ASIA & THE PACIFIC



CONTEXT

In 2022, governments from Asia and the Pacific renewed their commitment to the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) during the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), calling on States to protect the rights of migrants and to recognize migration as a remarkable contribution to democracy, diversity, as well as a means to accelerate sustainable development.

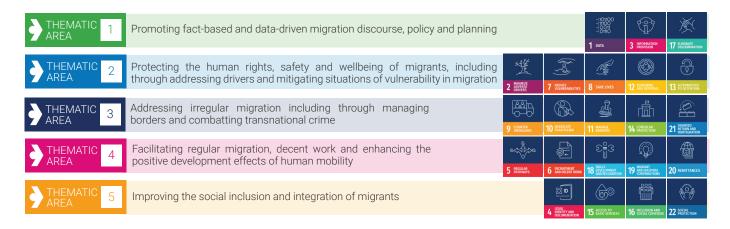
The leadership of and support from governments, including eight GCM Champion countries, namely Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Iraq, Nepal, Philippines, and Thailand, is crucial in generating mutual learning processes and cooperation across the region, allowing both the exchange of good practices and the achievement of the Compact's objectives.

THE MIGRATION MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

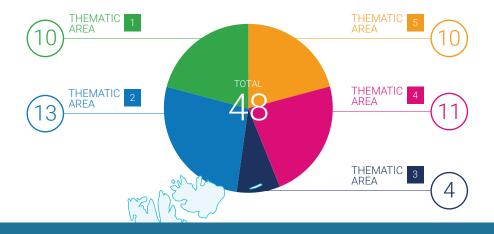
Launched in 2019, the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (the Fund) is the vehicle to bring the Compact to life. It was called for by Member States and is fully aligned with overall reforms of the United Nations Development Systems. Every programme the Fund supports is the product of collaborative work by members of the United Nations Network on Migration working with national partners – with regional economic community, government, local authorities and alongside stakeholders, including those representing migrants and migration affected communities.

A critical feature of this unique pooled funding instrument in the field of migration is its 360-degree approach, with no GCM objective privileged over others. To implement this approach, the GCM's 23 objectives are clustered under 5 thematic areas. This ensures balanced support and provides an umbrella of broad areas towards which donors can earmark their funding, if necessary. This clustering also facilitates effective monitoring and reporting of the Fund's impact.

THEMATIC AREAS AND CORRESPONDING GCM OBJECTIVES



CONCEPT NOTES FROM THE REGION BY THEMATIC AREA



FUNDED PROGRAMMES

THEMATIC AREA 1

MENA USD 3.2M

JORDAN, IRAQ, LEBANON



The MENA region is among the world's most vulnerable regions due to its arid and semi-arid climates, combined with a projected increase in air temperatures and pollution, worsening water stress and frequencies of extreme weather events.

The Joint Programme contributes to strengthening synergies between Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), in order to address the adverse drivers of migration in the region, including disasters, climate change and health considerations.

THEMATIC AREA 2

INDIA

USD 3M





Large-scale migration historically related to socio-economic factors has been increasingly exacerbated by climate change impacts and environmental degradation that are affecting traditional mobility patterns and worsening the vulnerability of rural households in India. The Joint Programme aims to strengthen rural households' resilience to climate change in order to reduce the pressure to migrate out of distress and to improve migration outcomes.

THEMATIC AREA 5

BANGLADESH USD 2.57M









The COVID-19 pandemic has harshly impacted Bangladeshi migrant workers, estimated at over 1.4 million. By empowering communities and assisting the authorities to improve social integration support structures, the Joint Programme contributes to addressing the needs of returnees, stranded migrants, and communities affected by the influx of returning migrants.

THEMATIC AREA 1

INDONESIA USD 1.7M OID WOMEN WOMEN







The Joint Programme strengthens the Government's capacity in evidence-based migration management at the national and subnational levels. As a key partner, the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection takes a pivotal role to ensure gender-sensitivity and a gender responsive approach across all Joint Programme activities; and civil society including women NGOs are engaged to address women migrant workers' needs in the migration governance framework and policies.

THEMATIC AREA 2

TAJIKISTAN USD 2.2M







Approximately 10% of Tajik adults, mostly men, migrate to Russia, and many gradually cease to send remittances, leaving marginalized and vulnerable "families left behind". The Joint Programme supports these families and communities by strengthening access to wellbeing and psychosocial support, increasing economic resilience and ensuring protection of rights.

PHILIPPINES USD 1.5M







While labour migration has been the cornerstone of national and community development, challenges such as exploitation, trafficking, and reintegration remain. This has been magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic, with large scale job losses that led to mass returns. The Joint Programme focuses on the needs and protection of overseas Filipino workers throughout the migration cycle, from recruitment, employment to return and reintegration.

REGIONAL PACIFIC

USD 1.85M

FIJI, KIRIBATI, SOLOMON ISLANDS, TUVALU, VANUATU



With climate change and natural hazards leading to population displacement and livelihood challenges, many Pacific islanders seek opportunities in Australia and New Zealand. To enhance the benefits of migration as a sustainable development and climate resilience strategy, the Joint Programme works with countries of origin/destination and regional initiatives to facilitate dialogue, incorporate decent work principles/standards in labour migration schemes, and raise awareness among recruitment agencies and employers.

IN THE PIPELINE

THEMATIC AREA 1

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

USD 2.7M











Out-migration, particularly labour migration to the Russian Federation has been a significant feature of the country since its independence in 1991. Yet, data analysis has been limited. The Joint Programme will contribute towards quality and timely migration data to inform policies and advocate for the rights of migrants and their families related to employment, health, education, and social protection.



INDONESIA, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND







Climate change is significantly disrupting livelihoods in the ASEAN region, impacting health, food sources, and water access. This, coupled with extreme weather events, drives migration and strains sectors like fishing, agriculture, and construction. The Joint Programme will aim to address these challenges at the intersection of climate change, environmental degradation, and labour mobility in ASEAN region, filling a critical gap in adaptation planning.

THEMATIC AREA 3

PAKISTAN USD 2.7M @IOM WNODC





Irregular migration from and through Pakistan is a long-standing phenomenon: migrants are smuggled from Afghanistan, Pakistan or Bangladesh to Europe via the Eastern Mediterranean route, and/or trafficked to the Gulf from and via Pakistan. The joint programme will strengthen Government's capacity to combat transnational crimes, provide protection and assistance to victims, and facilitate regional collaboration.

THEMATIC AREA 3

INDIA

USD 2.7M PIOM UNODC



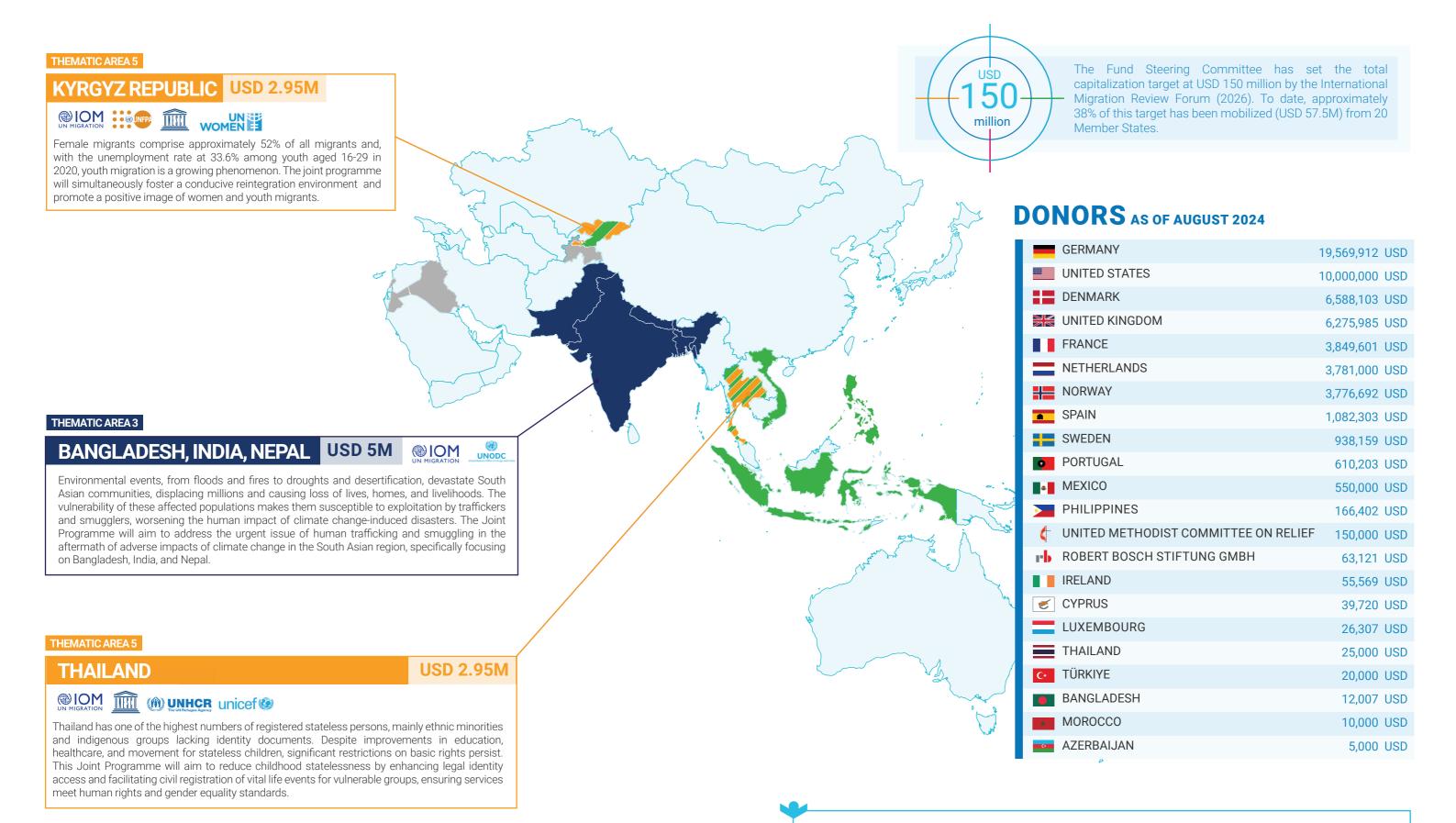


India, being the second-fastest digital adopter among major digital economies, struggles with the adverse outcomes of technological advances, particularly in the context of human trafficking. The rise of cyber-enabled human trafficking and exploitation poses significant challenges, with the internet providing traffickers with tools to recruit, exploit, and hide criminal activities. The Joint Programme will aim to counter the complexities of technology-related exploitation and human trafficking, primarily focusing on major student migrant-sending states such as Punjab, Gujarat, and Chandigarh.



The collective commitment towards the GCM should be reflected by a broad donor-base for the Fund. Members

States, traditional and non-traditional donors alike, are thus encouraged to contribute, even modestly.







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