

MIGRATION MPTF IN ACTION

2nd EDITION
JANUARY 2024



Welcome to the second edition of the “**Migration MPTF in Action**” leaflet, where we showcase the accomplishments of Joint Programmes funded by the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund. In the following pages, you will gain insights into selected impacts from our Joint Programmes.

NORTH MACEDONIA

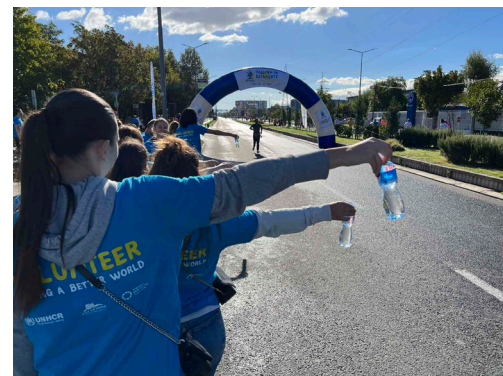
THEMATIC AREA 1 Promoting Use of Data

Budget (USD) 1,500,000

Duration (Months) 36

Participating UN Agencies FAO, IOM, UNICEF, UN Women

Evidence-based migration policy planning and discourse



Skopje Marathon, strengthening positive narratives and perceptions of migrants and refugees ©UNHCR

Background

North Macedonia has significant migration outflows, with more than 700,000 citizens estimated to be living and working abroad in 2019. However, limited data has been one of the main challenges for evidenced-based policymaking and effective migration governance. To address this, the Joint Programme worked towards improving the systematic collection and analysis of migration-related data; enhancing institutional data exchange mechanisms and collaboration; and increasing awareness and understanding among the public for the effective management of migration.

The Joint Programme supported the government and its partners to design evidence-based and coordinated migration policies. Additionally, it has supported the development and application of tools to improve the migration database.

- The **Migration Policy and its Action Plan** for 2021-2025, developed with support from the Joint Programme, was approved by the Parliament in December 2021. This milestone document sets out the national strategic direction on migration governance.
- **7** new data management tools and mechanisms related to migration, including the Migration Profile and the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) report, were developed and applied by the national institutions.
- **357** stakeholders were trained in migration-related data management.

The Joint Programme aimed to strengthen intra- and inter-institutional data exchange in migration management, enhancing rulebooks, and improving data management systems. Partnerships and coordination were strengthened among diverse stakeholders, contributing to better migration statistics and use of Big Data.

- Official South-South Cooperation visits were organized between the National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia and the Central Bank of Albania, to exchange experiences and share best practices related to remittance.
- **169** individuals from government, civil society, academia, private sector, and international organizations, were trained on remittances and Big Data.

To improve the perception of migrants and refugees among policymakers and the public, the Joint Programme, in collaboration with local actors, created media content promoting positive narratives on migration, organized public events, and engaged in mentorship programmes, resulting in greater awareness of the challenges faced by migrants and refugees and highlighting their positive contributions.

- **450,000** individuals were reached with the “This is home” campaign, aiming at creating positive narratives and perceptions towards migrants and refugees.
- **555,000** individuals were reached with the campaign “No to hate – Build a positive mindset” which targeted the youth.
- **10** public events focusing on strengthening positive narratives and perceptions of migrants and refugees were organized, including the Skopje Jazz Festival, the Journalists Awards ceremony, the Skopje Marathon and the National Debate Tournament.
- **161** officials from government, civil society representatives, and journalists were trained on “Communication Strategy for Social Change”.
- **31** journalists were trained on the importance of providing the public with accurate information on the challenges faced by refugees and migrants, leading to the creation of 29 media products.

Here are snippets from the media content produced by the Migration MPTF campaign “This is home”, short documentaries on successful migrant stories in North Macedonia. These interviews promote positive migration narratives through events and mentorship, aiming to raise awareness of challenges faced by migrants and highlight their positive contributions.



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Natalija Todorovska, a Russian migrant in North Macedonia, tells her story of how she became a European handball champion. After concluding her professional handball career, she became North Macedonia's handball coach and now she teaches at the National Handball Academy of North Macedonia.



”

Nikolina Kujaca fled Bosnia during the 1990s war and immigrated to Struga with her family. There, she completed her ballet school education and went on to become a professional actress.

PHILIPPINES

THEMATIC AREA 4 Facilitating Regular Migration

Budget (USD) 1,500,000

Duration (Months) 32

Participating UN Agencies ILO, IOM, UN Women

Bridging recruitment to reintegration in migration governance



Financial literacy training ©IOM

Background

The BRIDGE Joint Programme supported the Government of the Philippines in achieving priority objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM). It focused on fair and ethical recruitment, decent work conditions, safe return and readmission, and sustainable reintegration of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). BRIDGE emphasized partnerships, stakeholder collaboration, and enhanced migration governance policies to ensure sustainability and aimed at addressing the needs and protection of OFWs throughout the migration cycle.

To promote fair and ethical recruitment and sustainable reintegration, BRIDGE actively supported the Government of the Philippines in strengthening migration data governance.

- A **Migration Data Governance Strategy** aimed at helping migration governance agencies to harmonize their migration data systems and processes was adopted.
- **296** individuals were trained in data collection, management, analysis and verification. In addition, 225 individuals were trained in recruitment and reintegration.

BRIDGE undertook a wide range of activities, including advocacy and awareness-raising events, as well as multi-stakeholder initiatives aimed at enhancing the regulatory framework governing private employment agencies and worker protection.

- **1,913** individuals were reached through 16 advocacy and awareness-raising events on gender-responsive migration governance, reintegration services and social protection.
- **11** government agencies and national partners participated in a multistakeholder event promoting the ratification of ILO Convention 181, establishing a comprehensive framework for the registration, licensing, and effective regulation of private employment agencies and the protection of workers who use their services.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

BRIDGE improved policies and practices related to fair and ethical recruitment and sustainable reintegration.

- BRIDGE equipped key migration stakeholders, including the newly established **Department of Migrant Workers**, with the necessary tools, expertise, and skills to advance gender-responsive policies and practices.
- A multi-stakeholder interagency Technical Working Group for the National Action Plan on Fair and Ethical Recruitment and Sustainable, Gender-Responsive Return and Reintegration was established, in collaboration with the Department of Migrant Workers.
- A Migrant Resource Center of the Local Government of Quezon City was operationalized in 2022, enabling the delivery of localized, coordinated and gender-responsive migration programmes and services to migrant workers and their families.
- **8** government agencies and national partners were trained on sustainable gender-sensitive reintegration programming.
- **95** female OFWs and their families were trained on agroforestry, agribusiness or data annotation.
- **505** individuals were trained in enhanced reintegration programming, gender responsiveness, and case management.



BRIDGE trained 95 female OFWs and their families in agroforestry, agribusiness, and data annotation. The project's goals include piloting a reintegration initiative for female OFWs, building the capacity of returnees and their families in agroforestry business management, and increasing income for these individuals.

©IOM

IMPACT STORIES

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Agroforestry training participant:

“The training in solar energy systems was a great opportunity to acquire new skills. I can now seek employment to support my family.”

”

Financial literacy training participant:

“...I've learned that I should prioritize basic needs in my spending. I've also realized that, before saving, I need to pay off my debts first. After the financial literacy training, I thought of supplementing my income by becoming a rice, fruit juice, and load business agent, which I am now.”

”

Welyn Dela Torre, agroforestry and financial literacy training Participant

“For me, the training that changed my life was understanding how to make money, how to spend money, and how to spend less [financial literacy training].” said Welyn Dela Torre, a 42-year-old, who faced the challenges of being an Overseas Filipino Worker in Singapore. Upon returning to the Philippines, while her seafarer husband navigated the seas, she took on the responsibility of caring for their land and raising their kids single-handedly. Welyn embraced transformative training, gaining essential financial literacy and sustainable farming skills provided by the Joint Programme.



SOUTH AFRICA

THEMATIC AREA 5 Improving Social Inclusion

Budget (USD) 2,565,570

Duration (Months) 35

Participating UN Agencies IOM, UNDP, OHCHR, UNHCR, UN Women

United Nations pilot project for strengthening migrant integration and social cohesion through stakeholders' engagement, socio-economic activities and countering anti-migrant narratives



Soccer tournament ©IOM

Background

As the main country of destination for migrants from the southern African region and beyond, South Africa faces challenges of integration and social cohesion, with a recent history of xenophobic violence. The Joint Programme sought to shape the public narrative on migration and promote tolerance and evidence-based discussions by implementing targeted engagement and facilitating participation of government counterparts, migrants and host communities, through community-level peace and socio-economic activities.

The Joint Programme enhanced national and local systems and capacities to prevent and respond to xenophobic violence and support its victims. In addition, through a collaborative effort with the Department of Social Development, the Joint Programme conducted a mapping exercise to identify historical hot spot areas prone to xenophobic activities.

- Over **200,000** individuals received legal, psychosocial and administrative support through a web-based platform.
- **7** community peace initiatives were identified and implemented with a keen focus on addressing violence in a sensitive manner.
- **11** training were delivered to government and community peace-building mechanisms to enhance migrant and refugees' integration and social cohesion through community dialogues, in Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal and Western Cape provinces.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In order to better understand the root causes and dynamics of crisis and violence, and to strengthen response in the three provinces, the Joint Programme carried out joint initiatives among government, UN, civil society and research and academic institutions.

- A mapping of existing early warning and rapid response mechanisms for the prevention of racism, discrimination, xenophobia and violence was conducted; and tools to monitor online hate speech and identify communities at risk were developed. Based on these mapping and tools, **6** policy recommendations were developed to be implemented.

The Joint Programme is dedicated to promoting social inclusion and peaceful coexistence in South Africa. To achieve this, the programme promoted positive narratives by drawing from the knowledge of ongoing initiatives focused on social cohesion and engaging in consultations with community representatives and other key stakeholders. The Joint Programme also facilitated access to socioeconomic opportunities through "social mixing" approaches that brought together individuals of different nationalities to exchange views, share experiences and create a common culture of acceptance, irrespective of origin.

- **940,000** community members were reached through awareness-raising campaigns and socio-cultural activities on social cohesion and countering xenophobia.
- **35** media campaigns on migration and human rights and 96 briefing sessions and local level dialogues among migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers were conducted.
- **1,940** community leaders have actively participated in the events and training programmes related to migration and xenophobia issues.
- **4** local peace award ceremonies were held, and 3 women peace clubs were created.
- **21** vocational training programmes, including sewing training, were conducted for vulnerable groups.

IMPACT STORIES



Food distribution, KwaZulu Natal Province ©IOM

The Joint Programme, in collaboration with the Department of Social Department, eThekweni Metropolitan municipality and the Refugee Pastoral Care organisation identified migrants, refugees, and South Africans who were still affected by the severe flooding and landslides that happened in April and May 2022. A total of 250 families benefited from the food parcels as part of providing relief after the disaster that damaged the KwaZulu Natal province.



Basketball tournament ©IOM

In response to xenophobic violence, the Joint Programme collaborated with the Bredasdorp Community Policing Forum, Bredasdorp Municipality, Overberg District Municipality, Government Communications and Information Systems, and Community Development Workers to organize soccer and basketball tournaments. The goal of these events was to foster social cohesion among community members and migrants residing in the township of Zwelitsha, located in the Western Cape Province. The tournaments attracted over 500 participants, including both community members and foreign nationals, who came together to promote social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.

Testimonials

As part of the Joint Programme, a series of activities and trainings were organized to facilitate the integration of refugees and migrants into the South African community. Activities focused on women, particularly those at a higher risk of GBV, offered crochet and baking training and provisioning. There were also initiatives tailored to men, focusing on skills like welding and barbering. To foster greater integration, an English class was made available to all, irrespective of their background. Beyond vocational training, the programme was instrumental in nurturing relationships among these diverse communities and promoting understanding and unity in South Africa.



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Ivy Daniels, Crochet Workshop Beneficiary

“When I was shown how to start [crocheting], and actually got it formed into an article, like a bag, that for me was amazing... You can make something that you don't need to buy from a shop anymore... I am so grateful to be a part of this, enriching myself, starting my business, and even teaching other women. This winter, I'm going to start selling, and it will bring me some extra money.”



”

Innocent Hakizimana, Barbering Workshop Beneficiary

“When I first arrived in South Africa, I didn't have a job, and I was staying with my brother. He told me about a program that trains people in haircutting... The trainer did an excellent job, and I completed all the training... I can now work and pay my rent, and I've reached a point where I can assist my family.”



”

Kanza Mayinga, Welding Workshop Beneficiary

“I arrived in South Africa in 2011. Before the training, my life wasn't going well because I didn't have a job. However, after the training, I have my own job and business because I now have the skills. My dream is to expand my welding business, make more stuff, and have more people, including foreigners in South Africa, working with me.”



”

Pamela Ntomboyise Maseti, Baking Workshop Beneficiary

“When I first started, we were all different, some from South Africa, some from Congo, and Kenya. However, during the course, we all blended together and became like a family... I had never had friends from other countries before, but now I do. I call them my sisters, and they call me their sister.”



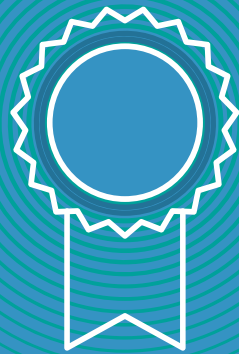
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Alphoncine Kiza, Visual Media Workshop Beneficiary

“The visual media workshop provided me with a lot of tools on taught me how to capture and tell stories in a coherent manner that everyone can understand... With the equipment and knowledge I gained from the workshop, I am now able to share these skills and knowledge with others, enabling them to voice their concerns and make positive changes in their lives.”

SPOTLIGHT ON

LOCALIZING MIGRATION GOVERNANCE - ENGAGING LOCAL AUTHORITIES



While national governments typically oversee migration policies, it's at the local level that migration's impact is most profound. Migration, though beneficial for innovation and sustainable development, also demands resources to ensure social inclusion, rights protection, and equal access to services. Local authorities are not just implementers but active contributors to effective migration governance. The GCM promotes a whole-of-government approach, emphasizing the crucial role of local authorities in more than half of the GCM's 23 objectives.

Aligned with the above, the Fund recognizes the unique and important contributions of local authorities and communities and considers migration a multidimensional reality that cannot be addressed by the central government alone. To ensure that this dimension was adequately taken into account from the onset, the Mayors Migration Council, a mayor-led advisory and advocacy organization, served on the Fund Steering Committee from inception until 2022, promoting meaningful coordination and collaboration with local authorities throughout the programming cycle.

Below are some results from Joint Programmes that engage closely with local authorities and communities:

Capacity Building & Training, Data Governance & Policy Development:

CHILE AND MEXICO

5

joint actions were organized between **Santiago and Mexico City** to exchange good practices for the socioeconomic integration of migrants and refugees, including one regional exchange between cities in 5 different countries: Brazil (São Paulo), Colombia (Medellín), Argentina (Buenos Aires), Santiago, and Mexico (Mexico City).

238

stakeholders from **local governments** and regional/global civil society organizations strengthened their knowledge via the E-Campus course on "Interculturality, Gender, and Labour Migration for Local Governments".

A laboratory of innovation and good practices in migration governance has been established with 7 local governments from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico. This laboratory brings together local governments to create novel policies enhancing socioeconomic inclusion for displaced individuals.

NORTH MACEDONIA

169

individuals from **local authorities**, civil society organizations, national institutions, academia, private sector, and international organizations strengthened their knowledge through trainings sessions on remittances and Big Data.

PHILIPPINES

9

local government units from the National Capital Region and Western Visayas Region completed the pilot training programme that promoted integrated recruitment and reintegration frameworks/ action plans.

The Quezon City Migrant Resource Center was operationalized in 2022, enabling delivery of localized, coordinated, and gender-responsive migration programmes and services to migrant workers and their families.

8

local government agencies and their partners strengthened their knowledge on sustainable gender-sensitive reintegration programming.

REGIONAL IGAD

94

individuals from **local authorities** across the region together with national officials were consulted and trained on the **Standard Operating Procedures** drafting, outlining protocols for the admission and stay of individuals in cross-border disaster displacement situations.

2

sub-county climate change Action Plans were developed for sub-regions in Kenya, engaging local communities in the policy-making process.

87

stakeholders from **local authorities** strengthened their knowledge through trainings on human mobility, in the context of disasters climate change and environmental degradation in Kenya.

24

stakeholders from **local authorities** strengthened their knowledge through trainings on climate-disaster-human mobility nexus and access to quality data and evidence on disaster displacement risk and on other forms of human mobility in the IGAD region.

SOUTH AFRICA

3

provincial and community **Strategic Engagement Plans** were developed and updated, utilizing a mapping of national violence reduction social networks and capacities.

TAJIKISTAN

43

representatives of **local governments**, civil society organizations, and local community leaders engaged in gender assessment and mobilization process developed interventions to support women to plan for livelihoods and dedicate more time to economic activity and community projects.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

219

local government actors and 98 community actors were trained to screen, identify, assist, and integrate/ reintegrate survivors of trafficking and unaccompanied and separated children.



Quezon City Migrant Resource Center leaders assembly, Philippines ©ILO

MIGRATION MPTF IN ACTION



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