IN FOCUS

What is the “Building Migration Partnerships” (Prague Process)

> New political process promoting migration partnerships among the participating states: European Union, Schengen Area, South Eastern and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Turkey, started by the Ministerial Conference in Prague 2009

BMP Expert Missions

To jointly prepare draft Extended Migration Profile Reports with up-to-date information and priorities of partner countries, BMP expert missions were carried out to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus (BMP observer), Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan in May-June 2010. Experts from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia participated in the missions.

During the missions, experts met with experts of migration authorities of partner states, EU Delegations and other stakeholders (e.g. GTZ, IOM, OSCE, UNHCR), to gather information and to jointly formulate and elaborate an objective description of the migration situation in, and priorities and interest of each respective country.

The mission to the Russian Federation has been under preparation with the migration authority. While Moldova has been actively working on own Extended Migration Profile for the European Commission, BMP will focus on countries where this process has not been initiated yet. Turkmenistan, despite the mission has been postponed upon request of the state authorities, remains involved in BMP and continues participating in BMP workshops.

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The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.
Map on Illegal Migration Routes

The Map on Illegal Migration Routes, available in English and Russian, was presented during the “Workshop on migration profiles” on 21-22 June 2010 in Warsaw.

The Map is mainly based on information contained in the latest editions of the ICMPD “Yearbook on Illegal Migration, Human Smuggling and Trafficking in Central and Eastern Europe”. In addition to that, sources such as from Europol, Frontex, Interpol and relevant EU bodies have been used. It will be further developed and updated in close cooperation with the countries concerned in the framework of the BMP initiative.

The purpose of the Map is to serve migration authorities by visualising the main illegal migration flows and migration hubs. Furthermore, it illustrates the main border sections most susceptible to be used for illegal migration from Eastern and South-Eastern Europe to Central, Western and Southern Europe. The Map represents a step towards development of an interactive electronic database on migration flows between countries-parties to the BMP Joint Declaration (BMP iMap).

It is foreseen that the pilot run of the BMP iMap, with restricted access for registered users only, will be initiated in September 2010 and presented to states at the workshop on the iMap issues in Vienna on 9-10 September 2010. The web site will be www.imap-migration.org

Extended Migration Profiles

So far, 16 drafts of Extended Migration Profiles have been elaborated on the basis of a template prepared by the European Commission. The profiles contain different statistical and analytical information, which aims at evaluating the overall migration situation in a given country. The objective is to facilitate cooperation between countries in the field of migration management: on the one hand by providing information on the migration situation in a country and on the other hand by providing a sound empirical and statistical basis for policy planning and policy development.

The first five drafts for the leading states – Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia – have been prepared by the state authorities of these states and are subject to further update.

The other 11 drafts were prepared based on desk research, information from available sources and complemented with information gathered by experts during missions to the 11 states. The drafts, in English and Russian, have been shared with national migration authorities of the respective states for their comments, completion of missing information and approval, before they will be pronounced final versions.

The Extended Migration Profiles have been discussed and input received in several rounds of communication, including discussions during Workshop (on Migration Profiles in Warsaw on 21-22 June, on iMap BMP Migration Routes in Vienna on 9-10 September or at the workshop in Kiev in October). Final Extended Migration Profiles on Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan will be available by the end of 2010.

Next meetings:

- 9 – 10 September 2010, Vienna, Austria – workshop on BMP iMap on Illegal Migration Routes
- October 2010, Kiev, Ukraine – workshop on Migration Strategies
- November 2010, Budapest, Hungary – Senior Official Meeting

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