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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEMATIC AREA</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>GCM Objectives</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Promoting fact-based and data-driven migration discourse, policy and planning</td>
<td>1, 3, 17, 19</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Protecting the human rights, safety and wellbeing of migrants, including through addressing drivers and mitigating situations of vulnerability in migration</td>
<td>2, 7, 8, 12, 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Addressing irregular migration including through managing borders and combatting transnational crime</td>
<td>9, 10, 11, 15, 21</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Facilitating regular migration, decent work and enhancing the positive development effects of human mobility</td>
<td>5, 6, 7, 18, 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Improving the social inclusion and integration of migrants</td>
<td>4, 5, 8, 15, 22</td>
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CONCEPT NOTES FROM THE REGION BY THEMATIC AREA

April 2023
FUNDED PROGRAMMES

THEMATIC AREA 1

**INDONESIA USD 1.7M**

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.

THEMATIC AREA 4

**THE 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

MENA USD 3.2M
JORDAN, IRAQ, LEBANON
The MENA region is among the world’s most vulnerable areas 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 project will be aimed at 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.

CENTRAL ASIA USD 3M
KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN, UZBEKISTAN
Facing similar migration context and challenges, the lack of migration data is recognised by the five countries as being an obstacle to designing effective programmes and policies.

The proposed programme will focus on improving gender and child-sensitive data collection to inform policy development and facilitate a coordinated approach to migration management in Central Asia.

THEMATIC AREA 2

MENA USD 2.85M
DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, LIBYA, SAUDI ARABIA
The four countries in 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 migration detention with focus on gender-responsiveness considerations.

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC USD 2.95M
Female migrants comprise approximately 52% of all migrants and, with the unemployment rate at 33.6% among youth aged 16-29 in 2020, youth migration is a growing phenomenon.

The joint programme will simultaneously foster a conducive reintegration environment and promote a positive image of women and youth migrants.

THEMATIC AREA 3

PAKISTAN USD 2.7M
Irregular migration from and through Pakistan is a long-standing phenomenon.

The project will aim to strengthen the government’s capacity to combat transnational crimes, provide protection and assistance to victims, and facilitate regional collaboration.

THEMATIC AREA 4

TAJIKISTAN USD 1.6M
Many low-skilled Tajik youth that migrate abroad, do so irregularly. To reduce irregular migration, lower migrants’ vulnerability, and increase the flow of remittances, the joint programme will improve knowledge and skills among prospective young migrants.

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 migration detention with focus on gender-responsiveness considerations.

SRI LANKA USD 1.6M
The project will contribute towards economic recovery and resilience, by addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrants and communities.

Aligned to the National COVID-19 Response Plan, it will create an enabling environment for returning migrants.

The joint programme will contribute towards economic recovery and resilience, by addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrants and communities.

The project will contribute towards economic recovery and resilience, by addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrants and communities.

THEMATIC AREA 5

SRI LANKA USD 1.6M

Migrants, facilitate economic reintegration and strengthen labour migration governance.

VIETNAM USD 1.5M

Complementing the Government’s priorities set forth by the “Decree on the Implementation of the GCM,” the joint programme will contribute towards fact-based and data-driven migration discourse, policy and planning. It will strengthen capacity for migration-related data collection, analysis and dissemination, and will facilitate national and provincial dialogues.

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 will contribute to address the needs of returnees, stranded migrants, and communities affected by the influx of returning migrants.

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 will aim to strengthen rural households’ resilience to climate change in order to reduce the pressure to migrate out of distress and to improve migration outcomes.

JORDAN, IRAQ, LEBANON

The joint programme will contribute towards economic recovery and resilience, by addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrants and communities.

The project will contribute towards economic recovery and resilience, by addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrants and communities.
The Fund Steering Committee has set the total capitalization target at USD 150 million by the International Migration Review Forum (2026). To date, approximately 25% of this target has been mobilized (USD 38M) from 19 Member States.

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.