Supporting evidence-based migration policy

Collaboration of the Dialogue with the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC)

→ 3 Policy papers
Based on thousands of surveys of refugees and migrants in Africa (MMC 4Mi project):

- The impact of COVID-19 on refugees and migrants on the move in North and West Africa (03/2021)
- Migration drivers and decision-making of West and Central Africans on the move in West and North Africa (06/2021)
- Mixed migration in urban areas: experiences of migrants on the move to, within and from cities in West and North Africa (11/2021)

→ Mixed migration futures programme (scenario-building and interactive workshops)
How to better anticipate future trends and plan appropriate responses? 2 out of 4 activities organised so far:

- The role of technology within migration dynamics | 16/06/21, virtual
  Identify and visualise technology-related migration factors (e.g., use of smartphones) and reflect on the future evolution of technology and its impact on migration

- Climate change and environmental factors: what impact on migration? | 27/10/21, virtual
  Key messages: migration factors are multiple and intertwined; environment is not a single factor; climate change acts as a multiplier of existing threats / vulnerabilities

The Rabat Process provides a flexible channel for countries to meet to address migration challenges and opportunities. The Dialogue has shown impressive resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is essential that it continues to evolve to meet new migration challenges.

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Mainstreaming migration into development policies and development cooperation policies | 19/04/21, virtual
→ Adopt a comprehensive and coherent approach to migration; Include migration in sectoral policies; Have reliable and objective data to support these policies.
→ Development and implementation of M&D policies: Strengthen inter-institutional coordination and adopt inclusive approach; Ensure policy monitoring and evaluation.
→ Strengthen support to diasporas in the framework of Euro-African partnerships and South-South cooperation to achieve concrete solutions to common development problems.

National authorities, local authorities and migration | 14-15/09/21, Paris and virtual
→ Challenges and opportunities for multi-level governance: Create a space for dialogue between the different levels of governance; Enable local authorities to access human and financial resources; Link migration policy to sectoral policies; Build on reliable migration data; Put in place appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks for cities; Take into account the role of diasporas at local level.
→ Challenges and opportunities for the socio-economic inclusion of migrants: Strengthen coordination between local authorities, the central state and civil society; Involve intermediate levels (regions, territories, provinces); Develop training and capacity-building actions for local authorities.

PROGRESS OF THE DIALOGUE
→ Supporting the development of evidence-based migration policies - more details on the back cover
→ Revitalising the governance of the Dialogue
→ Consolidating the system of reference countries for the domains of the Marrakech Action Plan (D2: Portugal, Cabo Verde, D3: Switzerland, Tchad, D4: Spain, Niger, Burkina Faso, D5: Cameroon, Togo)
→ Strengthening the interaction of the Dialogue with cities and local authorities
→ Introducing virtual tools
→ Revitalising the Dialogue’s communication and visibility tools

EQUATORIAL GUINEA’S PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES
→ A Central African country holds the Chairmanship of the Dialogue for the first time
→ Thematic priorities: focus on domain 2 (legal migration - upcoming meeting) and 3 (protection and asylum) of the Marrakech Action Plan and the key role of local authorities in migration management
→ Strategic priorities: strengthen the role of reference countries and their cooperation with Steering Committee members; enhance the visibility of the Dialogue and its communication channels

Meeting between Steering Committee members and reference countries | 20/04/21, virtual
→ Presentation of planned activities in the framework of domains 2 (thematic meeting Portugal - Cabo Verde), D3 (work on unaccompanied minors Switzerland-Chad-UNHCR) and D4 (training of actors within the penal system in the field of THB in Niger) of the Marrakech Action Plan.

Roundtable “Asylum Procedure for unaccompanied minors” | 07/07/21, virtual
Roundtable «Risks, support and durable solutions, in particular for unaccompanied minors» | 14/10/21, Geneva
→ Two roundtables, organised by the reference countries in collaboration with the UNHCR.
→ The roundtables addressed the issue of the protection of unaccompanied minors in an integral way, in three parts corresponding to the three stages of their journey: «reception»; «on the road» and «durable solutions».
→ Presentation of key elements concerning the protection of UAMs by Switzerland (new asylum and protection law which provides legal protection for UAMs and Chad (activities such as child-friendly spaces for UAMs and psychosocial support).
→ Presentation of key elements on age determination of UAMs including the use of multidisciplinary and independent teams to determine age and the use of the “cluster technique” whereby age is determined through a series of factors.
→ Presentation of the protection of UAMs along migration routes and voluntary relocation of UAMs: Issue of family separation and missing persons; Issue of local integration in the destination country (in Chad, Niger, EU).

Webinar on Voluntary Return and Reintegration | 21/01/21, virtual
→ First Dialogue activity open to all policy makers, practitioners and academics.
→ Success factors for voluntary return programmes: multi-stakeholder approaches and strong coordination between host and origin countries; development support for local communities hosting returning migrants; effective referral of migrants to relevant institutions and support for socio-economic reintegration, tailored to their capacities and needs and monitored over time.

Senior Officials’ Meeting (SOM) | 17-18/11/21, Malabo
→ Assessment of the implementation of the Marrakech Action Plan under the Chairmanship of Equatorial Guinea.
→ Handover of the Chairmanship of the Dialogue to Spain; Discussion and approval of the Spanish Chairmanship Programme (November 2021 - December 2021).
→ Follow-up of the implementation of the Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP).
→ Presentation of the actions undertaken by reference countries to contribute to the implementation of the Marrakech Action Plan.