Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

DCD/DAC/STAT(2023)34/FINAL

Unclassified English text only

24 June 2026

Development Co-operation Directorate
Development Assistance Committee

**Cancels & replaces the same document of 11 June 2026**

## DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics

# ODA Casebook on activities in the field of migration

This Casebook presents examples of ODA and non ODA-eligible activities in the field of migration, as shared by members. It includes also hypothetical cases as developed by the Secretariat for areas where examples were missing. The Casebook was approved in January 2025 and the hypothetical cases in February 2026. *

All the cases are available from the online toolkit (see https://www.oecd.org/en/toolkits/oda-and-non-oda-eligible-activities.html).

* This work has been carried out with the co-funding of the European Union.

This cancel & replace version includes the hypothetical cases approved in 2026.

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JT03589912

*This document, as well as any data and map included herein, are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.*

# ODA Casebook on activities in the field of migration

## Introduction

1. The DAC approved the principles and criteria clarifying the ODA eligibility of migration-related activities in December 2022.[1] They have been integrated in the Reporting Directives [see DCD/DAC(2026)14/FINAL, paragraphs 145-146] and are reproduced in the Annex of the present document for ease of reference. The development of a casebook was requested by members from the very start of discussions on this topic and was a crucial element to achieve consensus in certain areas.

2. The Casebook presents examples of ODA and non ODA-eligible activities in the field of migration, as shared by several members. The Secretariat has also developed hypothetical cases in two specific areas where examples were missing [see DCD/DAC/STAT(2025)32/FINAL]. The examples are meant to illustrate the application of the agreed principles and criteria for assessing ODA eligibility in this field. They include an ODA-eligibility assessment by the Secretariat, referring to the relevant principles and criteria.

3. Not all examples received were included to keep a balance between ODA and non-ODA cases as well as cases across the membership. The Secretariat reviewed the cases to ensure they were clear and complete, contained the information required to proceed with the ODA-eligibility assessment and fitted on one page. It had follow-up exchanges with some of the members concerned..

4. The Casebook is divided in six sections:

- Conditionality of aid to migration control outcomes.
- Addressing irregular migration – co-operation in border management.
- Return and reintegration programmes.
- Labour mobility.
- Engagement with diaspora.
- Other support to migrants and refugees in developing countries, and to hosting communities.

5. **The Casebook was approved in January 2025 and the hypothetical cases in February 2026.**

[1] Criterion 7 on labour mobility was approved by the WP-STAT in May 2023.

# Table of contents

ODA Casebook on activities in the field of migration 2
Introduction 2
CONDITIONALITY OF AID TO MIGRATION CONTROL OUTCOMES 5
CASE 1: ENHANCED ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN PAKISTAN 6
CASE 2: SUPPORT TO TUNISIA'S BORDER CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF MIGRATION FLOWS 7
CASE H1: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT 1 8
CASE H2: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT 2 9
CASE H3: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT 3 10
ADDRESSING IRREGULAR MIGRATION – BORDER MANAGEMENT 11
CASE 3: MONITORING AND ASSESSING POPULATIONS IN TÜRKIYE THROUGH THE MIGRANT PRESENCE MONITORING PROGRAMME (PHASE II) 12
CASE 4: ENHANCING SEA BORDER DATA SYSTEMS IN SOUTH OF NIGERIA 13
CASE 5: WOMEN AID COLLECTIVE (WACOL): UPSCALING COMMUNITY ACTION TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN EDO AND DELTA STATES OF NIGERIA (PHASE II) 14
CASE 6: SUPPORT TO THE COAST GUARD 15
CASE 7: SUPPORT TO FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS AND MIGRATION IN WEST AFRICA PHASE II 16
CASE 8: SUPPORT FOR JORDAN'S INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT POLICY IN THE APPLICATION OF ADVANCED STANDARDS ON DOCUMENT SECURITY 17
CASE 9: DIGITIZATION OF FILES TO STRENGTHEN THE ADJUDICATION OF ASYLUM CLAIMS BY MEXICO'S COMAR 18
ACTIVITIES INVOLVING RETURN AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMMES 19
CASE 10: VOLUNTARY RETURN ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE RECEIVED AN OBLIGATION TO LEAVE THE FRENCH TERRITORY 20
CASE 11: REINTEGRATION SUPPORT 21
CASE 12: ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS IN NIGER (AVENIR II) 22
CASE 13: CONTRIBUTION TO RETURNED MIGRANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S REINTEGRATION, AS PRIORITIZED POPULATION IN EL SALVADOR'S SOCIAL PLAN 23
CASE H4: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF REINTEGRATION SUPPORT 1 24
CASE H5: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF REINTEGRATION SUPPORT 2 25
CASE H6: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF REINTEGRATION SUPPORT 3 26
LABOUR MOBILITY 27

CASE 14: LABOUR MIGRATION GOVERNANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION IN AFRICA 28
CASE 15: LABOUR MIGRATION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS: MAPPING PATTERNS, ADDRESSING CHALLENGES AND REAPING BENEFITS 29
CASE 16: PACIFIC AUSTRALIA LABOUR MOBILITY SCHEME 30
CASE 17: PACIFIC ISLANDS RECOGNIZED SEASONAL EMPLOYERS PROGRAMME 31
CASE 18: COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS 32
CASE 19: PROMOTING ETHICAL RECRUITMENT IN THE HOTEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY: BUILDING CAPACITY AND ENHANCING COMMITMENT 33
CASE 20: FACILITATING SAFE AND SKILLED MIGRATION ON THE CENTRAL ASIA-RUSSIAN FEDERATION /KAZAKHSTAN CORRIDOR 34
CASE 21: IOM BRITISH COLUMBIA-MEXICO ETHICAL RECRUITMENT PROJECT 35
ENGAGEMENT WITH DIASPORA 36
CASE 22: LINK UP! SERBIA II 37
CASE 23: INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS TO ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT OF REMITTANCES 38
CASE 24: TAKE A CHANCE IN KOSOVO 39
CASE 25: INITIATIVES FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OF EGYPT THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF EGYPTIANS ABROAD (ILDEA) 40
CASE 26: STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF VENEZUELAN DIÁSPORA ORANISATIONS TO IMPROVE THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO VENEZUELAN MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 41
CASE 27: PROTECTING AND CREATING JOBS: A DIASPORA-LED RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY AND SYSTEMIC OBSTACLES OF SMES GROWTH 42
CASE 28: REMITTANCES, INVESTMENT AND MIGRANTS' ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN CENTRAL ASIA (REMIT) 43
CASE 29: MAGHRIB BELGIUM IMPULSE (MBI): SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR MOROCCANS LIVING ABROAD 44
OTHER SUPPORT TO MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO THEIR HOSTING COMMUNITIES 45
CASE 30: MIGRANTS, REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN VULNERABLE CONDITIONS IN COSTA RICA 46
CASE 31: MIGRATION AND HEALTH DURING COVID-19 IN MEXICO 47
CASE 32: CHILD PROTECTION 2019-2020 48
CASE 33: STRENGTHENED RESPONSE TO VENEZUELAN MIGRATION CRISIS IN PERU 49
Annex. Principles and criteria for clarifying the ODA eligibility of migration-related activities (see paragraphs 145 and 146 of the Reporting Directives) 50
*Overarching principles to guide ODA reporting on migration-related activities* ..... 50
*Criteria for assessing the ODA eligibility of activities in the field of migration* ..... 51

54

# CONDITIONALITY OF AID TO MIGRATION CONTROL OUTCOMES

## *CASE 1: ENHANCED ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN PAKISTAN*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Austria
Recipient country: Pakistan
Implementing agency: Caritas Österreich

Budget Information (EUR million): 0.8
Year(s): 2021-2023
Purpose code: 11120

**Background information**

Given the current situation in Afghanistan, numerous refugee families have settled in Pakistan and are currently dependent on emergency aid. According to UNHCR, a total of 500 thousand people is expected to arrive in Pakistan, which considerably challenges the livelihood of vulnerable communities while making the country a key regional actor for migration management. Most Afghan refugees have settled in the outskirts of major Pakistani border cities, including Karachi and Lahore, where living conditions are catastrophic and access to schooling and health care is non-existent. This project aims at improving access to education in these two cities in co-operation with Caritas Austria MALC (Karachi) and FACES-Pakistan (Lahore). As one of several projects in Pakistan, this activity responds to Austria's plan and interest to strengthen its involvement in the region and to consolidate partnerships for better migration management and fight against drug smuggling originating in the "Silk Road" route. While it promotes Pakistan's willingness to co-operate in other areas of migration and is therefore part of a broader policy dialogue, the provision of funds within the project is not conditional to specific migration outcomes.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The project aims to improve access to education for a total of 1 600 children from Afghan refugee families, as well as from marginalized population groups (minorities). The joint education ensures integration of the refugee families and increased social cohesion.

The project supports the learning environment and the pedagogical quality of six schools in Karachi and Lahore as well as builds their capacity and ability to deliver health and emergency assistance. Concrete activities include the construction of infrastructure for a new school, installation of solar systems and creation of green areas, establishing processes for improving pedagogical quality, organising mother-child check-ups, implementing violence protection guidelines, and equipping of the schools with up-to-date teaching materials, among others.

**Expected results**

- Strengthened school infrastructure and capacity to provide educational services as well as health and emergency assistance. As of May 2022, a new school building has been almost completed and school infrastructure is expected to be enhanced through repair, maintenance and gardening activities, the installation of solar panels and provision of new equipment.
- Enhanced learning environment and pedagogical quality through the provision of new teaching materials (laptops, projectors, textbooks, bags, among others), organisation of teachers' training, school curriculum revision and expanded educational offer (i.e., sewing and hairdressing trainings).

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** It has a primary developmental objective with a focus on crisis-affected populations and community stabilisation. It is recognised that it also promotes Pakistan's willingness to co-operate in the field of migration and as such is part of a broader policy dialogue. However, the delivery of funds within the activity is not subject to specific conditions on migration outcomes. In line with Criterion 2, the funds are therefore reportable as ODA.

## *CASE 2: SUPPORT TO TUNISIA'S BORDER CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF MIGRATION FLOWS*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Italy
Recipient country: Tunisia
Implementing agency: UNOPS

Budget Information (EUR million): 12
Year(s): 2022
Purpose code: N/A

### Background information

Tunisia and Italy are separated by a thin stretch of the Mediterranean Sea, with distances as low as 141nm between ports. Over the years, this sea route has been used by human traffickers in carrying out the perilous transportation of illegal migrants. The Mediterranean Sea remains the deadliest migrant route, accounting for approximately 11 500 deaths from shipwrecks between 2016 and 2019. The Tunisian authorities and their international partners, including Italy, have made many efforts to prevent and reduce the activities of reckless traffickers, and to save the lives of vulnerable people undertaking these dangerous journeys. However, the commitment of the Tunisian Authorities to combat illegal migration has been mired by the lack of maintenance of patrol boats and some necessary equipment. In order to maintain the fleet of patrol boats in full operational status for sea border surveillance, there is a need for long-term maintenance contracts to cover predictive and corrective maintenance, in addition to the supply of spare parts and other equipment.

### Objectives and concrete activities

The main activities are:

- Procurement of equipment, supplies and maintenance contracts of six vessels to support the maritime patrol fleet of the Tunisian Authorities and building their capacities in the respect of human rights.
- Provision of maintenance services for six fast patrol boats over a period of two years in support of the Tunisian Maritime National Guard, covering: ordinary maintenance (predictive), extraordinary maintenance (corrective), spare parts for six vessels.

Project objectives and specific conditions on migration outcomes do not primarily contribute to the promotion of the economic development and welfare of the country.

### Expected Results

- Maintenance contracts for six fast patrol vessels are procured for two years.
- The Tunisian Authorities' needs for equipment and supplies are fulfilled.
- The capacities of the Tunisian Authorities in the respect of human rights are strengthened.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible.** The objective is not primarily developmental: it first and foremost responds to the provider's domestic agenda (restricting irregular migration) but also contributes to support Tunisia and prospective migrants. This, in conjunction with the fact that the activity is subject to specific conditions on migration control outcomes, which do not primarily contribute to a developmental objective, confirms the non ODA-eligibility of the activity (see Principles 1, 3 and 6 and Criterion 2). While financing for routine civil policing functions and the provision of related non-lethal equipment, or training, is reportable as ODA (see paragraphs 124-126 in the Reporting Directives), the specific rules for migration related activities must be considered if the activity takes place in a migration context.

## *CASE H1: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT 1*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Country A
Recipient country: Country B
Implementing agency: Other

Budget Information (USD Mio.): 2.5
Year(s): 2025-2027
Purpose code: Other

**Background information**

The project builds upon a long-standing partnership between Country A and Country B. It is part of Country A's new national strategy on migration, which foresees that applications for asylum are processed outside Country A's national territory in the future. Country B is willing to take over asylum seekers from Country A to process their application and will in turn receive financial support for its economic development as well as compensation payments for each asylum request processed.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

Within the project, Country A provides a substantial financial contribution to Country B, aiming to enhance Country B's economic development through skills development and the creation of jobs. Country A also provides a compensation payment for each asylum request processed in Country B. This compensation payment is meant to cover associated costs such as accommodation, food, health care, and costs for personnel involved in the asylum procedure. Both the financial contribution and the compensation payment are conditional on Country B taking over asylum seekers from Country A, to process their applications in Country B.

**Results**

It is expected that the project reduces the number of irregular migrants towards Country A. It is further expected that the financial contribution creates new jobs and contributes to the upskilling of workers, thus enhancing the economic development of Country B.

**Assessment of the project's ODA-eligibility**

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible.** The activity aims to reduce the number of asylum applications in the provider country, and to restrict migration to the provider country. While the mere fact that the activity is conducted within the new national strategy on migration does not render it ineligible as such, the activity's primary objective as well as its conditionality aspect must be considered. First, although the financial contribution also aims to enhance Country B's economic development, this objective does not come before any other goals (see Principles 1 and 3). Second, the provision of funds to Country B is subject to specific conditions on migration control outcomes, and the conditions imposed do not primarily contribute to the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries (see Criterion 2). Projects which are not in line with applicable international law and applicable international frameworks for migrants and refugees are not eligible (Criterion 1) and, depending on the specific project characteristics, Criterion 1 should also be considered in this context.

**Note: This is a hypothetical case developed by the Secretariat, not relating to any specific activity or member. It refers to specific hypothetical project characteristics and does not disqualify from ODA all activities in this context.**

## *CASE H2: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT 2*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Country A
Recipient country: Country B
Implementing agency: Other

Budget Information (USD Mio.): 2.5
Year(s): 2025-2027
Purpose code: Other

**Background information**

The project builds upon a long-standing partnership between Country A and Country B. It is part of Country A's new national strategy on migration, which aims to increase Country B's co-operation in the area of readmission. Country A provides a financial contribution supporting Country B's economic development. The provision of funds is conditional on Country B taking back migrants.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

Within the project, Country A provides a substantial financial contribution to Country B, aiming to enhance Country B's economic development through skills development and the creation of jobs. The project agreement includes a clause specifying that the provision of funds is suspended should Country B not comply with the individual provisions on readmission specified in the agreement.

**Results**

It is expected that the financial contribution creates new jobs and contributes to the upskilling of workers, thus enhancing the economic development of Country B. It is further expected that the project increases readmission rates, hence reducing the number of migrants in Country A.

**Assessment of the project's ODA-eligibility**

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible.** The activity aims to increase co-operation in the area of readmission. While the mere fact that the activity is conducted within the new national strategy on migration does not render it ineligible as such, the activity's conditionality aspect must be considered. The provision of funds to Country B is subject to specific conditions on migration control outcomes, and the conditions imposed (readmission) do not primarily contribute to the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries (see Criterion 2).

**Note: This is a hypothetical case developed by the Secretariat, not relating to any specific activity or member. It refers to specific hypothetical project characteristics and does not disqualify from ODA all activities in this context.**

## *CASE H3: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT 3*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Country A
Recipient country: Country B
Implementing agency: Other

Budget Information (USD Mio.): 2.5
Year(s): 2025-2027
Purpose code: Other

**Background information**

The project builds upon a long-standing partnership between Country A and Country B. The two countries are leading a broader policy dialogue on migration, aiming to foster involvement and co-operation of Country B. As part of a new joint strategy on migration, a project is launched to improve the livelihood in migration-affected areas in Country B.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The project aims to increase the supply of basic services and enhance economic opportunities for former migrants and local communities. It covers activities related to education, health care, and housing as well as vocational training and support with starting a business. The delivery is not conditional on any specific migration outcomes.

**Results**

It is expected that the project improves the livelihood of former migrants and local communities by enhancing their social and economic situation. As part of the broader policy dialogue, it also aims at making Country B more willing to co-operate in the return and readmission of migrants.

**Assessment of the project's ODA-eligibility**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The activity has a main developmental aim, namely, to improve the livelihood of former migrants and local communities in migration-affected areas in Country B. While the activity can be seen in the context of a broader policy dialogue on migration, the provision of funds is not conditional on specific migration outcomes. See Criterion 2.

**Note: This is a hypothetical case developed by the Secretariat, not relating to any specific activity or member. It refers to specific hypothetical project characteristics and does not disqualify from ODA all activities in this context.**

# ADDRESSING IRREGULAR MIGRATION – BORDER MANAGEMENT

## *CASE 3: MONITORING AND ASSESSING POPULATIONS IN TÜRKIYE THROUGH THE MIGRANT PRESENCE MONITORING PROGRAMME (PHASE II)*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Switzerland
Recipient country: Türkiye
Implementing agency: IOM

Budget Information (CHF million): 0.6
Year(s): 2019-2021
Purpose code: 15190

**Background information**

The Migrant Presence Monitoring (MPM) project (financed and monitored by the State Secretariat for Migration and not by the Swiss international co-operation) provides the Turkish Migration Authorities with essential data on migration movements within the country. It is a fundamental tool for decision-making within Turkish institutions and is actively used to draft and adapt policies. The Turkish authorities have a strong interest in institutionalising the MPM methodology in order to conduct their own surveys.

**Objective and concrete activities**

General objective is to contribute to improved migration management policies and responses through enhanced understanding of migration and mobility patterns of refugees and migrants in Türkiye. These activities support information management, monitoring, tracking and assessing of population movements and include information and data exchange between States to manage migration flows.

***Outcome 1:*** PMM and service providers have increased access to comprehensive information relating to migration trends, and capacity to sustainably continue to apply the MPM methodology.

- ***Output 1.1:*** Updated and systematic information on migration flows and mobility patterns in Türkiye, including journey experiences, vulnerabilities (including gender-specific concerns), population movement intentions, trends and needs is available.
- ***Output 1.2:*** Thematic and technical support is provided to the Turkish Migration Authorities and Provincial Directorates of Migration Management to sustainably integrate MPM methodology.

**Results**

- Through its MPM Programme, IOM has tracked more than 4.1 million migrants at the sub-district level, which represents nearly 84 per cent of total migrant population in Türkiye.
- MPM's information products include 56 Monthly Situation Reports, 61 Flow Monitoring Compilation Reports, 19 Quarterly Overviews, three Annual Reports, four Flow Monitoring Survey Analysis Reports, four Flow Monitoring Survey Field Observation Reports, two Flow Monitoring Survey Migrant Vulnerabilities Reports, six Baseline Assessment Analysis Reports and three Baseline Assessment Field Observation Reports.
- IOM has hired and trained more than 500 field staff to cover data collection activities in 33 provinces as well as 33 staff from the Turkish Migration Authorities and Provincial Directorates of Migration Management who attended MPM trainings.
- With the support of State Secretariat for Migration in 2020, MPM organized online workshops on Displacement Tracking Matrix methodology on survey design and sampling, data processing and analysis, reporting, training data collectors and data collection in the field, with participation of 52 staff from the Turkish Migration Authorities and Provincial Directorates of Migration Management in 20 provinces. The Provincial Directorates demonstrated a strong interest in institutionalizing and adapting the MPM methodology to conduct their own ad-hoc surveys on migration.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible.** It involves co-operation in border management to address irregular migration for the mutual benefit of the provider and recipient country (cf. Türkiye's role to stop irregular migration to Europe). Despite mutual benefits not precluding ODA eligibility according to Principle 3, the activity does not pursue a primary developmental objective and is thus excluded from ODA (see Principle 1 and Criterion 4). To note: as an example, an activity for data collection and monitoring aiming at primarily benefiting migrants (e.g. by hindering exploitation and ensuring safety and protection) could be considered eligible; the ODA coefficient for multilateral organisations (100% for IOM) has no bearing on the assessment of earmarked contributions through this organisation (which should be assessed on a case-by-case basis).

## *CASE 4: ENHANCING SEA BORDER DATA SYSTEMS IN SOUTH OF NIGERIA*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Switzerland
Recipient country: Nigeria
Implementing agency: IOM

Budget Information (CHF million): 0.4
Year(s): 2020-2021
Purpose code: 15190

**Background information**

The objective of the Swiss involvement in this programme was to contribute to better border and migration management by expanding to the whole Nigerian territory the “Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS)”, set up by IOM since 2015 with different donors including Switzerland,. This was the third consecutive project of this kind. MIDAS aims to reinforce Nigerian authorities' capacity to manage border crossings and migration and prevent cross-border crimes like drug, weapon or migrant smuggling. The project is part of the Migration Partnership with Nigeria signed 10 years ago in response to the expectations of the project's main partner: the Nigeria Immigration Services (NIS).

The IOM project "Enhancing Sea Border Data Systems in South Nigeria" allowed the installation of MIDAS at two seaports in the south of the country at the border with Cameroon in order to link them to the national network. This project took place within the context of the Ambazonia War, also known as the Anglophone Crisis, in Cameroon and sought explicitly to assist officials of the Nigerian Immigration Service with managing the influx of displaced populations stemming from this conflict.

The project is financed and monitored by the State Secretariat for Migration and not from the Swiss international co-operation budget lines.

**Objective and concrete activities**

The project envisioned an extension and repair of MIDAS to two seaports in the South of Nigeria which were indicated by the Nigerian Immigration Service as strategically significant due to their accessibility from Cameroon by sea and their constituting a principle point of entry for displaced populations from Cameroon. The specific activities were a) Implementation of the MIDAS system in two seaports in Akwa Ibom State including the installation of solar power systems; (b) Installation of synchronization infrastructure at the State Command level in order to connect the border posts to and exchange information with the central office; (c) Training of NIS officials in the use of the MIDAS system and movement control in accordance with international standards; and (d) Establishment of a cross-border co-operation mechanism with Cameroon.

The project took into account the new challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic in its implementation, for example by including hygiene rules and the reduction of physical contact during border controls.

**Results**

The installation of MIDAS and two solar power systems was successful at two Sea Ports in Akwa Ibom State. The data synchronisation infrastructure has been installed at Akwa Ibom State Command and the systems have been successfully connected with the national database. 14 officials were trained in the use of MIDAS and 7 officials were trained in the maintenance of the IT as well as the solar power system. Two cross-border meetings were held with Nigerian and Cameroon border officials at which ideas of cooperation were shared and later implemented.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible.** It supports the control of migration flows and migration management policies, involving co-operation in border management for the mutual benefit of provider and recipient country. Despite mutual benefits not being enough to preclude ODA eligibility according to Principle 3, the activity does not pursue a primary developmental objective and is thus excluded from ODA (see Principle 1 and Criterion 4). To note: the ODA coefficient for multilateral organisations (100% for IOM) has no bearing on the assessment of earmarked contributions through this organisation (which should be assessed on a case-by-case basis).

## *CASE 5: WOMEN AID COLLECTIVE (WACOL): UPSCALING COMMUNITY ACTION TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN EDO AND DELTA STATES OF NIGERIA (PHASE II)*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Switzerland

Recipient country: Nigeria

Implementing agency: Women Aid Collective (WACOL)

Budget Information (EUR million):0.175 (of which Switzerland contributed 0.14)

Year(s): 2020-2022

Purpose code: 15190

**Background information**

Nigeria is strongly affected by trafficking in persons (TIP) as a source, destination and transit country. Edo State in particular is the epicentre of the phenomenon, with at least 80% of the trafficked persons, who end up in Europe, originating from there. Delta State, its direct neighbour, is increasingly affected by TIP as well, although having received less attention from authorities and the donor community. TIP, being a major cause of migration-induced human insecurity, affects the lives of migrants in drastic ways and contributes to state fragility by undermining both government authority and capabilities. From a human security perspective, the fight against TIP hence constitutes a key area of intervention. In the context of the Swiss-Nigerian Migration Partnership, this project is the second phase of an on-going co-operation with the Nigerian NGO Women Aid Collective that intends to strengthen prevention capacities at community level in Edo and Delta States.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

*Overall objective:* preventing TIP and reducing unsafe migration in and from Nigeria's most affected communities in Delta and Edo States through capacity building, community participation, education and early warning systems.

*Examples of activities:* advocacy and engagement with influential community gatekeepers such as selected traditional and religious leaders; sensitization and awareness creation for law enforcement agencies and teachers; anti-trafficking outreaches in schools and town hall meetings; establishment of early warning systems; identification and protection of victims of trafficking; public sensitization through radio and TV media; production of information, education and communication materials, including bill board erection; establishment of three Migrant Information Centers (MIC) and survivor forums to facilitate psychosocial support for and network meetings among survivors of trafficking; and production of policy briefs on the effective implementation of national and state laws relevant to the prevention of trafficking.

**Results**

An independent evaluation report was conducted in 2022 and found that the activities of phase I and II led to a reduction in unsafe migration and a decrease in human trafficking in the targeted communities through increased risk awareness and strengthened community action. Based on the results, a third phase will include a geographical extension to Anambra State, a digital extension that will engage young Nigerians and social media influencers as ambassadors in the digital space, and continued policy work with key policymakers along with support to the National Action Plan on Human Trafficking in Nigeria 2022-2026, which was developed with Swiss support.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** There are mutual benefits resulting from the Swiss-Nigerian Migration Partnership but the development focus appears as fundamental in the design and expected results of the activity (see Criterion 3) and hence comes before any other goals, as required in Principle 3 (Switzerland confirmed that the activity would have been undertaken also outside the context of a partnership). Further, the activity's emphasis is on advancing human security and preventing trafficking in human beings as well as on protecting and supporting victims, activities aligned with the ODA-eligible types of activities listed in Criterion 4.

## *CASE 6: SUPPORT TO THE COAST GUARD*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Italy
Recipient country: Tunisia
Implementing agency: Ministry of Interior

Budget Information (EUR million):12
Year(s): 2017
Purpose code: N/A

### Background information

This project was funded through the Fund for Africa.
In 2017 the Italian Government established the "Fund for Africa", with an allocation of EUR 200 million for 2017. The initiative aims at enhancing dialogue and co-operation with selected priority African countries in the migration field (in 2017: Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Libya, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan and Tunisia), through reinforcing partner countries' capacities in migration management, fighting against trafficking of human beings and smuggling of migrants, providing protection for refugees and vulnerable people, and addressing the root causes of forced migration. The Fund was replenished in the following years and in 2020 it was extended to non-African countries. Most of projects are ODA-eligible and are implemented by the Italian Development Co-operation Agency (AICS), International Organisations such as IOM and UNHCR, and through contributions to the EU Trust Fund for Africa. However, some projects aim to intercept migrants and restrict migration to Europe and are non ODA-eligible.

### Objectives and concrete activities

The objective is to support the Tunisian Authorities in the fight against trafficking of human beings through capacity strengthening and provision of equipment and maintenance services of surveillance boats as requested by the Tunisian Authorities. Project's activities include:

- Provision of vehicles for surveillance of coastal areas;
- Completion of the automatic fingerprint identification system;
- Maintenance of 6 patrol boats and delivery of spare parts;
- Provision of IT materials and tele-radio communications materials and equipment for sea and land patrolling to address trafficking and smuggling and for search and rescue operations at sea.

### Results

- Strengthened capacities in migration and border management.
- Improved and more efficient control of coastal areas to fight trafficking of human beings and for search and rescue activities at sea.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible**. It consists in providing technical support to the coast guards and institutions responsible for border management through provision of equipment and materials for direct fight against migrant trafficking, with the main aim to intercept migrants and restrict migration to Europe. This is explicitly excluded from ODA (see Principle 6 and specific exclusions from ODA listed in Criterion 4).

The project does not pursue a primary developmental objective (Principles 1 and 3) although it is recognised that a more efficient migration management system will also benefit the recipient country and improve security. Regarding the search and rescue component of the project, Criterion 4 (note 5) notes that activities can be counted in ODA only when search and rescue is the main purpose of the patrol, which is not the case in this project.

## *CASE 7: SUPPORT TO FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS AND MIGRATION IN WEST AFRICA PHASE II*

**ODA-eligible**

| | |
|---|---|
| Provider country: European Commission | Budget Information (EUR million): 32,43 |
| Recipient country: West Africa region (ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania) | Year(s): 2024 - 2029 |
| Implementing agency: IOM, ICMPD and ILO | Purpose code: 15190\|13010\|16062 |

**Background information**

The ECOWAS countries are characterised by high mobility due to millions of community citizens and migrants traversing its borders every day. Major challenges towards the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Protocol and Common Approach on Migration at all levels of governance include: (i) Inadequate capacity for policy development and implementation; (ii) Poor border management; (iii) Irregular migration; (iv) Climate change-induced migration; (v) Inefficient migrant protection affecting vulnerable groups in particular (e.g. women, youth, LGBTQI+ individuals); (vi) Overall weak migration data coverage; (vii) Weak civil society structures.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The overall objective is to maximise the development potential of free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by supporting the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocols. The project focuses on the facilitation of movement within the ECOWAS region and does not involve border control activities aimed at restricting migration. Activities include:

- Collaborating with ECOWAS Commission and building their capacity to lead intra-regional dialogue, policy development, harmonization and monitoring the implementation of the protocol.
- Collaborating, supporting, and enhancing the capacity of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania in the multiple areas for migration policy development including data collection and management, border management, labour migration or trafficking in human beings and migrant smuggling, among others.
- Strengthening the capacity of non-state actors and local authorities to raise awareness and to provide protection services for the benefit of migrants, returnees, and cross-border populations.

**Results (Expected Results)**

- Strengthened ECOWAS Commission capacity to engage with key regional stakeholders, advance evidenced-based policy and regional governance frameworks on migration and raise public awareness.
- Enhanced migration governance through the operationalization of ECOWAS Migration Policies and Frameworks as well as through the harmonisation and standardisation of practices in Member States.
- Increased awareness on the Protocol on Free Movement and Regional Integration Agenda.
- Non-state actors and local authorities have increased accessibility to initiatives for the protection of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations' rights.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The project is in the field of border management, for which Criterion 4 specifies that the boundary between ODA and non ODA-eligible activities is determined based on the primary objective. The civilian activities described in this case build the capacity of developing countries in migration strategy and policy development while pursuing a main developmental goal, aiming at the protection of migrants. Such activities are ODA-eligible as per Criterion 4. To note: Would the project include activities to support border authorities with an objective of restricting migration, these should be excluded from ODA as per Criterion 4 (e.g. border control projects such as border checks and border surveillance).

## *CASE 8: SUPPORT FOR JORDAN'S INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT POLICY IN THE APPLICATION OF ADVANCED STANDARDS ON DOCUMENT SECURITY*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Netherlands
Recipient country: Jordan
Implementing agency: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

Budget Information (EUR million): 0.5
Year(s): 2021 –2022
Purpose code: N/A

**Background information**
Jordan is a beacon of stability despite the prevailing uncertainty in the region and the structural economic crisis faced by the country. Capacities and support to Jordan are needed to address persistent economic and security obstacles, which include internal factors and external factors such as its exposure to terror threats and massive influx of refugees. Moreover, the recent Syrian and Iraqi crises have caused a series of challenges, particularly those of illicit trafficking, document forgery and foreign terrorist fighters. These regional and national threats request further support to the security sector.

**Objectives and concrete activities**
The overall objective is to enhance the expertise on border management within Jordan – and the Border and Residence Department (BRD) of the Public Security Directorate (PSD). The focus is on improving the BRD capabilities in the detection of fraudulent use of travel and identity documents and the professional competence of its officers.

***Outcome 1***: Improved capacity of BRD staff to detect forged and falsified travel documents, impostors, identity theft and risk analyses improved as well as capabilities to provide professional trainings on document security by national experts. Notably:

- ***Output 1.1:*** Training manuals and curricula are developed, translated, printed and handed over to the newly created Document Laboratory.
- ***Output 1.2:*** BRD trainers are certified as National Trainers with different training levels on document security.

***Outcome 2****:* Strengthened intra-agency co-operation and information exchange on the fight against irregular migration. Notably:

- ***Output 2.1***: Mechanism on BRD information exchange in the field of document security established.
- ***Output 2.3***: Databases including the images of genuine/ false/ forged/ fantasy documents, information on security techniques, information on forgery techniques, statistics on detected false and falsified documents and identity fraud.

***Outcome 3****:* Strengthened effectiveness of document inspection through the provision of modern equipment to the BRD Document Laboratory, as well as trainings on usage and maintenance of equipment.

**Results**
No reports received yet.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible.** Although protection requirements are met in alignment with EU, industry and academic norms, the emphasis of this programme, in line with the ICMPD mandate of controlling migratory movements to Europe, lies on the security aspect, including support for border guards. According to criterion 4, the boundary between ODA and non-ODA eligible activities in the field of border management is determined based on their primary objective. Despite the fact that document verification can be ODA-eligible, the activity does not pursue a primary developmental objective and is thus excluded from ODA (see also Principles 1 and 3).

## *CASE 9: DIGITIZATION OF FILES TO STRENGTHEN THE ADJUDICATION OF ASYLUM CLAIMS BY MEXICO's COMAR*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Canada
Recipient country: Mexico
Implementing agency: UNHCR

Budget Information (CAD million): 0.1
Year(s): March 2021 to TBD
Purpose code: 15190

### Background information

Mexico has experienced an exponential growth of asylum claims since 2018 and the emergence of COVID-19 has added to these challenges. Through the digitalization of files, the Mexican Asylum Agency (COMAR) will be able to better analyse and categorise its current claims back log and remotely adjudicate files, which will ultimately improve the efficiency of the system, during the current COVID-19 pandemic, and afterwards.

### Objectives and concrete activities

The objective of this project is to increase the Mexican Asylum Agency's (COMAR) capacity to efficiently adjudicate asylum claims through digitizing the paper-based asylum claims in their Tapachula office, including allowing for its agents to access and adjudicate files remotely.
Activities:

- Preparation: Prepare the premises of the COMAR office in Tapachula to properly store the physical files, conduct a file inventory, and update file information in the evaluation system SIRE: *Sistema de Información de Resultados de las Evaluaciones*;
- Scanning and File Management: Scan and reorganize physical files at COMAR office in Tapachula and implement file tracking and digital file management system; and
- Training: Train COMAR staff on use of the file tracking system and the digital and physical storage methodology.

### Results

This project has the following expected results: strengthened migration and refugee protection systems in Mexico aimed at facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration, by increasing COMAR's Tapachula office's capacity to efficiently adjudicate asylum claims, allowing for COMAR agents to access and adjudicate files remotely, and minimizing the risk of data loss.
This will be measured by:

- The number of case files digitized at COMAR's Tapachula office; and the approximate number of physical files not digitized at the time of Project completion; and
- Data on how the project has led to COMAR adjudication efficiencies, as available to UNHCR.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The project's objective is to support more robust protection systems in Mexico, which directly contribute to the safe, orderly and regular migration flows in North America. It benefits Mexico as a host community through capacity building and is conducted in the best interest of migrants as it decreases the amount of time asylum seekers are left in limbo, waiting for a decision. The project is hence well-aligned with the examples of eligible activities listed in Criterion 4.

Canada indicated that there may be indirect benefits to Canada, as an improved asylum system in Mexico aligns with its priorities in promoting regular migration in the Americas region and the protection of vulnerable women, children and LGBTI individuals from Central America. However, the project activities are tailored to Mexico's needs and Canada's domestic goals do not impact project direction, demonstrating that the development goal comes before any other goals as required by Principle 3 (the possible indirect benefit to Canada do not preclude ODA eligibility).

# ACTIVITIES INVOLVING RETURN AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMMES

## *CASE 10: VOLUNTARY RETURN ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE RECEIVED AN OBLIGATION TO LEAVE THE FRENCH TERRITORY*

**Non ODA-eligible**

| | |
|---|---|
| Provider country: France | Budget Information: |
| Recipient country: Various | Year(s): 2022 |
| Implementing agency: French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII) | Purpose code: 93010 |

### Background information

The French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII) is the main operator of the Directorate General for Foreigners in France (DGEF), which designs and manages immigration and integration policies in France. Among its various missions, the OFII is responsible for participating in all administrative, health and social actions related to the return and reintegration of foreigners in their country of origin.

### Objectives and concrete activities

Foreigners wishing to return to their country of origin may request assistance from the OFII. The OFII organises the safe and dignified return to the country of origin (travel expenses, financial assistance, administrative support for the preparation of the trip). This return can take place in the chosen region of the country of origin.

The Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) scheme, as distinct from the Reintegration Assistance scheme, can be granted to people who have received an Obligation to Leave the French Territory (OQTF).

The amount of the grant is fixed: 300 € per person for visa-exempt countries, and 650 € for countries subject to a visa.

### Results

In 2022, 4981 voluntary returns were carried out following the issuance of an OQTF.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible.** The eligibility of expenditures related to returns from the provider country is governed by the rules on in-donor refugee costs (see Criterion 5 and Figure 1). Persons having received an OQTF have not sought or were not granted asylum. According to the rules, expenditures related to rejected asylum seekers (after their application for asylum has been rejected) or expenditures for migrants are not eligible for ODA.

## *CASE 11: REINTEGRATION SUPPORT*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: France
Recipient country: Various
Implementing agency: Office français de l'immigration et de l'intégration (OFII)

Budget Information:
Year(s): 2022
Purpose code: 15190

**Background information**

The French Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII) is the main operator of the General Directorate for Foreigners in France (DGEF), which designs and manages immigration and integration policies in France. Among its various missions, the OFII is in charge of participating in all administrative, health and social actions related to the return and reintegration of foreigners in their country of origin.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The OFII has a system of reintegration assistance (which may be complementary to or independent of the assistance for voluntary return) in the country of origin, by offering services to help with installation, job search or business creation. This assistance is aimed at nationals of 28 countries, 27 of which are on the DAC List of ODA Recipients (Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Congo DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Iraq, Georgia, Guinea Conakry, Kosovo, Haiti, Mali, Morocco, Mauritius, Nepal, Nigeria, Senegal, Pakistan, Somalia, Togo and Tunisia).

This assistance is granted in particular to foreign nationals arriving at the end of their legal stay or voluntarily withdrawing from asylum and wishing to return freely to their country of origin (these persons have not received an Obligation to Leave the French Territory – OQTF). In detail:

- In terms of social reintegration (level 1): reintegration assistance includes the payment of initial rent, the purchase of furniture and household appliances, the payment of medical expenses or schooling for children as well as legal support, psychological follow-up and even assistance at the airport for vulnerable persons.
- In terms of employment and vocational training (level 2): reintegration assistance supports the applicant in his or her search for a job, but can also finance part of the vocational training or provide a salary supplement.
- In terms of business creation (level 3): reintegration assistance provides financial support and assistance in creating a business. The project must be validated by a selection committee.

**Results**

In 2021, 1596 grants were awarded to 1326 beneficiaries. In detail, this includes 483 social aids (level 1), 91 employment aids (level 2) and 1,022 business creation aids (level 3). The average amount of aid for business creation is EUR 3 703. These are mainly agricultural enterprises (41%) or small businesses (30%).

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** Reintegration activities undertaken in countries of origin are in principle ODA-eligible, see Criterion 6 and Figure 1. For support that targets exclusively returnees from the provider country as is the case here, the criterion requires further justification which can be considered provided: all three levels of funded activities are clearly developmental; support does not seem to primarily aim to address the donor's domestic migration concerns (in particular as it targets returnees that have not received an OQTF).

## *CASE 12: ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS IN NIGER (AVENIR II)*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Italy
Recipient country: Niger
Implementing agency: IOM

Budget Information (EUR million): 6.5
Year(s): 2022
Purpose code: 15190

### Background information

Due to its geographical position and the free movement within ECOWAS, Niger is an important country of transit, destination, and origin for migrants from West and Central Africa. From 2017 to March 2022, a total of 50 800 migrants were expulsed from Algeria to Niger, of which more than 80% were without travel documents. In 2021, an average of 900 migrants were expulsed per month. Although these migrants are non-Nigerien, the Government of Algeria expels them to "Point Zero", 12 kilometres from the nearest village on the Nigerien side of the border, Assamaka. IOM provides humanitarian assistance at the border and offers migrants the possibility to partake in IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) programme, through which they can safely return to their country of origin. The large majority of the 50 800 migrants assisted by IOM subsequently entered into the AVR programme. Among these migrants are very vulnerable profiles, including victims of trafficking (VoTs), unaccompanied and separated migrant children (UAMCs), migrants with disabilities, sick or traumatized migrants. In response, IOM proposed the AVENIR phase II project with the objective of reinforcing return and protection assistance for vulnerable migrants in Niger.

### Objectives and concrete activities

- Stranded migrants voluntarily return safely and in dignity to their countries of origin: migrants receive the necessary support and assistance.
- Governance and ownership of State institutions on migration management and protection assistance are strengthened through support to Judges of minors (enhance quality of assistance for UAMCs), National Agency of Countertrafficking and Anti-Smuggling (shelter for VoTs in Zinder), National Programme of Mental Health, National Employment Agency & Ministry of Employment (digitalisation of the issuance of work permits) and promotion of safe regular migration (bilateral labour agreements).
- Migrants in vulnerable situations, including VoTs, UAMCs and people with mental health and psychosocial support needs have access to inclusive protection assistance to enhance their wellbeing, safety, dignity and rehabilitation**.**

AVR programmes support migrants who are unable or unwilling to remain in host or transit countries and wish to return to their countries of origin, with an objective that return & readmission occur in a safe and dignified manner. Migrants are able to make an informed decision and freely change their mind at a later stage. They are provided with all viable and legal options available to them, including return opportunities.

### Results

During the first six months of AVENIR I only, IOM provided assistance to 464 migrants in their voluntary return to their country of origin, including 268 women. AVENIR II expected outcome is to maintain this trend and reinforce it, by effectively managing the established mechanisms.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** Assistance for forced returns is excluded from ODA. In this case, the migrants were originally forced to leave Algeria ("expulsed"), but the IOM AVR programmes are offered to them on a voluntary basis once they have reached Niger. The project builds on a comprehensive, human rights based, sustainable development-oriented and coherent approach to well-managed return, taking into account the health and well-being of individuals and communities and ensuring that migrants' protection needs are identified and addressed.

Assistance to migrants for their safe, dignified, informed and voluntary return from a developing country (Niger) to their country of origin is eligible (Criterion 5). The project can therefore be considered as eligible, as long as IOM confirms that the returns can indeed be qualified as voluntary and are conducted in compliance with Principle 4. The project also consists of institutional capacity building aimed at protecting migrants against abuses, which is eligible as per Criterion 4.

## *CASE 13: CONTRIBUTION TO RETURNED MIGRANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S REINTEGRATION, AS PRIORITIZED POPULATION IN EL SALVADOR'S SOCIAL PLAN*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Spain
Recipient country: El Salvador
Implementing agency: Technical Secretary for External Financing of Ministry of Foreign Affairs (SETEFE-MIREX)

Budget Information (EUR million): 0.3
Year(s):2018-2022
Purpose code: N/A

**Background information**

The government of El Salvador faces the enormous challenge of managing programmes that facilitate the integration into social life and the productive and economic reintegration of people who are deported or involuntarily returned. In 2014, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through its Vice-Ministry for Salvadorans Abroad (VMSALEX), launched the "Pilot Project for Comprehensive Attention to Returnees" in order to provide care to people who return to the country involuntarily. For this purpose, "orientation windows" were installed in the offices of the departmental governments of San Salvador, Usulután, San Miguel, La Unión, Santa Ana and La Libertad.

The success of the pilot project led, in 2016, to the design and implementation of the "El Salvador es Tu Casa" programme. This is an inter-institutional programme that includes information, orientation and linkage services with social, labour, productive and educational programmes offered by different state institutions. Although the results of "El Salvador es tu casa" are very positive after 2 years of operation, a deficient gender approach has been identified in its conception and, consequently, the lack of specialized services that respond to the specific needs and interests of the most vulnerable sector of the population returning to El Salvador: women and children.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The Project is intended to improve reintegration support by means of expanding the offer of reintegration programmes for women returnees and their children, whether they are in the process of returning or not, avoiding irregular migration flows, with a focus on improving information management and upgrading technological capacities. Specific objectives:

- Incorporate the single registry of participants (RUP) to the computerized system of attention and follow-up of returnees.
- Strengthen the Returned Persons Attention Windows with technical and institutional capacity.
- Facilitate the access of returned migrant women to productive enterprises and children to education and recreation.

**Results**

- The characteristics and insertion itinerary of the most vulnerable group of returnees (women and children) are known.
- Women and children returnees, as a particularly disadvantaged group, are aware of and can access a special attention mechanism adapted to their needs and interests.
- The range of development programmes aimed at women and children returnees has been expanded.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The project supports sustainable reintegration of returnees in their country of origin (El Salvador) with a focus on expanding the programmatic offer for sustainable reintegration programmes of vulnerable groups. Criterion 6 specifies that reintegration activities are in principle ODA-eligible irrespective of the status of returnees (voluntary or forced, as is the case in this project where returnees are involuntarily returned or deported). Moreover, Spanish support does not exclusively target returnees from Spain, which would require specific additional justification.

## *CASE H4: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF REINTEGRATION SUPPORT 1*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Country A
Recipient country: Country B
Implementing agency: Other

Budget Information (USD Mio.): 2.5
Year(s): 2025-2027
Purpose code: Other

**Background information**

The project is part of Country A's new national strategy on migration, which places a focus on return and reintegration of migrants and asylum seekers to/in their countries of origin. It is set up to support the reintegration of returnees in Country B, where support is offered to returnees upon their arrival. The project responds to migratory pressures in Country A by incentivising the return of individual migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The project aims to support the reintegration of returnees in Country B. The reintegration support is offered to individuals in the form of a one-off cash contribution[2] upon their arrival in Country B. It is meant to serve as an incentive for individuals to leave Country A's territory, and is exclusively offered to returnees from Country A, in line with migration-related priorities before longer-term sustainable development considerations.

**Results**

It is expected that the project increases the number of individuals returning from Country A to Country B.

**Assessment of the project's ODA-eligibility**

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible.** The activity aims to incentivise the return of individuals by offering them reintegration support in their country of origin. While the mere fact that the activity is conducted within the new national strategy on migration does not render it ineligible as such, particular attention needs to be paid to the fact that the support is exclusively offered to returnees from Country A. The activity is not designed to support sustainable reintegration: support is offered to individuals in the form of short-term support (in cash or in-kind) upon their arrival in Country B and is meant to serve as an incentive for individuals to leave Country A's territory (sustainable reintegration, as illustrated in case H5, would involve broader and longer-term support post return, to improve livelihood opportunities for returnees and local communities). As the activity primarily addresses domestic migration concerns, it is non ODA-eligible (Criterion 6). However, an activity that exclusively targets returnees from the provider country could be considered ODA-eligible if its primary objective were to enable sustainable reintegration (see case 11).

**Note: This is a hypothetical case developed by the Secretariat, not relating to any specific activity or member. It refers to specific hypothetical project characteristics and does not disqualify from ODA all activities in this context.**

[2] The contribution can also be provided in kind (accommodation, airport pick-up, onward transport, medical assistance).

## *CASE H5: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF REINTEGRATION SUPPORT 2*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Country A
Recipient country: Country B
Implementing agency: Other

Budget Information (USD Mio.): 2.5
Year(s): 2025-2027
Purpose code: Other

**Background information**

The reintegration of returnees in their country of origin may pose challenges to developing countries, including in the area of community cohesion. The project aims to support Country B in setting up a sustainable reintegration infrastructure, taking into account the needs and human rights of both returnees and their host communities. Among others, it is meant to enable the sustainable reintegration of returnees from Country A.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The project aims to improve livelihood opportunities for returnees and local communities by enhancing social services and rehabilitating critical infrastructure. It also includes stabilisation measures to reduce social tension. While the project has a focus on the sustainable reintegration of returnees from Country A, it comprises various community aspects that aim to improve Country B's reintegration infrastructure and the well-being in migration-affected areas as a whole.

**Results**

It is expected that the project contributes to the establishment of a sustainable reintegration infrastructure, and that it strengthens inclusion and community cohesion, thereby also supporting the reintegration of returnees from Country A.

**Assessment of the project's ODA-eligibility**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The activity aims to set up a sustainable reintegration infrastructure in the recipient country, in line with human rights standards. Although it specifically targets returnees from the provider country, the activity ultimately benefits beyond this group as it comprises the reintegration infrastructure as a whole. Hence, while it also addresses domestic migration concerns, the activity's primary aim is considered to be developmental (enabling sustainable reintegration). See Criterion 6.

**Note: This is a hypothetical case developed by the Secretariat, not relating to any specific activity or member. It refers to specific hypothetical project characteristics and does not qualify as ODA all activities in this context.**

## *CASE H6: HYPOTHETICAL CASE - PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF REINTEGRATION SUPPORT 3*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Country A
Recipient country: Country B
Implementing agency: Other

Budget Information (USD Mio.): 2.5
Year(s): 2025-2027
Purpose code: Other

**Background information**

The reintegration of returnees in their country of origin may pose challenges to developing countries, and vulnerable returnees and host communities may be disproportionally affected by these challenges. The project aims to strengthen Country B's capacities to improve the returnees' access to basic services and support their economic empowerment. It has a particular focus on vulnerable groups and is open to returnees from all countries.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The project aims to improve the livelihood of returnees and host communities, offering health and psychosocial support, supplies and equipment to start businesses (e.g. shop essentials, tools, in-kind kits) and enhancing returnees' skills to facilitate participation in the labour market. In the agriculture sector, this entails distribution of livestock and training in farming techniques as well as business management. The project is implemented in coordination with the local municipalities, to ensure community participation. A continuous monitoring is implemented to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of the results.

**Results**

It is expected that the project improves the social and economic situation of vulnerable returnees and their host communities.

**Assessment of the project's ODA-eligibility**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The activity aims to improve the sustainable reintegration of returnees. It has a primary focus on development and is open to returnees from all countries (i.e. is not exclusively targeting returnees from the provider country). See Criterion 6.

**Note: This is a hypothetical case developed by the Secretariat, not relating to any specific activity or member. It refers to specific hypothetical project characteristics and does not qualify as ODA all activities in this context.**

# LABOUR MOBILITY

## *CASE 14: LABOUR MIGRATION GOVERNANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION IN AFRICA*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Switzerland
Recipient country: African Union Member States
Implementing agency: ILO, IOM, GIZ

Budget Information (USD million): 2 per year
Year(s): 2021-25
Purpose code: 15190

### Background information

The biggest driver of migration is the search for jobs. Most labour migrants from Sub-Saharan African countries remain on the continent. Sub-Saharan Africa has the second highest level of intraregional migration (63%) of any world region. Migrant workers on the continent are often found in settings characterized by low incomes and wages, lack of social protection, precarious jobs and workplaces as well as difficult working conditions. An effective labour migration governance in line with the needs of regional and national labour markets is not in place. The Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP) under the leadership of the African Union (AU) will improve the labour migration governance and therefore promote regional integration and sustainable economic development in Africa.

### Objectives and concrete activities

- Overall objective: strengthening the effective governance and regulation of labour migration and mobility for enhanced sustainable development for inclusive economic growth and regional integration of the African Continent.

Examples of activities:

- Support AU Member States in the organization of tripartite workshops to validate the rights-based and gender-responsive policies and legal frameworks, gain political support for implementation.
- Organise training workshops for national structures in charge of labour migration as well as policy makers and practitioners on labour migration governance.
- Conduct a qualitative survey and study in DRC and Côte d'Ivoire respectively on working conditions (working time, wages, end of contract entitlements) of African migrant workers in mining and domestic sectors.
- Conduct study on skills mobility in the textile/agricultural sector in COMESA Member States.
- Provide technical assistance and support selected AU Member States to develop/establish Integrated Labour Market Information Systems with labour migration data.

### Results

- Strengthened effective governance and regulation of labour migration and mobility in Africa for women and men migrant workers.
- Women and men migrant workers in both the formal and informal sectors enjoy safe and secure working environments, access to social protection and mutual recognition of skills and educational levels.
- Increased utilisation of labour migration disaggregated data and statistics by AU Member States (MS) and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) for evidenced based decision-making, policy planning, formulation and application.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** It aims to strengthen the labour migration governance and the regional integration in Africa, which will contribute to sustainable economic development in this region. The benefits reaped target migrants and families concerned as well as African countries. Activities conducted in ODA-eligible countries that focus on giving access to decent labour opportunities and protecting the rights of migrants are ODA-eligible, as specified in Criterion 7.

## *CASE 15: LABOUR MIGRATION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS: MAPPING PATTERNS, ADDRESSING CHALLENGES AND REAPING BENEFITS*

**ODA-eligible**

| | |
|---|---|
| Provider country: Austria | Budget Information (EUR million): 0.2 (Austrian contribution) |
| Recipient country: Europe, regional/multi-country | Year(s): 2020-21 |
| Implementing agency: OECD | Purpose code: 15190 |

**Background information**

The lack of quality jobs and career prospects in their home economies fuelled emigration from the Western Balkans, predominantly to OECD countries. Continued high levels of labour emigration, especially of young talents, pose a severe development challenge for the region: potential investors do not find adequate skills on the labour market, which affects their investment decision. Domestic firms lack know-how to compete on global markets. High emigration, in particular among the youth, and little immigration has left an unfavourable age structure in the region. All the economies have an aging population, which has serious implications on their fragile health and social systems.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The project aims to contribute to achieving SDGs related to improve migration policies (Indicator 10.7.2. Number of countries with migration policies that facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people), in particular: 600 beneficiaries shall be reached with this study.

- Well-coordinated and integrated policy approach to address main challenges of labour migration (emigration, remigration, circular migration) and to embed migration and diaspora strategies in the wider development strategies and structural reform agendas of the Western Balkans;
- More favourable conditions to lower propensity of labour to leave their home country to seek jobs abroad and to encourage the diaspora to make contributions to develop their home countries;
- Increased propensity to engage in circular migration and better re-integration of temporary migrants (esp. educational migrants) in the job market of the home countries;
- Increased civic engagement of returnees.

**Results**

The project will benefit governments and guide policy reform to achieve sustained, inclusive and sustainable growth with decent work conditions for all. For the labour migrants, it can support attaining better living and working conditions and support investment decisions in their home countries. For the academia, it can enrich research and debate. For the development co-operation community, it can help prioritise funding decisions. For the civil society, it can enhance:

- Evidence based information for governments on the population's patterns, root causes and considerations of interlinkages between policies and population's behaviour regarding migration;
- Better understanding of the benefits and pitfalls of temporary and permanent labour migration and country-specific policy recommendations on how to capitalise on human talent;
- Gender-sensitive migration-related analysis and recommendations;
- Policy recommendations how to navigate the Covid-19 effects on labour emigration.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** It targets developmental objectives by providing support to emigration societies (countries of origin) in the Western Balkans in order to improve the socio-economic conditions on site, and thereby lower the risk of unintended labour emigration. This project is conducted in developing countries and addresses their challenges related to labour migration. It complies with the principles for assessing the ODA-eligibility of migration-related activities e.g. Principle 4 (alignment with partner countries' priorities) and Principle 5 (main benefit to ODA-eligible countries)

## *CASE 16: PACIFIC AUSTRALIA LABOUR MOBILITY SCHEME*

**Partially ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Australia
Recipient country: Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
Implementing agency: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

Budget information (AUD million): FY22 23.78, FY23 34.71
Year(s): Ongoing

Purpose code: NA

**Background information**

The Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme supports the development of nine Pacific countries and Timor-Leste by providing temporary work opportunities. Under the scheme, workers can develop their skills, earn income and send home remittances by taking up jobs in Australia. Eligible employers can recruit for seasonal work for up to nine months or for longer-term roles between one and four years in unskilled, low-skilled and semi-skilled positions across a range of sectors, including agriculture, meat processing, tourism, and aged care sectors. Throughout their placement, workers can participate in a skills development programme to obtain formal qualifications in addition to on-the-job skills acquisition.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

Development objectives are at the core of the PALM scheme. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate sustainable circular labour mobility from Pacific islands and Timor-Leste to Australia, to contribute to inclusive economic growth and social development for workers and their communities. The programme responds to recipient countries' request.

**Results**

Providing labour market access to Pacific and Timorese workers enhances the livelihoods of workers and their communities, who rely on remittances from overseas work and have the opportunity to develop and take-home skills that contribute to the economic development of their home countries. The success of the scheme is highlighted by the following results:

- There are over 24 000 Pacific and Timorese workers in Australia. Seasonal workers send, on average, AUD 1 061 in remittances back to their families and communities each month, while longer term workers remit on average AUD 1 310 per month (as of May 2022).
- As reported by the World Bank (2021), remittances from PALM workers have real impacts for families and communities. Households who receive remittances report lower levels of financial anxiety and are significantly less likely to resort to negative coping strategies such as selling livestock or taking children out of school.
- Workers develop invaluable skills on the job to take back to their communities. There are also opportunities to earn formal qualifications. In September 2021, a skills development programme launched to support the costs of training and qualifications for workers, from work ready skills such as first aid courses to formal certificate level qualifications.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed partially ODA-eligible.** The PALM programme (DFAT part) is **eligible** as its primary purpose is to benefit Pacific workers, their families and communities, through a focus on improving migrants' skills that they subsequently bring to their home countries. (However, the fact that the migrants may send remittances to their home countries is not, in itself, a sufficient condition for the programme to qualify as ODA.) In line with Criterion 7, the ancillary benefits to the Australian labour market do not preclude eligibility and, despite the programme incurring costs in the donor-country for more than 12 months, it meets the required conditions for ODA-eligibility: time-limited (four years), circular and responds to recipient countries' request.

Only the component financed by the DFAT is ODA-eligible (activities of other government agencies in delivering the PALM scheme are **not considered ODA-eligible** and are excluded from Australia's ODA reporting: Fair Work Ombudsman, the Department of Home Affairs and the Australian Border Force).

## *CASE 17: PACIFIC ISLANDS RECOGNIZED SEASONAL EMPLOYERS PROGRAMME*

**Partially ODA-eligible**

Provider country: New Zealand
Recipient country: Pacific Islands (Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu)
Implementing agency: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Budget information (NZD million): 5 for RSE WTP; 10 for SPP
Year(s): 2017-2022

Purpose code: NA

**Background information**

The Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) work policy was introduced to address seasonal labour shortages in the horticulture and viticulture industries in New Zealand. The policy allows for RSE accredited employers to recruit workers from overseas where no New Zealanders are available.

The RSE Workers Training Programme (RSE WTP) was launched in 2012 to provide trainings to workers engaged in the RSE scheme and working in New Zealand. The Strengthening Pacific Partnership (SPP) programme supports Pacific Islands Countries (PICs) to facilitate workers' participation to labour mobility opportunities (notably RSE in New Zealand, but other sectors as well and possibly other countries), and maximise the development benefits of labour mobility.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The SPP provides support to PICs to facilitate and benefit from labour mobility opportunities and minimise the risks of labour mobility. Activities include: capacity building for Labour Sending Units from PICs; Engagement with PICs, New Zealand and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. Australia); Research to assist in the building of knowledge about Pacific labour mobility through intelligence gathering and data analysis.

RSE WTP overall objective is to maximise the RSE policy development benefits by:

- Supporting workers with the necessary life skills to adapt to life in New Zealand;
- Maximising the income workers take home through financial training and improved workplace skills;
- Increasing skills that workers can take home such as chainsaw skills, sewing, solar installation and building techniques.

Trainings include: English, numeracy and maths, financial and computer literacy, health (sexual health, basic first aid and hygiene) and life-skills training.

**Results**

Medium-term outcomes include increased remittances; participants returning home with increased workplace skills, promoting improved health, safety (including sexual health), and community and climate resilience practices at their workplace and in their families; increased business enterprises in RSE home countries etc.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed partially ODA-eligible.**

- Expenditures required to operationalise the RSE scheme are **not eligible**, as the programme intends to primarily fill labour market gaps in New Zealand (see Criterion 7). Employers must prove they cannot fill the position with a local worker, which illustrates that the primary objective of the scheme is New Zealand's interest. Whilst it does advance economic development for Pacific Island countries through remittances and repatriated savings, it is primarily implementing an immigration policy.
- Research to evaluate/improve the RSE scheme is considered **partially ODA-eligible**, as some of the outputs focus on advancing Pacific development/welfare (e.g. surveying remittances sent by workers and investigating the family/community effects of absent workers from their islands).
- The Workers Training Programme (WTP) is **ODA-eligible**. It consists in a learner-led training that provides RSE workers with skills that they can take home (including English, numeracy and life-skills training, but excluding training to get a New Zealand driving license). Although unusual for a development initiative in that it occurs within the donor country, the outcomes of the WTP are wholly development-focused and in-line with the focus on skills required for ODA-eligibility under Criterion 7.

## *CASE 18: COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS*

**Partially ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Denmark
Recipient country: Jordan
Implementing agency: Talent Beyond Boundaries

Budget information (USD million): 1.3
Year(s): 2020-21
Purpose code: 72010

### Background information

Unemployment levels in Jordan are high and a minority of refugees are able to secure a legal, decent, sustainable job. Further, the prospects for refugees to achieve one of the three durable solutions is also unreachable for most refugees in Jordan. As part of the burden and responsibility sharing principle Talent Beyond Boundaries are promoting labour mobility as a complementary pathway for refugees, contributing to the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees and the UNHCR Three-Year Strategy on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways (2019-2021). The barriers hindering refugees from seeking employment opportunities in third countries include skills development, English language skills and information about opportunities for labour mobility.

### Objectives and concrete activities

The objective of the project is to enable displacement-affected populations in Jordan to successfully access livelihoods towards a durable solution through skills building and linking refugees to international employment opportunities in third countries. The project will also support advocacy efforts to inform policies and programming towards labour mobility as a durable solution.
The project will provide training and counselling to refugees in Jordan, linking them to potential international employers. For those who obtain a possibility for employment, the project will assist them to prepare for the move (facilitating connections to legal services providers for visas, supporting employers to arrange relocation of the refugee and their family etc.). TBB monitors the refugees and their employers for a year after their arrival in the destination country for evaluation purposes.
Activities oriented towards identifying and enhancing the employability of refugees will take place in Jordan. Activities oriented towards identifying potential employer partners take place outside of Jordan in Australia, Canada and maybe the UK. The Regional Development and Protection Programme for Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq funding is for activities that exclusively support refugees in Jordan to secure a durable solution. While TBB has budgeted to support staffing in Australia and Canada, this staff directly supports refugees in Jordan by securing prospective employers to sponsor the durable solution. According to UNHCR TBB's efforts to allow refugees from major refugee hosting countries, such as Jordan, to access solutions through labour mobility are critical to easing the pressure on host communities, while building the capacity of local actors.

### Results

The project will contribute to refugees' self-reliance being able to achieve a durable solution in other countries. Further, the project will contribute to the international burden-sharing with Jordan.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed partially ODA-eligible.** Expenditures to promote the integration of refugees or migrants into the economy of developed countries do not count as ODA: tertiary education, vocational/professional training, skills development, job programmes, etc. (see the Clarification 4 in the rules on in-donor refugee costs and Criterion 7 on labour mobility). The project includes costs in Jordan to provide training and counselling to refugees, linking them to potential international employers in Australia, Canada and possibly the United Kingdom, which do not count as ODA. The project also includes costs in these provider countries, to identify potential employers, these costs are not eligible either. Should the project include components that aim at the temporary sustenance of refugees in the donor country (food, shelter, training), the rules for in-donor refugee costs apply. Such components could be counted as ODA if separately identifiable.

## *CASE 19: PROMOTING ETHICAL RECRUITMENT IN THE HOTEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY: BUILDING CAPACITY AND ENHANCING COMMITMENT*

**Partially ODA-eligible**

| | |
|---|---|
| Provider country: United States | Budget information (USD million): over 3 |
| Recipient country: Global (Kuwait, Oman, Kenya, Uganda, Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua) | Year(s): 2019-21 |
| Implementing agency: IOM | Purpose code: N/A |

### Background information

In support of safe, orderly, and humane migration, this project seeks to carry out ethical recruitment programming in the hospitality and tourism industry. The project is based on a collaboration between IOM and the Sustainable Hospitality Alliance (SHA), which brings together the world's leading hotel companies to drive responsible business in the industry. It builds on IOM's work to establish IRIS: Ethical Recruitment and SHA's commitment to combating migrant exploitation, in its Principles on Forced Labour.

### Objectives and concrete activities

IOM and SHA engage a three-pillar strategy focused on: 1) private sector and employer engagement; 2) private-public dialogue; and 3) migrant-centred and civil society action.
Specific outputs under the three pillars include:

- Implementation of a comprehensive and multi-faceted communications strategy and expanded campaigning and advocacy with hotel brands and their stakeholders.
- Implementation of bilateral meetings or workshops at national and local levels using a "whole of government" approach including the ministries, agencies, and authorities.
- Pilot workshops to train professionals on ethical recruitment information and orientation resources, targeting pre-departure, post-arrival, employment, cultural and pre-return orientation to create a seamless and holistic "safe migration experience" for migrant workers and enhance migrant protection.

### Results

To date, IOM and SHA have jointly developed trainings, guidance, and tools which have been piloted for hotel and tourism companies on ethical recruitment. Multiple global brands have communicated their commitment and drive to collaborate with this initiative as a continuing process and six global brands have participated in a working group on ethical recruitment to enhance collaborative action across the industry. This commitment has been confirmed through agreements with IOM and through direct participation in activities. Agreements have been signed with three global brands, and IOM has conducted trainings with seven brands, with notable success in training 314 industry leaders. IOM has additionally held trainings for government, supported government-to-government collaboration and have held consultations with governments in select corridors. IOM has additionally developed tools and resources for civil society which have supported broad engagement with civil society organisations in target countries. Stakeholders have noted the relevance and applicability of this project to national, regional, and global frameworks particularly in anticipation of the recovery phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has asymmetrically affected the hospitality and tourism industry and labour migration worldwide.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed partially ODA-eligible.** The project works to promote ethical recruitment which, in turn, contributes to safe, orderly, responsible, and regular migration and reinforces efforts to achieve productive employment and decent work for all (including contributing to sustainable development in the countries of origin); eradication of forced labour, modern slavery, and human trafficking; and protection of labour rights. In line with Criterion 7, activities that focus on giving access to decent labour opportunities and protecting the rights of migrants in ODA-eligible countries are ODA-eligible; activities fostering labour mobility from ODA-eligible to non-ODA eligible countries (Kuwait, Oman) could also be eligible if they had a focus on skills transfers to the developing country of origin.

## *CASE 20: FACILITATING SAFE AND SKILLED MIGRATION ON THE CENTRAL ASIA-RUSSIAN FEDERATION /KAZAKHSTAN CORRIDOR*

**Partially ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Switzerland
Recipient country: Central Asia & the Russian Federation
Implementing agency: Swiss Federal Department for Foreign Affairs; International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

Budget information (CHF million): 7
Year(s): 2021-25
Purpose code: 15190

### Background information

Mobility between Central Asia towards the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan is one of the largest and most important labour migration corridors in the world. For the Central Asia countries of origin, labour migration is crucial for poverty reduction and livelihood strategy. Labour mobility in the region also plays a key role for countries of destination, e.g. for the Russian Federation where Central Asian migrants fill labour market gaps. Given free labour mobility among Eurasian Economic Union Member States, the vast majority of migration occurs in an unstructured manner. This entails challenges for countries of both origin and destination, and for prospective migrants as well as for employers: a lack of skills matching and a resulting low productivity of employees, little or no investments in the upskilling of migrants, exploitative practices due to informality, and enhanced risks of the migrants' enrolment by extremist groups. These can in turn limit the positive development impact of remittances on poverty reduction and transfer of skills to the countries of origin.

### Objective and concrete activities

The objective of this programme is to enhance the governance of labour mobility in the corridor for the benefit of Central Asian migrant workers and their families, as well as for countries of origin more broadly (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan). Concrete activities include:

- Promoting better access to skills and vocational training and recruitment agencies in countries of origin; improving services to respond to labour market needs in the countries of destination (Russian Federation and Kazakhstan) and to the needs and priorities of prospective migrant workers;
- Providing pre-departure orientation and information for prospective migrant workers;
- Engaging with the private sector of the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan on recruitment practices and managed ethical labour migration programmes in Central Asia;
- Engaging in coordination mechanisms and dialogue platforms at the regional and national levels to inform discussions and lead to the improvement of relevant labour normative frameworks and policies;
- Working with banks and money transfer operators to develop and promote financial products tailored to the needs of migrants and their family.

### Results

This programme results in improved job opportunities in the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan, enhancing and upholding labour rights for Central Asia workers, leveraging workers' migration experience (including skills and remittances) and improve financial inclusion as well as livelihoods (poverty reduction).

### Assessment of the project's ODA eligibility

**This programme is deemed partially ODA-eligible.** Activities fostering labour mobility from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to an ODA-eligible country (Kazakhstan) are eligible. See Criterion 7. Regarding labour mobility to the Russian Federation, a non ODA-eligible country, activities do not qualify as ODA given the programme's focus on filling labour market gaps in the Russian Federation and the support to the integration of migrants (the promotion of permanent integration of migrants into the economy and society of non-ODA eligible host countries is not ODA-eligible).

## *CASE 21: IOM BRITISH COLUMBIA-MEXICO ETHICAL RECRUITMENT PROJECT*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Canada
Recipient country: Mexico
Implementing agency: International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Budget information (CAD million): 0.123
Year(s): 2020-22
Purpose code: 15190

**Background information**
In this project, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) provided funding to IOM to explore how to best work with Mexico to lay the foundations to establish an ethical recruitment corridor with a Canadian province, the Province of British Columbia (BC) ultimately being selected for this initiative. The proposed corridor would facilitate safe, regular and orderly migration, and the ethical recruitment of migrant workers from Mexico to British Columbia.

**Objectives and concrete activities**
**Objective:** The objective of this project is for IOM to lay the foundations to establish an ethical recruitment corridor, under the IOM's International Recruitment Integrity Systems, linking certified labour recruiters in Mexico with employers in British Columbia, and focusing on promoting migrants' rights and ethical recruitment to reduce fraudulent recruitment practices.
Activities included government meetings and consultations between British Columbia and Mexico; government meetings and consultations in Mexico and in British Columbia regarding the ethical recruitment corridor to Mexico; consultations with employers in British Columbia regarding the ethical recruitment corridor to Mexico; consultations with private recruitment agencies in Mexico; consultations with civil society in Mexico and British Columbia; two-day technical workshop with provincial and federal regulators from Canada and Mexico.

**Results**
The project activities also contributed with tangible practical inputs to development of the global guidance and practical tools to strengthen frameworks for ethical recruitment, planned under related global projects implemented by IOM.

**Project results include:**
- Deepened awareness and capacity of BC and Mexican governments to effectively address cross-section of issues related to international ethical recruitment;
- Raised civil society awareness in BC and Mexico on international recruitment and related risks to migrant workers;
- Established contact with a group of employers in BC who are committed to ethical recruitment;
- Built awareness and capacity of recruiters in Mexico on ethical international recruitment;
- Developed relationships between recruiters in Mexico and employers in British Columbia.
- Improved cooperation between BC, Mexico and stakeholders.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This programme is deemed non ODA-eligible.** The project does not intend to increase the number of workers from Mexico recruited in Canada and it primarily supports Mexican citizens as they will benefit from an ethical recruitment system and will not be subject to unscrupulous employers or recruiters, or abuses. However, according to Criterion 7, to qualify as ODA, the focus should be on benefits brought to the developing countries themselves, not just their citizens, through e.g. skills transfers to Mexico. In addition, for eligible programmes of labour mobility to the provider country, the migrants' stay in the provider country needs to be time-limited (up to a maximum term of 4 years) and, should it have a duration longer than twelve months, respond to the recipient country's request and include a clear return cycle of migrants. For longer project duration, components carried out in the developing country could still be considered ODA-eligible. The British Columbia-Mexico labour mobility project does not meet these requirements. Instead, would the activity aim to foster labour mobility between ODA-eligible countries, it could be considered eligible (see ODA-eligible components of case 19).

# ENGAGEMENT WITH DIASPORA

## *CASE 22: LINK UP! SERBIA II*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Austria
Recipient country: Serbia
Implementing agency: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

Budget Information (EUR million): 1.7
Year(s): 2019-2022
Purpose code: 25010

**Background information**

The Republic of Serbia is an EU candidate country with prospects of becoming an EU Member State by 2025. The EC progress report 'Serbia 2018 Report' assessed Serbia to be moderately prepared in developing a functioning market economy, specifying challenges relating to unpredictable business environment, SMEs' difficult and costly access to finance, unpredictable para-fiscal charges as well as internationalization of companies. Increasing investments and private sector growth is thus a declared objective of Serbia's political leaders. This project builds on the fact that diaspora can serve as an EU bridge between Western Balkans SME business culture and EU or even influence new consumption behaviours. Diasporans are in a unique position to become successful market leaders because of access to information, market intelligence throughout EU and Serbia, and their international expertise.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The overall goal is to foster transnational entrepreneurial activities with and through the Serb diaspora in Austria, Germany and Switzerland ("DACH" countries) by facilitating access to knowledge, networks, and financial resources. Specific objectives and concrete intervention measures to achieve them include:

1) Strengthen local competitiveness (targeting private sector SMEs) and capacities (targeting public and private stakeholders and DACH diaspora) for co-operating with diaspora in DACH markets.
   - Intervention measures 1.1: mentoring local SMEs for internationalization and early-stage diaspora entrepreneurs for transnational entrepreneurship towards the Serbian market.
   - Intervention measures 1.2: providing information and program support to SMEs and diaspora.
2) Expanded business engagement between markets (including introduction of new business operations by key stakeholders and events organised in Serbia and DACH states)
   - Intervention measures 2.1: setting up an online platform with service support sections and information sections for SMEs.
   - Intervention measures 2.2: pilot new business operations and business events for face-to-face connections, trust development, and new business practice.

**Results**

255 empowered SMEs from Serbia; 2 000 entrepreneurs reached by information of interest and support for engaging diaspora and DACH markets;

- 150 empowered individuals or SMEs run by persons from vulnerable groups from Serbia;
- 110 included diaspora entrepreneurs and 35 mentors; 1 000 business diasporans reached by information of interest and support for engaging Serbia.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The primary objective of the project is to support local development in Serbia through investments of the diaspora in DACH countries: Serbian SMEs are supported financially, and the internationalisation process is facilitated through mentoring, transfer of know-how and co-operation with the Serbian diaspora. The project also pursues domestic migration interest to some extent, as denoted by the focus of the technical assistance component on emigration regions in Serbia (see the project's webpage at https://linkupserbia.icmpd.org/en/). As indicated in Principle 3, benefits to the provider country do not preclude ODA eligibility and, as the activities capitalise on diaspora as a means to primarily reach a developmental objective, they can be considered ODA-eligible in line with Criterion 8.

## *CASE 23: INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS TO ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT OF REMITTANCES*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Switzerland
Recipient country: Senegal, Ethiopia, Myanmar, Nepal, Bangladesh
Implementing agency: UNCDF

Budget Information (CHF million): 7.6
Year(s): 2019-2023

Multiple purpose codes: 24040:20|15190:30|24050:50

### Background information

More than 280 million people are migrants. Most come from countries in the Global South and migrate to other countries in the South. Many of them send money back home (remittances). Around USD 700 billion USD in remittances are sent every year. The majority goes to low- and middle-income countries. These payments are important not only for individual families, but also for the countries of origin: they contribute to economic stability and to sustainable development. Remittances' potential positive impact on sustainable development is not yet fully exploited. This is primarily due to (i) high transfer costs, (ii) large amounts of informal transfers that bypass the formal financial system, and especially (iii) the fact that migrants and their families are underserved in terms of financial inclusion and economic integration products.

### Objectives and concrete activities

The overall goal of the programme with UNCDF is to improve the financial resilience and economic inclusion of migrants and their families, through low-cost digital remittance services and remittance-linked financial products with a view to contributing to the sustainable development of countries of origin in the Global South.

- Customer Outcome: Migrants and their families have access to low-cost digital remittance services and financial products and have the required financial literacy to meaningfully use these services.
- Stakeholder Outcome: Remittance and financial service providers apply new business models and use new delivery channels to serve migrants and their families as customer segment, and benefit from diversified revenues from cross-selling opportunity and improved sustainability.
- Sector Outcome: Reduction in remittance transaction costs in selected corridors, and increased flow of remittances.

5 pilot countries are targeted: Ethiopia, Senegal, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar

### Results

The programme is currently being implemented. Preliminary results are:

- 9 Private sector partners are supported to develop migrant-centric and gender-responsive remittance products and services.
- 4 Public sector stakeholders (incl. Central Banks) supported in domestic and cross-border remittance policy framework development.
- 186 000 (35% women) total number of customers reached.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** It facilitates remittance transfers and the larger financial inclusion of migrants and their families, thereby contributing to their resilience and economic inclusion and hence to the sustainable development of migrants' countries of origin, particularly Ethiopia, Senegal, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar. Such engagement with diaspora, for the primary benefit of the origin countries, is eligible as per Criterion 8.

## *CASE 24: TAKE A CHANCE IN KOSOVO*

**Non ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Switzerland
Recipient country: Kosovo
Implementing agency: Albinfo.ch

Budget Information (CHF million): 0.1
Year(s): 2020-2021
Purpose code: 15190

### Background information

Switzerland concluded a migration partnership with Kosovo in 2010. In this framework, Switzerland decided to support a series of video portraits made by albinfo.ch interviewing twelve people from the diaspora who had invested in Kosovo and eight people who had left or had had to leave Kosovo and had subsequently returned to Kosovo and successfully built something there. The project is financed and monitored by the State Secretariat for Migration and not from the Swiss international co-operation budget lines.

### Objective and concrete activities

This project is intended to provide a new perspective on socio-economic opportunities in Kosovo, and to challenge the widespread belief in Kosovo that a good life is only possible abroad. It is in the interest of the State Secretariat for Migration to show potential opportunities on the ground in Kosovo as an alternative to irregular migration.
The output of the project is four video portraits of people who have been successful in Kosovo without ever emigrating. Each portrait is 10-12 minutes long, in Albanian with subtitles in German and French. The videos are intended to be thought provoking and to challenge the common belief that one can only live a good life outside one's own country. Albinfo.ch aims to create a new perspective on Kosovo's socio-economic potential.
In total, three series of several video portraits will have been filmed by albinfo.ch. As a conclusion, an event in Kosovo is planned to launch a broad discussion on the various opportunities in Kosovo. Through partnerships with civil society in different regions, the discussion will also take place outside the cities and the videos will be shown in local cinemas and schools. These various activities in Kosovo, combined with the publication of the videos on albinfo.ch and on the corresponding Facebook page with 140 000 subscribers, will achieve a good level of awareness.

### Results

After the recording of the video portraits, the implementing partner will carry out a series of outreach activities in Kosovo to reach a wider audience:

- Show the portraits in schools and local cinemas throughout Kosovo;
- Workshop with journalists from Switzerland and Kosovo to discuss amongst others questions on how media influences the decision of young people to leave Kosovo or to stay in the country;
- Panel discussion with youth representatives in which the participants will debate about questions on how the youth sees its future in the country and what it considers as crucial to stay in Kosovo instead of leaving;
- Event with entrepreneurs from Switzerland and Kosovo with the aim to develop joint project ideas.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed non ODA-eligible**. With an objective to disincentivise migration, the activity is assessed to first and foremost respond to the provider's domestic migration interest, not to Kosovo and prospective migrants. It thus does not comply with the requirements for ODA eligibility stipulated under Principle 3 (clear rationale for ODA eligibility) and Criterion 8.

## *CASE 25: INITIATIVES FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OF EGYPT THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF EGYPTIANS ABROAD (ILDEA)*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Italy
Recipient country: Egypt
Implementing agency: International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

Budget Information (EUR million): 0.5
Year(s): 2019-2021
Purpose code: 16010 Social / welfare services

### Background information

Egypt's diaspora counts more than 10 million expatriates around the world, it is therefore paramount to reduce barriers to expatriates' engagement and actively involve the Egyptian diaspora in the development plans of the country in order to harness their knowledge, networks and expertise. Within Europe, Italy is the main country of destination of Egyptians and the main source country of remittances to Egypt.

### Objectives and concrete activities

The overall objective of the project is to support the Egyptian Government (GoE) to consolidate efforts in engaging Egyptian expatriates in the development of the country. This is achieved by developing a strategic approach to dialogue and engagement with Egyptian expatriates in the context of a new policy framework, as well as by enhancing the national capacities for promoting investment and trade opportunities to/with Egypt through the engagement of Egyptian expatriate communities.
Main activities: i) organising workshops and conferences for relevant stakeholders to discuss the policy, strategy and action plan on diaspora engagement; ii) supporting skills enhancement for GoE officials on trade facilitation, investment promotion and expatriate engagement; iii) support the Egyptian Ministry for Egyptian Expatriates to develop a communication strategy/plan with expatriates; iv) organising workshops on mobilising remittances towards socio-economic and human development in Egypt; v) engaging Egyptian expatriate communities in Italy in the implementation of income-generating and employment promotion projects in Upper Egypt.

### Results

The first National Strategy for Expatriates Engagement in Egypt was developed through an inclusive and participatory process and the involvement of a diversified group of public and private stakeholders.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The project aims at strengthening the positive impact that the Egyptian diaspora community can have on Egypt's development and responds to a primary developmental objective. The support to the Egyptian Government in defining its strategic approach to diaspora engagement constitutes a direct support to a developing country for a developmental purpose. The engagement with Egyptian diaspora in Italy pursues the objective to involve diaspora in income-generating and employment promotion activities in Egypt with a clear developmental focus and is also eligible as per Criterion 8.

## *CASE 26: STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF VENEZUELAN DIÁSPORA ORANISATIONS TO IMPROVE THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO VENEZUELAN MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Spain
Recipient country: Colombia, Ecuador and Peru
Implementing agency: IOM

Budget Information (EUR million): 0.2
Year(s): 2020 and 2021
Purpose code: 15150

**Background information**

This is a component within a larger programme in 2020 and 2021 supporting IOM's work in the Venezuelan situation, including the migration crisis and the internal context. A large number of Venezuelan diaspora organisations have been created in other countries in the region, in particular in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, but many of these entities lack the capacity to carry out solid support programmes for the most vulnerable migrant groups.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The objective of this component is to provide support to Venezuelan diaspora civil society organisations through training of managers in project management, a contest to present examples of good practices, financing of a region-wide federation of diaspora organisations and assistance through local community centres.

**Results**

A training programme was carried out for managers in diaspora organisations with academic support by a regional programme, FLACSO: this will enable these organisations to seek grant funding and manage projects in a more professional manner, improving services to migrants.

Region-wide contest received a large number of proposals and seven were selected and provided resources to continue their efforts. This provided visibility about this sector and its relevance within the overall response to the migration crisis.

Financial assistance was provided to the 2021 regional conference of the Association of Venezuelan migrant organisations in Bogota, Colombia

**ODA-eligibility assessment.**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** It supports Venezuelan diaspora CSOs in ODA-eligible countries (Peru, Colombia and Ecuador) to better respond to the migration crisis. It pursues a main development objective and complies with Principle 1. (If support to diaspora was provided in Spain, Criterion 8 would apply.)

## *CASE 27: PROTECTING AND CREATING JOBS: A DIASPORA-LED RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY AND SYSTEMIC OBSTACLES OF SMES GROWTH*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Switzerland
Recipient country: Benin, Ghana, Senegal, Nigeria
Implementing agency: AFFORD

Budget Information (CHF million): 1.7
Year(s): 2021 - 2025
Purpose code: 16020:20|32130:30|15190:50

**Background information**

The programme is oriented around the three components of the Global Programme for Migration and Development (GPMD) framework (2022-2025): 1) Safe Labour Migration 2) Inclusion and Social Cohesion and 3) Contribution of migrants to the sustainable development of their countries of origin. It will contribute to the socio-economic development in West Africa promoting decent employment conditions and the promotion of migrant workers' rights, the inclusion of migrants in urban areas of host countries and the contribution of migrants to the sustainable development of countries of origin through the transfer of remittances and expertise and the promotion of entrepreneurship.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

AFFORD project falls under component 3. The main objective is to contribute to job protection and job creation, economic recovery and long-term resilience following the COVID-19 emergency in Benin, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal, as a result of diaspora-led intervention and channeling the assets of the diaspora (skills, investment and innovation) into local economies. Specific objectives include:

- Objective 1: Support SMEs to protect the existing and create new jobs in strategic sectors that contribute to long – term development, social impact and resilience, through access to financing.
- Objective 2: Strengthen African networks and knowledge and enable diaspora and local entrepreneurs to take advantage of economic and job opportunities in Africa.
- Objective 3: Advocate to unlock the potential of SMEs, address selected barriers to diaspora investment and youth employability, and attract investment to SMEs and local economies.
- Objective 4: Support innovative diaspora initiatives in order to channel and maximise the impact of diaspora assets in the target countries.
- Objective 5: Enhance, document, and communicate the impact and build operational excellence and common standards across the 5 countries (Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and the UK).

**Results**

Since early 2020, the GPMD has been supporting AFFORD through a pilot project in Benin. Following the positive results, the project has been expanded to three new countries: Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal. Results from the pilot phase in Benin:

- Successfully mapped Beninois diaspora in Africa and Europe, and focalised analysis of Beninois diaspora entrepreneurs in Lagos, Nigeria.
- Conducted an analysis on the characteristics of Beninois diaspora in Africa and Europe.
- Resumed diaspora and investment sessions by the Benin Embassy in France.
- Conducted financial instruments analysis to maximise impact of diaspora-led investment and remittances. The project is exploring the use of loans including a remittance guarantee loan scheme.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** AFFORD's approach mobilises the financial, intellectual and political assets of the diaspora ODA and non ODA-eligible countries and channels them to stimulate entrepreneurship, economic growth, social development and job creation in the global South. Given the activity's clear developmental focus on the countries of origin, it is assessed to comply with the conditions for ODA eligibility under Criterion 8.

## *CASE 28: REMITTANCES, INVESTMENT AND MIGRANTS' ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN CENTRAL ASIA (REMIT)*

**ODA-eligible**

| | |
|---|---|
| Provider country: European Commission – DG INTPA | Budget Information (EUR million): 6 |
| Recipient country: Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan | Year(s): 2023-2027 |
| Implementing agency: IFAD | Purpose code: 24050 |

**Background information**

The economic integration and resilience of Central Asian migrants has been put at test by the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine, the changing migration patterns in the region and the COVID-19 pandemic. The negative impact on income stability, job opportunities and remittance flows requires immediate support to: (i) enable cost-effective, fast and safe transfers in new remittance corridors and new channels; (ii) maximize the impact of these flows; and (iii) strengthen the resilience of migrants, returnees and their families during the crisis and prepare a path towards recovery.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

The overall objective of this Action is to promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances, including their productive use for sustainable development and well-being of migrant workers' families in Central Asia. The specific objectives of this action are to:

1. Enhance the enabling environment of digital remittance markets in Central Asian countries to also prepare to respond to rapid-changing migration conditions and industry leads.
2. To increase access to formal digital remittances and expand financial inclusion of migrants, remittance families and returnees, with a focus on women and youth in rural areas.
3. To increase the financial and economic integration of families reliant on remittances with focus on the inclusion of returnees, women, and youth.

**Results**

Contributing to specific objective 1:

- *Output 1.1* Improved availability of harmonized, timely and accurate data (at least disaggregated by sex) on remittances.
- *Output 1.2* Enhanced dialogue and co-operation on remittances between regulators, key industry actors, diaspora groups and recipients.
- *Output 1.3* Improved regulatory capacity and intra-corridor coordination of the responsible authorities.

Contributing to specific objective 2:

- *Output 2.1* Promoted innovative models, products, services, financial literacy efforts and strategic partnerships to uptake digital remittances, especially for rural households, women and youth.
- *Output 2.2* Increased number of access points delivering remittances and of remittance-linked financial services, particularly in rural areas.

Contributing to specific objective 3:

- *Output 3.1*. Increased knowledge on the efficient use of social and financial remittances.
- *Output 3.2* Improved access to local economic opportunities for remittance recipients and returnees.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** It primarily focuses on remittances cost reduction and their productive use, both having positive impact on the economic development and welfare of developing countries. The intervention provides not only short-term response to migration patterns due to the Ukraine crisis but it also contributes to longer-term sustainable development, including sustainable reintegration of returnees (Criterion 6).

## *CASE 29: MAGHRIB BELGIUM IMPULSE (MBI): SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR MOROCCANS LIVING ABROAD*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Belgium
Recipient country: Morocco
Implementing agency: Enabel, Belgian Development Agency
Budget Information (EUR million): 1.25
Year(s): 2018-2023
Purpose code: 25010

### Background information

As a country of emigration, Morocco pays special attention to Moroccans living abroad and makes significant efforts to strengthen ties with its diaspora. In this context, the Moroccan government implements a comprehensive and integrated policy in their favour, described in 'La Stratégie Nationale en faveur des Marocain(e)s Résidant à l'Etranger'. However, a lack of knowledge of the Moroccan regulatory framework and support mechanism, difficulties in identifying the right interlocutors and a lack of access to relevant information still hinder the steps taken by Moroccans living abroad who wish to invest in Morocco. The MBI project has been developed to support the Moroccan Government in the implementation of the National Strategy for Moroccans living abroad.

### Objectives and concrete activities

The general objective of this intervention is to mobilise the skills of Moroccans living in Belgium so that they can contribute to the development in Morocco.The specific objective is to support Moroccans living in Belgium in making productive investments in Morocco.
Specific activities focus on: 1) the mobilisation and individual support for Moroccans living in Belgium for the creation and marketing of their businesses in Morocco, and 2) making the Moroccans living in Belgium aware of the business opportunities in their country of origin and facilitating their efforts, in close collaboration with Belgian institutions supporting entrepreneurship.

### Results

- *Individual level*: Support to 25 « porteurs de projets », i.e. Belgo-Moroccan diaspora-led investments. The support is adapted to the different stages of business-creation, from incubation of start-ups to acceleration of already established enterprises. The support specifically included gender-sensitive approaches aimed at providing women entrepreneurs from the Belgo-Moroccan diaspora with tailor-made services. A specific support has been provided also to businesses investing in environmentally-sustainable technologies.
- *Level of the territories and communities*: Creation of 25 decent jobs in Morocco through the establishment and/or acceleration of enterprises promoting the employment of talented men and women.
- *Systemic level*: Establishment of the partnership between the Administration supporting Moroccans living abroad and the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises. The partnership aims at the standardization of services offered and procedures applied to diaspora investors and entrepreneurs creating added value and decent jobs in Morocco.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** It provides support to the Moroccan Government to implement its national strategy and focusses on skill mobilisation of Moroccans living in Belgium to contribute to the development of Morocco. The primary objective is developmental, namely to support private sector development in Morocco through investments by Belgo-Moroccan diaspora. The engagement with diaspora is a means to achieve this objective. Given the activity's clear developmental focus, it is eligible as per Criterion 8.

# OTHER SUPPORT TO MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO THEIR HOSTING COMMUNITIES

## *CASE 30: MIGRANTS, REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN VULNERABLE CONDITIONS IN COSTA RICA*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Spain/EU
Recipient country: Costa Rica
Implementing agency: Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy (MIDEPLAN)

Budget Information (EUR million): 2.3
Year(s): 2021-2024
Purpose code: N/A

**Background information**

The European Union is promoting a regional initiative to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 and address the regional impact of the Venezuelan crisis. This proposed regional action would include a combination of projects and budget support with the overall objective of mitigating the impact of COVID-19 and contributing to the long-term socio-economic resilience of vulnerable communities in the region, in particular migrants and refugees. The action will be implemented in Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela and Costa Rica.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

General Objective: Contribute to the mitigation of the impact of COVID-19 on health and favour the economic inclusion of the migrant, refugee and refugee-seeking population in vulnerable conditions.

Specific Objectives):

- Improve the beneficiaries' access of the insurance agreement of the Costa Rican Social Security Fund (CCSS), in vulnerable conditions, to comprehensive health care services.
- Promote migration regularization and linkage to the National Employment System (SNE) as a channel for access to decent employment for the migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking population in vulnerable conditions.

**Results**

- Improved access to comprehensive health care services for the population benefiting from the CCSS insurance agreement.
- Health and administrative personnel of the CCSS are sensitized to good treatment.
- Implementation of a disclosure and communication strategy intended for institutional staff and the beneficiary population.
- Development and implementation of a strategy of articulation between civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, private companies and public institutions to promote orderly access to the employment program offered by the National Employment System.
- Strengthening of the national process of identification, registration and regularization of the beneficiary population's immigration and labour status.
- Implementation of a disclosure and communication strategy intended for employers and beneficiary population about the National Employment System services, migration and labour rights and the specific procedures for the National Employment Directorate (DNE) and its Labour Migration Department.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The activity is focused on addressing long-term migration challenges by building the capacity of the Costa Rica's Government to protect the social and economic inclusion of Venezuelan migrants. This activity complies with Principles 1 and 3 given its primary focus on the promotion of economic development and welfare of a developing country. It is also well aligned with the examples of ODA-eligible activities given under Criterion 4, in particular capacity building activities that promote the establishment and implementation of processes for safe, orderly and regular migration with a focus on social and medical services.

## *CASE 31: MIGRATION AND HEALTH DURING COVID-19 IN MEXICO*

**ODA-eligible**

| | |
|---|---|
| Provider country: Spain | Budget Information (EUR million) : 0.84 (Spanish contribution) |
| Recipient country: Mexico | Year(s):2020 |
| Implementing agency: Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) | Purpose code: N/A |

**Background information**

As of 2018, the migratory flows entering Mexico through the southern border turned to massive groups of migrants that contributed to the increase in demands on the health system, exceeding its capacities, which increased vulnerability and threatened the human security of these populations. The increase in the number of forced returnees across the northern border aggravated the problem. Vulnerability increased in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly among women, girls and boys, further stressing their mental health and increasing their sense of helplessness.

**Objectives and concrete activities**

Strengthening health protection capacity and access to health services for migrants, forced returnees and asylum seekers in the context of the COVID-19 emergency.

- Support through technical guidance, data analysis, methodological frameworks, guidelines and training to health authorities to improve access to health services for migrants and asylum seekers.
- Support through the establishment of common work instances and the organisation of spaces for dialogue and exchange of information and experiences, the coordination between the Ministry of Health and other health service providers.
- Improve through the establishment of agreements between government institutions, UN agencies and NGOs involved, the development and implementation of operational mechanisms in the field to improve coordination among the actors involved in supporting health actions for migrants, forced returnees and asylum seekers.

**Results**

Implemented public health interventions and improved access to health services, including psychosocial care services during the emergency, for the migrant population, forced returnees and asylum seekers.

**ODA-eligibility assessment**

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The activity is focused on protecting basic health needs of migrants, forced returnees and asylum seekers by building the capacity of key stakeholders in the healthcare sector in Mexico. This activity complies with Principles 1 and 3 given its primary focus on the promotion of economic development and welfare of a developing country. It is also well aligned with the examples of ODA-eligible activities given under Criterion 4, in particular capacity building activities that promote the establishment and implementation of processes for safe, orderly and regular migration with a focus on human security and medical services or medical assistance to migrants.

## *CASE 32: CHILD PROTECTION 2019-2020*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Sweden
Recipient country: Bangladesh
Implementing agency: Save the Children Sweden (SCS)

Budget Information (USD million): 5.3
Year(s): 2019-2020
Purpose code: 15190

### Background information

Save the Children Sweden (SCS) has submitted a funding proposal for the project "Strengthening Resilience through Child-centred Programming". Under this project, Sweden will support the expansion of child protection mechanisms in Rohingya camps and host communities in Cox´s Bazar.

### Objectives and concrete activities

Overall objective: Children affected by the Rohingya Refugee crisis are protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and other forms of violence through integrated multi-sector preventative and remedial interventions based on the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and the Sphere Standards.

### Results

Some examples of results relate to reduced risks and increased protective factors at community level, 36 Community-Based Child Protection Committees (CBCPCs) (27 camps; 9 host communities) were supported, with the capacity of the committees developed to increase identification and response to child protection concerns within their communities with referrals to government and NGO services. As a result, 366 children (170 girls; 196 boys) were identified and referred by CBCPCs to a case management team. According to the project evaluation, 100% of CBCPC members felt confident to conduct community awareness-raising activities, including on child marriage, child labour, violence against children, trafficking and other child protection issues.)

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The intervention is designed to prevent and respond to violations of children´s rights and hence has a clear primary developmental goal (Principle 1). The main motivation of the activity is to facilitate the transition from humanitarian relief actions to early recovery development interventions in the Rohingya protracted crisis.

## *CASE 33: STRENGTHENED RESPONSE TO VENEZUELAN MIGRATION CRISIS IN PERU*

**ODA-eligible**

Provider country: Japan
Recipient country: Republic of Peru
Implementing agency: International Organisation for Migrants
Budget Information (USD million): 2.7
Year(s): the 2020 fiscal year
Purpose code: 15136

### Background information

The political, human rights and socio-economic situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela have led to the outflow of over 5.1 million Venezuelans into neighbouring countries and beyond. Peru is the second largest country of arrival and as of September 2020, hosts 1.04 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela.

### Objectives and concrete activities

This project aims to strengthen the capacity of the Peruvian government regarding humanitarian assistance to reduce the suffering and vulnerability, and to support durable solution initiatives, as well as facilitate the integration and transition to community stabilisation. The project will benefit both the vulnerable refugees and migrants from Venezuela and host communities, within the pandemic context.
This project will be achieved through the following components:

1. Provide coordinated humanitarian assistance
2. Improve social Infrastructure at the local level
3. Integration, through productive income generation to achieve durable solutions

### Results

1. Refugees and migrants from Venezuela (women, men, girls and boys) report improved access to basic needs services.
2. National and local Governments have improved response capacities to provide assistance and services to refugees and migrants from Venezuela.
3. Livelihoods and durable solutions for refugees and migrants from Venezuela are enhanced.

### ODA-eligibility assessment

**This activity is deemed ODA-eligible.** The activity is focused on supporting migrants and refugees from Venezuela (humanitarian assistance, integration) as well as their host communities in Peru (improved response to provide assistance). This activity complies with Principles 1 and 3 given its primary focus on the promotion of economic development and welfare of developing countries.



## Annex. Principles and criteria for clarifying the ODA eligibility of migration-related activities (see paragraphs 145 and 146 of the Reporting Directives)

In order to facilitate the assessment of ODA eligibility of activities in the field of migration, specific principles and criteria are defined below.

***Overarching principles to guide ODA reporting on migration-related activities***[3]

***Preamble:*** *Migration is a global phenomenon connecting different regions and/or countries. From an ODA-eligibility perspective, the challenge in the field of migration is that it is not always clear whether a programme primarily aims to promote development or address domestic concerns in provider countries. Indeed, while many development co-operation activities related to migration focus on development objectives, others appear to pursue development and provider countries' domestic objectives at the same time. Furthermore, it is important to note that compatibility with international agreements or norms is not, in itself, sufficient to make a programme ODA-eligible. Nor does the fact that a programme may not be ODA-eligible imply that it is illegitimate. The principles below aim to guide ODA reporting in these situations with the goal of preserving the integrity of ODA.*

**Principle 1**. As for all ODA, the reporting of migration-related activities is guided by the general rule that the main objective of ODA is the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries. When assessing the ODA eligibility of activities in the field of migration, the primary purpose must therefore be considered.

**Principle 2**. There should be no diversion of ODA towards providers' immediate interests on migration at the expense of long-term sustainable development. When different ministries (e.g. migration and development) are involved in the programming of migration-related activities, in order to avoid the diversion of ODA resources, the authorities responsible for reporting ODA figures need to verify the primary objective of the programmes concerned.

**Principle 3**. While benefits to provider countries do not preclude ODA eligibility, development co-operation should not be used as a vehicle to promote the provider's domestic migration agenda. The promotion of economic development and welfare of a developing country must come before any other goals.[42] It is members' responsibility to present a clear rationale for ODA eligibility.

**Principle 4.** Migration-related activities included in ODA should comply with development, humanitarian and human rights objectives and principles, including the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. They should generally be aligned with partner countries' own priorities and their overall development strategy. Activities that neglect the rights of forcibly displaced persons and migrants do not qualify as ODA.

**Principle 5**. Activities with the main benefit to ODA-eligible countries or ODA-eligible organisations that either promote safe and regular pathways for migration or that address irregular and unsafe migration, not promoting a provider country's domestic migration agenda, and that protect people's lives and human rights, qualify as ODA.[5]

**Principle 6**. Activities that intercept and return migrants with the main objective to restrict migration to provider countries are excluded from ODA.

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[3] Also refer to the ODA eligibility rules on in-donor refugee costs and peace and security (sections 6 and 8 above). Some aspects of the ODA-eligibility of migration-related activities were defined in the context of elaborating the purpose code "Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility". See DCD/DAC/STAT(2018)23/REV3.

[4] A primary goal can be identified as being fundamental in the design and expected impact of the activity and which is an explicit goal of the activity. It may be selected by answering the question: "Would the activity have been undertaken without this goal?" In case of doubt on the primary goal (domestic migration interest *vs* developmental goal) of a given activity, members are advised to consult the Secretariat or they should not report it as ODA.

[5] The rules on in-donor refugee costs mention relevant exclusions in this context.

***Criteria for assessing the ODA eligibility of activities in the field of migration***

When reporting to the Creditor Reporting System, migration-related activities should be clearly described with the necessary details, as the project descriptions are essential for verifying the ODA eligibility of migration-related expenditures. Special care has to be taken to describe the expected outcomes of migration-related activities that involve co-operation with the police or the military. As for all ODA reporting, the Secretariat has a role in verifying the ODA eligibility and, in case of doubt, can ask providers concerned for more information.

**Criterion 1.** Projects which are not in line with applicable international law and applicable international frameworks for migrants and refugees, such as the Global Compact for Migration and Global Compact on Refugees (as relevant), as well as the SDGs, are not eligible.

**Criterion 2**. Development co-operation programmes can be part of a broader policy dialogue with the beneficiary country, including in the field of migration. Development funds might e.g. make the developing country more willing to co-operate in the return and readmission of rejected asylum seekers and irregular migrants. However, if the delivery of funds within an activity is subject to specific conditions on migration outcomes, the funds are not reportable as ODA unless it can be demonstrated that the conditions imposed primarily contribute to the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries, and not primarily to the donor's domestic migration concerns.[6][7]

**Criterion 3.** To help identify the main objective – and hence facilitate the ODA-eligibility assessment – of projects with mutual benefits to the provider and recipient countries, the expected development-enhancing results of the interventions as well as the projects' objectives and respective results indicators should be considered. They can inform of the extent to which the projects pursue domestic migration interests. The overall framework and narrative at programme level that underpins the project also needs to be verified and possibly checked in light of specific questions to confirm eligibility. Examples of questions[8]:

- Does the narrative make specific reference to the provider country's domestic migration interests, "migratory pressures" or the "refugee crisis"? (To what extent? *e.g.* principally, exclusively?)
- Does the intervention aim to restrict migration? (Any form of migration? Through coercive measures?)
- Does the intervention provide only a short-term response to temporary migration patterns and temporary interests with no ambition to contribute to sustainable development?

**Criterion 4.** Addressing irregular migration entails co-operation on border management between provider countries and developing countries for a mutual benefit. However, the primary motivation of this co-operation can be unclear. The boundary between ODA and non ODA-eligible activities in the field of border management is determined based on their primary objective (see also Principle 3).[9]

[6] It is the obligation of members to describe the characteristics of their aid for these activities in their CRS reporting, including the conditions imposed, and share an ODA-eligibility assessment upon request by the Secretariat.

[7] In relation to criterion 2 on conditionality, members commit to include in the Casebook examples – ODA and non-ODA – which illustrate the treatment of activities subject to conditions relative to the future fulfilment of readmission agreements or other specific migration or border measures.

[8] A positive reply to one of these questions should prompt further scrutiny of the activity's main objective, to confirm its ODA eligibility.

[9] Specific exclusions apply to training of partner country military personnel. It is generally not eligible, including in non-military matters, except for training, under civilian oversight and with a clear developmental purpose for the benefit of civilians, in a limited number of areas, see paragraph 122 of the Reporting Directives.

- Types of ODA-eligible activities:
  - Civilian activities that build the capacity of developing countries to improve the administration of measures related to the movement of persons and goods (strategy and policy development as well as legal and judicial development, including the organisation of border management systems) when the main objective is the promotion of economic development and welfare of developing countries, in particular:
    - Activities to adopt global best practices for good governance (e.g. identity management, document verification, fight against corruption).
    - Activities to protect migrants' human rights.
    - Activities that promote the establishment and implementation of procedures and processes for safe, orderly and regular migration in the best interest of migrants and their well-being (activities with a focus on making mobility safer, human security, awareness campaigns, social and medical services, provision of safety and/or humanitarian or medical assistance to migrants).
  - Capacity building activities that deter, prevent and fight migrant smuggling or trafficking in human beings when aimed at protecting migrants against abuses.
  - Collaboration/capacity-building between provider and developing country in the areas listed above.
  - Rescue of migrants when it is the main purpose of the operation. Only additional costs related to the operation may be counted.[10]

- Specific exclusions from ODA:
  - Activities that support developing or developed countries' border authorities with the main objective to restrict migration to the provider country.
  - Border control projects i.e. border checks and border surveillance activities for the purpose of constraining migration (e.g. construction of a wall, installation of barbed wire, other border control projects where the main objective is to intercept and return migrants) or that are directly related to army or lethal action of security forces, or that entail military type border and territorial surveillance such as armed drones or kinetic patrolling.
  - Training for border guards and building the capacity of border patrols administration, except in support of ODA-eligible types of activities listed above.

**Criterion 5.** Assistance to forced returns is excluded from ODA. For other returns, the eligibility depends on the country of departure (see Figure 1):

- Assistance to migrants for their safe, dignified, informed and voluntary return to their country of origin is eligible in the case of returns from another developing country.
- For costs of return from provider countries, as well as expenditures for return and reintegration incurred in provider countries (pre-departure assistance), the rules on in-donor refugee costs apply (Reporting Directives, paragraph 108 onwards).

**Criterion 6.** Sustainable reintegration programmes[11] qualify as ODA if they primarily focus on the economic development and welfare of developing countries. Reintegration activities undertaken in countries of origin are in principle ODA-eligible irrespective of the status of returnees (forced or

[10] To determine the eligibility of rescue-at-sea, the main purpose of the maritime activity involved needs to be considered. If the main purpose for official vessels to patrol the waters is protecting borders, expenses incurred for rescue-at-sea should not be counted as ODA, as this is only a secondary activity (which is in any case a duty to coastal states). If the main purpose of the patrol is to identify potential needs for rescuing refugees at sea, additional costs may be counted as ODA. See the Reporting Directives, Annex 18, paragraph 31.
The concept of "additional costs" is explained in the Directives, paragraph 122. The rationale for not counting the regular costs of the activity in ODA is to acknowledge that the raison d'être and thus the primary objective of coast guards is not rescue-at-sea. In this context, only additional or "extra" costs associated with the ODA-eligible task are reportable as ODA.

[11] See the IOM overarching, programming and measurement standards for integrated, multidimensional and sustainable reintegration programmes.

voluntary). Reintegration support that exclusively targets returnees from the provider country may be considered eligible only if it is demonstrated that it enables sustainable reintegration and does not primarily aim to address the donor's domestic migration concerns.[12] (See Figure 1.)

**Criterion 7.** Activities that focus on giving access to decent labour opportunities (Decent Work Agenda), protecting the rights of migrants, preventing abuse and exploitation or aiming to improve migrants' overall labour situation in ODA-eligible countries are ODA-eligible.
Activities fostering labour mobility from ODA-eligible countries to non-ODA eligible countries can also be eligible, where the primary purpose is to benefit developing countries (migrants' countries of origin)[13][14].
This can be demonstrated through, for example, a focus on skills transfers to the developing country of origin, or on upskilling of migrants in line with clearly identified skill gaps in the developing country's labour market. Activities intended to primarily fill labour market gaps in the non-ODA eligible country are not eligible.
Costs incurred in the provider country for these labour mobility programmes beyond 12 months of stay of migrants should be excluded. In the case of programmes of a longer duration and for a maximum term of 48 months, costs may be considered ODA-eligible if and only if the programme responds to a recipient country's request and includes a clear return cycle of migrants.
Labour mobility activities that promote the permanent integration of (potential) migrants into the economy and society of non-ODA eligible host countries are not ODA-eligible.[15]

**Criterion 8.** Engagement with diaspora in provider countries without a clear developmental or humanitarian aim for the primary benefit of the origin country, and/or promoting the provider countries' domestic migration agenda is not eligible.

[12] In relation to criterion 6 on reintegration, members commit to include in the Casebook examples – ODA and non-ODA – which illustrate the treatment of payments or access to programmes specifically offered to individual migrants, forced returnees, rejected asylum seekers or refugees after the first twelve months as an incentive to leave the donor country.

[13] Programmes educating and protecting migrants about their rights are eligible too.

[14] Given the variety of existing contexts, a case-by-case assessment is needed to determine eligibility of activities concerned. While benefits to provider countries do not preclude ODA eligibility, the promotion of economic development and welfare of a developing country must come before any other goals (see Principle 3).

[15] Contributions to resident migrant workers in the host country should be excluded from ODA.

## Figure 1. Illustration of the rules on ODA-eligibility for return and reintegration, depending on the country in which expenditures occur

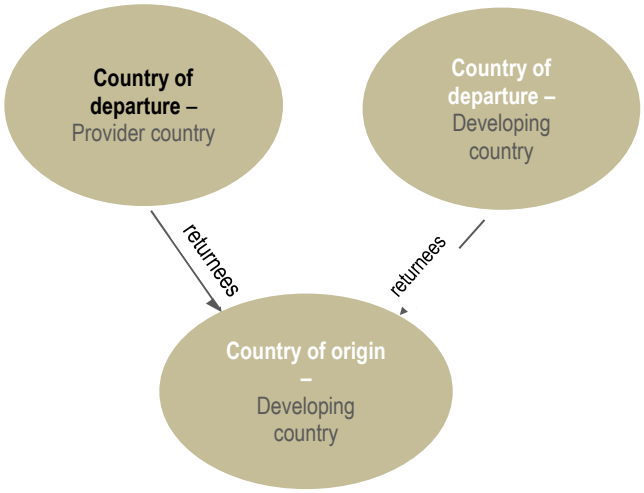
**Return from a provider country – See rules on in-donor refugee costs (recalled in criterion 5)**

Eligible

- ✓ Voluntary return of asylum seekers and refugees within the first 12 months. Including pre-departure assistance (return and reintegration assistance*).

Non-eligible

- ✗ Costs for forced returns.
- ✗ Costs for the return of rejected asylum-seekers.
- ✗ Costs for the return of migrants.
- ✗ Costs for voluntary return of refugees after the first 12 months.




**Return from a developing country (criterion 5)**

Eligible

- ✓ Assistance for voluntary returns.

Non-eligible

- ✗ Costs for forced returns.

**Sustainable reintegration programmes (criterion 6)**

Eligible

- ✓ If aimed at development of developing country, irrespective of the status of the returnees (forced or voluntary).

May be eligible

- ✓ When exclusively targets returnees from the provider country, if it is demonstrated that it enables sustainable reintegration and does not primarily aim to address the donor's domestic migration concerns.

** Reintegration support provided in a donor country in connection with the return from that donor country (i.e. pre-departure assistance) is not eligible in the case of forced returns, rejected asylum seekers, migrants, refugees after the first twelve months.*