Overview of the EU Mobility Partnership Instrument

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List of Abbreviations, Acronyms and Definitions

AVRR	Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (programme, in the Georgian case funded by the European Return Funds and implemented by IOM)
BCP	Border Crossing Point
BGS	Border Guard Service
BM	Border Management
BMA	Bureau for Migration and Asylum (of Moldova)
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
BPD	Border Police Department
BSEC	Black Sea Economic Cooperation
BSIBM	Provision of Equipment and Infrastructure for the Bagratashen–Sadakhlo Border Crossing Point between Armenia and Georgia and Enhancement of Their Capacities (project funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP)
CaBuiPro	Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management Capacity Building Project (project funded by the European Union and implemented by FRONTEX)
CAMM	Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility
CARITAS	A confederation of 165 Catholic relief, development and social service organisations operating in over 200 countries and territories worldwide
CEEPUS	Central European Exchange Program for University Studies
CEI	Central European Initiative
CiDA	Civil Development Agency
CIM	Centre for International Migration and Development
CoE	Council of Europe
CRA	Civil Registry Agency (former title of the legal entity under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia)
CRRC	Caucasus Research Resource Center
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EaP IBM FIT	Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management Flagship Initiative Training (project funded by the European Union and implemented by ICMPD)
EaP-SIPPAP	Eastern Partnership cooperation in the Fight against Irregular Migration - Supporting the Implementation of the Prague Process Action Plan (project funded by the European Commission and implemented by the Ministry of Interior of Hungary)
EASO	European Asylum Support Office
EB-RAN	Eastern Borders Risk Analysis Network
EC	European Commission
ENIGMMA	Enhancing Georgia's Migration Management (project funded by the European Union and implemented by ICMPD)
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
ENPI	European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ERGEM	Enhancing the Role of Georgian Emigrants at Home (project funded by the European Union and implemented by ICMPD and DRC)
ETF	European Training Foundation
EU	European Union
EUBAM	European Union Border Assistance Mission
EU MS	European Union Member States

FIRMM	Fighting Irregular Migration in Moldova (project funded by the European Union and implemented by ICMPD)
FRA	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
FRONTEX	European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the European Union
FSC	FRONTEX Situation Centre
GAIBM	Better Coordination of Protection of the Land Border between Georgia and Azerbaijan (project funded by the European Union and UNDP and implemented by UNDP)
GAMM	Global Approach to Migration and Mobility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit / German Society for International Cooperation
GOVAC	Building training and analytical capacities on migration in Moldova and Georgia (project funded by the European Union and implemented by ICMPD)
G-PAM	Georgia - Personal Assistance for Migrants (project funded by the European Union and implemented by CiDA)
GSMEA	Georgian Small and Medium Enterprises Association
GYLA	Georgian Young Lawyers' Association
IACA	International Anti-Corruption Academy
IASCI	International Agency for Source Country Information
IBM	Integrated Border Management
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
IDF	IOM Development Fund
ILO	Immigration Liaison Officer
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IRC	Innovations and Reforms Centre
IPA	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
JO	Joint Operation
M&D	Migration and Development
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs (of Georgia)
MIGRECO	Strengthening Migration and Management and Cooperation on Readmission in Eastern Europe (project funded by the European Commission and implemented by IOM)
MISMES	Inventory of Migrant Support Measures from an Employment and Skills Perspective (project funded and implemented by the European Training Foundation)
MMRC	Migration and Mobility Resource Centre
MOBILAZE	Support to the Implementation of Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan (project funded by the European Union and implemented by ICMPD)
MoI	Ministry of the Interior (of Moldova)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Mobility Partnership
MPF	Mobility Partnership Facility
MS	Member State
NBIBM	Enhancement of Border Management Capabilities at the Ninotsminda-Bavra Border Crossing Point (project funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PARE 1+1	Program for migrant workers investing/starting or expanding a business in Moldova
PCA	Partnership and Cooperation Agreement
PP	Pilot Project

PSDA	Public Service Development Agency (legal entity under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia)
R&DS	Repatriation and Departure Service (of the Dutch Ministry of Justice)
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
REVIS	Supporting the Implementation of the EC Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements (project funded by the European Union and implemented by ICMPD)
RPP	Regional Protection Programme
SCMI	State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SEE	South East Europe
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SIMP	Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership (project funded by the European Commission and implemented by the European Union Delegation to Moldova)
SIR	Strengthening and Development of the Institutional Capacity of the Bureau of Migration and Asylum - Strengthening Legal and Institutional Framework for better Governance of Migration and Asylum System (project funded by the European Commission and implemented by ICMPD)
SIREADA	Support to Implementation of EC Readmission Agreements with the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine: Facilitation of Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (project funded by the European Union and implemented by the European Commission)
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SOP	Standard Operational Procedure
SSA	Social Service Agency (legal entity under the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia)
TEMPUS	Trans-European Mobility Programme for University Studies
THB	Trafficking in Human Beings
TIG	Targeted Initiative for Georgia (project funded by the European Union and implemented by the Czech Ministry of Internal Affairs)
TSU	Tbilisi State University
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNU-MERIT	United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VET	Vocational Education and Training
VLAP	Visa Liberalisation Action Plan
WCO	World Customs Organization
WHO	World Health Organization

Introduction

This publication was prepared within the EU-funded "Support to the Implementation of the Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan" (MOBILAZE) project as a preparatory and background paper for the project's Mobility Partnership Conference in June 2016, as well as a support tool for other project activities and Mobility Partnership initiatives in Azerbaijan.

MOBILAZE project implementation started on 15 January 2016, and will last 36 months. The project partners from **Azerbaijan** include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Migration Service, the State Border Service and the State Border Service Academy, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry of Education, and Baku State University. Partners from the EU Member States represent the following institutions: the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of the **Republic of Bulgaria**, the Ministry of the Interior of the **Czech Republic**, the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs of the Ministry of Interior of the **Republic of Latvia**, the Migration Department under the Ministry of the Interior of the **Republic of Lithuania**, the State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior of the **Republic of Lithuania**, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service of the Ministry of Security and Justice of **the Netherlands**, the Repatriation and Departure Service of the Ministry of Security and Justice of **the Netherlands**, the Ministry of Interior and Administration of the **Poland**, and the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the **Slovak Republic**.

The present basis for cooperation between the EU and Azerbaijan are the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) which came into force in 1999 and the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) Action Plan adopted in 2006. The Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan was signed in 2013 by eight EU Member States (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, and Slovakia) and Latvia, who joined the Declaration later. The Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreement entered into force in 2014. Together, the Mobility Partnership and the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan which was approved and entered into force in 2013 represent the road map for Azerbaijani institutions to improve migration governance. The MOBILAZE project will support the authorities of Azerbaijan to implement the measures and regulations envisaged by these two documents.

This paper consists of four main parts:

Part 1   Covers a general overview of the Mobility Partnership instrument and the main policy priorities established by the European Union Global Approach on Migration and Mobility.

Part 2   Introduces all four pillars of the Mobility Partnership (legal migration and mobility, asylum, border management and prevention of irregular migration, and migration and development) through case studies from Georgia and Moldova. This part provides two case studies for each country, covering main objectives of the initiatives within the specific pillar, actors involved in implementation, a description of methodological tools employed and examples of concrete activities.

Part 3   Provides an overview on particular features of the EU-Georgia Mobility Partnership and lists the main implemented or ongoing initiatives in this regard.

Part 4   Provides an overview on particular features of the EU-Georgia Mobility Partnership and lists the main implemented or ongoing initiatives in this regard.

1. Overview of the Mobility Partnership Instrument

Mobility partnerships *"are the most complete framework for bilateral cooperation between the European Union and its partners, based on mutual offers of commitments and project initiatives covering mobility, migration and asylum issues".*[1] The thematic areas covered by the Mobility Partnerships were first defined and described by the European Union (EU) Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM). Therefore, before discussing the Mobility Partnerships, some information on the GAMM as a general framework of cooperation within the EU external migration and asylum policy shall be provided.

1.1 Global Approach to Migration and Mobility

The EU's Global Approach to Migration and Mobility was adopted in 2005 with the aim of addressing all relevant aspects of migration in a balanced and comprehensive way. The implementation of the GAMM was consequently evaluated and, in 2011, the European Commission (EC) approved the Communication which put forward the renewed policy framework document.[2] One of the objectives of the renewed policy framework was to translate the strategic priorities of the EU in the area of migration and mobility into concrete proposals for dialogue and cooperation with non-EU countries.

The renewed GAMM concept covers four main areas: (1) management of **legal migration**, (2) reduction of **irregular migration**, (3) support of the international system of **refugee protection**, (4) strengthening of the **migration-development nexus**. These four areas are recognised as the main pillars of the GAMM, within which the **migrant-centred** approach is particularly underlined, including protection of the **human rights of migrants** as a cross-cutting dimension for all pillars in the GAMM.

The abovementioned migrant-centred approach includes access to information by migrants, special attention to vulnerable groups, such as unaccompanied minors and asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, etc., and enhanced dialogue with diaspora. This approach is based on universally recognised understanding that migration is about people, despite the variety of actors and disciplines involved in researching, analysing and managing migration. Global climate change as one of the factors which is increasingly driving migration and displacement was also recognised as a part of the GAMM.

With regard to implementing mechanisms, the Communication proposes two cooperation frameworks:

- **Mobility partnerships**, which were beyond their pilot phase at the time of adoption of the GAMM Communication, *"should be upgraded and promoted as the principal framework for cooperation in the area of migration and mobility between the EU and its partners, with a primary focus on the countries in the EU Neighbourhood"*[3];

- **Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM**) as an alternative cooperation framework which represents *"a viable option for partner countries and for the EU and its Member States in cases where both sides want to establish an advanced level of cooperation, but where one side or the other is not ready to enter into the full set of obligations and commitments"*; however, *"if both parties agree, the Common Agenda could be upgraded to a Mobility Partnership at a later stage".*[4]

Further, the GAMM lists operational priorities for each of the four thematic pillars: legal migration, irregular migration, asylum, and the migration-development nexus. In brief, these priorities include[5]:

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[1] European Commission, Migration and Home Affairs, Mobility partnerships, visa facilitation and readmission agreements, http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/international-affairs/eastern-partnership/mobility-partnerships-visa-facilitation-and-readmission-agreements/index_en.htm, accessed on 25 April 2016.

[2] European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, COM (2011) 743 final.

[3] European Commission, Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, 4. Implementing mechanisms, p. 10.

[4] Ibid., p. 11.

[5] European Commission, Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, 5. Operational priorities, pp. 12-20.

Pillar 1. **Management of legal migration**	1. Reflection of the EU legislation on legal migration in the EU's dialogue and cooperation with non-EU countries with a view to providing greater access to information on rights and opportunities and taking into account views and concerns of partner countries and shared interests: a. Legislation on **long-term residents and family reunification**; b. The **EU Blue Card Directive**; c. The Directives on **seasonal workers** and **intra-corporate transferees**; d. The **Single Permit Directive**; e. The **Directives on researchers and students**, etc. 2. Enhanced dialogue with partner countries and their citizens on legal migration through: a. The **EU Immigration Portal**; b. Combination of **information and pre-departure measures** (with a focus on upgrading skills and proficiency in EU languages); c. Effective **integration**, through **facilitating access to employment**, anticipating **labour market and skills needs**, and ensuring the **portability of social security rights**; d. Coordination with regard to common **visa policy and residence issuing**; e. Exchange of practical information on **recruitment, recognition of qualifications**, etc.; f. Greater **mobility for students and researchers**, including **institutional networks and twinning of universities**, development of **curricula and certification processes** and extension of the EU Member States' range of bilateral **youth mobility agreements** (and also by offering these agreements to Mobility Partnership countries); g. Creation of **Migration and Mobility Resource Centres** (MMRCs) in the partner countries for validation of their qualifications, skills upgrading and skills needs at national or regional levels or in the EU and provision of pre-departure, return and reintegration measures.
Pillar 2. **Reduction of irregular migration**	1. **Transfer of skills, capacity and resources** to partners in order to prevent and reduce trafficking, smuggling and irregular migration, to ensure return and readmission, and to strengthen **integrated border management**. 2. Cooperation on **document security**, paving the way for visa facilitation for frequent travellers from priority partner countries. 3. Initiatives to provide better protection for and empower **victims of trafficking in human beings**. 4. Precise monitoring of implementation by the EU MS (European Union Member States) of the **Directives on return and employer sanctions**, in close cooperation with partners. 5. Strategic use of the new possibilities for FRONTEX and more comprehensive thematic exchanges of information between **EU Immigration Liaison Officers** (ILOs) and counterparts in more partner countries.
Pillar 3. **Support of the international protection system**	1. **Regional Protection Programmes (RPPs)** to strengthen the protection capacity and asylum systems of partner countries and regions. 2. Support from the **European Asylum Support Office (EASO)** for building asylum capacity in non-EU countries, including in the form of support for resettlement activities. 3. Enhanced **resettlement** in the EU in cooperation with partners. 4. Stronger efforts to solve **protracted refugee situations**, including targeted assistance for displaced persons.
Pillar 4.	1. Promoting the **World Health Organization (WHO) Code of practice** on the

Strengthening the migration-development nexus	international recruitment of health personnel and monitoring application of the EU Blue Card Directive to mitigate brain drain.
	2. Exploring the setting up of **diaspora investment vehicles** that could channel voluntary contributions by the diaspora and adding EU resources to boost the development-oriented initiatives and investments in priority countries, such as in the Southern Mediterranean.
	3. **Private-public partnerships** to engage **migrant entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)** in trade, investment and skills transfers between EU Member States and partner countries.
	4. Exploring the usefulness of an **annual remittances forum** and recommendations by the end of 2012 on the basis of a study on **the feasibility of a common EU portal on remittances**.
	5. Assistance to partner countries to **identify and monitor** *bona fide* **recruiters** in order to empower migrants, notably with a view to facilitating circular migration.

Geographically, the application of the GAMM is not restricted; however, the intensity and degree to which the approach is applied, as well as the mix of instruments used, will differ across regions depending on the existing levels of cooperation between EU and non-EU countries, readiness to make mutual commitments, and the EU's present regional and bilateral priorities.[6]

Finally, the GAMM Communication provides an overview on possible cooperation framework funding schemes, noting that effective implementation of the GAMM depends on adequate funding. The GAMM is supported by a **mix of mutually reinforcing financial instruments**, provided by both the EU and its Member States. At the EU level the financial instruments include the **geographical** and **thematic external instruments**, the **Asylum and Migration Fund** and the **Internal Security Fund**.[7]

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[6] European Commission, Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, 3. Geographical priorities, p. 7.
[7] Ibid., 6. Funding and monitoring, p. 21.

1.2 Mobility Partnerships

As mentioned above, the Mobility Partnerships (MPs) are a primary cooperation framework instrument of the EU's Global Approach on Migration and Mobility. In other words, while the GAMM proposes the framework of EU external migration, asylum and mobility policy, the MPs make it possible for the non-EU partner countries to be part of this framework. One of the main objectives of the MPs, which are tailor-made to the shared interests and concerns of the partner country and EU participants, is to *"bring together all the measures to ensure that migration and mobility are mutually beneficial for the EU and its partners, including opportunities for greater labour mobility"*.[8]

The concept of the EU Mobility Partnerships imposes obligations on both sides: non-EU partner countries and participating EU Member States. However, the level of obligations, including their topical areas, differs. With **regard to the non-EU countries**, it is expected that efforts are undertaken to prevent irregular migration from the country, as well as irregular transit migration. In addition, the partner country is encouraged to organise information campaigns to promote ways of legal migration, prevent irregular migration, improve border controls and management, including measures directed toward the improvement of document security, and fight against smuggling and trafficking in human beings. Further, with regard to the migration-development nexus, the partner country should improve its economic and social conditions in order to reduce migration push-factors.

The EU Member States participating in the MPs have obligations within all four pillars of the GAMM. Briefly, these obligations include the following:

- **Legal migration and migration management:**
  - Facilitation of labour migration and student mobility;
  - Strengthening of migration management in partner countries;
  - Support to social security for migrants in destination countries;
  - Strengthening of partner countries' capacity to monitor migration flows, etc.

- **Irregular migration:**
  - Support in capacity building on border management, including document security;
  - Strengthening of the fight against smuggling, trafficking and other cross-border crimes.

- **Asylum:**
  - Strengthening of national asylum systems;
  - Development and implementation of regional programmes in the field of international protection.

- **Migration-development nexus:**
  - Support to voluntary return of citizens, by providing information on return, development and implementation of the reintegration programmes;
  - Promotion of circular migration schemes;
  - Prevention of brain drain, etc.

As mentioned above, the MPs are tailor-made and the priorities annexed to the MP declaration are jointly developed by the participating EU MS and the non-EU country. Therefore, the above summary provides but an example of possible EU MS obligations.

The MPs and their Joint Declarations are not legally binding international agreements, but rather political declarations developed by the European Union as the *"main strategic, comprehensive and long-term cooperation framework for migration management"*.[9]

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[8] European Commission, Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, 4. Implementing mechanisms, pp. 10-11.
[9] European Parliament, Council of the European Union, Regulation (EU) No. 516/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.

The MP concept also includes a support mechanism to monitor implementation of the framework through a system of indicators, the **Mobility Partnership scoreboard**. The scoreboard contains regularly updated information on projects or other initiatives, partners (including their contact information), funding, and main milestones related to implementation and evaluation of projects.

Despite the positive effects of the MPs, such as closer cooperation between MP partners, the deepening of knowledge on the functioning of the EU, support to national reforms, and increased awareness of the migration-development nexus, some experts have identified points of criticism on the implementation of this cooperation instrument. These give some recommendations for further improvement which could be important to take into account for both participating non-EU and EU countries:

- Establishment of a comprehensive **evaluation mechanism** which would allow adjustment of the priorities of the MPs to changing political and economic priorities;

- Better **coordination of the EU countries participating in a given Mobility Partnership**, including internal coordination within the EU MS. A greater role for the delegations in the non-EU countries and involvement of implementing agents who could support intra-EU coordination could support this objective;

- **More MP flagship initiatives** should be developed to serve as inspiration for other MPs, or examples of action for adjustment and modification of existing ones;

- Better **information for the EU MS on requirements for participation** in a new Mobility Partnership, ensuring that the country has enough capacity to implement it;

- Ensuring of **sufficient financing** of the Mobility Partnerships by national and EU funds.[10]

At the moment MPs have been signed with the following non-EU partner countries[11]:

Non-EU Mobility Partnership Country	Year of Signing	Participating EU MS
Cape Verde	2008	France, Luxembourg, Portugal, and Spain.
Moldova	2008	Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, and Sweden.
Georgia	2009	Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Greece, France, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.
Armenia	2011	Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, and Sweden.
Morocco	2013	Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.
Azerbaijan	2013	Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, and Slovakia.
Tunisia	2014	Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Italy, Poland, Portugal, and the United Kingdom.

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[10] According to the Migration Strategy Group on Global Competitiveness's Policy Brief EU Mobility Partnerships: The "Most Innovative and Sophisticated Tool" of the European Migration Policy?, June 2014, http://www.gmfus.org/publications/eu-mobility-partnerships-most-innovative-and-sophisticated-tool%E2%80%9D-european-migration, accessed on 25 April 2016.

[11] European Commission, Migration and Home Affairs, Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/international-affairs/global-approach-to-migration/index_en.htm, accessed on 25 April 2016.

Jordan	2014	Cyprus, Germany, Denmark, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania, and Sweden.

A new tool supporting MPs and Common Agendas on Migration and Mobility (CAMMs) was launched in April 2016. This tool - the **Mobility Partnership Facility (MPF)** - will support the preparation and implementation of MPs and CAMMs as a rapid tool designed to provide targeted, flexible and tailor-made assistance. The MPF is an EU-funded initiative contributing to the operationalisation of the GAMM. This initiative will also strengthen the cooperation between the EU and partner countries in the area of migration and mobility.[12]

The MPF covers all thematic pillars of the GAMM and the following activities may be funded:

- Peer-to-peer capacity building and expertise provided mainly by EU MS experts;
- Development and implementation of training materials, curricula and training sessions;
- Review and development of legislation, policy documents and standard operating procedures (SOPs);
- Provision of specific equipment in relation to capacity building support;
- Design and implementation of awareness-raising campaigns;
- Conferences and expert meetings;
- Studies, reviews, evaluations and monitoring of activities.

In addition, the MPF/ICMPD team will also carry out a set of activities whose outputs will further feed into and contribute to the relevant policy debate, definition of priorities and implementation of MPs/CAMMs:

- Organisation of workshops and conferences gathering EU Member States and partner countries;
- Publication of updated scoreboards;
- Comparative analyses and thematic papers;
- Formulation   of   lessons   learnt,   best   practices   and   recommendations.[13]

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[12] International Centre for Migration Policy Development, Our Work, http://www.icmpd.org/our-work/capacity-building/multi-thematic-programmes/mobility-partnership-facility-mpf/, accessed on 25 April 2015.
[13] Ibid.

2. Case Studies on Initiatives within the four Pillars of the Mobility Partnership in Georgia and Moldova

This section provides four specific case studies that provide summaries of and information on initiatives within all four pillars of the MP framework in Georgia and Moldova:

- Two cases studies from Georgia: on (1) legal migration and mobility and (2) asylum and protection issues;

- Two case studies from Moldova: on (3) border management and prevention of irregular migration and (4) links between migration and development.

The case studies do not cover all projects implemented under a specific pillar; rather, their aim is to present the main objectives of the initiatives within a particular component, present the main actors involved on both sides - the partner country and the EU, and provide an overview of the main methodological tools applied within the projects, as well as give some examples of concrete activities.

2.1. *Promoting Legal Migration and Mobility* - Pillar 1 of the Mobility Partnership Framework: Case Study of Georgia

| **In what areas can MP support legal migration and mobility?** | The overall objectives of the projects under this initiative were dedicated mainly to (1) **strengthening Georgia's migration management**, including capacity to manage labour and return migration and to monitor migration flows. However, the specific objectives focus on the specific needs of a particular initiative. The following specific objectives were set within the legal migration and mobility component in Georgia: (2) development of a reintegration policy, (3) improvement of labour migration policy and legislation, (4) inventory of support measures available for returning migrants, (5) development of immigration and visa policy methodology, which would provide the Government with tools to reach a correct and well-balanced immigration and visa policy in the country, (6) increasing opportunities for economic reintegration for returning migrants, (7) involvement of temporarily returning migrants in the development of Georgia through transfer of knowledge and skills, (8) expanding and ensuring immigration liaison officer networks, (9) increasing the knowledge base on migration among stakeholders in government and academia in a sustainable manner, including building of analytical and research capacities on migration, (10) fostering cooperation between academia and government on migration, (11) improvement of the legal and institutional framework for managing legal migration and migrants' fundamental human rights protection system, including data protection, (12) strengthening the capacity of the Georgian authorities to analyse the interlinkages between migration and key development sectors, and (13) improvement of mechanisms for collecting and managing data on all migration aspects. Finally, direct cooperation and exchange between the EU MS and the partner country is very important, particularly in such fields as (14) analysis of information and data in the field of prevention of irregular migration, (15) sharing experiences and best practices on legal labour migration, including circular |

migration, (16) development of operational frameworks for facilitating worker mobility between EU MS and the partner country, (17) promotion of effective job-matching, and (18) migrant skills development and (19) protection of their labour and human rights. Currently, objectives related to (20) visa liberalisation is high on the agenda for Georgia.

What actors were involved in the MP initiatives on legal migration and mobility?	Traditionally, the main partner for the implementation of the initiatives under this component is (1) the institution coordinating all migration issues in the country. In Georgia, this is the State Commission on Migration Issues and its secretariat (a consultative body for discussing and taking decisions on various important issues related to migration management).
	A majority of the completed and ongoing initiatives are implemented and coordinated by implementing partners, usually (2) international organisations or international NGOs such as ICPMD, IOM and DRC. In some cases, the projects are implemented by (3) local NGOs, as well as in partnership between international and non-governmental organisations. If academia is involved, the main stakeholder for the implementation is (4) Tbilisi State University (TSU).
	Moreover, among the initiatives operated under Pillar 1, different projects addressing bilateral cooperation between EU MSs and Georgia and specific thematic areas were implemented. In such cases, the cooperation is often maintained between (5) specific ministries in the EU MS and (6) Georgia.
	The target group and range of beneficiaries are wide and depend on the specific project, they include (7) state institutions related to migration, (8) media outlets, (9) the NGO sector and civil society, (10) academia, (11) private employment agencies, (12) migrants themselves (including return migrants, Georgian potential migrants and the wider Georgian population in general).
What tools can be applied in projects related to labour migration and mobility?	Due to the fact that legal migration issues are of a particularly multidisciplinary nature, such an approach to migration was broadly promoted while selecting methodological tools for implementation. In other words, activities related to labour emigration and immigration cannot be implemented without labour market research and analysis; issues related to students' mobility cannot be solved without a proper skills inventory of the national market. Therefore, (1) **research activities supporting the development of an evidence-based policy response** are one of the main methodological tools applied in the implementation of initiatives under this component.
	(2) **Provision of legal assistance to migrants** through various communication channels was also used in some initiatives to restore, protect or prevent violations of rights of migrants; with the rights of migrants being restored, protected or damage avoided in advance. The multiplier effect was promoted within this methodology: as soon as the consultations provided become knowledge in the hands of the beneficiaries, they act as the ambassadors of legal awareness and spread the information about the legal mechanisms of protection and prevention against various illegal migration-related threats. Moreover, the knowledge was also gathered in various (3) **guiding materials**, as an additional tool for empowering migrants for the protection of their rights.
	(4) **Facilitation of cooperation and partnership between government and academia** in the field of migration is one of the innovative approaches applied under Pillar 1 of MP.
	Further, (5) **building of analytical and research capacities at the state institutions** is also one of the most important areas of cooperation. This is done through traditional capacity building activities such as training and internships, but also by piloting special analytical units, joint development of

research papers, etc.

(6) Implementation **of broad public awareness campaigns** with multiple activities directed at the various new groups of beneficiaries was also an innovative activity and has proved to be successful in raising awareness and increasing participation on migration issues. Using social media as one of the tools for dissemination of information is a supporting factor in reaching out to different target groups.

Activity combining theoretical training, knowledge transfer and on-the-job vocational training is also broadly used by the implementing organisations and (7) an **informational exchange platform** on the institutional capacities and for sharing best practices and lessons learned on various migration-related issues. The (8) **establishment of working groups and/or strengthening of inter-agency cooperation and referral** supported creation of specific forum of experts from different Georgian and EU MS institutions and implementing partners. This helped to ensure and improve coordination between different institutions, and guarantee that all the necessary referral mechanisms were in place and functioning, as well as ensure quality control, internal monitoring and evaluation not only of implemented projects, but also of established procedures.

(9) **Internships** in the form of short-term shadowing and interactive exchange of practical experiences with only one to three qualified staff participating has proven to be a successful tool in exchanging best practices between Georgian and EU MS institutions and other stakeholders (such as NGOs, etc.).

What are the practical examples of implemented activities on legal migration and mobility?	**Research activities supporting development of an evidence-based policy response**	• Promotion of a multidisciplinary approach on migration, including analysis of links between migration and the economy, development, labour market, educational framework, etc. • "Backstage" support in development of policy documents (migration strategy, reintegration strategy, etc.), i.e. provision of analytical materials and know-how rather than direct support in drafting
	Provision of legal assistance to migrants and general improvement of provision of information	• Mobile counselling of migrants abroad • Development and dissemination of information materials • Improvement of online information and online services to migrants • Broad public awareness raising campaigns: open-air events, training of local administrations on migration issues, media training on migration, public discussion rounds at universities, etc.
	Facilitation of cooperation and partnership between government and academia	• Development and conclusion of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) between institutions coordinating migration issues and universities on joint research activities, organisation of thematic conferences, internships for students in the state institutions involved in migration issues, etc. • Organisation and implementation of joint migration summer schools and migration lectures for students and young professionals • Joint migration research-related internships at research organisations and institutes
	Building of analytical and research	• Piloting of an analytical unit at the state institution coordinating migration issues, including job description development, capacity building of

capacities at the state institutions	research, and joint research activities • Joint development of analytical reports on specific issues • Promotion and facilitation of contact between Georgian and EU MS researchers
Improvement of cooperation and capacity building	• Various discussion platforms, forums, and working groups to improve implementation of referral mechanisms, and exchange best practices and lessons learned • Exchange workshops between Georgian and EU MS experts • Internships and study visits • On-the-job coaching and mentoring

2.2. *Protecting those who are in need of Protection* - Pillar 2 of the Mobility Partnership Framework: Case Study of Georgia

In what areas can MP support development of the asylum system?	The specific objectives of the initiatives aim at improvement of the decision-making quality within the asylum procedure through (1) developing and implementing quality assurance mechanisms; (2) providing integration support services to persons granted protection, mainly by mobilising community actions; (3) further building progressive jurisprudence on asylum by introducing European Court of Human Rights case law; (4) development of national training programmes on asylum and their incorporation into the standard civil servants' training framework; (5) facilitation of cooperation on Country of Origin Information between relevant Georgian and EU member state institutions and organisations in order to further build capacities in this field and exchange the up-to-date information as well as information sources for asylum decision making. Although some of the asylum-related initiatives are implemented on national level, a regional approach is also often applied. Further, asylum issues under the MP are introduced within the multidisciplinary projects as one of the specific components.
What actors were involved in the MP initiatives on asylum?	Having a strong mandate on protection issues, (1) UNHCR is involved in almost all initiatives on asylum. While the expertise on asylum within the MP initiatives is provided by the EU MS, the projects are often implemented, coordinated and supported by (2) international organisations, including ICPMD. (3) Non-governmental organisations are also involved in asylum projects as co-partners, or co-beneficiaries. With regard to expertise originating from the EU MS, different institutions and organisations are involved here as well: (4) state institutions dealing with asylum, (5) judges, (6) academic experts, and (7) non-governmental organisations. On the beneficiary side, it is mainly (8) central institutions dealing with asylum (in Georgia - the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees), (9) the Ministry of the Interior, (10) the Ministry of Justice, (11) the Ministry of Corrections, (12) national courts, (13) training institutions, such as the Police Academy, etc. (14) Social workers and (15) legal aid providers such as bar associations are also involved in the activities of specific projects. The final beneficiaries are (16) persons in need of protection and (17) persons granted asylum, as well as (18) persons who were rejected protection and who have to be returned back to their country of origin.
What tools can be applied in asylum-related projects?	Such traditional methodological tools as (1) **needs assessment**, (2) **research and analysis**, and (3) **focus group discussions**, adjusted to specific asylum projects, broadly contributed to (4) **development of training curricula** and materials and (5) **alignment of the national asylum legislation** with international refugee and human rights law and practice. The capacity building methodology included (6) tailored **training sessions**, (7) **on-the-spot support**, (8) **internships** and (9) **study visits**. Specific capacity building components focused on (10) **building a free legal aid framework** and (11) developing **appropriate legal representation** for asylum seekers in court, as well as on (12) building capacities for social workers to **provide social support** to asylum seekers during the procedure and to persons granted protection during their integration. Cooperation was promoted through various (13) **conferences** on national and regional level for different/mixed target audiences and (14) **development and conclusion of cooperation agreements** with the EU institutions/organisations. Finally, the methodology also included application of (15) **monitoring tools**

such as regular participation in refugee status determination interviews; regular and ad hoc visits to the temporary accommodation centre for irregular migrants, the asylum reception centre and the border crossing checkpoints, etc.

What are some practical examples of implemented activities on asylum?	Needs assessment and research followed by changes in legislation or policy	• Surveys and questionnaires • Assessment missions • Analysis of asylum decisions practice • Support in the legal drafting, legislative and policy development processes (strategies, action plans, laws, SOPs): not only on asylum but in related areas of human rights protection • Development of databases and websites • Public awareness raising campaigns
	Capacity building	• Building a legal aid and counselling framework, as well as skills related to representation in national courts, networking and advocacy opportunities • Experience sharing, interaction and cultural exchange among and beyond the refugee communities • Community self-management, voluntary engagement and participation in community-centred services and activities • Provision of development opportunities, including language education, access to literature, computer skills, vocational education, etc. • Training, study visits, and internships for civil servants, including research internships in the field of country of origin information research, collection, documentation and use • On-the-spot support activities, such as mentoring and coaching
	Monitoring tools	• Documentation of human rights violations within the asylum procedure • Conducting interviews and/or monitoring Refugee Status Determination procedures and reception conditions of asylum seekers • Conducting regular or ad hoc monitoring visits to the temporary accommodation centre for irregular migrants, etc.
	Facilitation of cooperation	• Initiation, development, negotiation and conclusion of cooperation agreements or MoUs with the EU MS state institutions involved in asylum, and other stakeholders in the EU dealing with asylum issues (such as the EASO, country of origin information research centres, etc.) • Implementation of a specific cooperation framework on exchange of country of origin information (for example, provision of country of origin information on request for particularly complicated cases) • Conferences and other exchange platforms, including specific country of origin information conferences with the participation of country experts

2.3. *Promoting open but secure Borders* - Pillar 3 of the Mobility Partnership Framework: Case Study of Moldova

In what areas can MP support border management/prevention of irregular migration?	The main objectives of the projects developed in the framework of the border management and irregular migration component included strengthening the cooperation with FRONTEX (e.g. signing of the Working Agreement in 2009) and FRONTEX capacity building in Moldova in the fields of operations and risk analysis with a general focus on (1) improvement of border management, (2) fighting irregular migration and (3) facilitating movement of persons and goods across the borders. Taking into account the specifics of this component, a more (4) regional than national approach was applied to the initiatives (e.g. focusing on the EaP region, targeting transnational organised crime, particularly in relation to THB, etc.). (5) National initiatives in Moldova aimed to develop sustainable tools and mechanisms to prevent and fight against irregular migration, including detection of irregular migration inside the country, and to enhance analytical capacities, including risk analysis and irregular migration flow forecasting.
What actors were involved in the MP initiatives on border management/prevention of irregular migration?	The main beneficiaries of the initiatives under this component are (1) the state institutions involved in border management and the fight against irregular migration: border guards, police, and migration authorities. However, (2) *bona fide* travellers and (3) commercial operators crossing borders, as well as (4) people in need of protection, such as asylum seekers, potential victims of human trafficking, and unaccompanied minors, also benefited from improved border management activities. It is also important to note that exchange between Moldovan (and regional) counterparts within the MP initiatives on border management and irregular migration prevention was predominantly led by (5) so-called "new" EU MS representing Eastern Europe. The added value of involving these partners was their expertise and lessons learnt during the pre-EU accession period, and practical examples from their management of external borders, modern methodologies and technologies. Strong involvement of beneficiaries was a main pre-condition for all projects.
What tools can be applied in the border management/prevention of irregular migration area?	The methodological tools applied within this component included (1) **situation and needs assessment** followed mainly by (2) **capacity building** and (3) **technical assistance**, depending on the specific objectives of the respective initiatives covering improvement of regulatory framework, and operational and educational support. Further, various elements of (4) **know-how transfer** and (5) **development and maintenance of cooperation frameworks**, in particular on a regional basis, were applied. All the methodological tools applied have one common feature: they aim to establish, promote and maintain a real sense of ownership and in this way ensure sustainability of the project results.
What are some practical examples of implemented activities on border management/prevention of irregular migration?	**State of affairs assessment**	The main aim of assessment activities is to get a first-hand impression, detailed and updated information on the actual situation. The missions were usually anticipated by the development of a tailor-made questionnaire which was submitted and filled in by the respective counterparts. Information collected in this way was specified during the mission's meetings which took place on central (ministries), regional, and local levels within the following dimensions: • Procedures; • Legislation; • Technical equipment; • Reporting/statistics;

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	• Information exchange within and between authorities; • Educational needs, etc. The assessment activities served as a basis for streamlining of further capacity building and technical assistance
Review/analysis of documents	The review of existing documents linked to specific objectives of the projects based on desk research, experience from previous projects implemented in the region and analysis of the information received from the project counterparts in the EaP countries. The review was often followed by: • Development of recommendations for improvement; • Updating/drafting different legislation (agreements, protocols, MoUs, strategies, methodologies, etc.) including SOPs followed by respective piloting; • Support in development of state policies (e.g. on risk analysis, etc.).
Project task forces/focal point platforms/working groups	The setting up of cooperation platforms within the project ensured continuity and ownership of the project activities, and enhanced trust building between the agencies involved in the system. In addition the flexibility of activities, and their transparency and gender balance (by encouraging participation of women in the project activities) was ensured.
Capacity building and know-how transfer applying multiplication methods	During the capacity building activities, the training of multiplicators, or the so-called "cascade training method", was frequently used. International experts from a partner country train national trainers from the border authority, the police, and migration agencies on both methodology and substance of selected topics, including required skills transfer. Later, these national trainers are expected to transfer acquired knowledge and skills to other national experts and trainers in the respective regional offices of their agencies. Capacity building and know-how transfer included a wide circle of activities: • Updating/drafting training curricula/training plans followed by respective piloting; • Updating/drafting training manuals and guidelines followed by respective piloting; • Development of intensive advanced learning experiential programmes; • Training of trainers (multiplicators); • Supported pilot trainings; • National/regional trainings; • Study visits; • Internships; • Development of instructive videos/movies for training purposes; • Purchase of equipment for training purposes.

2.4. *Migration is Development* - Pillar 4 of the Mobility Partnership Framework: Case Study of Moldova

In what areas can MP support links between migration and development?	(1) Mainstreaming migration policies into development planning tools, (2) building capacity of relevant administrations to use such tools for the formulation of effective development strategies, (3) facilitate the efficient investment of remittances, (4) enhance the diaspora's positive contribution to Moldova's socio-economic development, (5) implement innovative schemes to use the resources generated by migration for the development of the country, (6) promote policy dialogue and consultative mechanisms in order to to reinforce regional and international cooperation aimed at fostering transnational cooperation on migration by using policy scenarios to identify common migration-related challenges, etc.
What actors were involved in the MP initiatives on migration and development in Moldova?	(1) Agencies responsible for migration, return and reintegration, and labour market issues (on the central, regional and local levels), (2) civil society organisations active in the migration field in Moldova and in participating EU Member States. In some activities direct beneficiaries were also (3) Moldovan labour migrants, including those involved in circular migration, and (4) returning Moldovan nationals, as well as (5) potential migrants and (6) members of the Moldovan diaspora, (7) migrants' family members left behind, and (8) local communities from which migrants emigrated or to which they have returned. Finally, (9) private sector actors were also involved in some initiatives: employers' organisations, trade unions, academic institutions, and private employment agencies.
What tools can be applied to support links between migration and development?	The diversity of beneficiaries and target groups for the actions on Migration and Development (M&D) requires specific methodological tools. Many initiatives included (1) **research, data collection and analysis activities** as a necessary pre-condition for further interventions. Work with actual data was not only chosen in order to build analytical capacities within the state institutions, but also for the achievement of more efficient and sustainable results, i.e. further activities were based on solid and evidence-based analysis of the current situation (for example, assessing the level of brain drain and brain waste in Moldova for development of legislative or strategy responses). Further methodological tools can be divided into several categories: - (2) **Support in Moldova for persons left behind**, e.g. development of social services for elderly persons and children; support to local NGOs and communities in regions with a large number of migrants; - (3) **Promotion of legal migration and circular migration opportunities**, including negotiation with the EU MS and conclusion of circular migration, social protection and different labour migration scheme agreements, based on matching of the regularly assessed and identified needs of Moldovan professionals with national labour market needs; - (4) **Information support organised and migrants informed on return back home**: provision of evidence-based information about opportunities in Moldova to potential returnees in order to enable them to make an informed decision on return; - (5) **Support to already returned migrants**: establishment of local centres providing integrated services (one-stop shop); - (6) **Facilitation of remittance investment in the national economy**, including development of business start-ups (PARE 1+1: every leu invested by labour migrants or their close relatives from remittances was substituted with a leu from the programme (there was an upper limit on the amount that could be invested)).

Finally, the M&D programmes were supported by (7) **creation and maintenance of different dialogues and exchange platforms**, which aimed to share best practices and lessons learned on M&D.

What are some practical examples of implemented activities on migration and development?	**Research, data collection and analysis activities followed by legislative or policy changes**	• Updating/drafting the (extended) migration profile • Creation of electronic databases • Capacity building activities for public services: trainings, workshops, training of trainers • Creating/updating e-forms, and e-tools • Technical assistance in the regulatory framework, and the operational and educational spheres • Development of training materials
	Support in Moldova for persons left behind	• Setting up of consultation and information centres • Capacity building activities for NGOs and other civil society actors connected to different migration issues (returnees, migrant workers, potential migrants, family members left behind, unaccompanied minors, volunteers and specialists, etc.) • Financial programmes and schemes for investment (investment of remittances modules, use of remittances for local community support, trainings on financial literacy)
	Promotion of legal migration and circular migration opportunities	• Negotiation and conclusion of circular migration and social protection agreements with EU MS • Educational video/movies/TV shots • Public awareness raising campaigns/advertisements • Printing of posters, billboards, brochures
	Information support organised and migrants informed on return back home	• Educational video/movies/TV shots • Public awareness raising campaigns/advertisements • Printing of posters, billboards, brochures • Knowledge and information fairs
	Support to already returned migrants	• Setting up of consultation and information centres • Public awareness raising campaigns/advertisements • Knowledge and information fairs
	Facilitation of remittance investment in the national economy	• Financial programmes and schemes for investment (investment of remittances modules, use of remittances for local community support, trainings on financial literacy)
	Creation and maintenance of different dialogues and exchange platforms	• Conferences/Seminars/Roundtables (national/regional/international) • Public lectures • Knowledge fairs • Development of knowledge management platforms

3. Summary of Initiatives within the Mobility Partnership with Georgia

3.1. Overview of the Mobility Partnership between the EU and Georgia

The Joint Declaration on the Mobility Partnership between the European Community, the 16 participating Member States and Georgia was signed in November 2009. As mentioned above, the MP is not a legally binding document, but rather a cooperation framework, in which the participating states (Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Sweden and the United Kingdom) offered legal migration opportunities to Georgia in return for its cooperation on preventing irregular migration. In addition, the Joint Declaration addressed circular migration opportunities emphasising the centrality of 'mobility' for this policy instrument.

On 16 February 2010, the cooperation within the EU initiative 'Mobility Partnership' was officially launched during the visit of the European Commission Delegation to Georgia, with one of the important developments being the creation of *"novel approaches to improve the management of legal movements of people"*[14] between the EU and Georgia. Thus, the European Commission, the participating member states and Georgia set out the intention to cooperate on migration issues in reciprocity. Subsequently, the instrument foresees joint actions for strengthening Georgian institutional capacity for migration management, facilitation of legal employment of Georgian citizens in EU MS (including through circular migration) and assistance of Georgia in improving the legal framework.

The Joint Declaration addresses four pillars: *mobility, legal migration, integration and asylum*; *migration and development*; *border management, identity and travel documents, fight against illegal migration and trafficking in human beings; readmission policy.* Each of these pillars has their own particular objectives:

Thematic Area	Objectives
Mobility, legal migration, integration and migration and development	• Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities; • Informing potential migrants about ways of legal migration to the European Union and legal employment in the Member States, as well as about the risks of illegal migration, and assistance for returning migrants; • Optimising the labour market of Georgia, promoting student and professional exchange and improving the economic conditions for returning migrants; • Facilitating links between migration and development; • Offering better access to Member States' labour markets; • Promoting the voluntary return of migrants, notably highly skilled migrants, in order to counteract the brain drain; • Providing support for reintegration of voluntary and forced returnees; • Ensuring social rights on a mutual basis.
Asylum policy and protection of refugees	• Further strengthening the capacities in the field of asylum policy by sharing knowledge and best practices on addressing the needs of foreigners applying for international protection, also as regards the organisation structure of reception centres.

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[14] European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on circular migration and mobility partnerships between the European Union and third countries, COM (2007) 248 final.

Border management, identity and travel documents, fight against illegal migration and trafficking in human beings	• Fighting irregular migration and trafficking in human beings.
Readmission policy	• To support Georgia in its effort to implement a readmission agreement with the EU.

Funding for actions carried out under the EU-Georgia Mobility Partnership has been made available under the following EU funding instruments:

- The European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI);
- The Thematic Programme for Cooperation with Third Countries in the areas of Migration and Asylum;
- Bilateral financial assistance from the EU MS and national sources.

A list of projects/initiatives for implementation proposed by any of the parties to the Mobility Partnership was annexed to the Joint Declaration. The Commission maintains a scoreboard[15] of the MP containing information about all the projects falling under the partnership and the state of implementation, which is monitored at the EU level through a Mobility Partnership task force. Representatives from EU Member States, the EU Delegation and the Georgian Government met in Brussels at High Level Meetings on 15 September 2010 and recently on 22 April 2016 in order to monitor implementation of the initiative.

The implementation of the EU-Georgia MP is also overseen by a local cooperation platform established in Georgia in 2011, while the Office of the State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration has been coordinating implementation of the Mobility Partnership initiative on national level since February 2010. Along with the High Level Meetings the local cooperation platform brings together representatives from the Government, member state embassies, the EU Delegation, and international and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working in migration-related issues to discuss the achievements and prospects of future cooperation on the local level.

In Georgia, the Mobility Partnership instrument in general is best understood as an 'umbrella' tool, bringing together the various individual projects jointly implemented by the EU MS and Georgia in the field of migration and mobility. Therefore, below is presented a summary of the initiatives that illustrates how the EU-Georgia Mobility Partnership is playing out in practice. The initiatives are presented according to thematic area, however, some of the projects are multidisciplinary and cover several GAMM pillars. Further, initiatives are clustered according to already implemented and ongoing projects.[16] Due to the high number of projects implemented, only the most recent initiatives are presented (implementation completed after 2011). Finally, the last part of the overview provides some future priorities of Georgia to be developed within the MP framework.

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[15] Currently, the MP scoreboard for Georgia is not an online tool, however, during the High Level Meeting in April 2016 the decision was taken to transfer the existing table into an online tool, possibly with the support of a new initiative - the Mobility Partnership Facility, http://www.icmpd.org/our-work/capacity-building/multi-thematic-programmes/mobility-partnership-facility-mpf/.

[16] The summary of the projects is presented in accordance with the latest MP scoreboard for Georgia shared with ICMPD before the High Level Mobility Partnership Meeting in April 2016.

3.2. Initiatives on Mobility, Legal Migration, Integration and Asylum

3.2.1. Implemented Projects

3.2.1.1. Temporary Return of Qualified Nationals II

Date: 2008-2011
Budget: 2,950,000 EUR
Donor: The Netherlands
Implementer: Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Partner: International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
Scope: Project focused on six countries (Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia, Georgia and Bosnia-Herzegovina).
Objectives:
- Support for circular migration;
- Support for the temporary return of qualified nationals in the private sector.

Specific objectives:
- Involve 300 temporarily returning migrants in the reconstruction/development of their countries of origin through transfer of knowledge and skills;
- Facilitate 50 e-learning sessions;
- Temporarily return a minimum of 25 migrants per country (for a minimum of three months).

3.2.1.2. Promoting Integrity of Civil Data in Georgia

Date: 2010-2013
Budget: 23,500,000 SEK
Donor/Implementer: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
Partner: Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: Assistance in development of civil registration system. Project was a part of a bigger project funded by SIDA; through this project the Civil Registry Agency (CRA) will link to its database Georgian consulates in foreign countries, and train consulate staff so that they are able to issue passports or other relevant documents to Georgian citizens.
Objective: Strengthening Georgia's capacity to monitor migration flows.

3.2.1.3. Consolidating Reintegration Activities in Georgia

Date: 2010-2013
Budget: 735,586 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
Partners: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Facilitating the smooth reintegration into Georgia's labour market of Georgians voluntarily or forcibly returning home from EU Member States, and supporting them in making the best possible use of the skills and resources acquired through the migration experience for their own benefit and the development of Georgia, particularly by promoting immigrant entrepreneurship;
- Support for returnees and the Georgian authorities in the design and implementation of a national sustainable return and reintegration programme;
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to monitor migration flows.

Specific objectives:
- Support the Georgian Government in the development of a reintegration policy;
- Increase opportunities for economic reintegration for returning migrants.

3.2.1.4. Building Training and Analytical Capacities on Migration in Moldova and Georgia (GOVAC)

Date: 2011-2013

Budget: 1,200,000 EUR
Donors: European Union, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and partner countries
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Partners: DRC, the Hague University for Applied Sciences, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Finland, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Switzerland, the Council of Europe (CoE) and the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: Set up a durable mechanism which ensures self-sufficient and institutionalised training capacities in Moldova and Georgia for the management of migration and asylum.
Objective: Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities.
Specific objectives:

- Increase the knowledge base on migration among stakeholders in government and academia in a sustainable manner;
- Foster cooperation between academia and government to meet the analytical needs of authorities conceptualising and implementing policies on migration.

3.2.1.5. Migration and Higher Education - Building Skills and Capacity

Date: 2011-2014
Donor: European Commission (TEMPUS)
Implementers: International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and Tbilisi State University (TSU)
Partner: Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Objectives:

- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Promoting migration through legal channels, by providing relevant information on migration channels and sharing experiences on legal labour migration, including circular migration.

3.2.1.6. Promoting well managed Migration between the EU and Georgia

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 644,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA)
Partners: The Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development and the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Objectives:

- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Promoting migration through legal channels, by providing relevant information on migration channels and sharing experiences on legal labour migration, including circular migration;
- Supporting Georgian migrant and "diaspora" organisation investment in their country of origin;
- Facilitating remittances.

Specific objectives:

- Foster links between migration and development;
- Contribute to the development of labour migration policy and legislation, fight irregular migration and support the fight against trafficking in human beings, and protect the rights of migrants/returnees.

3.2.1.7. Support Georgia for proper and balanced Immigration Policy Formation

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 163,979.56 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: Innovations and Reforms Centre (IRC) (NGO)
Partners: Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: Provide in-depth analysis of the existing situation concerning immigration in order to see the whole picture - what the impact and results of the existing immigration policy are.
Objectives:

- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;

- Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities through exchange of experience and support for capacity building, especially as regards information gathering and analysis.

Specific objectives:
- Develop immigration and visa policy methodology, which will provide the Government with tools to reach correct and well-balanced immigration and visa policy in the country;
- Increase public awareness on immigration and visa policy, as well as its consequences.

3.2.1.8. Inventory of Migrant Support Measures from an Employment and Skills Perspective (MISMES)

Date: 2013-2015
Donor: European Training Foundation (ETF)
Implementer: ETF
Partners: Migration Policy Centre and the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: Provide evidence-based policy advice regarding the skills and employment dimension of migration management.
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Promoting migration through legal channels by providing relevant information on migration channels, sharing experiences on legal labour migration, including circular migration.

Specific objectives:
- Develop an inventory of migrant support measures from an employment and skills perspective that are implemented in (or by) migrant-sending countries, assessing 1) their cost-effectiveness and 2) their impact on labour migration process outcomes;
- Conduct a mapping of existing policy measures in five partner countries which have a migration and mobility dialogue and/or cooperation with the EU; namely, Armenia; Georgia and Moldova in the Eastern Neighbourhood; and the Kingdom of Morocco and Tunisia in the Southern Neighbourhood.

3.2.1.9. Asylum System Quality Initiative in Eastern Europe and South Caucasus

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 2,000,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)
Scope: Promote asylum and the international protection of refugees in Eastern Europe and South Caucasus.
Objective: Strengthening capacities in the field of asylum policy by sharing knowledge and best practices on addressing the needs of foreigners applying for international protection.
Specific objective: Improve the quality of decision-making on determination of refugee status through a regional approach.

3.2.1.10. Capacity Building of Georgian Patrol Police and Border Police in Dog Handling

Date: 2015
Budget: 13,918.24 EUR
Donor: Latvia
Implementer: State Border Guard of the Republic of Latvia
Partners: Georgian Patrol Police and Border Police Departments
Scope: Provide assistance to Georgian state agencies (the Border Police and the Patrol Police) in the development of dog handling units at their agencies and share best practices of the EU in this field.
Objective: Strengthening Georgia's capacity to monitor migration flows.
Specific objectives:
- Provide necessary training;
- Purchase two service dogs and necessary equipment.

3.2.2. Ongoing Projects

3.2.2.1. Access to the Polish Labour Market

Starting date: 2009
Donor: Poland
Implementer: Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Department of Labour of Poland
Partner: Office of the State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration
Scope: Possibility to work for six months (in a period of 12 consecutive months) without a work permit in all sectors of the Polish economy.
Objectives:
- Facilitation of labour migration;
- Facilitated access to the national labour market, under certain conditions.

3.2.2.2. Facilitation of Outward Mobility for Georgian Citizens with Legal Status of Residence in Germany

Date: Long-term initiative
Donor: Germany
Implementer: German Federal Ministry of the Interior
Objectives:
- Facilitation of outward mobility for Georgian citizens with legal status of residence in Germany;
- Allow extended absences without loss of rights of residence.

3.2.2.3. Enhancing Georgia's Migration Management (ENIGMMA)

Date: 2013-2017
Budget: 4,800,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Partner: Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: Georgia's continued progress in implementation of the EU-Georgia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) Action Plan, the MP and the Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements.
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities;
- Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities through exchange of experience and support for capacity building.

Expected results:
- Strengthening of Georgian institutional capacities to manage migration, in particular by deepening inter-agency cooperation and coordination for effective information exchange, by improving the underlying legal framework and monitoring its implementation;
- Development of the legal and technical framework for migration-related data collection and information management and strengthening of the capacity to monitor migration through the improvement of data collection and analysis systems;
- Provision of information to potential migrants on paths to legal migration to EU Member States;
- Promotion of exchange between higher education institutions in Georgia and the EU dealing with migration research and analysis;
- Facilitation of the visa dialogue and improvement of consular capacities at the institutional and procedural levels;
- Strengthening of capacities to implement asylum procedures;
- Enhancement of cooperation with Georgian communities abroad, strengthening links with the diaspora; support to programmes creating the conditions for boosting diaspora investment;
- Enhancement of efforts to fight illegal migration and trafficking in human beings;
- Public awareness raising on EU-Georgia cooperation, in particular on visa dialogue, mobility and related issues.

3.2.2.4. Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) from other Countries to Georgia

Date: 2015-2017
Donor: European Return Fund
Implementer: International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Scope: Assistance on a case-by-case basis.
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities through exchange of experience and support for capacity building, especially as regards information gathering and analysis.

Results:
- Safe return;
- Initial counselling and needs assessment of returnees;
- Ensuring of reintegration assistance packages.

3.2.2.5. Piloting Temporary Labour Migration of Georgian Workers to Poland and Estonia

Date: 2015-2017
Donor: IOM Development Fund (IDF)
Implementer: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Partners: The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia and its Social Service Agency (SSA), the Public Service Development Agency (PSDA) under the Ministry of Justice of Georgia, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia/missions abroad and the Association of Private Employment Agencies
Scope: Developing operational frameworks for facilitating worker mobility from Georgia to Poland and Estonia.
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Promoting migration through legal channels by providing relevant information on migration channels, sharing experiences on legal labour migration, including circular migration;
- Facilitating recognition of qualifications and matching of skills and available jobs/vacancies.

3.2.2.6. Further Development of Immigration Liaison Officers Points of the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, and the Republic of Estonia in Georgia and in the Republic of Belarus

Date: 2016-2017
Budget: 309,000 EUR
Donors: European Union and the Baltic States
Implementer: State Border Guard of the Republic of Latvia
Partners: The Lithuanian, Estonian and Georgian Patrol Police and Border Police Departments under the Ministry of the Interior
Scope: Provide control of the external borders of the European Union and extend effective management of the migration flows in accordance with the requirements of the Schengen acquis.
Objective: Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration.
Specific objectives:
- Expand and ensure immigration liaison officer networks;
- Promote productive working tasks of the migration flow control, representing the interests of the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, and the Republic of Estonia;
- Establish and maintain direct contacts, within the framework of their competences to achieve, analyse and supply necessary information in the field of the prevention and combating of illegal immigration.

3.3. Initiatives on Migration and Development

3.3.1. Implemented Projects

3.3.1.1. Enhancing Capacity of the Georgian Diaspora Institutions and Strengthening Links with Georgian Diasporas and Georgian migrants

Date: 2012-2013
Donor: International Organization for Migration (IOM) Development Fund
Implementer: IOM
Partner: Office of the State Minister of Georgia on Diaspora Issues
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities, namely providing support to the Office of the State Minister of Georgia on Diaspora Issues;
- Providing support for returnees.

3.3.1.2. Enhancing the Role of Georgian Emigrants at Home (ERGEM)

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 1,098,533 EUR
Donors: European Union, Turkey, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
Implementers: ICMPD, DRC
Partners: DRC, Turkey, Poland and the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: Strengthening ties between Georgian emigrants abroad and Georgian institutions to increase the diaspora contribution to Georgia's economic development.
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Supporting Georgian migrants and "diaspora" organisation investment in their country of origin, as well as circular migration between Georgia and EU Member States;
- Facilitating remittances.

Specific objectives:
- Enhance institutional knowledge in Georgia on emigrants' needs, with a focus on remittances and investment;
- Improve information, support and services from Georgian institutions to emigrant communities abroad;
- Develop a model of structured knowledge transfer from diaspora representatives to Georgian business actors.

3.3.1.3. Georgia - Personal Assistance for Migrants (G-PAM)

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 500,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: Civil Development Agency (CiDA) (NGO)
Partners: Public Service Development Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia (PSDA), the Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Diaspora Issues, the Office of the State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, the Computer literacy Foundation, the Alliance "Goodwill Mission-Missionaries", Gori Information Center, Kutaisi Education Development and Employment Center, Association Atinati, the Institute of Democracy
Scope: Assistance to Georgia in all areas of migration.
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Promoting migration through legal channels by providing relevant information on migration channels, sharing experiences on legal labour migration, including circular migration;
- Supporting Georgian migrants and "diaspora" organisation investment in their country of origin;
- Facilitating remittances.
Specific objectives:

- Promote well-managed legal migration from Georgia to Turkey and Greece;
- Promote rights of Georgian migrants;
- Optimise the positive effects of migration on Georgian development.

3.3.2. Ongoing Projects

3.3.2.1. Programme Migration for Development

Starting date: 2007
Donor: Germany (German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ))
Implementers: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM)
Scope: Increase the positive benefits of migration for the development of the country of origin.
Objectives:
- Support for returnees;
- Provide information and financial support as well as job-finding support to highly skilled migrants willing to return to Georgia.

Expected results:
- Financial and job placement support to returning graduates or qualified professionals in jobs with relevance to Georgia's development;
- Support to returning entrepreneurs and advisory services in the process of setting up a business in Georgia;
- Promotion of development activities of Georgian migrant organisations in Germany and financial and capacity building support to community projects in Georgia.

3.3.2.2. Strengthening the Development Potential of the EU Mobility Partnership in Georgia through targeted Circular Migration and Diaspora Mobilisation

Date: 2013-2016
Budget: 1,097,600 EUR
Donors: European Union, Germany
Implementers: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM)
Partners: Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI), Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Diaspora Issues and the Georgian Small and Medium Enterprises Association (GSMEA)
Scope: Enhance the Georgian development potential through use of the Mobility Partnership.
Objectives:
- Strengthen Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Promote migration through legal channels by providing relevant information on migration channels, sharing experiences on legal labour migration, including circular migration;
- Support Georgian migrants and "diaspora" organisation investment in their country of origin, as well as circular migration between Georgia and the EU;
- Facilitation of labour migration;
- Support for circular migration;
- Support for the temporary return of qualified nationals in the private sector;
- Strengthen Georgia's capacity to monitor migration flows.

Specific objectives:
- Building the capacity of Georgian policy makers, and the SCMI hosted by the Ministry of Justice, to apply a development-oriented and migrant-centred approach, fostering well-managed knowledge, economic and social transfers of migrants and preventing brain drain;
- Testing a pilot scheme on skilled circular migration that matches Georgia's and Germany's needs;
- Mobilising Georgian diaspora for return, employment, and start-ups.

3.3.2.3. Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development of Partner Countries: Case Studies and Policy Recommendations

Date: 2013-2016

Donor: European Union
Implementer: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Partners: Caucasus Research Resource Center (CRRC) and the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: A comparative project in 10 countries worldwide, investigating what are the relationships between international migration and the economic development of the sending communities.
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities through exchange of experience and support for capacity building, especially as regards information gathering and analysis.
Expected results:
- Evidence-based analysis on the significance of migration in low- and middle-income countries' development strategies; the impact of both migration- and non-migration-related public policies on migration patterns and the situation of migrants; and the effect of migration-related decisions on other policy domains and ultimately on the socio-economic development of origin and destination partner countries;
- Increased awareness among the partner countries' relevant interlocutors and the provision of policy recommendations on how to incorporate the migration dimension into the design and implementation of their development strategies and other sectoral policy areas and how to ensure coherence between migration and other policy areas;
- Guidance for policy dialogue provided to relevant stakeholders, both in the EU and partner countries.

3.3.2.4. Fostering Economic and Social Benefits of Migration in the South Caucasus

Date: 2016-2017
Implementer: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Scope: Capacity building of the central and local authorities in mainstreaming migration into development plans and programmes at the central and local levels.
Objectives:
- Strengthen Georgia's migration management capacities;
- Facilitate the smooth reintegration into Georgia's labour market of Georgians voluntarily or forcibly returning home from EU Member States, and support these persons in making the best possible use of the skills and resources acquired through the migration experience for their own benefit and the development of Georgia, particularly by promoting immigrant entrepreneurship;
- Support Georgian migrants and "diaspora" organisation investment in their country of origin, as well as circular migration between Georgia and EU Member States.

3.3.2.5. Giving practical Meaning to the Concept of Migration and Development in the Georgian Context

Date: 2015-2017
Budget: 378,423 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: Innovations and Reforms Centre (IRC) (NGO)
Partners: The Computer Literacy Foundation and Kakheti Regional Development Fund
Scope: Pilot and roll out practical activities which will enable (potential) emigrants, immigrants and Georgians living abroad to participate in development activities - both for the benefit of the country and for themselves.
Objectives:
- Strengthening Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Strengthening Georgia's migration management capacities through exchange of experience and support for capacity building, especially as regards information gathering and analysis.

3.3.2.6. Temporary Return of Qualified Nationals - Phase III

Date: 2012-2016
Donor: The Netherlands
Implementers: Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Partners: Office of the State Minister of Georgia on Diaspora Issues and the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues (SCMI)
Scope: Contribute to the national development policies and strategies by engaging Georgia's overseas migrant communities in improving the capacity of governmental and non-governmental institutions in their native country.
Objectives:
- Support for circular migration;
- Support for the temporary return of qualified nationals in the private sector.

3.4. Initiatives on Border Management, Identity and Travel Documents, Fight against Irregular Migration and Trafficking in Human Beings, including Readmission Policy

3.4.1. Implemented Projects

3.4.1.1. Support Reintegration of Georgian Returning Migrants and Implementation of the EU-Georgia Readmission Agreement – Targeted Initiative for Georgia (TIG)

Date: 2010-2013
Budget: 3,002,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementers: Czech Ministry of Internal Affairs jointly with 14 state authorities representing 9 EU Member States (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania, Poland and Sweden)
Partners: International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia
Scope: Promotion of legal migration, prevention of illegal migration and enhancement of return and reintegration assistance programmes.
Objectives:
- Strengthen Georgia's migration management capacities;
- Strengthen Georgia's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Promote migration through legal channels by providing relevant information on migration channels, sharing experiences on legal labour migration, including circular migration;
- Facilitate recognition of qualifications and matching of skills with available jobs/vacancies;
- Facilitate smooth reintegration into Georgia's labour market/improvement of livelihood through reintegration into the local economic environment;
- Fight root causes of migration by sharing experiences and exchanging good practices in the field of employment through establishment of the Joint Working Party on Employment;
- Facilitate labour migration;
- Provide support for returnees;
- Further support and enlargement of the advisory-intervention centre in Tbilisi and further development and implementation of effective job mediation for potential migrants and for unemployed Georgian inhabitants in general;
- Reinforce the capacities of responsible authorities as regards management of return migration and readmission;
- Support reintegration of certain vulnerable groups of migrants, e.g. drug addicts;
- Strengthen Georgia's capacity to monitor migration flows.
Specific objectives:
- Reinforce the capacities of the responsible authorities as regards management of return migration and readmission;
- Support social and economic reintegration of Georgian nationals who return voluntarily or involuntarily from the EU Member States and other geographic areas;
- Design and widening of conditions of legal migration;
- Campaigns raising awareness on risks related to irregular migration for Georgian communities abroad, relevant Georgian organisations and the Georgian general public.

3.4.1.2. Implementation of the Working Arrangement with FRONTEX
Date: 2010-2015

Donors: FRONTEX and Poland
Implementers: FRONTEX, the Polish Border Guards and the Lithuanian State Border Guard Service
Partner: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia
Scope: Participation of Georgian authorities (Border Police and Patrol Police) in different activities coordinated by FRONTEX in 2015.
Objective: Strengthening of Georgia's capacity in the area of border management.
Specific objectives:
- Development of activities in the field of training related to border management;
- Coordination of certain joint operational measures and pilot projects between EU Member States and Georgia for maintaining and improving border control;
- Active discussion at the technical level on the development of border procedures, including matters aiming at more efficient border control, best practices, improvement of technical equipment and technological upgrading at the borders;
- Improvement of the operational interoperability between the border guard organisations of the EU Member States and Georgia.

3.4.1.3. Supporting the Implementation of the EC Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements (REVIS)

Date: 2011-2012
Budget: 1,300,000 EUR
Donors: European Union, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and partner countries
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Partners: DRC, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Lithuania, Switzerland
Scope: Support the facilitation of the implementation of readmission agreements and the Visa Liberalisation Action Plan (VLAP), especially with regard to compliance with European standards, through different instruments.
Objective: Support Georgia in its effort to implement requirements of the EU-Georgia visa facilitation and readmission agreements.
Specific objectives:
- Enhance the capacities of Government institutions to implement returns and readmission to and from Georgia and Moldova;
- Enhance the capacity of Government institutions to issue supporting documents required for visa applicants to the EU are in line with international standards;
- Strengthen inter-agency cooperation and exchange, information to potential migrants on legal ways to migrate, deepen dialogue on visa issues, etc.

3.4.1.4. Support for the Authorities of Georgia to Implement the Readmission Agreement with the European Union

Date: 2011-2012
Budget: 711,109 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Partners: Belgian Immigration Office, Dutch Ministry of Justice Repatriation and Departure Service (R&DS), Czech Ministry of Interior, Department of Asylum and Migration Policy and the Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: Support the Georgian state agencies in processing readmission with enhanced efficiency and manage return in a humane manner through capacity building tailored to the Civil Registry Agency (CRA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia.
Objective: Strengthening Georgia's capacity to monitor migration flows.
Specific objectives:
- Development of software to enhance readmission procedures and consular services for Georgian citizens abroad;
- Purchasing of hardware to facilitate processing of biometric data of clients of Georgian consulates in accordance with the software developed;
- Development of training material and delivery of capacity building activities for officials of the MFA Consular Department and the Civil Service Development Agency.

3.4.1.5. Eastern Partnership - IBM Flagship Initiative Training Project (EaP IBM FIT)

Date: 2011-2013
Budget: 2,000,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Scope: Implementation of Integrated Border Management (IBM), further improvement of border management capacities and cross-border cooperation, cooperation with the EU MS and EU agencies, etc.
Objective: Facilitate the movement of persons and goods across borders in the six EaP countries, while at the same time maintaining secure borders through the enhancement of inter-agency, bilateral and multilateral cooperation among the target countries, EU Member States and other international stakeholders.
Specific objectives:
* Facilitate inter-institutional dialogue among the border agencies in beneficiary countries, EU Member States and other international stakeholders on border-related issues;
* Elaborate a monitoring mechanism to assess the long-term impact of the EaP IBM Flagship Initiative;
* Increase IBM awareness in all six Eastern Partnership countries and support the establishment of a coherent road map for implementation;
* Enhance operational capacities by providing operational and country-specific capacity building activities on specified topics based on needs identified by the beneficiary institutions;
* Raise awareness of and support for the appropriate fight against corruption in the six EaP countries;
* Contribute to the establishment of a modern training system in the six beneficiary countries.

3.4.1.6. Enhancement of Border Management Capabilities at the Ninotsminda-Bavra Border Crossing Point (NBIBM)

Date: 2012-2013
Budget: 1,900,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Partners: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Armenia and Georgia
Scope: Implementation of Integrated Border Management (IBM), further improvement of border management capacities and cross-border cooperation.
Objective: Introduction of EU standards of integrated border management at the Bavra-Ninotsminda Border Crossing Point (BCP) on the Armenia-Georgia border with the ultimate goal of facilitating trade and transit and enhancing the movement of people across the border.
Specific objectives:
* An EU-standard IBM concept operational at the Bavra-Ninotsminda BCP;
* Cross-border cooperation strengthened in line with EU IBM standards;
* Improvement of the transparency, accountability and integrity of border management agencies.

3.4.1.7. Supporting the Establishment of Effective Readmission Management in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia

Date: 2012-2014
Budget: 1,492,457 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Partner: State Commission on Migration Issues of Georgia (SCMI)
Scope: Establishment and development of an effective mechanism for management of readmission in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.
Objectives:
* Promoting the effective implementation of the Readmission Agreements in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia;
* Growth of capabilities for effective readmission and exchange of knowledge in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Specific objectives:
- Assistance in establishing effective case management systems on readmission;
- Assistance in establishing temporary reception facilities for third-country nationals in Armenia and Azerbaijan in compliance with international standards and human rights;
- Assistance in building effective institutional systems focusing on voluntary return and reintegration of returnees in Armenia and Azerbaijan;
- Enhance migration management and especially return management policy in Georgia.

3.4.1.8. Better Coordination of Protection of the Land Border between Georgia and Azerbaijan (GAIBM)

Date: 2012-2014
Budget: 5,360,000 EUR
Donors: European Union and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Implementer: UNDP
Partners: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Azerbaijan and Georgia
Scope: Implementation of Integrated Border Management (IBM), and further improvement of border management capacities and cross-border cooperation.
Objective: Improve operational capacities of the border agencies of Azerbaijan and Georgia by organising and carrying out coordinated operations at green borders with eventual positive impacts on overall security in the region and the European neighbourhood as a whole.
Specific objectives:
- Support institutional development and capacity building of the Georgian Border Police and State Border Service of Azerbaijan, including building capacity to conduct coordinated and joint actions and exchange of information as appropriate;
- Improve operational capacities of the Georgian Border Police and the State Border Service of Azerbaijan through provision of better infrastructure and modern technology.

3.4.1.9. Provision of Equipment and Infrastructure for the Bagratashen-Sadakhlo Border Crossing Point between Armenia and Georgia and Enhancement of Their Capacities (BSIBM)

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 4,300,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Partners: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Armenia and Georgia
Scope: Implementation of Integrated Border Management (IBM), and further improvement of border management capacities and cross-border cooperation.
Objective: Introduce European standards of integrated border management at the Bagratashen-Sadakhlo Border Crossing Point (BCP) on the Armenia-Georgia border with the ultimate goal of facilitating trade and transit and enhancing the movement of people across the border.
Specific objectives:
- Support the institutional development and capacity building of the agencies acting at the Sadakhlo-Bagratashen BCP, with particular emphasis on enhancement of inter-agency/cross-border cooperation between the Georgian and Armenian authorities;
- Provision of modern equipment and infrastructure at the Bagratashen-Sadakhlo BCP.

3.4.1.10. Eastern Partnership Cooperation in the Fight against Irregular Migration - Supporting the Implementation of the Prague Process Action Plan (EaP-SIPPAP)

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 1,014,398 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: Ministry of Interior of Hungary
Partners: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Latvia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia
Objective: Contribute to strategic and operational cooperation in the Eastern Partnership (EaP) region in the area of cross-border crimes prevention, with a special focus on irregular migration.

Specific objectives:
- Enhance bi- and multilateral EU-EaP and EaP-EaP international cooperation in line with existing border management concepts;
- Improve national inter-agency cooperation in the participating countries in line with existing border management concepts;
- Improve training programmes in the national migration/law enforcement training institutions of the EaP countries.

Expected results:
- Updated/created inter-agency cooperation platforms in each EaP country supported by the international EaP and EU cooperation platforms where representatives of different institutions will participate;
- Refining of real needs and gaps in inter-agency cooperation implemented jointly by all project partners;
- Development of inter-agency and international Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) and manuals and guidelines in relation to border management as a sustainable and comprehensive solution for improvement of inter-agency work and procedures.

3.4.2. Ongoing Projects

3.4.2.1. Eastern Partnership - Integrated Border Management - Capacity Building Project (EaP IBM CaBuiPro)

Date: 2014-2017
Budget: 4,500,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: FRONTEX
Partners: World Customs Organization (WCO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Other partners: European Union Member States (EU MS), European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), European Asylum Support Office (EASO), International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), European Union Border Assistance Mission (EUBAM)
Objective: Facilitate the movement of persons and goods across borders in the six EaP countries (Georgia included), while at the same time facilitating border security through the enhancement of inter-agency, bilateral and multilateral cooperation among the target countries, EU Member States and other international stakeholders.
Expected results:
- Improvement of training capacities on Integrated Border Management (IBM) - entails capacity building on identified thematic or institutional areas and aims to improve the working methods and functioning of the beneficiary institutions on a sustainable basis;
- Specialist IBM-related training;
- Cross-cutting issues - characterised by specific horizontal initiatives aimed at raising awareness on anti-corruption and promoting full respect for fundamental rights.

3.4.2.2. Reinforcing the Capabilities of the Government of Georgia in Border and Migration Management

Date: 2014-2017
Budget: 4,800,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Partners: The Secretariat of the State Commission on Migration Issues (SCMI), the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia and International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Objective: Fighting irregular migration and trafficking in human beings.
Expected results:

- Capacity building in integrated border management, including tailored procurement of specialised equipment;
- Capacity building in irregular migration and addressing cross-border crime, including human trafficking;
- Reinforced capacities of the Georgian authorities to prepare strategies and programmes for the sustainable of Georgian returnees;
- Development of the inter-ministerial migration data management system.

3.5. Future Interests and Priorities of Georgia

Successful implementation of the EU-Georgia Mobility Partnership mainly depends on the project/initiative concerned, i.e. whether these initiatives fully take into account the priorities and needs of the country, and whether they are flexible enough to adjust to the changing political, economic and social environment. EU Member States are welcome to suggest projects for implementation and be included in the policy-making process. Currently, the top three countries which have initiated projects in all pillars are: *Poland, the Netherlands and Germany*. MS interests behind participation in some or all pillars vary, for example, a majority of initiatives proposed by *Germany and Poland* are within the framework of Pillar I and II (mobility, legal migration, integration and asylum; migration and development); *the Netherlands and the Baltic States* are more involved in implementation of projects under Pillar III and Pillar IV (border management, identity and travel documents, fight against irregular migration and trafficking in human beings; readmission policy). Often it also happens that the initiatives implemented within the framework of the Mobility Partnership are dominated by projects which fall under the multi-thematic programmes, combining the goals of Pillar I and II, and in a smaller number of cases, all Pillars. It should also be noted that the majority of ongoing initiatives are implemented and coordinated by implementing partners such as ICPMD and IOM. Some other institutions and organisations (such as FRONTEX, GIZ, UNDP, UNHCR and DRC) usually implement projects together with the European Commission and/or member states. Moreover, several local NGOs, e.g. the Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA) and the Innovations and Reform Center (IRC) also implement projects funded by the EU. As for the main partners on the Georgian side, it depends on the specific thematic area and the project concerned.

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, being the coordinating body, analyses past experiences and lessons learned in order to develop best practice for implementation of the Mobility Partnership.[17]

Currently, within the Mobility Partnership initiative Georgia seeks to conclude agreements on **circular migration** which should promote legal migration of Georgian citizens and therefore facilitate and support protection of their human rights, including portability of social rights of migrants. An important step in this direction was a French initiative to conclude the Agreement on Circular Migration and Residence of the Professional Workers with Georgia; signed in November 2013, but yet to enter into force The main component of the agreement is legal employment opportunities for Georgian citizens (500 persons) in accordance with in-demand professions and quotas in the French labour market: the agreement aims to grant temporary residence permits to Georgian specialists and students, and exchange and improve the qualification of young specialists (150 persons).

A programme of cooperation in the fields of culture, education and science between the Government of Romania and the Government of Georgia is under negotiation. The educational programme is being considered for a period five years and will cover: two scholarships for undergraduate studies; two scholarships for Master's studies; one scholarship for Ph.D. studies; an exchange of students of up to five persons for periods of time of between three and nine months; support of language lectureships,etc.

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[17] The priorities presented below are coordinated with the Office of the State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has initiated the project "Strengthening the development potential of the EU Mobility Partnership in Georgia through targeted circular migration and diaspora mobilisation" in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit / German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia (currently under preparation). The specific objectives of the project are: build the capacity of Georgian policy makers and the State Commission on Migration Issues (SCMI) to apply a development-oriented and migrant-centred approach, foster well-managed knowledge, economic and social transfer of migrants, and prevent brain drain; test a pilot scheme on skilled circular migration that matches Georgia's and Germany's needs; and mobilise the Georgian diaspora for return, employment, and start-ups.

Belgium intends to cooperate in the future on **prevention information campaigns** in Georgia, such as "Preventive Actions against Irregular Migration", designing and implementing a public information campaign aimed at potential Georgian migrants which informs them about the risks related to irregular migration. The campaign will start late 2016 and look to discourage irregular migration of Georgian nationals by sending a balanced message to the audience and focusing on the benefits of legal migration and giving attention to the risks connected with irregular channels, including trafficking of human beings, forced labour, restriction of freedom of movement and financial loss, and also to the consequences of illegal residence. The project's implementing institution is IOM and the partner institution from the Georgian side the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia.

Latvia will continue further capacity building of Georgian Patrol Police and Border Police Departments in **dog handling**: providing necessary trainings and purchasing two service dogs and necessary equipment.

In addition to the projects mentioned above, the Georgian Government intends to extend the efforts for successful implementation of the EU-Georgia Mobility Partnership, giving importance to the prospects of each Pillar while supporting a multidisciplinary approach:

- **Mobility, legal migration, integration and asylum; Migration and development:**
    - Executive mechanisms for the legislative framework on labour migration;
    - Consultations on cooperation opportunities through bilateral agreements with MSs on circular migration and protection of labour rights;
    - Support for and development of interstate cooperation on labour migration (via circular migration);
    - Strategic communication of the European integration process, including the migration component;
    - Reintegration of returned migrants in Georgia;
    - Active engagement in the subsequent process of the Visa Liberalisation Action Plan (VLAP);
    - Supporting the development of the Unified Migration Analytical System;
    - Supporting and coordinating the drafting process of the Migration Strategy Action Plan 2018-2020.

- **Border management, identity and travel documents, fight against illegal migration and trafficking in human beings; Readmission policy:**
    - Upgrading border control capabilities through the introduction of modern technologies and equipment for border control;
    - Strengthening the capacity of Georgian governmental institutions in order to assess and manage risks;
    - Ensuring proper implementation of readmission procedures through concluding the readmission implementing protocols with the EU MS;
    - Supporting voluntary return of irregular migrants through implementation of specific programmes;
    - Conducting information campaigns on legal migration and the threats of illegal migration.

4. Summary of Initiatives within the Mobility Partnership with Moldova

4.1 Overview of the Mobility Partnership between the EU and Moldova

The Joint Declaration on a Mobility Partnership between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova was signed on 5 June 2008.

The signatories of the MP Joint Declaration are the European Community and the participating Member States of the European Union, namely, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia and Sweden.

The EU-Moldova MP Joint Declaration reflects the general purpose of the GAMM to facilitate legal migration and mobility, including circular and temporary migration, and highlight the migration-development nexus. The Declaration also establishes that the cooperation framework take into account the respective competences of the signatories, their labour markets and their socio-economic situations. The cooperation is directed towards establishing cooperation on migration and development, preventing and combating illegal immigration and trafficking in and smuggling of human beings, and promoting an effective readmission and return policy while respecting human rights and the relevant international instruments for the protection of refugees and taking into account the situation of individual migrants and the socio-economic development of the signatories.

The sources of financing of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership initiatives are:

- The European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI);
- The Thematic Programme for Cooperation with Third Countries in the areas of Migration and Asylum;
- Bilateral financial assistance from the EU Member States and national sources.

Specifically, the three main pillars of the MP are: Mobility, legal migration and integration; Migration and development; Border management, identity and travel documents, fight against irregular migration and trafficking in human beings. Each of these pillars includes specific objectives[18]:

Thematic Pillar	Objectives
Mobility, legal migration and integration	- To promote a better framework for legal mobility, supported by more information, integration and protection for migrants, and to reduce the risks of illegal migration and the danger of trafficking in human beings, while matching labour market opportunities, fully respecting Member States' competences in this field and taking into account the different labour market situations in the Republic of Moldova and the Member States; - To inform potential migrants on ways of legal migration to the European Union and legal employment, staying, studying and working conditions in the Member States, as well as on the dangers of undocumented migration and illegal work; to provide information about employment opportunities, the labour market situation and migration policies in the Republic of Moldova and in the European Union; to promote pre-departure training and facilitation for temporary workers, and to explore possibilities for the circular migration of workers; - To strengthen the Moldovan institutional capacity to manage migration, including on asylum and refugee protection in accordance with the Regional Protection Programme, through training, exchange of experts and best practices. The focus

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[18] Council of the European Union, Joint Declaration on Mobility Partnership with Moldova, http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/international-affairs/global-approach-to-migration/specific-tools/docs/mobility_partnership_republic_of_moldova_en.pdf, accessed on 26 April 2016.

	should be on legislative actions, institutional and operational development, and the promotion and implementation of migration policies; • To further consider the social protection of legal migrants, including by means of bilateral social protection agreements; • To deepen their dialogue on visa issues, and to improve their consular capacities and cooperation, including through initiatives such as common visa application centres, considering the appointment of labour and migration attachés in the main destination countries, and consolidation of the Information Centres created for the Moldovan citizens abroad, within the diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Moldova;
Migration and development	• To support voluntary return, sustainable reintegration of returning migrants, and tailored circular migration schemes; to inform Moldovan citizens abroad about the labour market situation and work opportunities in their home country, as well as return possibilities; to build up cooperation on the training of returning migrant workers and to promote the transfer of social security benefits; to develop entrepreneurship and build a legal framework in the field of small and medium enterprises; and to address the social dimension of migration in the country of origin; • To prevent, reduce and counteract the negative effects of the brain drain and brain waste, including through return policies targeting specific categories of Moldovan migrants and through adoption of codes of ethical recruitment, and through the promotion of the return and temporary migration of highly-skilled Moldovan citizens; to facilitate the recognition of skills and qualifications, exchange of students, researchers and specialists, training and temporary exchange and work programmes, including with the assistance of ETF (the EU agency European Training Foundation); • To enhance cooperation with Moldovan communities abroad, strengthening the links with the diaspora and reaching out for its support; to work on the financial sector to create the conditions for boosting the diaspora's investment in their home country through twinning projects, loan and transfer facilitation and targeted remittance schemes enhancing the development impact of migrant workers' money transfers;
Border management, identity and travel documents, fight against illegal migration and trafficking in human beings	• To enhance Signatories' efforts to fight illegal migration and trafficking in human beings, to strengthen border management capacities and cross-border cooperation; to strengthen the security of travel documents, identity documents and residence permits, and to fully cooperate on return and readmission; • To facilitate twinning projects and Member States initiatives in the field of border management, taking into account the role of Frontex (the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the European Union) as a facilitator and coordinator of operational cooperation in the field of border security management between Member States and third countries; • To promote the development of extensive operational cooperation between Frontex and the Border Guard Service of the Republic of Moldova within the framework of a working arrangement to counter illegal migration and related cross-border crime by means of border control, and to strengthen security at the borders between EU Member States and the Republic of Moldova.

The coordination, monitoring and implementation mechanisms of the MP are: the High Level Meetings of the MP (joint EU-Moldova); the Local Cooperation Platform (the local monitoring mechanism); the Extended Local Cooperation Platform (coordination mechanism with non-signatory partners); and the National Monitoring Committee (the body in charge of monitoring the MP on the country level which consists of the contact persons from all the national implementing institutions: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family; the Ministry of

Economy; the Ministry of Education; the Ministry of Health; the Ministry of Informational Technologies and Communication; the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Bureau for Migration and Asylum and Border Police Department); and the State Chancellery).

Since January 2010 the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family of the Republic of Moldova has chaired the National Monitoring Committee.[19]

At the national level the MP's provisions are in line with Moldovan migration management policies and contribute to the implementation of the National Strategy in the Field of Migration and Asylum for (2011-2020) and the Governmental Plan of Action on Fostering Return of Moldovan Migrants from Abroad adopted in October 2008.[20]

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova, in addition to the regularly updated online MP scoreboard,[21] issues regular MP newsletters where all news related to the development of this framework tool on national and European level is presented.[22]

Presented below are some projects[23] implemented in the three MP pillars. Due to the high number of projects implemented by the EU and Moldova, only the most recent projects (implementation completed after 2011) are summarised.

In addition to the projects listed below, the EU and Moldova have implemented a number of small-scale activities, such as study visits, workshops and expert exchanges. These activities also included negotiations and conclusion of social security and other agreements with the EU MS.

4.2 Initiatives on Mobility, Legal Migration and Integration

4.2.1 Implemented Projects

4.2.1.1. Migration Profile

Date: 2010-2013
Budget: Action within the "Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership" (SIMP) project funded under the EC's ENPI Action Fiche for Moldova (2008)
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: European Union Delegation to Moldova
Implementing partner: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Objective: Analysing the migration flow in order to determine needs and necessities.
Expected result: Set of benchmarks to monitor the impact of the Mobility Partnership on the socio-economic development of the country.

4.2.1.2. Strengthening and Development of the Institutional Capacity of the Bureau of Migration and Asylum - Strengthening Legal and Institutional Framework for better Governance of Migration and Asylum System (SIR)

Date: 2013-2014
Budget: 150,000 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Implementing partner: Romania

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[19] Scoreboard of EU-Moldova MP implementation, http://scoreboard.mfa.gov.md/, accessed on 25 April, 2016.
[20] Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, Mobility Partnership, http://www.mfa.gov.md/mobility-partnership-en/, accessed on 25 April 2016.
[21] MP online scoreboard, http://scoreboard.mfa.gov.md/, accessed on 25 April 2016.
[22] Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, MP Information Bulletins, http://www.mfa.gov.md/information-bulletins-en/, accessed on 25 April 2016.
[23] Information about initiatives is provided by the MP scoreboard of Moldova, http://scoreboard.mfa.gov.md/, accessed on 25 April 2016.

Objective: Enhancing the knowledge and skills of the Bureau of Migration and Asylum (BMA) and establishing the first integration programme for foreigners in the Republic of Moldova, thus strengthening the country's migration management system.

Expected results:

- Improvement of the legislative and institutional framework of the BMA through analysis of existing legislation and drafting of new normative proposals;
- Increase in the knowledge of BMA staff in the area of legal migration, integration of foreigners and funding opportunities and various types of assistance;
- Improvement and renovation of one of the BMA's field offices, thus contributing to improvement of the BMA's functionality;
- Strengthened relevant central and local authority capacities to detect inland illegal migration.

4.2.1.3. Strengthening Migration Management and Cooperation on Readmission in Eastern Europe (MIGRECO)

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 1,920,000 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Objective: To enhance migration management and foster cooperation on readmission in Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus in line with EU standards.

Specific objectives:

- To facilitate and monitor migration reform and implementation of the Readmission Agreements through capacity building and knowledge management;
- To improve migration management in line with EU standards through policy advice and awareness raising in Ukraine and Moldova;
- To assist in strengthening Government responses to human trafficking and border security in Ukraine and Moldova;
- To aid in promoting fundamental rights and integration of migrants in Ukraine and Moldova.

4.2.1.4. Capacity Building in the Area of Legal Migration

Date: 2011-2013
Budget: 1,884,376 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: International Labour Organisation
Objective: Strengthen organisational and institutional capacity of the appropriate institutions in Moldova and Ukraine to regulate legal labour migration.

Specific objectives:

- Strengthening capacities to analyse the skills shortages and oversupply as a result of migration;
- Strengthening capacities to balance migration flows and return with national needs and EU Member States skills needs;
- Strengthening capacities to negotiate and manage labour migration schemes, including bilateral agreements on social protection;
- Strengthening capacities to govern labour migration, enact relevant legislation and engage social partners.

4.2.1.5. Building Training and Analytical Capacities on Migration in Moldova and Georgia (GOVAC)

Date: 2011-2013
Budget: 1,200,000 EUR
Donors: European Union, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and partner countries
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Partners: DRC, the Hague University for Applied Sciences, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Finland, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Switzerland, the Council of Europe (CoE) and the Bureau for Migration and Asylum of Moldova

Scope: Set up a durable mechanism which ensures self-sufficient and institutionalised training capacities in Moldova and Georgia for the management of migration and asylum.
Objective: Strengthening Moldova's migration management capacities.
Specific objectives:
- Increase the knowledge base on migration among stakeholders in government and academia in a sustainable manner;
- Foster cooperation between academia and government to meet the analytical needs of authorities conceptualising and implementing policies on migration.

4.2.1.6. Consolidation of Migration Management Capacities in the Republic of Moldova

Date: 2012-2015
Budget: 2,000,000 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: Swedish Public Employment Service
Implementing partners: Sweden, Hungary, Germany, Romania, Italy, Bulgaria, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, France
Objective: Informing potential migrants about ways of legal migration to the European Union and legal employment in the Member States, as well as about the risks of illegal migration, and assistance for returning migrants.
Specific objectives: The project targeted its efforts on the following key issues:
- Providing information about legal migration procedures and opportunities;
- Informing about the risks of illegal migration and possibilities of working and living in the EU;
- Maximising the links between migration and economic and labour market development in the receiving countries and in Moldova;
- Providing information on programmes for returnees and pre-departure trainings in order to better match migrants' experience with international and national labour market demand;
- Strengthening the capacities of the relevant public authorities to better mainstream the migration dimension into labour market and vocational education and training (VET) policies.

4.2.1.7. Strengthening the Republic of Moldova's Capacity to Manage Labour and Return Migration

Date: 2009-2012
Budget: 3,215,500 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementers: Swedish Public Employment Service, German Centre for International Migration and Development
Implementing partners: Sweden, Hungary, Poland, Germany, Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Italy, Bulgaria, Lithuania, the Czech Republic
Objectives:
- Strengthening the Republic of Moldova's capacity to manage labour and return migration;
- Informing potential migrants about ways of legal migration to the European Union and legal employment in the Member States, as well as about the risks of illegal migration, and assistance for returning migrants.
Results:
- Provided information on routes for legal migration to the EU, legal employment in the EU Member States, and the dangers and negative effects of illegal migration as well as return and reintegration, with the active participation of interested MS;
- Provided public information and created awareness about the risks of illegal migration and labour shortages in Moldova, as well as promotion of legal labour migration of citizens to EU countries.

4.2.1.8. CIM Special Programme for Flexible Measures - Integrated Experts for Migration

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 250,000 EUR
Donor: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Implementers: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM) (Germany)

Objectives:
- An improved migration policy system in Moldova is put in place;
- The concept of returning migrants as a development accelerator is promoted;
- Networks within migration projects and the Mobility Partnership are created.

Results: Moldova's capacity and policy towards migrants and returnees improved through:
- Coordinated German input and the vocational education and training (VET) component of the EU project "Consolidation of Migration Management Capacities in the Republic of Moldova";
- Coordinated GIZ/CIM input tor the triple win circular migration scheme under the EU project "Making Migration in Moldova Work for Development";
- Support from the Bureau for Diaspora Relations at the Prime Minister's Office under the EU project "Strengthening the Link between Migration and Development";
- Coordinated GIZ/CIM input in bilateral and multilateral migration projects, e.g. "Common Efforts concerning Migration and Re-integration between Euroregion "Dniester" and Euroregion "Pro Europa Viadrina"";
- The Designing of regular updates of the "migration checklist" for Moldova.

4.2.1.9. Implementation of the Bilateral Agreement on Labour Mobility between Italy and Moldova

Date: 2011-2014
Budget: 82,200 EUR
Implementer: Italy, Italia Lavoro
Implementing partner: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Objective: Promote liaison between Italian and Moldovan labour and training institutions and services and strengthen the management of qualified labour migration flows between Italy and Moldova.
Specific objectives: Develop a service network for the management of labour migration flows between Italy and Moldova and enhance the qualification of migration flows through training cooperation between Italian and Moldovan employment and training institutions.
Results:
- Local Coordinating Office set up;
- Moldovan migration and employment institutions trained on the Italian labour and migration systems, and Moldovan potential migrants regularly informed of the relevant rules and procedures on migration and return (output: training material);
- Information exchange platform set up and fed with information on relevant candidates' profiles;
- Training courses on Italian language and civilisation delivered in Moldova and ad hoc availability lists of successful trainees created;
- Set of operational rules and procedures for the identification of qualified Moldovan potential migrants to Italy;
- Monitoring of reports on pre-departure training activities and trainees' effective integration in Italy delivered on a regular basis;
- List of events and activities promoting circular migration.

4.2.1.10. Inventory of Migrant Support Measures from an Employment and Skills Perspective (MISMES)

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 110,000 EUR
Donor: European Training Foundation (ETF)
Implementer: ETF
Implementing partner: Migration Policy Centre of the European University Institute (Florence, Italy)
Objective: To provide policy advice regarding the skills and employment dimension of migration management, building on existing evidence.
Results:

- Critical inventory of migrant support measures from the employment and skills perspective to assess their cost-effectiveness and the impact on labour migration - elaboration of approach and questionnaire; research on and contact with institutions shaping policy and/or intermediary and/or operational roles in labour migration; critical analysis of the evidence and report writing;
- Based on the above assessment, mapping of existing measures in Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Morocco and Tunisia - site visits, interviews, further analysis; report writing; dissemination workshops.

4.2.1.11. Scholarships and other Facilities Offered to Students from the Republic of Moldova

Date: 2012-2013
Donor: Romanian national budget
Implementer: Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports of Romania
Objective: Optimising the labour market of the Republic of Moldova, promoting student and professional exchanges and improving the economic conditions for returning migrants.
Results: For the school/academic year 2012-2013 Romania allocated for Moldovan citizens 5,000 scholarships: 1500 for pre-university studies; 2800 for higher education (cycle I); 550 for higher education (cycle II); 25 residencies, for medical studies; 125 for doctoral studies.

4.2.1.12. Promotion of Recognition of Skills and Qualifications

Date: 2012-2013
Donor: European Training Foundation (ETF)
Implementer: ETF
Objective: Optimising the labour market of the Republic of Moldova, promoting student and professional exchanges and improving the economic conditions for returning migrants.
Results: Within the Action Plan on the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership and Cooperation Platform No. 4 "People-to-people Contacts", the Ministry of Education of Moldova collaborated with the ETF in terms of:
- Elaboration of the normative and legislative framework for the validation of informal and non-formal learning for returning migrants;
- Establishment of a normative framework for the vocational educational and training (VET) sector in line with the concept of lifelong learning;
- Elaboration of the National Qualification Framework for the VET sector;
- Promotion of entrepreneurial education;
- Recognition of the informal and non-formal learning of returning migrants.

4.2.1.13. Better Access to Quality Information and Services for Rural Women and Potential or Returned Migrants in Moldova

Date: 2010-2013
Budget: Financed from the UN Women programme "Women's Economic Empowerment through Increasing Employability in the Republic of Moldova" - overall budget of 2.9 million USD
Donor: United Nations (support provided by the Government of Sweden)
Implementer: Sweden
Objective: Optimising the labour market of the Republic of Moldova, promoting student and professional exchanges and improving the economic conditions for returning migrants.
Results:
- Improved access to quality information and services;
- Strengthening of the capacities of key partners for implementation of policies which promote and protect women's rights to employment and social protection;
- Improvement of the legislative framework representing three main components of the programme.

4.2.1.14. Support to Implementation of EC Readmission Agreements with the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine: Facilitation of Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (SIREADA)

Date: 2011-2013
Budget: 2,377,205 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: European Commission

Implementing partner: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Objective: Further strengthening the dialogue and cooperation on visa issues and readmission.
Results:
- Supported the implementation of the EC Readmission Agreements with the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine;
- Promoted sustainable reintegration of voluntary returnees and served the economic and political interests of countries of origin, transit and destination.

4.2.1.15. Supporting the Implementation of the EC Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements in Moldova and Georgia (REVIS)

Date: 2011-2012
Budget: 1,300,000 EUR
Donors: European Union, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and partner countries
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Partner: DRC, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Lithuania, Switzerland
Scope: Support the facilitation of the implementation of readmission agreements and the Visa Liberalisation Action Plan (VLAP), especially with regard to compliance with European standards, through different instruments.
Objective: Support Moldova in its effort to implement requirements of the EU-Moldova visa facilitation and readmission agreements.
Specific objectives:
- Enhance the capacities of Government institutions to implement returns and readmission to and from Georgia and Moldova;
- Enhance the capacity of Government institutions to issue supporting documents required for visa applicants to the EU are in line with international standards;
- Strengthen inter-agency cooperation and exchange, information to potential migrants on legal ways to migrate, deepen dialogue on visa issues, etc.

4.2.2 Ongoing Projects

4.2.2.1. Providing Information on Routes for Legal Migration to the EU, Legal Employment in the EU Member States, Dangers and Negative Effects of Illegal Migration as well as Return and Reintegration, with Active Participation of Interested MS

Donors: Germany (Deutsche Investitions und Entwicklungsgesellschaft) and other European development finance institutions
Implementer: Germany
Objective: Informing potential migrants about ways of legal migration to the European Union and legal employment in the Member States, as well as about the risks of illegal migration, and assistance for returning migrants.
Results: Financing of viable projects in Moldova with a local private sponsor.

4.2.2.2. ETF Country Project Republic of Moldova

Date: From 2012
Donor: European Training Foundation (ETF)
Implementer: ETF
Implementing partners: Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden
Objectives:
- Optimising the labour market of the Republic of Moldova, promoting student and professional exchanges and improving the economic conditions for returning migrants;
- Further improve the transparency of skills and qualifications on the Moldovan labour market.
Results:
- Continuing work on recognition of skills and qualifications;
- Using the format of occupational standards to inform the content of education and training;

- Strengthening dialogue between Government and Social Partners on skills "transparency and quality of skills" development;
- Making the relationship between skills, migration, and development more visible.

4.2.2.3. Promotion of the quality of the Institutions of Higher Education and the University Exchanges

Donor: European Commission
Implementers: European Commission, Moldovan Ministry of Education
Objective: Promoting quality education and exchanges in higher education institutions, in particular via the considerable support provided by the European Commission through TEMPUS projects.
Results:
- Structures to promote quality management have been created in basically all higher education institutions; and the Guide on Quality in Education has been developed and implemented as well. In the academic year 2012/2013 about 5,500 citizens of Moldova participated in mobility programmes (1st and 2nd higher education cycles, doctoral studies, research and language internships). These programmes took place under the bilateral agreements signed with Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Slovakia, Belgium, Hungary, and Germany and within the following European Commission programmes: TEMPUS, Erasmus Mundus, Jean Monnet, and eTwinning.
- Moreover, since 2011 the Central European Exchange Program for University Studies (CEEPUS) has been implemented in Moldova. Under this programme 100 scholarship months are awarded annually to Moldovan students and young researchers to participate in internships and trainings at European universities.
- Besides CEEPUS other mobility opportunities are also provided by such international organisations as UNESCO, the Central European Initiative (CEI) and the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), which promote academic exchanges, quality assurance and foster human capital.
- Annually, about 25 field experts and teaching staff participate in the in-service trainings and workshops provided by the European Training Foundation (ETF), the Council of Europe (CoE) programme Pestalozzi, and the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC).

4.2.2.4. Enlargement of the Common Visa Application Centre in Chisinau

Date: From 2009
Donor: Moldovan National budget
Implementing partners: Hungary, Cyprus and the Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Objective: Capacity for visas for the following countries to be issued by the Common Visa Application Centre in Chisinau: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland (and short-term visas for Croatia).
Result: Cyprus has expressed an interest in participating in the Common Visa Application Centre in Chisinau. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is examining the matter in cooperation with the respective Hungarian Ministry.

4.3 Initiatives on Migration and Development

4.3.1 Implemented Projects

4.3.1.1. Making Migration Work for Development

Date: 2012-2014
Budget: 3,680,826 EUR
Donors: Co-funded by the South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme, and through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)
Implementer: Making Migration Work for Development (NGO)
Implementing partners: Austria, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Romania, Slovenia, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Serbia, Montenegro
Objectives:

- To improve harmonisation of the knowledge base necessary to anticipate the outcomes of current demographic trends on the growth prospects of South East Europe (SEE) regions and cities;
- To develop policy tools, e.g. reliable population demographic forecasts and impact scenarios, on the effects that predictable demographic and migratory trends will have in the short- to medium-term on critical policy areas;
- To build the capacity of concerned administrations to use such tools for the formulation of effective development strategies, with migration recognised as a relevant feature for sustainable growth;
- To pilot the tools' application in two SEE regions and in the City of Vienna, with a view to testing their relevance for the adoption of knowledge-based and comprehensive development strategies;
- To promote mutual policy learning among SEE stakeholders and ensure that the project tools become common achievements across the SEE area;
- To promote policy dialogue and consultative mechanisms to reinforce transnational cooperation aimed to foster transnational cooperation on migration in the SEE region, using policy scenarios to identify common migration-related challenges to be addressed transnationally.

Results: Enhanced capacity of public administrations to anticipate and strategically manage the future implications of current demographic change, and specifically of migration, on human capital and labour markets, along with social needs, thus supporting their efforts to effectively address critical challenges for the growth and sustainability of SEE territories.

4.3.1.2. Better Managing the Mobility of Health Professionals in the Republic of Moldova

Date: 2011-2014
Budget: 2,000,000 EUR
Donor: European Commission / Thematic Programme for Cooperation with Third Countries in the areas of Migration and Asylum
Implementer: European Commission
Objective: Strengthening the link between Moldovan communities abroad and their home country and promoting co-development projects in relation to health workers.
Results:
- Data are collected on migration of health personnel in Moldova;
- Health worker potential migrants are better informed about opportunities for legal migration to the EU without the risks of brain waste and are assisted in their search for employment;
- Bilateral agreements between Moldova and EU Member States and Moldovan and EU health institutions are promoted in agreement with the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Code of Practice for International Recruitment of Health Personnel, promoting legal migration, circular migration and return;
- Moldovan health workers remaining abroad are better informed about the situation in the Moldovan health sector and contribute more actively to improvement initiatives in the health sect sector;
- Moldovan health workers abroad are better prepared for reintegration into the Moldovan health system through distance education and web-based information;
- A health workforce plan for Moldova has been prepared in order to improve training, deployment and retention of health professionals in areas where there are shortages and to facilitate the reintegration of returnees.

4.3.1.3. Strengthening the Link between Migration and Development: Testing an Integrated Service Provider to Moldovan Migrants and their Communities

Date: 2012-2015
Budget: 2,500,000 EUR
Donors: The European Union in the context of the "Thematic Programme for Cooperation with Third Countries in the areas of Migration and Asylum" and co-financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Implementer: International Agency for Source Country Information (IASCI)
Objective: To foster links between migration and development at the local level by developing durable capacities and systematic collaboration among national and sub-national authorities, civil society and private sector stakeholders.
Results:

- By connecting key partners and stakeholders for the express purpose of engaging with beneficiaries in a holistic manner - from pre-departure through to return and reintegration - and thereby helping those beneficiaries to migrate smarter and return better, the project provides clear benefits to partners, stakeholders and beneficiaries alike. In a practical and hands-on way NEXUS Moldova works with target groups at the local level to encourage the contribution of diasporas to the development of their community of origin and increase the value of migrants' return. At the same time and in the same manner it acts to mitigate negative socio-economic developments, in both the immediate- and long-term.

4.3.1.4. Enhancing the Government of Moldova's Capacity in Diaspora Engagement

Date: 2012-2013
Donor: International Organization for Migration (IOM) development fund
Implementer: IOM
Objective: Enhancing the diaspora's positive contribution to Moldova's socio-economic development through strengthening its partnership with the Government.
Results:
- Improved institutional, normative, procedural and technical capacity of the Government of Moldova to engage with the Moldovan diaspora, so as to harness diaspora resources for homeland development;
- Availability of a comprehensive policy and institutional set-up for diaspora engaging based on international practices;
- Increased identification of the diaspora with the homeland;
- Improved capacity of the public services responsible for engaging with Moldovans residing abroad;
- Improved communication/interaction with the diaspora;
- More streamlined and comprehensive approach and understanding of the Moldovan Government towards engaging the diaspora in Moldova's socio-economic development;
- Enhanced technical and institutional capacity of the responsible Government structures to strengthen the partnership and communication between the diaspora and the homeland.

4.3.1.5. Mainstreaming Migration into Development

Date: 2012-2013
Budget: 110,600 EUR
Donor: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Implementer: Switzerland (SDC)
Implementing partners: UNDP/IOM/UN WOMEN Joint Pilot Programme (designed to help the Government of Moldova to develop efficient migration policies mainstreaming migration into development)
Objective: Strengthening the link of the Moldovan communities abroad with their home country and promoting co-development projects.

4.3.1.6. Remittances Developing Moldovan Communities - Sustainable Use of Remittances by Generating Local Income

Date: 2011-2013
Budget: 502,249 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: European Commission
Implementing partner: Hilfswerk Austria
Objective: To contribute to linking migration and development in the Republic of Moldova and make use of positive effects of migration to develop Moldovan rural communities and mitigate migration.
Specific objective: Increased positive impact of remittances to Moldova through improved capacity of remittance recipients and local communities in four target regions of Central Moldova to generate income activities, develop businesses and invest in their rural communities.
Results:
- Conducted a regional survey on youths' constraints and the amount of remittances received and spent (including categories of potential business intervention);

- Developed and replicated at least 10 best practice business models for young remittance recipients, their families, local authorities and private businesses;
- Launched a Small Grant Programme and selected five pilot small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) through a competition;
- Set up a Resource Centre in the Orhei region to provide business consultations and up-to-date information on investment and to offer job and training opportunities for remittance recipients and potential migrants;
- Conducted a series of roundtables in four target regions of Moldova to disseminate best practice business models to local authorities, institutions and private businesses for entrepreneurship promotion and job creation;
- Organised at least 10 awareness workshops and information campaigns in four target regions to support SME development;
- Trained at least 400 young remittance beneficiaries from four target regions of Moldova on business creation and remittance management, investment, and income-generating activities;
- Published and disseminated a handbook containing training materials on business cycle management and elaborated best practice business models.

4.3.1.7 Strengthen the Development Dimension of Migration

Date: 2009-2013
Budget: 1,999,734 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: European Commission
Objective: To support the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU Moldova Mobility Partnership in the policy and institutional areas through the specific objectives listed below.
Specific objectives:
- Strengthening the Moldovan institutional capacity to better manage all aspects of migratory flows by establishing a Migration Technical Facility and a Migration Profile;
- Improving the Moldovan Government's capacity in diaspora programming in line with the National Diaspora Action Plan and enhancing the capacity of Moldovan migrant associations in destination countries to become active in support of local development in Moldova;
- Supporting implementation by the Moldovan Government of the National Return Action Plan by enhancing the social security and protection of Moldovan migrants working abroad, developing and implementing - on a pilot basis - innovative temporary and permanent return and reintegration programmes, as well as initiatives for economic empowerment of youth and women;
- Identifying, developing and implementing activities targeting family members left behind by migrants, taking into account their vulnerability.

4.3.1.8. Addressing the Negative Effects of Migration on Minors and Families Left Behind

Date: 2011-2013
Budget: 1,500,000 EUR from the Thematic Programme for Cooperation with Third Countries in the areas of Migration and Asylum (European Commission) and 500,000 EUR from the Italian national budget (National Fund for Migratory Policies)
Donor: European Commission and Italy
Implementer: Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
Objective: To enhance the capacities of reference authorities to address the negative effects of labour migration from Moldova on children and other vulnerable family members left behind, and the social dimension of migration.
Results:
- Identified and implemented actions and support mechanisms for the reduction of the negative social impact of emigration on minors;
- Developed training programmes promoting employment opportunities in the domestic labour market;
- Raised awareness on the negative social effects of migration on family ties;
- Supported and protected children and families left behind by migrant workers.

4.3.1.9. "Bridge the Gap" – End of life-Care for terminally ill and elderly People Left Behind in Moldova and Ukraine

Date: 2011-2014
Budget: 650,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: European Commission
Implementing partner: Caritas Austria
Objective: To enhance the capacities of reference authorities to address the negative effects of labour migration from Moldova on children and other vulnerable family members left behind.
Results:
- Survey on the situation of elderly persons left without care. The survey focused on the needs of these elderly persons in order to improve the quality of the final stage of their lives;
- A system of high-quality mobile hospice care set up in three regions of Ukraine and Moldova;
- During the implementation period of the project, 1500 persons in the final stage of their lives got access to high-quality home care;
- More than 200 specialists and 300 volunteers, who received special training, took care of the elderly involved.

4.3.1.10. Study on Children and Elderly Left Behind in Moldova and Georgia

Date: 2010-2012
Budget: 723,771 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT)
Objective: To enhance the capacities of reference authorities to address the negative effects of labour migration from Moldova on children and other vulnerable family members left behind.
Results:
- Identified the specific effects of migration on children and elderly persons left behind in Moldova and Georgia;
- Evaluated the possibilities to mitigate the negative effects of migration on children and elderly persons left behind and looked to find the best ways to enhance the positive effects of migration on dependents left behind;
- Enhanced the positive effects of migration on dependents left behind;
- Analysed the spillover effects of children and elderly persons left behind on Moldovan and Georgian society and carried out policy-oriented research and provided recommendations directly relevant to the needs of Moldovan and Georgian society;
- Established a first-of-its-kind database on the effects of migration on children and elderly left behind.

4.3.1.11. Support to the National Action Plan on the Protection of Children left without Parental Care as a Consequence of Migration

Date: 2010-2011
Donor: European Commission (the Thematic Programme for Cooperation with Third Countries in the areas of Migration and Asylum)
Implementer: Czech Development Agency through Caritas Czech Republic
Objective: To enhance the capacities of reference authorities to address the negative effects of labour migration from Moldova on children and other vulnerable family members left behind.

4.3.1.12. Legal and Social Protection of Asylum Seeking and Refugee Children in Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova

Date: 2011-2013
Budget: 988,830 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: Danish Refugee Council (DRC)

Objective: To strengthen the capacity of the governments and civil society of Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova to protect the most vulnerable asylum seeking and refugee children.

Specific objectives:

- Asylum seeking and refugee children have improved access to a protective system which upholds international standards;
- Civil society has increased its capacity to continue development of existing programmes for social assistance and serve children's needs;
- Recent models of care for asylum seeking children in Ukraine are further developed, systematised, and maintained;
- Society is further sensitised to the needs of asylum seeking and refugee children, who are aware of their rights and obligations within society.

Results:

- Developed Ukrainian, Belarusian and Moldovan authorities' procedural practices in accordance with international standards;
- Fostered more operational links between Ukrainian, Belarusian and Moldovan authorities and civil society organisations;
- Established institutions to make concrete the improvements with relevant stakeholders, insofar as possible, and carried out sensitisation and media campaigns to make society aware of the problems faced by asylum seeking and refugee youth.

4.3.2. Ongoing Projects

4.3.2.1. Support for Voluntary Return Projects

Implementer: Germany

Objective: Support for voluntary return projects; promoting the voluntary return of migrants, notably highly skilled migrants, in order to counteract the brain drain.

Results: Returnees got support in making an informed decision about their country of origin.

4.3.2.2. Supporting the Implementation of the Migration and Development Component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership and Harnessing its Benefits for the Residents of the Transnistria Region of the Republic of Moldova

Date: 2015-2018

Donor: European Union

Implementer: International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Objectives:

- To improve links between the academic and research communities, enhancing the capacity of the Transnistrian academic and research community, policy makers and local authorities to collect, analyse, disseminate and use data required for efficient formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies for minimisation of the negative social costs of migration and enhancing the development potential of migration;
- To improve the Government and local authority capacity in diaspora programming and enhance the capacity of migrant associations and initiative groups (including those comprised of persons originating from Transnistria) in the destination countries to become active in support of local development of the homeland - including Transnistria;
- To enhance protection of the rights and social security of Moldovan migrants working abroad, including those originating from Transnistria, developing and implementing innovative return and reintegration programmes, as well as promotion of economic empowerment of returning migrant workers and rural youth and women - including Transnistrian residents;
- To identify, develop and implement specific activities targeting family members left behind by migrants - including Transnistrian residents, as well as other vulnerable population groups affected by migration, taking into account their vulnerability, in order to minimise the negative effects of migration.

4.3.2.3 Strengthening the Activities of the Information Centres for the Moldovan Migrants in the Moldovan Diplomatic Missions

Date: From 2009

Implementer: Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
Objective: Strengthening the link between Moldovan communities abroad and their home country and promoting co-development projects.

4.4 Initiatives on Border Management, Identity and Travel Documents, Fight against Irregular Migration and THB

4.4.1 Implemented Projects

4.4.1.1. Fighting Irregular Migration in Moldova (FIRMM)

Date: 2013-2015
Donors: European Union, co-funding by the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Switzerland
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Implementing partners: The Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Switzerland, Moldovan Bureau of Migration and Asylum (under the Ministry of the Interior)
Objectives:
- To consolidate the operational and analytical capacities of the Central Unit of Analysis and Information under the Bureau of Migration and Asylum to fight illegal migration;
- To strengthen the relevant central and local authorities' capacities to detect inland illegal migrants;
- To increase the capacities of law enforcement and the judiciary to deal with cases related to illegal migrants through a human rights-based approach;
- To facilitate the negotiation of readmission agreements with the countries of origin through the exchange of experience between EU experts and Moldovan negotiators on specific countries and by discussing concrete chapters of the readmission agreements and other related issues.

Results:
- The Central Unit of Analysis and Information under the Bureau of Migration and Asylum is operational and functional;
- The Ministry of Interior's methodologies and tools to detect inland irregular migration and investigate related cases are fine-tuned and put into practice by the relevant authorities;
- Law enforcement agencies and the judiciary are trained on international human rights standards and conventions and are able to use them in practice;
- The negotiation of readmission agreements with selected third countries has been initiated and facilitated.

4.4.1.2. Fighting Irregular Migration and Trafficking in Human Beings Joint Projects and Activities with FRONTEX

Date: 2010-2014
Donor: FRONTEX budget
Implementer: FRONTEX
Objective: The steady improvement of border management, and cooperation with FRONTEX on implementation of the operational arrangement Moldova and the EU mutually agreed to conclude, which would cover activities in the field of information exchange and risk analysis, training, research and development, coordination of joint operational measures, an active discussion on the improvement of technical equipment and technological upgrading at the borders, and development of best practices, as well as improving the operational interoperability between the border guard organisations of the EU Member States and the Republic of Moldova.
Results:
- Participation of Moldovan Border Police Department in Joint Operations (JOs), Pilot Projects (PPs) and other operational activities coordinated by FRONTEX (i.a. JO Focal Points 2011-2012; JO Jupiter 2011-2012; PP Coordination Points; Flexi Force PP 2012; the Third Countries Operational Heads of Airports Forum; the Operational Heads of Airports Conferences held in Rome and Warsaw in 2012 and 2013 respectively);

- Training activities: e.g. in the fields of dog handling (facilitation of bilateral cooperation between Latvian and Moldovan Border Guard Services (BGSs)), detection of false documents, detection of stolen cars, the Common Core Curriculum, Virtual Aula; and participation in the National Training Coordinators Conference - Tallinn 2012;
- Cooperation in the field of Risk Analysis and on the exchange of relevant situational products/alerts and services (training sessions and Risk Analysis-related activities; active participation in the FRONTEX Eastern Borders Risk Analysis Network (EB-RAN));
- Technical visit to the FRONTEX Situation Centre (FSC) held in May 2012 and visit to the Border Police Department (BPD) premises by FSC staff in May 2013;
- FRONTEX involvement in training sessions on Trafficking in Human Beings and Document Security held in Moldova and Georgia respectively, with participation from Moldovan authorities under the Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management Flagship Initiative Training Project (EaP IBM FIT) led by International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD);
- Invitation and participation of the Moldovan Border Police Department in the European Day for Border Guards on an annual basis.

4.4.1.3. Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management Flagship Initiative Training Project (EaP IBM FIT)

Date: 2011-2013
Budget: 2,000,000 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Implementing partner: Moldovan Border Police Department (under the Ministry of the Interior)
Objective: The overall objective of the action was to facilitate the movement of persons and goods across borders in the six Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries, while at the same time maintaining secure borders through the enhancement of inter-agency, bilateral and multilateral cooperation among the target countries, EU Member States and other international stakeholders.
Specific objectives:
- To facilitate inter-institutional dialogue among the border agencies of beneficiary countries, EU Member States and other international stakeholders on border-related issues;
- To elaborate a monitoring mechanism to assess the long-term impact of the EaP IBM Flagship initiative;
- To increase Integrated Border management (IBM) awareness in all six Eastern Partnership countries and support the establishment of a coherent road map for implementation;
- To enhance operational capacities by providing operational and country-specific capacity building activities on specified topics based on needs identified by the beneficiary institutions;
- To raise awareness and support for the appropriate fight against corruption in the six EaP countries;
- To contribute to the establishment of a modern training system in the six beneficiary countries.
Results:
- Management of border agencies is informed on the concept of IBM and about the advantages and good practices in relation to the identified thematic areas in terms of border management;
- Monitoring mechanisms has been elaborated to assess the long-term impact of EaP IBM Flagship projects;
- IBM strategies and action plans are in the process of development or at an advanced stage of update in line with the latest IBM standards;
- Officials from the beneficiary countries are trained on specific topics such as risk analysis, document integrity and security, the fight against smuggling drugs/cigarettes and tobacco products and protection of intellectual property rights;
- The capacity of border guards and other frontline agencies in participating countries has been enhanced through a series of training programmes focused on identifying victims, inspecting and intercepting potential trafficking situations, gathering intelligence and conducting successful investigations, as well as on victim protection, migrants' rights and human rights;
- Awareness raised on the appropriate fight against corruption in the six EaP countries;

- Enhanced training capacity of the beneficiary countries' institutions and ability to conduct trainings for border agencies based on the principles of local ownership.

4.4.1.4. Eastern Partnership Cooperation in the Fight against Irregular Migration - Supporting the Implementation of the Prague Process Action Plan (EaP-SIPPAP)

Date: 2013-2015
Budget: 1,014,398 EUR
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: Ministry of Interior of Hungary
Implementing partners: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Latvia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Switzerland, Moldovan Border Police Department (under the Ministry of the Interior)
Objective: To contribute to strategic and operational cooperation in the Eastern Partnership (EaP) region in the area of cross-border crimes prevention, with a special focus on irregular migration.
Specific objectives:
- To enhance bi- and multilateral international EU-EaP and EaP-EaP cooperation in line with existing border management concepts;
- To improve national inter-agency cooperation in participating countries in line with existing border management concepts;
- To improve training programmes at the national migration/law enforcement training institutions of the EaP countries.
Results:
- Updated/created inter-agency cooperation platforms in each EaP country supported by the international EaP and EU cooperation platforms where representatives of different institutions will participate;
- Refining of real needs and gaps in inter-agency cooperation implemented jointly by all project partners;
- Development of inter-agency and international Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) and manuals and guidelines in relation to border management as a sustainable and comprehensive solution for improvement of inter-agency work and procedures.

4.4.2. Ongoing Projects

4.4.2.1. Eastern Partnership - Integrated Border Management - Capacity Building Project

Date: 2014-2017
Budget: 4,500,000 EUR
Donor: European Union
Implementer: FRONTEX
Implementing partners: World Customs Organization (WCO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
Other partners: European Union Member States (EU MS), European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), European Asylum Support Office (EASO), International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), European Union Border Assistance Mission (EUBAM), Moldovan Border Police Department (under the Ministry of the Interior)
Objective: To facilitate the movement of persons and goods across borders in the six EaP countries, while at the same time maintaining secure borders through the enhancement of cooperation at the national, cross-border and international levels.
Specific objectives:
- To contribute to the establishment of a modern training system in the six beneficiary countries according to EU best practices;
- To enhance operational capacities by providing operational and country-specific capacity building activities on specified topics based on needs identified by the beneficiary institutions;
- To support the improvement of border crossing for traders, freight forwarders and passengers;
- To support the fight against corruption in the six EaP countries;

- To support improvement in respect for the human rights of persons crossing borders;
- Where applicable, to contribute to smooth operationalisation of visa liberalisation.

Expected results: An integrated border management system, the realisation of which this project is contributing to, should therefore result in:

- Enhanced professionalism of border, customs and law enforcement personnel;
- Improved security at borders in the six EaP countries and the EU;
- Improved cooperation and coordination among project beneficiaries;
- Greater efficiency at border crossings for travellers, regular migrants and traders;
- Increased capacity to counter cross-border crime;
- Better mechanisms in place to protect vulnerable individuals such as asylum seekers and victims of trafficking in human beings;
- Decrease in corruption at borders.

4.4.2.2. Fixed and Mobile Communications Network for Border Police Department in the Republic of Moldova: Phase 2 Horesti to Otaci

Date: From 2012
Donor: European Commission
Implementer: Swedish company Ericsson
Implementing partner: Moldovan Border Police Department
Objective: Strengthening the border surveillance capacity of the Border Police Department.
Results: The installation of fixed and mobile communication systems on segments of the state border is envisaged in the project. During the first phase of the project 27 towers with IT equipment and infrastructure were installed - in subdivisions of regional directorates from Cahul, Leova, and Ungheni (a total of 40 locations). The second phase will cover a greater area and include 44 locations along the border over a distance of about 385 km between Horesti and Otaci. This modern telecommunications network will be able to support several simultaneous voice, video and data services and will allow future integration and other services.

4.5. Future Interests and Priorities of Moldova

In future, Moldova is going to cooperate with long-standing MP partners, such as Germany, Romania, France, and Italy; as well as international and non-governmental organisations which often act as implementing partners of MP initiatives.

With regard to topical priorities the following initiatives are under consideration and/or preparation at the moment[24]:

Mobility, Legal Migration and Integration:

- Consolidation of the National Migration Management System (Germany);
- Study Visits on Consolidation of the National Migration Management System (Poland).

Migration and Development:

- Making Migration in Moldova Work for Development: To enhance Moldova's human capital through maximising the positive impact of migration on the country's socio-economic development, to test circular migration schemes (CIM/IOM);
- Promoting the participation in elections of Moldovan citizens abroad;
- Bilateral projects in the field of small and medium-sized enterprises, promoting the creation of job opportunities in the field of tourism and rural development (Romania).

Border Management, Travel and Identity Documents, Fight against Irregular Migration and THB

- Education and Training of multipliers in the investigation (Germany);
- Continuation of support for the programme to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings and to assist the victims of smuggling (France);
- Bilateral agreement between the competent authorities of both countries for cooperation in the field of exchange of information, expertise and visits in the area of trafficking of human beings (postponed, Cyprus);
- Combating trafficking of human beings in Transnistria and Gagauzia: prevention, assistance and reintegration of victims (France, Italy, Germany).

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[24] According to the MP scoreboard of Moldova, http://scoreboard.mfa.gov.md/, accessed on 25 April 2016.

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Overview of Mobility Partnership Instrument

Summary of Initiatives in Georgia and Moldova

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