



# MIGRATION PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

## A NEW APPROACH TO BETTER MANAGE MIGRATION

*“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 a key element of [the European Union Global Strategy for Foreign and Security Policy](#).

The approach rethinks how all concerned actors – the European Union’s Member States, the EU institutions, and partner countries – can more effectively work together to better manage migration flows and ensure well-managed migration. It establishes a results-oriented approach to mobilise and focus all EU and Member States’ tools and resources for that purpose, 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, exploiting 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 stay closer to 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 is implementing this framework starting with a number of priority countries of origin and transit – Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, and Ethiopia.



*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

For each partner country, depending on its specific circumstances – whether country of origin, transit, or hosting a large refugee population – a tailor made approach has been developed, designed to deliver on clear targets and joint commitments.

More concretely, the EU has been working intensively with a number of priority countries of origin and transit, namely Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, and Ethiopia, 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 Migration Partnership Framework has already yielded results, as illustrated in the first three Progress Reports. In addition, the EU will extend the spirit of the Migration Partnership Framework to partner countries in northern Africa, notably in Libya, with a view to stepping up efforts related to the challenges faced in the Central Mediterranean.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN CONCRETELY?



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



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



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



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



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.



The presentation of an ambitious European External Investment Plan (EIP) to support investments in partner countries in Africa and the European Neighbourhood, to strengthen our partnerships,

## FUNDING



### ➔ MEASURES ALREADY IN PLACE

- The European Commission, in agreement with EU Member States, strengthened the EU Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa with **€500 million** from the European Development Fund reserve, bringing the total resources allocated to the EU Emergency trust Fund for Africa amount to over **€2.5 billion** – coming from different financial instruments under the EU budget and the European Development Fund, and an additional **€152 million** from EU Member States contributions.

### ➔ 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. **€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.**

For 2017, an additional €726.7 million is foreseen to further support the external dimension of migration.

### **The Commission presented on 2 March the Third Progress Report of the Partnership Framework. Collective work is continuing to bear fruit and is resulting in tangible outcomes.**

- More than 20 high-level visits to priority countries have been conducted by the HRVP, a number of EU Commissioners and Member States political leaders backed by technical missions.
- The EU has stepped up its support through its CSDP Missions and its technical assistance.
- €1 billion has been mobilised under the EU Trust Fund for Africa and 64 programmes have been approved.
- Further contracts in support of the actions foreseen in the Valletta Action Plan were signed for almost €471 million under the EU Trust Fund for Africa.
- Results have been achieved in the priority countries:
  - Flows along migratory routes have decreased substantially. In Niger, the number of people crossing the desert has fallen from over 70,000 in May to 13,000 in December 2016 and to 6,500 in January 2017.
  - In Niger, more than 4,700 migrants were voluntarily repatriated in 2016, and community reintegration projects in the main regions of origin of migrants have been launched.
- Ethiopia has committed to actively participate in the Regional Operational Centre's fight against trafficking and smuggling and the technical dialogue on returns and readmission has continued. Ethiopia will be supported, through the EUTF, to provide job opportunities for refugees and sustainable returns for stranded.
- Additional support for Senegal under the EUTF will include e.g. job creation, enhancing migration management and promoting the integration of returning migrants.
- Increased action to combat migrant smuggling is taking place in Niger, including apprehension of smugglers and seizure of vehicles.
- Negotiations on a Readmission Agreement with Nigeria have started and are foreseen to continue in 2017.
- Mobilisation of projects under the EU Trust Fund for Africa in all five priority countries continues.
- European Migration Liaison Officers have been deployed to all five priority countries in 2017.