



Focus Paper on Migration and Development

1. Introduction

Poverty reduction, good governance, human security and the preservation of an environment worth living in, are the main objectives of Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC). The Three-Year Program on Austrian Development Policy 2016–2018 defines as one of its substantive priorities “*ensuring peace and human security, human rights and migration.*”

ADC is contributing to creating enabling conditions for sustainable development and providing populations of partner countries with prospects and opportunities for the future. Considering that, it can also contribute to ensuring that migration is a voluntary mobility option that can be managed to the benefit of the migrant and his/her family as well as the mutual benefit of the home and destination country.

Migration is a universal feature of humanity, commonly understood as population movements either across an international border or within a state and includes displacement and refugee movements. Refugees are forced to flee because of a threat of persecution and lack of protection in their own country. Migrants, however, leave their country for reasons not related to persecution, such as for the purpose of finding a better life for themselves and their families, employment, family reunification, escaping poverty or to study. Migrants and refugees are increasingly making use of the same routes and means of transport to reach their destination. In case of being unable to enter a particular state legally, they often use the services of human smugglers and embark on very dangerous sea or land voyages, in which many do not survive.

For the development of a country, migration can be a challenge and at the same time an opportunity. If well managed, it is capable of representing positive forces for development. For many people – also in ADC partner countries - migration and mobility is a livelihood strategy, such as for example in Moldova, where almost a third of the population emigrates or in Burkina Faso, where almost 10% of the population migrates mostly to Côte d’Ivoire for economic reasons and contributes substantially to the economy by sending earnings home. On the other hand, this may cause negative effects such as brain drain, lacking workforce, decreasing and ageing populations, as well as social costs for the families left behind in the sending countries. Refugee influxes can represent a major challenge for hosting countries as it is the case in the ADC partner country Ethiopia, which is currently Africa’s biggest refugee-hosting country. This requires adequate responses from the government.

For example, ADC Partner country Uganda which also hosts a large number of refugees provides persons with refugee status small areas of land in villages, integrated within the local host community, enhancing social cohesion and integration.¹

Facts, figures and research on migration show that migration is a multi-dimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses. The relationship between migration and development is complex and accurate research data is rather hard to find and, if available, related to the specific local context in a given country. It is also difficult to create linkages due to the fact that populations move in the frame of different national emigration and immigration regulations and the number of migrants, paths and frequencies of migration are not always documented.

Migration as a development enabler has however, been fully recognized in the new Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, adopted in September 2015. Migration and migrants are well represented, both in terms of migration as a positive force for development and in terms of promoting the rights and wellbeing of migrants. The inclusion of migration in the 2030 development framework has the potential to reinvigorate attention to migration governance in both developing countries and amongst donors, and contribute to further the positive links between migration and development.

The **core objective** of the Austrian Development Agency's (ADA) **approach to migration and development** is to maximize the positive interlinkages between migration and development and to minimize the negative ones. The **purpose of this document** is to outline – on the basis of the Three-Year Program on Austrian Development Policy 2016–2018, Austria's international obligations and commitments within the European Union (EU) – the principal positions, strategic areas of ADA's work and demonstrate its engagement with current project examples.

2. Definitions and Terminology

Regarding the terminology in the area of migration and development, it is important to understand the meaning of and differentiate between the following terms:²

Migration - internal migration – international migration - forced migration

- **Migration** is not universally defined. It is a population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes are - either

¹ ICMPD Presentation, Die Perspektive des Südens und Ostens mit Schwerpunkt auf OEZA Partnerländer, 01.03.2016, Vienna and UNHCR, Global Trends - Forced Displacement in 2015, <http://www.unhcr.org/ethiopia.html>, <http://www.unhcr.org/uganda.html>.

² This list is not exhaustive but captures the most important terms that are necessary for the understanding of the thematic topic of migration and development. The definitions are taken from the "Glossary on Migration", International Organization for Migration (IOM) and are adapted for the purpose of this document.

across an international border or within borders. It includes migration of refugees, displaced persons and economic migrants.

- **Internal migration** takes place within the borders of a nation state (e.g. from a province, district or municipality to another), as opposed to international migration where people are moving across borders.
- **International migration** is a territorial relocation of people between nation-states. The dominant forms of migration can be distinguished according to the motives (economic, family reunion, persecution) or legal status (irregular migration, regular migration) of those concerned.
- **Forced migration** is used to describe a migratory movement in which an element of coercion exists, including threats to life and livelihood, whether arising from natural or man-made causes (e.g. movements of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as people displaced by natural or environmental disasters/causes, chemical or nuclear disasters, famine, or development projects such as dams, roads, deforestation etc.).

Migrant - economic migrant – regular migrant - irregular migrant

- **Migrant** is not universally defined. The term is usually used to cover all cases when a person moves from one country to another different from his/her usual residence for a period of at least 3 months.³
- **Economic migrant** is a person leaving his/her habitual place of residence to settle outside his/her country of origin in order to improve his/her quality of life. This term may be used to distinguish from refugees fleeing persecution, and is also used to refer to persons attempting to enter a country without legal permission and/or by using asylum procedures without bona fide cause.
- **Regular migrant** is a migrant who is in line with the immigration policies requirements of countries of destination and transit, if applicable, i.e. a person using regular and recognized migration channels.
- **Irregular migrant or undocumented migrant** is someone who, owing to illegal entry or the expiry of his/her visa, lacks legal status in a transit or host country. The term applies to migrants who infringe a country's admission rules or any other person no longer authorized to remain in the host country (overstay). There is however no universally accepted definition.

Refugee - asylum seeker – internally displaced person - stateless person

- **Refugee** is a person, who “owing to well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country”.⁴
- **Asylum seeker** is a person who is seeking to be admitted into a country as a refugee, and awaiting the decision on the application for refugee status under the relevant international and national instruments.
- **Internally displaced persons (IDPs)** are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of

³ <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sconcerns/migration/migrmethods.htm>.

⁴ As defined in Art 1, Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, 1951.

violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border.

- **Stateless persons** are not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law.⁵ They lack the rights attributable to nationality: the diplomatic protection of a State, no inherent right of sojourn in the State of residence and no right of return in case s/he travels.

Mixed migration - circular migration - mobility

- **Mixed migration** flows are complex population movements including economic migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. They increasingly make use of the same routes and means of transport to get to an overseas destination.
- **Circular migration** is understood as movement of people between countries, including temporary or long-term movement. This form of migration is often supported by initiatives which make it easier for migrants or former migrants to circulate, or travel back and forth, between the country of origin and the (former) country of residence.⁶
- **Mobility** is often used as a synonym to migration - but not always. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) defines it as “*the ability of individuals, families or groups of people to choose their place of residence*”. When the EU is talking about mobility, it is referring to a wide range of people going beyond migrants and including short-term visitors, tourists, students, researchers, business people or visiting family members. Further, the term can include crossborder-movements of rural pastoralists and borderland communities.

Forced return – voluntary return – resettlement – readmission agreement

- **Forced return** is the compulsory return of an individual to the country of origin, transit or third country, on the basis of an administrative or judicial act.
- **Voluntary return** is the assisted or independent return to the country of origin, transit or another third country based on the free will of the returnee.
- **Resettlement** is the relocation and integration of people (refugees, internally displaced persons, etc.) into another geographical area and environment, usually in a third country. This term generally covers that part of the process which starts with the selection of the refugees for resettlement and which ends with the placement of refugees in a community in the resettlement country.
- **Readmission agreement** addresses procedures for one state to return aliens in an irregular situation to their home state or a state through which they passed *en route* to the state which seeks to return them. It is an act by a state accepting the re-entry of an individual (own national, third-country national or stateless person), who has been found illegally entering or being present in another state.

⁵ Art. 1, UN Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, 1954.

⁶ <https://www.pragueprocess.eu/en/documents/category/3-programme-key-documents?download=73:prague-process-handbook-on-managing-labour-and-circular-migration-en>

Brain drain – brain gain-brain waste

- **Brain drain** refers to the emigration of trained and talented individuals from the country of origin to a third country, due to causes such as conflict or lack of opportunities resulting in a decrease of skills resources in the country of emigration.
- **Brain gain** refers to the immigration of trained and talented individuals from a third country into the receiving country. It however also refers to the increased knowledge that migrants gain through work or education-related migration and which they use in their country of origin.
- **Brain waste** is a term describing the phenomenon of people working in jobs below their qualifications, which can happen either at home or abroad.

Diaspora - remittances

- **Diaspora** refers to ethnic, religious and/or national groups and communities that are dispersed from their country of emigration throughout other parts of the world. There is no single definition of the term “diaspora”. Modern diaspora are usually minority groups of migrants with a common identity residing and acting in host countries but maintaining strong sentimental and material links with their countries of origin. Diaspora is also defined as a migrant community which comprises persons with the nationality of the country of origin and persons who have acquired the nationality of the country of settlement.
- **Remittances** are monies earned or acquired by non-nationals that are transferred back to their country of origin. Besides quantifiable financial remittances, there are also social remittances, such as networks and relations, skills and knowledge, ideas and values.

Smuggling - trafficking

- **Smuggling** is defined as the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a state party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident
- **Trafficking** is defined as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or out of a position of vulnerability, or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

3. Facts and Figures about Migration

Reasons to migrate

There are multiple reasons to migrate internationally and those reasons are often interlinked and overlapping. Often, very personal motivations and family ties play a role. In other cases the lack of decent livelihood perspectives, the destruction of natural resources like soil degradation, water scarcity or deforestation, as well as effects of climate change are decisive for the decision to migrate.⁷

⁷ See e.g. IOM Outlook on Migration, Environment and Climate Change, <https://www.nanseninitiative.org/>, http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mecc_outlook.pdf or www.environmentalmigration.iom.int.

Moreover the Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalization & Poverty stated already in 2005 that inequalities are a major driver of migration, whether in terms of access to opportunities and rights such as education and training, of wages, working conditions, labor market opportunities, access to natural resources or other. Workers and their families move each year across borders and continents, seeking to reduce what they see as the gap between their own position and that of people in other, wealthier, places. Also inequality within sending areas or countries can generate migration, since more unequal villages tend to produce more migrants than less unequal villages.⁸

Furthermore, (armed) conflicts, the fear of persecution, human rights violations and fragile situations, are a driver of migration. Fragile states are currently the major source of refugees globally and of migrants to the European Union (EU). All the countries that are the major sources of refugees and migration to the EU are fragile states. Also, two of the major refugee hosting countries, Pakistan and Ethiopia, are considered fragile.⁹

In this context it is important to distinguish between voluntary and forced migration while acknowledging that this distinction is not so clear-cut in reality. Motivations are often mixed and categories may change along the way and the categorization is in many cases, a normative one. Researchers have characterized migration as a continuum between voluntary and forced migration with different elements of coercion. Voluntary migration is usually referred to all cases where the decision to migrate is taken freely by the individual concerned without intervention of an external compelling factor; forced migration refers to movements of persons who are (internally) displaced by conflict or war, as well as to people displaced by natural, environmental, chemical or nuclear disasters, famine and development projects.

Facts and figures on migrants

According to United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) there were **approximately 250 million international migrants** dispersed globally in 2015. They comprised about 3.3% of the world population in comparison to 2.8% in 2000. The number of international migrants has grown faster than the world's population.

Between **geographical areas** there are considerable differences: In Europe, Northern America and Oceania, international migrants account for at least 10% of the total population, whereby in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, less than 2% of the population are international migrants.¹⁰

Most international migratory movements **take place between developing countries**: in 2013, 35,5% of all international migrants who represent the largest share of international migration flows, were from a developing country and had settled in another developing

⁸ Briefing: Migration and Inequality: Policy Implications, Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalization & Poverty, No. 7, 2005.

⁹ OECD/DAC Briefing paper Migration and Fragility, 2015. There is no common definition of „fragility“. There have been several lists of fragile states that use different indicators thus resulting in different rankings.

¹⁰ UNDESA, Population Facts. No.4/2015, December 2015.

country. Migrants from the Global South living in the Global North represented 81.9 million people, accounting for one third of international migration and 1% of the world population.¹¹ Significant numbers of migrants have also been recorded along the pathway from the Global North to the Global South, with nationals from the United States moving to Mexico (0.6 million) and to South Africa (0.3 million); Germans to Turkey (0.3 million); and Portuguese to Brazil (0.2 million).¹²

Most migrants also move **within the region**. The intra-regional migration proportion for Africa overall is estimated at 52.6%, comparable to 59% in Europe and 54.7% in Asia. However, Sub Saharan Africa has a higher intra-regional rate estimated at 65%. The proportion moving within the same sub-region is over 80% in West Africa, 65% in Southern Africa, 50% in Central Africa, 47% in East Africa and only 20% in North Africa.¹³

Women comprise slightly less than half of all international migrants. Between 2000 and 2015, the female share in the global international migrant stock fell slightly, from 49.1 per cent to 48.2 per cent. In 2015 the percentage of females among all international migrants was highest in Europe (52.4%) and Northern America (51.2%). It is much lower in Asia (42.0%) and Africa (46.1%), where male migrants significantly outnumber female migrants. Latin America and the Caribbean and Oceania host almost equal numbers of female and male migrants.¹⁴

Women are more vulnerable to physical, sexual and verbal abuse when travelling and they are more likely to become victims of traffickers for the sex industry. They also often face double discrimination in the labor market, since their status as “dependents” often limits their access to employment, social and health programs, and their residence may depend on their relationship with an employed male partner. On the other hand, education, work experience and economic independence abroad can release women from traditional roles and enable them to exercise their rights more effectively.

Experience has shown that **children and youth** are affected by migration in different ways: they are left behind by migrant parents and often have to take up roles of care givers, brought along with their migrating parents or they migrate alone, independently of parents and adult guardians. For example, according to EUROPOL estimations, 10,000 unaccompanied or separated children had disappeared between 2014 and 2015, with the majority suspected missing due to trafficking and exploitation.¹⁵

Currently one in eight migrants is between the age of 15 and 24 and most international migrants are of working age. Demographic pressures – ageing population and increasing deficits in labour forces - have become prominent in many developed and developing countries. The global skills shortage is set to worsen. A recent international study calculated that by 2020, global shortages of highly skilled professionals will reach “38 million to 40 million fewer workers with tertiary education (college or postgraduate degrees) than employers will need”, and “another 45 million too few workers with secondary

¹¹ OECD/UNDESA 2013.

¹² IOM World Migration Report, 2013, Migrant well-being and development, 2013.

¹³ Program Brief: Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration in Africa: A bold new initiative, AUC, ILO, IOM, UNECA.

¹⁴ UNDESA, Population Facts. No.4/2015, December 2015.

¹⁵ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/30/fears-for-missing-child-refugees>, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35453589>.

education in developing economies". On the other hand, due to the impact of development interventions, there is an increasingly educated young population which presents a huge opportunity for development.¹⁶

Other children and young adults do not move, but are nevertheless affected because they live in communities that send or receive large numbers of migrants. Some children are return migrants or have been repatriated.¹⁷

During crises, forced displacement and along migration routes, discrimination of **persons with disabilities** is often magnified. They are at heightened risk of violence, including sexual and domestic abuse, exploitation by family members and exclusion from access to humanitarian assistance, education, livelihoods, health care and other services or even get left behind in dangerous situations. Proper information, disability-disaggregated data collection, assessment of disability status and assistance needs during asylum process/intake are often neglected resulting in failure to respond to disability-related requirements by authorities.¹⁸

Facts and figures on refugees and IDPs

According to the latest figures released by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) there are around **65 million forcibly displaced persons** worldwide and amongst these an **estimated 21 million refugees**. Other forcibly displaced persons remain within the borders of their countries (internally displaced persons). In 2015, the total number of refugees represented about 8% of all international migrants.¹⁹

Developing countries host over 86% of the world's refugees compared to 70% ten years ago. The top six refugee hosting countries are Turkey, Pakistan, Lebanon, Iran, Ethiopia and Jordan. Further, more than half (54%) of all refugees worldwide in 2015 came from Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia.²⁰

By the end of 2014, **38 million people had become displaced within their own country** as a result of violence. 11 million of them were newly uprooted during 2014 – equal to 30,000 people a day - due to the protracted crises in Iraq, South Sudan, Syria, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Nigeria. These five countries accounted for 60% of new displacement worldwide. Iraqi civilians suffered the most new displacement, with at least 2.2 million displaced in 2014, while at least 40% of Syria's population, or 7.6 million people, have been displaced – the highest number in the world. In Ukraine, more than 640,000 people were internally displaced in 2014.²¹

¹⁶ Program Brief: Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration in Africa: A bold new initiative, AUC, ILO, IOM, UNECA.

¹⁷ <https://www.unicef-irc.org/knowledge-pages/Migration-and-children>.

¹⁸ Working with Persons with Disabilities in Forced Displacement, 2011, UNHCR. Further the Committee on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommended that the EU should mainstream disability in its migration and refugee policies, <http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=14429&langId=en>.

¹⁹ UNHCR, Global Trends - Forced Displacement in 2015.

²⁰ OECD/DAC Briefing paper Migration and Fragility, 2015 and UNHCR, Global Trends - Forced Displacement in 2015. The order of countries is showing the ranking order of the volume of refugees the countries are hosting and sending, respectively.

²¹ Global Overview 2015, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC).

Migrants in Austria and immigrants from ADC partner countries

In 2015, 35% of Austria's net migration gains of foreign citizens originated from other countries within the European Union, such as Romanians, Hungarians and Germans.²² Regarding non-EU citizens, immigrants came from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq.²³ The largest number of asylum seekers in 2014 came from Syria, followed by Afghanistan, the Russian Federation (mostly Chechens), Kosovo, Somalia as well as Iraq.²⁴ Compared to 2013, there were much more applications from Syria, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Somalia und Iraq, while the number of asylum seekers from the Russian Federation, Pakistan and Algeria decreased.²⁵

Hence, besides **Kosovo and the South Eastern Europe Region** there is rather little overlap between migrants in Austria and immigrants coming from ADC partner countries. However, it also has to be noted that ADC partner country Ethiopia hosts many Somali refugees who belong to the largest groups of asylum seekers in Austria.

Regarding the statements above, it has to be underlined that **migration data is rather unreliable and difficult to compare** between countries, which renders research, policy making as well as monitoring of migration measures very difficult. Problems in migration data collection arise from very diverse data sources used to produce migration statistics, differences in definitions and measurement methods and a general lack of adequate data.

4. The links between Migration and Development

Up to date data analysis, research and practice, demonstrate that the links between Migration and Development (M&D) are complex, manifold and not fully examined.

Previously in the international discourse, the causes of migration, north-south migration, a preference of temporary migration and a focus on the resources of migrants were at the center of attention. However, over the past years **coherence, coordination and cooperation** have become more relevant.

Instead of exclusively examining the **root causes of migration**, a close look is now being taken in international research and practice at how migrants and their rights are handled politically, as well as the benefits for the target countries regarding the contribution of migrants to the economy and demography, specifically in an aging Europe. In addition, research has shown that migration cannot be understood by focusing exclusively on countries of origin. Therefore, to a large extent, the focus on the "root cause approach" to development and migration is being gradually abandoned and the positive contribution of migration to development is increasingly being recognized.

Studies have also shown that it is not only poverty that motivates people to cross borders, but that **migration takes place only if certain means are available**. Poor people usually lack the resources and do not tend to migrate far. It is therefore usually not the poorest of the poor who migrate. In the short and medium-term, socio-economic development of the

²² The order of countries is showing the ranking order of the volume of migrants the countries are sending.

²³ The order of countries is showing the ranking order of the volume of refugees and migrants.

²⁴ The order of countries is showing the ranking order of the volume of asylum seekers.

²⁵ Statistik Austria, Migration und Integration. Zahlen, Daten, Indikatoren, 2015.

country tends to stimulate international migration.²⁶ A study of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on the migration-development nexus came to the following conclusion: "*There is no direct link between poverty, economic development, population growth, social and political change on the one hand and international migration on the other. Poverty reduction is not in itself a migration-reducing strategy.*"²⁷

In this context the following concrete interlinkages between M&D are to be mentioned:

Regarding the **transfer of knowledge and skills**, for example, there can on the one hand be a massive brain drain from countries of origin, which can be very problematic for developing countries. On the other hand, countries of origin may also benefit from migrants acquiring new skills abroad and bringing these back home with them when returning temporarily, permanently or virtually. This phenomenon is called brain gain. Furthermore, brain waste can happen if migrants are working in jobs below their qualifications - at home or abroad.

Another important contribution by migrants/diaspora to the development of their countries of origin is **remittances**. These can be either social transfers (such as ideas, innovations, attitudes, values) or financial transfers (like direct contributions to household income or investments). Usually, remittances are direct transfers to the migrants' families and friends back home, yet they can also be funds that are invested, deposited or donated to public projects in the country of origin. For example in Moldova, ADCs partner country, remittances make about one third of the Moldovan economy.²⁸

Worldwide remittances accounted for around USD 581.6 billion in 2015 of which USD 431.6 billion were sent to countries of the south. This amount is three times more than the total value of global foreign aid. It is also estimated that USD 20 billion would be available additionally, if transaction costs for remittances would be reduced by 3%. Currently the global average of transmitting costs is 7.5%.²⁹

At present, **human trafficking** is a crime affecting almost every country in the world. The global scale of human trafficking is difficult to quantify, due to the hidden nature of the crime. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO) 2.4 Million people become victims of trafficking yearly. Most detected trafficking victims are subject to sexual exploitation, but there are also increased numbers of those trafficked for forced labor. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), victims tend to be trafficked from poor countries to more economically developed ones within the region. Trans-regional trafficking flows are mainly detected in the rich countries of the Middle East, Western Europe and North America. These flows often involve victims from the global South, mainly from Eastern and Southern Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Statistics show a correlation between Gross Domestic Product of the destination country and the share of victims trafficked there from other regions. The number of detected child victims, particularly girls under 18 years of age, has increased and adult women comprise the vast

²⁶ Haas, H. de, *Migration and Development : A Theoretical Perspective*, Oxford, International Migration Institute, University of Oxford, 2007.

²⁷ IOM, *The Migration Development Nexus, 2003 as well as Migration and Poverty: Linkages, knowledge gaps and policy implications*, UNICEF, 2007.

²⁸ <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.TRF.PWKR.DT.GD.ZS>.

²⁹ ICMPD Presentation, *Die Perspektive des Südens und Ostens mit Schwerpunkt auf OEZA Partnerländer*, 01.03.2016, Vienna .

majority of victims who were trafficked for sexual exploitation. In addition to this, trafficking of human beings is often linked with other forms of organized crime and is considered the second largest source of illicit profits for organized criminals after those obtained from the drugs trade.³⁰

Regarding **smuggling of migrants**, accurate figures are difficult to obtain due to the clandestine nature of the crime. Commonly used routes for the smuggling of migrants are the route leading from South America and Central America (as well as Mexico) to North America and the route leading from Africa to Europe. Each year, some 55.000 migrants are thought to be smuggled from East, North and West Africa into Europe, generating about USD 150 million in revenue for criminals. The journey to Europe is not always made all at once: the majority of migrants remain in North Africa for different periods of time, often to earn more money to pay for the rest of the journey. The number of migrants smuggled from Africa into Europe is however far lower than the number smuggled from South America and Central America into North America.³¹

5. Relevant international and EU commitments for migration and development³²

5.1. International level

The 1994 **International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)** resulted in the adoption of a 20-year Programme of Action which was a key step in the recognition of M&D within the UN context. Furthermore, the Berne initiative, launched in 2001 as a state-led consultative process by the Government of Switzerland, resulted in the International Agenda for Migration Management which acknowledges M&D.

In 2003 the then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan appointed the **Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM)**. The mandate of the GCIM was to place international migration on the global agenda, analyse gaps in current policy approaches and examine inter-linkages with other issue-areas. Its final report, released in 2005, contained 33 recommendations for the international community based on six principles. This report became one of the guiding documents for the debate on M&D.

During the first **High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development (HLD)** in 2006 the member states agreed to initiate the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) an informal, non-binding, state-led discussion process to advance understanding and cooperation on the mutually reinforcing relationship between migration and development and to foster practical and action-oriented outcomes. Additionally, the UN organizations and IOM decided to cooperate more closely on migration issues and in 2006 founded the Global Migration Group (GMG).

³⁰ ILO.

³¹ UNODC homepage <https://www.unodc.org/toe/en/crimes/migrant-smuggling.html>.

³² The following section gives an overview of the most relevant documents and instruments at an international, EU and partly regional level. It is meant to be a brief overview rather than a comprehensive list.

In 2013 the second **UN High Level Dialogue** took place, where, governments and more than 600 civil society organizations (CSO) joined forces and formulated an 8-point plan of action for the coming five years which entails: 1.) Protect the human rights of all migrants; 2.) Reduce the costs of labour migration; 3.) Eliminate migrant exploitation, including human trafficking; 4.) Address the plight of stranded migrants; 5.) Improve public perceptions of migrants; 6.) Integrate migration into the development agenda; 7.) Strengthen the migration evidence base; and 8.) Enhance migration partnerships and cooperation. This plan served as an important point of reference for future discussions.

The Agenda 2030 is the first global development framework that recognizes the integral role of migration in and its immense contribution to sustainable development. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognize international migration as a multi-dimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination. They stipulate the commitment to cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants regardless of migration status of refugees and of displaced persons. Such cooperation should also strengthen the resilience of communities hosting refugees, particularly in developing countries. Furthermore, the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship is affirmed, as well as that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received.

Specific SDG targets that relate to migration are the following³³:

- SDG target 4.b: By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of **scholarships** available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing states and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries;
- SDG target 8.8: Protect **labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments** for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment;
- SDG target 10.7: Facilitate **orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility** of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies;
- SDG target 10.c: By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant **remittances** and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent;
- SDG target 16.2: End abuse, exploitations, **trafficking** and all forms of violence against and torture of children;
- SDG target 17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of **high-quality, timely and reliable data** disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts;
- Follow-up and review processes at all levels will be guided by specific principles. Amongst them one principle is that they will be rigorous and based on evidence,

³³ Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, A/RES/70/1.

informed by country-led evaluations and data which is high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, **migration status**, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.³⁴

At the level of internationally binding conventions, migrant workers and their families are protected through the **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families** of 1990, which entered into force in 2003. The Convention seeks to play a role in preventing and eliminating the exploitation of all migrant workers and members of their families throughout the entire migration process. Migrant worker is defined as “a person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national.” It emphasizes the link between migration and human rights and establishes minimum standards that States parties should apply to migrant workers irrespective of their migratory status. They should consider, inter alia, that irregular migrants are frequently exploited and face serious human rights violations and that appropriate action should be encouraged to prevent and eliminate clandestine movements and trafficking in migrant workers while at the same time ensuring the protection of their human rights. So far none of the world's major host countries of migrants and immigrants has ratified the Convention.³⁵

The **Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees** of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol is the key international legal document related to refugees. It defines the term ‘refugee’ and outlines the rights of the displaced, as well as the legal obligations of States to protect them. The cornerstone of the 1951 Convention is the principle of *non-refoulement*. According to this principle, a refugee should not be returned to a country where he or she faces serious threats to his or her life or freedom. This protection may not be claimed by refugees who are reasonably regarded as a danger to the security of the country, or have been convicted of a serious crime, or are considered a danger to the community. It includes amongst others the right not to be punished for illegal entry into the territory of a contracting state, the right to work, to housing, to education and the freedom of movement within the territory.³⁶

5.2. EU and regional level

The European Union’s first comprehensive approach to Migration and Development manifested in a European Commission communication published in 2005 titled “**Migration and Development: Some concrete orientations**”. In this communication, migrants were recognized as being agents of development in their home countries and concrete measures were proposed.

Furthermore, in 2005, the **EU Global Approach to Migration** was adopted as a policy framework that sought to address migration in a more comprehensive manner – and in cooperation with third countries.

³⁴ See pt 74.g. of the Resolution referred to in FN above.

³⁵ The International Convention on Migrant Workers and its Committee, Fact Sheet No. 24, OHCHR. Austria has not ratified the Convention.

³⁶ <http://www.unhcr.org/1951-refugee-convention.html> The 1967 Protocol broadens the applicability of the Convention. It removes the geographical and time limits that were part of the 1951 Convention. These limits initially restricted the Convention to persons who became refugees due to events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951.

In the first half of 2011, a new approach was elaborated and published as the renewed **Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM)** with two main goals: 1.) To strengthen the external migration policy of the European Union; and 2.) To improve relationships with non-EU member states in order to make migration mutually beneficial. As the mobility of third country nationals is of strategic importance, Mobility Partnerships are provided to the EU's immediate neighbors as one of the two operational frameworks of the Global Approach. A precondition is that a specific level of progress in the dialogue with third countries has already been achieved.

With regard to the EU external migration policy – the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility – underlines the importance of setting up mutually beneficial partnerships with third countries and includes migration and development as one of its four priority areas. The 2011 **Agenda for Change (AfC)** aims at strengthening positive synergies between migration and development as a priority issue for external cooperation.

The 2013 **Communication on Maximizing the Development Impact of Migration** stressed the role of effective migration governance in maximizing the positive and limiting the negative impacts of migration on development, and underlined the need for a broader and more ambitious approach in this area. This was reiterated in the December 2014 **Council Conclusions on Migration in EU Development Cooperation**, which supported the inclusion of migration in the post-2015 agenda and asked for greater ambition in the area of migration and development at EU level.

The **European Agenda on Migration**, adopted in May 2015, has as its main objective to approach the issue of migration in a comprehensive way. With the Agenda, the Commission wants to break down silos and mainstream migration into all its policy areas, both at internal and external level.

Furthermore the EU is lobbying for transnational agreements to deal with the increasing migration to Europe on the basis of GAMM. **The Valletta Summit on Migration** in November 2015 is one example which brought together European and African heads of state and government in an effort to strengthen cooperation and not only address the current challenges but also the opportunities of migration. It recognized that migration is a shared responsibility of countries of origin, transit and destination. In addition, the EU Trust Fund for Africa was launched at that occasion under the objective to respond to the challenges of irregular migration and displacement and to specifically address the root causes of destabilization, displacement and irregular migration. Comparable, a joint Action Plan has been signed by the EU with Turkey in March 2016.

Additionally, there are several **relevant instruments at continental and regional level in priority regions of ADC**, which are relevant for ADA, such as e.g. the 2006 AU Migration Policy Framework, the AUC Strategic Plan 2014-2017 with its Strategy to “Promote Labour Migration.” The various Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Africa are moving forward with formulating overarching migration strategies to promote regional integration and development, such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which introduced intra-regional free movement with its related protocol in 1979 and also adopted its Common Approach on Migration in 2008. Further, the Common Market Protocol of the East African Community (EAC) entered into force in 2010 which provides for the right to free movement among EAC partner states.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) has its Regional Migration Policy Framework and a free movement of persons regime is planned. The Southern African Development Community (SADC) adopted a Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement of Persons in 2005 which has not yet entered into force.

Often but not always linked to the RECs, **intergovernmental dialogues** have been launched to promote cooperation and exchange of information among states on various areas of migration. The link between migration and development has been given increased attention in most regional migration dialogues and in some of them, both Austria and countries of the ADC priority regions are participating (e.g. the Rabat Process, the Khartoum Process, the Prague or the Budapest Process).

6. General positions of ADA

- In line with the goals of the Agenda 2030, the objective of ADA is to **maximize the potentials of linking migration and development and to minimize related risks**. ADA's engagement is based on the development needs of partner countries and the fulfillment of individual human rights. It is not conditioned by the fact that they are migrant-sending countries or on the assumption that they might curb migration to Europe.
- The **right to leave any country**, including one's own, is recognized by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.³⁷ As long as there is a lack of perspectives for a decent life and war, fragility, prosecution along with human rights violations exist, migration might remain a necessity rather than an option.
- Women, pregnant women, single parents with minor children, children, elderly, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons³⁸, minorities, victims of human trafficking, persons with serious illnesses and persons who have been subjected to torture, rape or other serious forms of violence, may be exposed to higher risks during migration and flight. Their **human rights** and specific needs need to be respected throughout the migration cycle.
- ADA can contribute to **tackling the root causes of forced migration and displacement**, such as armed conflict, natural disasters, environmental dynamics, famine, discrimination of ethnic, religious or sexual minorities, persons with disabilities etc. by supporting measures for resilience, social protection and social inclusion.
- ADA recognizes the complex nature of challenges as well as opportunities in the **migration-development-fragility nexus** and the need for concerted action. ADA is thus committed to addressing these in consultation and cooperation with government and non-governmental actors in the spirit of a whole-of-government approach and the Vienna 3C Appeal.³⁹
- ADA is convinced that **good relationships** between countries of origin and destination (mutual understanding, confidence) are key to the successful management of migration

³⁷ Art 14 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>.

³⁸ LGBTI refers to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

³⁹ Pls see Strategic Guideline on Security and Development in Austrian development policy, 2011; The Vienna 3C Appeal: Coordinated, Complementary and coherent measures in fragile situations, 2010; ADA Focus: Development Cooperation in fragile states and regions, 2014.

issues and this will build the basis for fruitful cooperation in fostering and promoting well managed migration.

- The imperative to work on only root causes in order to reduce migration is too simple. The model of explaining **migration as a livelihood strategy** is preferable in order to demonstrate migration patterns. Country context specific analysis is a more adequate tool to address the complex relationship between migration and development and to design adequate interventions.

7. Focus areas of work

7.1. International, EU and regional Dialogue

- ADA will support – if applicable – relevant thematic roundtables e.g., the engagement of Austria in the Global Forum for Migration and Development, which is the key international voluntary, informal, non-binding and government-led platform in the field of migration and development. Its objective is to advance understanding and cooperation on the mutually reinforcing relationship between migration and development and to foster practical and action-oriented outcomes.
- ADA will contribute with evidence of development and migration programs to the political dialogue and policy formulation between the Federal Ministry of Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs and the EU.
- ADA regularly participates in meetings of the EU informal network on Migration and Development, a network of several EU member states to exchange practical experiences of integrating migration into development and ensure donor coordination.
- ADA is open to engage in other expert exchange opportunities, where appropriate.

7.2. Policy Coherence in Austria

- ADA is open to support the establishment of a coordinating mechanism⁴⁰ to ensure policy coherence and a whole of government approach to migration and development in line with relevant SDG targets, including relevant governmental stakeholders (in the sphere of labour market policies, social policies, matters of security and interior affairs etc.) and civil society. ADA could contribute with evidence of development and migration programs and its expertise in development approaches and feed that into the formulation of Austrian approaches, e.g. sensitivity in regard to cultural contexts, circular migration, brain drain/brain gain, etc.

7.3. Measures with direct impact on migration and development

Humanitarian Aid

- ADA will contribute to closing the gap between humanitarian response and development cooperation by building the resilience of communities including displaced populations who remain in fragile contexts. Actions will be guided by good practices in humanitarian assistance and links to social protection programs, - as well as where

⁴⁰ As it is e.g. the case in Germany and Switzerland.

possible - multi-annual planning and finance for long-term crisis situations will be enhanced.

- ADA will improve the quality of its involvement in humanitarian assistance by ensuring the programs and projects it supports, systematically consider gender dimensions and the specific needs and rights of vulnerable groups such as children and youth, minorities, persons with disabilities⁴¹, elderly, LGBTI persons, etc. Thereby ADA will also adhere to Austria's pledges at the World Humanitarian Summit 2016.⁴²

Combating organized crime, with a focus on trafficking in human beings (THB)

- ADA is a member of the Austrian Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings and bound by the National Action Plan 2015-17, where several action areas for ADA are prescribed: supporting return and reintegration, prevention of THB, victim support, trans-border cooperation and networking regarding the fight against organized crime. ADA will continue its cooperation with relevant actors, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and CSOs in this field, with a focus on combating trafficking in human beings.
- In the framework of Austria's presidency of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), 2017, projects against TBH will be specifically supported.

Strengthening awareness of migration and development in Austria through development education and awareness raising⁴³

- ADA provides knowledge and skills needed for orientation within a globalized world and can help fostering mutual understanding, dialogue, appreciation of cultural diversity and a culture of peace and non-violence within Austrian society. ADA will therefore continue to improve engagement with migrants'/diaspora organizations in this field by supporting initiatives that strengthen and widen co-operations. Migrants could communicate knowledge about their own country of origin and explain its specific problems and development opportunities, thus helping to overcome prejudices and foster mutual understanding.
- Efforts for the support and integration of refugees in Austria have so far been little connected to development policy initiatives. Developmental education could strengthen refugee support and integration work. Within this context, ADA can provide funding for joint initiatives which convey an improved understanding for the situation in countries of origin/developing countries, as well as guidelines (e.g. on gender roles, discriminatory social norms, accessibility) by multipliers who work with refugees and support their integration in Austria. ADA could support local authorities (Länder, Gemeinden, Städte) in Austria to break down cultural barriers, increase mutual understanding and aim at involving migrants and development CSOs for joint actions (funding projects) of this type.

⁴¹ Such as e.g. supporting barrier free refugee camps, improvements in barrier-free infrastructure and communication, provision of medical support, rehabilitation and trauma counselling.

⁴² See <http://humanitariananddisabilitycharter.org>.

⁴³ See SDG target 4.7: By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of cultures contribution to sustainable development.

Strengthening Migrants'/Diaspora Engagement in their countries of origin

ADA acknowledges migrants and diaspora organizations in Austria as development actors since they have experiential knowledge and possess intellectual capital.

- On the basis of its feasibility study⁴⁴, ADA will further explore engaging diaspora for business activities and social entrepreneurship in their countries of origin.
- ADA can support diaspora associations' for networking and initiatives in their countries of origin by establishing support mechanisms and appropriate co-/funding options and schemes for diaspora and migrant organizations that supplement their existing voluntary contributions to development activities in the long-term. It will specifically encourage cooperation and tandem projects of well-established NGOs together with diaspora organizations for enhancing the capacities of the latter.

Supporting countries and regional organizations in managing migration

- ADA - together with other Austrian institutions - can support partner countries and regional economic communities such as e.g. the African Union Commission, ECOWAS; EAC, IGAD - in establishing free movement regimes to ensure migration takes place in a well-regulated and safe framework. Also, protecting the rights of those on the move within regions/continents by building upon the EU principle of free movement and supporting the establishment of the necessary requirements and mechanism for a visa free regime through know-how transfer, can be supported.

Supporting reintegration on the basis of voluntary return

- Considering that voluntary return is supported by other actors, ADA will focus its engagement on the reintegration of voluntary returnees to their countries of origin/ADA partner countries, by supporting structural development programmes that enhance reintegration capacities in receiving communities. Specific focus will be on the human rights of migrants, fighting discrimination and their integration in society with a particular focus on women, youth and persons with disabilities. These activities should link up with already existing development programs so that they can benefit from these experiences and foster synergies.

7.4. Measures with indirect effects on migration and development

Conflict prevention and peace building

- Considering the causes of forced migration and displacement, ADA will continue its engagement in conflict prevention, early warning (also in the context of climate change and the environment) and peace building, by e.g. supporting capacity development of

⁴⁴ Link Up Feasibility Study: Enabling Diaspora Entrepreneurship, ICMPD 2015.

regional organizations and networks, security sector reform, conflict mediation initiatives as well as strengthening the role of women in all phases of conflict resolution.

Sustainable economic development, improved livelihood conditions and resilience

- In order to improve economic perspectives ADA will ensure that its measures in the field of private sector development and business partnerships are considering migration aspects such as rural-urban divide, inclusion of migrants, marginalized and minority communities in the project area including policy dialogue on fair and non-discriminatory, inclusive labor standards.
- Further focus will be placed on education and specifically vocational training and linking these interventions to the promotion of income and job creation.
- Improving the livelihood conditions of poor and marginalized groups and strengthening resilience at community and household level is especially relevant as it concerns marginalized and/or fragile regions – e.g. being affected by climate change or (armed) conflicts. This can be addressed through e.g. the creation of (new) livelihood opportunities for youth in rural areas, inclusion of youth with disabilities in vocational training programs and linkages with community-based services, better access to public services and strengthening the adaptive strategies of the local population (e.g. improved savings, climate-resilient seeds etc.).

Enhancing engagement in supporting Good Governance with a focus on human rights institutions and human rights defenders

- In accordance with the objectives defined in Austria's performance based management system and the National Action Plan on Human Rights 2016-18⁴⁵, ADA will increase the percentage of its interventions with OECD/DAC Participatory Development and Good Governance (PD/GG) Marker 1 and 2 from 38,08% to 45% in 2016 and 50% in 2018.⁴⁶ Further increases will be defined according to the objectives set within the Austria's performance based management system.⁴⁷ In line with the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs' priorities, specific emphasis will be put on supporting programs and projects to increase the capacities of human rights institutions and human rights defenders including the strengthening of migrant's rights and human rights of displaced persons.

⁴⁵ To adopted by the Council of Ministers in October 2016, see goal Art. 28 – "Angemessene soziale und internationale Ordnung", „Systematische Umsetzung des Menschenrechtsansatzes in der EZA“.

⁴⁶ The Participatory Development and Good Governance (PDGG) Marker is based on the commitments of ADC and based on figures of ADA Statistics Department.

⁴⁷ Wirkungsorientierte Haushaltsführung, Wirkungsziel 4 of the Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs.

7.5. Consideration of migration aspects in programs and projects

Where relevant, ADA will ensure a **migration and development-sensitive approach** during planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of its programmatic interventions. For this purpose, **guiding questions** for program managers and partner organizations have been designed. These guiding questions should be applied if current or future migratory movements are identified within the area where a project or program is planned to be supported by ADA. It should help identifying potentials and risks stemming from the linkages between migration and development.⁴⁸

Further, the following **implementation principles** need to be applied in ADA programs, projects and policy dialogues, when considering migration aspects:

- Human rights based approach⁴⁹
 - Placing the migrant at the centre of migration policies and management.
 - Paying particular attention to the situation of marginalized and disadvantaged groups of migrant men, women, boys and girls, children, persons with disabilities, LGBTI persons and elderly and ensure their inclusion.
 - Ensure inclusion and specific support to migrants with disabilities, where needed.
- Gender responsive approach
 - Women are increasingly migrating to find jobs as individuals, although many still migrate as dependents.
 - Migration holds more dangers for women than men, they are more vulnerable to physical, sexual and verbal abuse when travelling
 - Women are more likely to become victims of human trafficking.
 - Migration can also bring chances for gender equality: Measures should aim at empowering female migrants and changing traditional gender roles and norms.
- Do no Harm and Conflict sensitivity approach
 - The question what does harm and what does not is still hotly debated. In particular, the issue of brain drain gives rise to a number of questionable suggestions like restricting emigration opportunities for highly skilled persons.
 - A clear understanding of conflict issues, actors and dynamics including connecting and dividing factors is necessary to avoid and reduce potentially negative side-effects.
 - Not equipping the returnee community better than the hosting/surrounding community is one of the lessons learnt from return and reintegration projects.
 - Ensuring climate and environmental issues are part of the migration policy dialogues and any activities.

⁴⁸ See ADA website under <http://www.entwicklung.at/themen/governance-menschenrechte-migration/migration-entwicklung/>

⁴⁹ Human rights mechanisms, such as the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants and the UN Committee on Migrant Workers, have been clear in stating that “although countries have a sovereign right to determine conditions of entry and stay in their territories, they also have an obligation to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all individuals under their jurisdiction, regardless of their nationality or origin and regardless of their immigration status.” <http://www.ohchr.org/en/Issues/Migration/Pages/MigrationAndHumanRightsIndex.aspx>.

8. Project examples

EU Emergency Trust Fund for Stability and Addressing Root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement in Africa (Pr. No.: 2704-00/2012, partner: European Commission, budget: EUR 3.000.000,00, project duration: 12.11.2015-31.12.2020)

The Trust Fund was designed to address problems in critical areas of Sahel, Lake Chad, the Horn of Africa and North Africa. It aims at fostering stability and improving the migration management in those regions. The objectives of the fund are: 1) establishing inclusive economic programmes, 2) supporting resilience in terms of food security, 3) an improved migration management and 4) promote good governance by enforcing the rule of law. The Fund's interventions will be based upon an integrated evidence-based approach; high attention will be put on helping locals, African institutions and vulnerable people. The outcome of the programme should result in more inclusive political and economic environment; the expansion and strengthening of the rule of law; the increase of economic productivity and social cohesion; new opportunities for local populations.

Back home – and now? Sustainable reintegration of returnees and vulnerable families in Kosovo (Pr. No.: 8318-00/2016, partner: Österreichische Caritaszentrale, budget: EUR 360.000,00, project duration: 01.12.2015- 30.11.2017)

This project aims at reducing the migration pressure in Kosovo and fostering the (re)integration of Kosovan population by establishing sustainable economic activities and increasing the well-being of 100 returnees and 20 socially deprived households. By the end of 2017 120 families will have developed individual plans regarding their socio-economic situation and their capacities will be strengthened for the successful implementation of economic activities, such as small businesses.

Promoting Inclusive Labour Market Solutions in the Western Balkans (Pr. No.: 8328-00/2016, partner: Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS - UN Istanbul Regional Hub, budget: EUR 1.000.000,00, project duration: 01.05.2016- 31.12.2017)

This project is designed to increase the ability and confidence of hard to employ population groups. It aims at better integration of employment and social welfare services and the use of innovative tools by employment and social services. In the first year of this programme 30 members per country will be benefitted, at the end of the second year 100 members per country will be part of this project and finally, at least 960 people will participate. It is all about improved labour market governance; innovation for fostering inclusive labour markets; knowledge systematization for effective policy making in the Western Balkan countries.

Link Up! Financing diaspora entrepreneurship (Pr.No.: 2784-01/2015, partner: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), budget: EUR 89.548,00, project duration 01.03.2015- 31.10.2015)

Link up is a comprehensive programme to support diaspora entrepreneurs through networking opportunities, capacity building and seed capital. The outcome of the project is a study that should serve as a basis for the development of a full proposal. It will assess the potential for establishing a financial instrument and training facility for diaspora entrepreneurs and at the same time, it will explore the connection between integration and diaspora engagement for the economic development of the countries of origin. At least 25 entrepreneurs will be provided with a business plan and start-up training in the first year. This number will increase by at least 20% each year. Up to 10 new diaspora-led small or medium businesses are going to be established in the selected countries per year along with 2-4 SMEs per country of origin per year.

Contribution to the Rapid Response Fund (RRF) of the Conflict Early Warning & Reponse Mechanism (CEWARN) in Eastern Africa (Pr. No.: 2704-00/2012, partner:

Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), budget: EUR 600.000,00, project duration: 01.12.2012- 31.10.2016)

The Rapid Response Fund aims to provide a mechanism with flexible and rapid response capacity for pastoral and related conflict. RRF's ultimate goals are to support conflict prevention, management and resolution measures principally at local levels and the capacity development at all levels including local, intermediate, country. Furthermore, it enables IGAD Member States (Ethiopia, Uganda, Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya, Somalia, Djibouti) to jointly contribute to CEWARN's early response activities. The RRF may be called upon in order to prevent, de-escalate or resolve pastoral and related conflicts in the IGAD sub-region and thus help at preventing conflict related migration. It should specifically strengthen local peace committees, which will oversee the projects implemented by community based organizations (CBOs), NGOs and local authorities.

Rural Economic Sustainability Initiative (*Pr. No.: 8317-00/2015, partner: CARE Österreich, Verein für Entwicklungszusammenarbeit und humanitäre Hilfe, budget: EUR 1.800.000,00, project duration: 01.09.2016- 31.08.2019*)

This programme aims at promoting competitiveness of farmers, agricultural producers and food processing companies to enhance sustainability project outcomes. With its support, new forms of agricultural production and innovative technologies can be unlocked. By the end of this project at least 750 farmers, young professionals, public employees and individuals from disadvantaged groups will have benefitted. Also, a minimum of 10.000 farmers will be indirectly reached via public agribusiness advisory services in the 4 municipalities where the programme is taking place. Further, a regional grant scheme will be established with the purpose of strengthening and building integrated agricultural value chains in the respective municipalities. Special emphasis will be placed on the promotion of initiatives designed by women and associations representing marginalized groups.