border management manual is also expected to be rolled out in the region, harmonising training standards.
  - The African diaspora-led and managed platform ADEPT is expected to be officially launched in summer; ICMPD has supported the establishment of the platform since 2011.
2. In terms of research, ICMPD is addressing some of the important shortcomings in the knowledge surrounding migration in countries experiencing crisis, with a focus on the development implications of such situations. Based on fieldwork conducted in 11 countries, a new study is expected to be launched in summer. In the framework of the EuroMed Migration partnership, a forthcoming study in the first quarter on the narrative of migration provides new analysis of how media in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa cover the story of migration. In the context of research on Addressing Demand in Anti-Trafficking Efforts and Policies, a new working paper on supply chain initiatives will be published in the second quarter. Research on the risk of exploitation and trafficking in persons among vulnerable migrants in high risk sectors, refugees and unaccompanied children in the context of the current migration and refugee crisis will also be conducted in the second half of 2017 on the main migration route(s) with focus on Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Greece and Sweden.
  3. The 2017 Vienna Migration Conference will take place in November and pick up on the overriding theme of partnership and discuss the most important policy questions facing European migration governance today, such as EU migration compacts, against the background of the ongoing intergovernmental negotiations to develop a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. New policy papers and recommendations will be developed and launched to this end, inter alia on displacement-development nexus. Furthermore, since 2014 ICMPD has engaged its member states in discussions on asylum and irregular migration, and will continue providing analysis to and roundtable exchanges with its member states to develop practical policy solutions to pressing issues in these two fields.
  4. Upon request of Turkey, as the Chair of the Budapest Process, ICMPD will do a thematic recollection of policy recommendations stemming from the dialogue for the purpose of providing inputs to the planned thematic sessions set out in the draft modalities resolution for the global compact on migration. Consultations will be held with other dialogue (co-)Chairs as to any specific support ICMPD would be requested to provide with a view to supporting the thematic consultations and stocktaking phases of the intergovernmental negotiations. Furthermore, ICMPD will continue to provide support to the implementation of the Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue, including the Rabat and Khartoum Processes as well as support to the monitoring of the

Valletta Action Plan. Thematic expertise will also, as needed, be provided to the GFMD Roundtable government teams.

5. Efficient migration management requires knowledge and expertise in different scientific disciplines: law, sociology, demography, political science, economics, and others. ICMPD promotes this approach by organizing multidisciplinary research-oriented migration summer schools within different projects. These summer schools welcome students from different academic fields of study, young professionals from state institutions involved in migration management, and representatives of civil society to support cooperation between the government, non-government, and academic sectors.

Further to this, ICMPD will reflect on other ways it could provide direct substantive inputs to the thematic consultations and stocktaking phases of the intergovernmental negotiations global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.