



EUROPEAN UNION

# PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK ON MIGRATION

## ONE YEAR ON: LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

*“A lasting solution will only come if we address the root causes. With the Migration Partnership Framework, we manage mobility and migration with our partners in Africa and the neighbourhood.”*

Jean Claude Juncker,  
President of the European Commission

*“We have been working tirelessly to reduce human suffering and the loss of lives. With the Partnership Framework, we muster all EU foreign policy strands to better manage migration, to the benefit of the EU, our partners, and, most importantly, the people affected.”*

Federica Mogherini, High Representative/Vice-President  
of the European Commission

The European Union introduced the Migration Partnership Framework in June 2016, which fully embeds migration in the European Union’s foreign policy. This is also reflected in [the European Union Global Strategy for Foreign and Security Policy](#).

It provides a tailor-made and pragmatic approach combining both short- and long-term measures where specificities of each country and region, as well as the special interests of our partners are taken into account. It is based on a joined up approach and strong coordination between EU and Member States. It aims at mobilising and focusing all EU and Member States’ tools, both formal and informal, and resources to cement cooperation with partners, acting in full respect of human rights, international law and European values.

Through the Partnership Framework, the EU aims at saving lives and breaking the business model of smugglers, preventing illegal migration and enhancing cooperation on returns and readmission of irregular migrants, as well as stepping up investments in partner countries. These objectives can only be achieved by working closely together with third countries, in a win-win partnership.

### THE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK APPROACH INCLUDES A MIX OF SHORT AND LONG TERM ACTIONS

#### ➔ SHORT TERM MEASURES

- Save lives at sea and in the desert;
- Fight traffickers and smugglers’ networks, which exploit the despair of people fleeing from poverty or conflicts in search of a better future;
- Increase returns of those who do not have the right to stay in the EU; and enable migrants and refugees to return home rather than to embark on the dangerous journey towards Europe;
- Ensure legal pathways to Europe for those in need, in particular with more resettlements for refugees.

#### ➔ LONG TERM MEASURES

- Address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement by supporting partner countries in their political, social and economic development.
- Improve opportunities in countries of origin with public and private investment, fostering sustainable development and allowing people to create a future in their home country.

The EU started implementing this framework with a number of priority countries of origin and transit – Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, and Ethiopia. A year into the implementation, cooperation has also been stepped up with countries in West- and North Africa, as well as Asia, to adapt to the evolution of the situation.



*The key word of the approach is partnership. And we are in the process of developing win-win relationships with our partners to tackle the shared challenges of migration and development.*



A key component of the Partnership Framework is the use of different instruments and tools across EU-institutions and Member States, allowing us to develop a comprehensive partnership with third countries, aimed at sustainably managing migration flows.

The EU has been working intensively with a number of priority countries of origin and transit, in implementing an inclusive approach, making use of different policy elements like development aid, trade, mobility, energy, security, or digital policy, tailored to each situation depending on the country. The Partnership Framework has already yielded results, as illustrated in the first five Progress Reports, and the approach is now also being extended to partner countries in northern Africa, to help to address the challenges faced in the Central Mediterranean, and also in Asia. The EU is determined to keep migration as an integral part of its relations with third countries and intends to move towards a strategic use of available leverages.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN CONCRETELY?



Deployment of dedicated European migration liaison officers to priority countries of origin and transit.



Increased support to host and transit countries through existing Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions and operations, including on border management, enhancing capacities of the local security forces and in fighting traffickers and smugglers.



More flexible use of existing financial tools such as the Emergency Trust Fund for Africa to tackle the root causes of migration, support refugee populations and reduce dangerous journeys.



Strengthened EU agency involvement in partner countries (European Border and Coast Guard Agency, EUROPOL).



Development of innovative IT solutions to better manage migration and contribute to good governance and development (monitoring of flows, registry of population).



The swift operationalisation of an ambitious European External Investment Plan (EIP) to support investments in partner countries in Africa and the European Neighbourhood.

## FUNDING



### ➔ MEASURES ALREADY IN PLACE

- The resources allocated to the EU Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa amount to approximately **€2.9 billion**, with around **€2.7 billion** from EU Funds and **€217.7 million** from EU Member States and other partners. Its reach has been expanded to include Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana. The bulk of its resources are dedicated to the creation of jobs and Economic Development, especially for young people and women in local communities, with a focus on vocational training and the creation of micro- and small enterprises. The pace of implementation of programmes has accelerated with 169 contracts signed for a total amount of over **€1.2 billion**.

### ➔ LONG TERM MEASURES

- With an input of **€4.1 billion** from the EU budget and the European Development Fund, the External Investment Plan (EIP) will mobilise up to **€44 billion** of investments. If Member States and other partners match the EU's contribution, the total amount could reach **€88 billion**.
- Total aid flows from the EU and its Member States to the five key priority countries (Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal) recently averaged **€4.4 billion** per year.

**Including the funding already used, this would make available nearly €8 billion over the period 2016-2020 to support partner countries, on the basis of a joint effort from the EU and its Member States to closely coordinate development assistance.**

**The Commission presented on 6 September the Fifth Progress Report of the Partnership Framework. Collective work is continuing to bear fruit and is resulting in tangible outcomes, work will continue in the coming months with all the partners to continue achieving results.**