CONTEXT

In 2022, governments from Africa 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 thirteen GCM Champion countries, namely Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and The Gambia, 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 Joint 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

April 2023
With limited cross-border coordination and vulnerable border communities, human trafficking and smuggling of migrants are rife where the territories of Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone meet. To address security, development and humanitarian concerns, this joint programme takes an integrated border management approach strengthening state institutions capacity, facilitating cross-border collaboration and engaging affected populations.

**GUINEA, LIBERIA, AND SIERRA LEONE USD 2.8M**

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**THEMATIC AREA 3**

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**REGIONAL IGAD USD 2.15M**

The IGAD region is amongst the most vulnerable to climate change and, as a consequence, the number of people migrating is expected to continue increasing. This joint programme seeks to address knowledge gaps pertaining to the drivers of migration and ensure that people affected by climate change are adequately factored in national and regional mobility frameworks and strategies on climate action, ultimately facilitating pathways for regular migration in the IGAD region.

**THEMATIC AREA 5**

**MOROCCO USD 2M**

The joint programme works with a broad range of government ministries and civil society partners to strengthen the social cohesion and improve access to basic services for the most vulnerable migrants in Morocco. The focus is on reinforcing the capacities of service providers to deal with specific needs, such as those of women and unaccompanied children, improving access to information on rights and services for migrants, increasing the participation of civil society and local stakeholders in referral mechanisms; and facilitating multicultural activities.

**SOUTH AFRICA USD 2.6M**

As the main country of destination for migrants in the region, South Africa faces challenges of integration and social cohesion, with a recent history of xenophobic violence. Aligned with the recently adopted national action plan to combat racism, this pilot initiative focuses on three provinces where the partners seek to strengthen the local system capacities to respond to xenophobia and promote social cohesion among migrants and host communities.
Recent investigations point to an increase in human trafficking of women and children from Togo, overland via Nigeria, then by boat to Gabon. Strongly aligned to each country’s national priorities, and with a unique “migratory route” approach, this joint programme will aim to help prevent and counter trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants along the maritime and land routes in the countries of origin, transit and destination.

**GABON, TOGO USD 2.2M**

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**SOUTH AFRICA USD 2M**

Women migrants in South Africa are concentrated in the informal economy, placing them at heightened risks of sexual exploitation, forced labour and health vulnerabilities. Bringing together women’s organisations with a broad range of UN partners and government counterparts, the joint programme will seek to address the specific needs, challenges and vulnerabilities of women and girls in migration by working at both the grassroot and policy levels.

**ETHIOPIA USD 2M**

Due to climate change and environmental degradation, the fragile ecosystem and natural resources system in Chad has been further disrupted. This has in turn negatively impacted the livelihoods of pastoralists, intensified recurrent conflicts, and enlarged transhumant migratory flows. The situation is compounded by limited capacity of the national and local actors in transhumance migration governance and lack of access to basic services. The Joint Programme will contribute towards strengthening rights-based governance of transhumance and pastoralist mobility, including a focus on the protection of transhumant children on the move, the phenomenon of “child cattle herders”.

**ETHIOPIA USD 2M**

The four countries in the MENA region are all countries of transit and destination with a high proportion of migrant children, including unaccompanied children. Of note, children who are detained for reasons of migration status, are exposed to high risks of abuse, exploitation, and social exclusion. To address the vulnerability of migrant children, the Joint Programme will promote appropriate care and reception models, including community hosting of unaccompanied migrant children, and strengthen government procedures that will enable these humane alternative care options for children, taking steps towards ending child immigration detention with focus on gender-responsiveness considerations.

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Every year, hundreds of unaccompanied and separated children undertake perilous journeys on the Eastern Migratory Route. Reflecting the findings of assessments conducted at community level and building on the National Child Protection Case Management Framework, this programme will contribute to improving the protection of children on the move. It includes interventions at the border crossing points, along the route and in the communities of origin of migration-prone regional states.

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**SIERRA LEONE USD 1.5M**

An estimated 10,000 youth migrate irregularly from Sierra Leone every year, with a quarter of those trafficked into forced labour or sexual exploitation. The joint programme will address the key drivers of irregular migration among at-risk youth in sending communities, with a comprehensive intervention approach including countering misinformation, empowering community influencers and improving employment skills.

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**CÔTE D’IVOIRE, BURKINA FASO USD 4M**

The border between Burkina Faso and Côte d’Ivoire is susceptible to extremist influences and presents fragilities related to the cohabitation of communities with limited land and natural resources. Beyond the necessary capacity strengthening of border authorities, the joint programme will engage cross-border communities, with a strong focus on women, to increase access to services and improve trust among communities and local authorities.

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Poverty, hunger, gender inequality and lack of access to education are some of the root causes of several forms of exploitation, including human trafficking in Madagascar. The Joint Programme will strategically contribute to the Government of Madagascar’s efforts in providing comprehensive assistance, including direct support, return and protection of trafficked persons, through a victim-centred, trauma-informed and rural livelihoods approach.

An estimated 5,000 to 10,000 regular and irregular migrants from Lesotho work on farms in South Africa. To complement the long-standing seasonal migration schemes set up by the South African Department of Labour and offer a model for other labour migration sectors, the joint programme will seek to improve the monitoring of work conditions by both governments, strengthen the remittance infrastructure, set up adequate complaint mechanisms and put in place pre-departure orientation practices.

Many children and adolescents live on the streets of Addis Ababa due to the city administration’s lack of capacity to accurately register and provide services to migrants forcibly returned. Based on a consultative approach with stakeholders and beneficiaries, the joint programme will aim to reinforce the federal government, the city administration and local organizations in providing reintegration support to returning migrants, focusing on the areas of health, housing, social protection and livelihoods.

Mali’s large diaspora community is estimated at approximately 6 million and remains strongly engaged. However, this engagement is underutilized for productive investment beyond transfers for consumption. Designed through consultations with authorities and civil society, including diaspora organizations, the joint programme seeks to offer financial solutions for small and medium enterprises by bringing together public and private contributions to development.

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