

ICMPD. Strengthening Mobility in West Africa (SMiWA). 2023-2028.

Key results:


1. Enhanced ability of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected meetings and dialogues.
2. Strengthened technical capacities of national institutions to implement regional instruments on Free Movement and to mainstream gender, climate change, and human rights in migration governance.
3. Civil society in ECOWAS region and private sector awareness raising on the Protocol on Free Movement and Regional Integration Agenda are promoted.

Justification for support:

There are major challenges towards the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement of Persons and the Common Approach on Migration at all levels of governance. All these challenges must be addressed urgently as they impede free mobility within the region. Through this action, and the engagement with the ECOWAS Commission, MS and Mauritania will promote free movement and enhance the conditions for human mobility.

Major risks and challenges:

1. Contextual risks: Terrorist Activities in the Sabel Belt, general instability in the ECOWAS region, volatile shifts in the ECOWAS region stability and outbreak of infectious diseases.
2. Programmatic risks: Inconsistent staff participation in ECOWAS, shift of ECOWAS focus, waning ECOWAS leadership commitment, duplication of activities and lack of commitment from ECOWAS.
3. Institutional risks: Withdrawal of Danish funding.

File No.	23/31940				
Country	West Africa (ECOWAS) and Mauretania				
Responsible Unit	MNS				
Sector	15190, Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility				
Partner	ICMPD				
DKK million	2023	2024	2025	2026-2028	Total
Commitment	10	10	10	-	30
Projected disbursement	10	10	10	-	30
Duration	60 months (15 December 2023-15 December 2028)				
Previous grants	N/A				
Finance Act code	§06.32.10.15				
Head of unit	Jens Godtfredsen				
Desk officer	Merve Yalcin				
Reviewed by CFO	Yes / Antonio Ugaz-Simonsen				
Relevant SDGs					
 No Poverty	 No Hunger	 Good Health, Wellbeing	 Quality Education	 Gender Equality	 Clean Water, Sanitation
 Affordable Clean Energy	 Decent Jobs, Econ. Growth	 Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure	 Reduced Inequalities	 Sustainable Cities, Communities	 Responsible Consumption & Production
 Climate Action	 Life below Water	 Life on Land	 Peace & Justice, strong Inst.	 Partnerships for Goals	

Objective

The objective of the project is to maximize the development potential of free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by effectively implementing the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocols and the ECOWAS Common Approach to Migration to which the Danish support is an add-on to the support by the EU.

Environment and climate targeting

	Climate adaptation	Climate mitigation	Biodiversity	Other green/environment
Indicate 0, 50% or 100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total green budget (DKK)	-	-	-	-

Justification for choice of partner

The EU suggested the add-on modality as the most appropriate method of cooperation, identifying ICMPD as the implementing partner in the consortium with IOM and ILO needing the financial support. Hence, the Danish support will focus on activities implemented by ICMPD.

Summary

The Danish MFA is supporting specific components of the regional EU-funded project "Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa (FMM II)". The focus of the Danish support within this project revolves around three key areas, including 1) the Demand-driven Facility component to build institutional capacity and address capacity-building needs within ECOWAS; 2) the EU-ECOWAS Dialogue critical to enhance coordination, planning and monitoring capacities within ECOWAS; and 3) the deployment of a technical advisor to ECOWAS to provide expertise and guidance. The Danish support to FMM II is aligned with ECOWAS's goals of promoting regional economic integration through the effective management of migration and foster regional development, and thereby prevent irregular migration outside the region.

Budget

Engagement 1	DKK 11,338,422
Engagement 2	DKK 2,210,183
Engagement 3	DKK 16,070,116
Indirect costs	DKK 381,279
Total	DKK 30,000,000

1. Introduction

The present project document outlines the background, rationale and justification, objectives and management arrangement for development cooperation concerning “*Strengthening Mobility in West Africa (SMiWA) 2023-2028*” as agreed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD). The project document is an annex to the legal bilateral agreement with the implementing partner and constitutes an integral part hereof.

The project is an add-on to the second phase of the European Union (EU) funded programme “Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa (FMM II)”, more specifically the activities in the programme implemented by ICMPD. FMM II is implemented by a consortium consisting of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and ICMPD.

2. Context, strategic considerations, rationale, and justification

2.1 Context

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), comprising 15 Member States (MS), has a deeply rooted history of mobility. Approximately 70-80% of all migration in West Africa is intraregional, characterized by mixed migration flows, including refugees fleeing persecution and conflict, victims of trafficking, climate change-induced migrants and people seeking better economic opportunities. Both regular and irregular migrations are observed in the region and stem from push factors such as a growing young population, economic disparities, and limited educational opportunities. The ECOWAS 1979 Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, which, despite structural challenges is considered one of the most advanced regional free movement regimes on the African continent, provides a legal framework for regional movement, aiming for seamless access to opportunities across MS.

Migration governance within ECOWAS is challenged by resource constraints, capacity limitations, and bureaucratic complexities and lack of coherence between Member States' respective national legislations and policies and the ECOWAS Protocols (e.g., policies on social security, requirements for border crossing points, etc.). The real-world application of the Free Movement Protocol is uneven, with barriers such as: limited policy development and execution capacity; inefficient border management; prevalence of irregular migration; climate-induced migration; inadequate protection for vulnerable migratory groups; sparse migration data; weak civil society frameworks; and inconsistent border-crossing requirements among Member States. These concerns impede regional mobility.

To address these institutional gaps and migration capacity-building needs in ECOWAS MS plus Mauritania, a flexible Demand Driven Facility (DDF) for national institutions was established in the first FMM project (please refer to annex 1 for a detailed context analysis and annex 2 for a partner assessment).

2.2 Rationale and justification

The European Union (EU) funded programme “Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa (FMM)” seeks to maximize the development potential of free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by supporting the effective implementation of the Free Movement Protocol and the Common Approach on Migration. Overall, the first phase of the FMM programme positively influenced ECOWAS’ regional migration governance and policy context. At the regional level, the project enhanced planning, coordination, and monitoring capacities of the ECOWAS Commission. The second phase of the programme between 2023-2027 will build on these results and experiences.

Denmark’s contribution to the FMM II interventions aligns with the Danish MFA’s strategic document on migration initiatives (so-called how-to note on migration),¹ more specifically the first track focusing on *Preventing irregular migration by promoting legal pathways to migration*. It is a new area of intervention for

¹ How-to note on migration: <https://amg.um.dk/policies-and-strategies/how-to-notes-for-implementation-of-the-danish-strategy-for-development-cooperation>

Denmark, yet an area with increased focus and support in the coming years. Furthermore, the intervention will be a direct contribution to the Team Europe Initiative on the Atlantic and Western Mediterranean routes to which Denmark is already a significant contributor.

The EU suggested the add-on modality as the most appropriate method of cooperation, identifying ICMPD as the implementing partner in the consortium needing the financial support. Hence, the Danish support will focus on activities implemented by ICMPD.

3. Project objective

The objective of FMM II is **to maximize the development potential of free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by effectively implementing the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocols and the ECOWAS Common Approach to Migration**. Three specific objectives will contribute to this:

- **SO1:** Strengthened capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to implement the Free Movement Protocol through intra-regional dialogue on free movement and migration issues, policy development, harmonization as well as monitoring the application and implementation of the protocols.
- **SO2:** Enhanced capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania in the areas of migration data collection and management, migration policy development, border management, labour migration, counter trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, diaspora engagement, and migration, environment and climate change.
- **SO3:** Increased capacities of non-state actors and local authorities in the areas of information and protection for the benefit of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations in West Africa.

As an add-on to EU's FMM II programme, the Danish support will address specific objective 1 (output 1.1.), specific objective 2 (output 2.7) and specific objective 3 (output 3.1) of FMM II. The outcomes and outputs below follow the same numerical order as FMM II for easy reference.

SO 1: Strengthened capacities of ECOWAS Commission to implement the Free Movement Protocol

Strengthening and coordinating ECOWAS-led donor engagements is key, and the ICMPD has mapped donor support to ECOWAS priorities during the first phase of the FMM West Africa project. There is need to provide periodic updates on funding gaps and opportunities, and to promote better coordination between partners' interventions. This will assist in harmonizing technical and financial support with regional priorities, as well as align with ECOWAS' Common Approach on Migration and contribute to shaping the discussions during key migration dialogues.

To that effect, ICMPD will support the EU-ECOWAS Political Dialogue on migration by revitalizing the Joint EU-ECOWAS Technical Working Group to help set the agenda and develop the thematic context.² A Senior Liaison Officer will be appointed to enhance dialogue, coordination, and decision-making between the EU, ECOWAS, and other stakeholders. The Danish add-on will finance this post.

The Danish add-on will thus contribute to SO.1 by supporting:

Result 1.1. The capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected MIDWA and regional meetings is strengthened, and the Capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct tripartite dialogue on human labour mobility through the Social Dialogue Forum (SDF) is strengthened.

Planned activities:

² Missing in the current meeting agenda and discussion, is the area of migration. Link to communique of the 6 February 2023 ministerial dialogue : <https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/EU-ECOWAS%20Ministerial%20meeting%20Final%20Joint%20Communique%206%20-02%20-23.pdf>

- 1.1.11 Conduct/update mapping of donor projects in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration and other relevant migration related policies. The mapping outcome will engage the ECOWAS Commission in strategically reflecting its role in advocating sub-regional migration priorities and enhancing donor coordination.
- 1.1.12 Organize preparatory meetings among migration stakeholders to support EU-ECOWAS dialogue on regional priorities for greater alignment of support to ECOWAS policies.
- 1.1.13 Place senior migration adviser at the ECOWAS commission to facilitate the implementation of FMM II, particularly the DDF at the MS level.

SO 2: Enhanced capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania

Denmark's support to ECOWAS, complementing EU funding, will provide technical assistance via the Demand Driven Facility (DDF) to strengthen migration governance and promote free movement among all ECOWAS Member States. The DDF, which addresses migration-related institutional and capacity-building needs in the region, operates based on specific requests from national institutions, offering tailor-made interventions. The DDF ensures actions align with beneficiaries' own objectives, promoting national ownership, with the results contributing to achieving global, regional and national policy commitments.

In FMM's second phase, national institutions can request technical assistance tailored to their needs. EU has budgeted for support to ten MS and the Danish add-on will cover support for the remaining six (plus Mauritania).

The Danish support will therefore contribute to:

Result 2.7 The technical capacities of national institutions to implement the provisions of the various regional instruments on Free Movement and to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance is strengthened.

Expected activities:

- 2.7.1 Develop guidelines and conduct preparatory activities for implementing the Demand Driven Facility for National Institutions.
- 2.7.2 Inform ECOWAS Member States of the Demand Driven Facility opportunities via various media and through participation in regional activities.
- 2.7.3 Training of focal points from national institutions on strategic planning, action planning, policy development, advocacy, and mobilization.
- 2.7.4 Strengthen the capacity of national institutions through the Demand Driven Facility actions on migration governance.
- 2.7.5 Trainings on mainstreaming gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance conducted for the Demand Driven Facility beneficiaries.
- 2.7.6 Demand Driven Facility actions with gender, environmental migration and disaster displacement mainstreamed.

SO 3: Increased capacities of non-state actors and local authorities in the areas of information and protection for the benefit of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations in West Africa

Efforts will be made to actively engage Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), private sector stakeholders, and border communities in supporting key ECOWAS frameworks, such as the Regional Monitoring Mechanism

for the free movement of interstate passenger vehicles, passengers, and goods (RMM). Given that the RMM directly affects community citizens who travel for business or pleasure, cross-border traders, private sector operators (e.g., transport companies), and border communities, these targeted engagement activities will ensure their participation and involvement in the process.

The Danish support will therefore contribute to:

Result 3.1 Civil society in ECOWAS Region and private sector awareness raising on the Protocol on Free Movement and Regional Integration Agenda are promoted.

Expected activities:

- 3.1.3 Conduct consultative meetings with West African Civil Society Organizations on the linkages between the African Continental Free Trade Area, Free Movement of Persons and regional integration.

4. Theory of change (ToC) and key assumptions

The theory of change of the FMM II to which the Danish add on contributes is:

IF ECOWAS, with the support of the Action, delivers its mandate in a professional manner, with consolidated processes and sustainable effects, building their institutional memory and their capacities to proactively adjust to the challenges imposed on the implementation of the free movement protocol because of the pandemic **AND** mobilises its Member States and advocates for the implementation of the various instruments that have been developed to facilitate free movement in the region;

AND IF Members States and Mauritania, with the support of the Action, confirm their buy-in to the implementation of the Free Movement Protocol at the highest levels, including in regional fora and platforms for migration dialogue, as well as implementation of national migration frameworks and policies.

AND IF CSOs and non-state actors contribute to the implementation of the protocol by ensuring that institutional stakeholders are kept accountable to the public because of an effective civil society both at national and local levels.

AND IF, a favourable environment is created that will strengthen the technical expertise of community citizens, enhance regional integration, free movement, and development, including governments, women and men, support the development aspirations and opportunities for NSAs, CSOs, cross border communities from Member States,

THEN this would contribute to the overall implementation of the Free Movement Protocol and the ECOWAS Common Approach to Migration.

Then this will contribute to maximize the development potential of free movement of persons and migration in West Africa.

5. Summary of the results framework

For results-based management, learning and reporting purposes, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs will base the actual support on progress attained in the implementation of the selected results in the FMM II. Progress will be measured through the agreed monitoring framework for FMM II with a focus on the outcomes and outputs to which the Danish add-on support contributes (a more detailed results framework can be found in annex 3).

Project		Strengthening Mobility in West Africa (SMiWA) 2023-2027	
Project objective		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' Protocol and the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration.	
Impact Indicator		Number of state institutions and non-state actors supported on security, border management, countering violent extremism, conflict prevention, protection of civilian population and human rights	
Baseline		Zero (0)	
Outcome		SO 1. Strengthened capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to implement the free movement protocol through intra-regional dialogue on free movement and migration issues, policy development, harmonization as well as monitoring the application and implementation of the Free Movement Protocol.	
Outcome indicator		The EU-ECOWAS Dialogue on migration is strengthened	
Baseline	Year	2023	Zero EU-ECOWAS dialogue preparatory meetings
Target	Year	2028	At least two (2) meetings conducted annually prior to the EU-ECOWAS Ministerial Dialogue
Output 1.1		1.1 The capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected regional meetings is strengthened, and the Capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct tripartite dialogue on migration through the EU-ECOWAS Dialogue is strengthened.	
Output indicator		1.1.11 No. of donor mappings of projects conducted in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration 1.1.12 No. of preparatory meetings organized among migration stakeholders to support EU- ECOWAS dialogue. 1.1.13 No. of migration advisers seconded to the Ecowas Commission to support EU-ECOWAS Dialogue and ensure donor coordination.	
Outcome		SO 2. Enhanced capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania in the areas of migration data collection and management, migration policy development, border management, labour migration, counter trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, diaspora engagement, and migration, environment, and climate change.	
Outcome indicator		No. of ECOWAS MS benefitting from the Demand-Driven Facility	
Baseline	Year	2023	Limited capacity of ECOWAS MS to implement Free Movement Protocol
Target	Year	2028	At least six (6) MS benefitting from the Demand-Driven Facility
Output 2.7		2.7 Technical capacities of national institutions to implement the provisions of the various regional instruments on Free Movement and to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance strengthened.	
Output indicator		2.7.1. Guidelines and procedures for project eligibility, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation Updated. 2.7.2. No of National Institutions contacted and informed about the DDF. 2.7.3. No of focal points trained on strategic planning. 2.7.4. No of ECOWAS MS benefitting from DDF facility. 2.7.5. No. of trainings on mainstreaming gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance conducted for DDF beneficiaries. 2.7.6. No. of DDF actions with gender, environmental migration and disaster displacement mainstreamed.	
Outcome		SO 3. Increase the capacities of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in information and protection for the benefit of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations in West Africa.	

Outcome indicator		ECOWAS Non-State Actors engagement strategy drafted, validated, available and implemented.	
Baseline	Year	2023	Zero (0)
Baseline	Year	2028	Engagement strategy drafted
Output 3.1		3.1 Civil society and private sector awareness raising on the activities of the Protocol on Free Movement and regional integration agenda promoted.	
Output indicator		3.1.3 No. of civil society, private sector, transport unions, border officials' engagement on Regional Monitoring Mechanism.	

6. Budget

Please refer to annex 5 for the output-based budget. The budget for the Danish add-on to FMM II is in DKK the costs in EUR is for information only. The FMM II budget is EUR and the DKK column is for information.

The Danish grant must be spent solely on activities leading to the expected outputs and outcomes as agreed between the parties. ICMPD is responsible for ensuring that the funds are spent in compliance with the agreement and with due consideration to economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in achieving the results intended.

7. Institutional and management arrangement

ICMPD will have the day-to-day responsibility for the management of FMM II including the Danish add-on according to procedures as agreed with the EU. ICMPD will manage the project from its offices in Abuja and Accra.

As the Danish contribution is supporting objectives, outcomes and outputs of FMM II, the reporting and monitoring of the activities will be a part of the general reporting and monitoring of FMM II. Representatives from the Danish Embassy in Abuja and the Danish MFA will participate in the FMM II Project Steering Committee (CPCS), which will convene every three months in Abuja.

The Department for Migration, Stabilisation and Fragility (MNS) at the Danish MFA shall have the right to convene for ad hoc meetings as necessary and to carry out any technical or financial supervision mission that is considered necessary to monitor the implementation of the project. After the termination of the project support, MNS reserves the right to carry out evaluations in accordance with this article.

8. Financial management, planning and reporting

The financial management will be the responsibility of ICMPD according to the Danish MFA's aid and financial management guidelines, while respecting sound international principles for financial management and reporting.

Accounting will follow the output and activity-based budget as agreed between ICMPD and the Danish MFA. Annual financial reports and annual independent audits as per the agreed budget shall be submitted to the Danish MFA no later than six months after the reporting year. The annual narrative reports of FMM II will also reflect activities under the Danish add-on.

The midterm and final evaluations of FMM II will include the activities and outputs supported by the Danish funding.

9. Risk Management

The risks are divided into contextual, programmatic and institutional risks (please refer to annex 4 for the risk management matrix).

Regarding **contextual risks**, the persistent instability in the Sahel region, primarily due to terrorist activities, presents an almost certain risk. The significant impact of such disturbances necessitates rigorous risk assessments to guide informed programmatic decision-making. The probability of an abrupt transition from relative stability to volatility across the ECOWAS region, including coastal countries, remains low. In the context of health emergencies such as Ebola or COVID-19, the likelihood of their occurrence is considered low. Prior crises have informed a flexible methodology, integrating remote operations and on-site project implementation.

Regarding **programmatic risks**, the ECOWAS Commission's inconsistency in staffing is a concern. To mitigate this, the project intends to advocate for continuity and the retention of institutional knowledge, with the strategic placement of technical personnel to ensure project stability. In case ECOWAS divert its focus to more exigent crises, it is unlikely this will significantly affect the project. The potential waning of commitment from ECOWAS leadership, while improbable, could still pose a substantial risk. Sustained engagement and consistent oversight are designed to maintain the project's impetus and insulate it from fluctuating priorities. The likelihood of duplicating activities is a recognized concern. To address this, the project proactively engages with stakeholders to ensure that activities are not merely unique but also complementary.

Regarding **institutional risks**, particularly the withdrawal of Danish funding, are viewed as unlikely yet consequential.

10. Closure

The following strategic approaches and commitments are aimed at ensuring that the gains made in migration governance and free movement within the ECOWAS region are not only preserved but also built upon in the future.

- **Close Collaboration with ECOWAS Commission:** The project is designed and implemented in partnership with the ECOWAS Commission, ensuring that the main project right holder is actively involved and that the project's objectives align with ECOWAS's goals.
- **Engagement of Member States:** Through project activities, member states' engagement is strengthened, and alignment with national strategies is ensured via demand-driven mechanisms, promoting national ownership.
- **Adoption and Implementation of Legal Instruments:** Activities focused on adopting and implementing legal frameworks will ensure binding commitments and facilitate the supervision of their execution.
- **Knowledge Sharing and Training:** These efforts are intended to enhance political will and capacity for implementing measures to sustain free movement, harmonize labour and trade law, and ensure the portability of social security rights.
- **Extended Project Implementation Period:** Building on the foundation established by the FMM, an extended implementation period provides sufficient time to put complex measures into action and solidify the knowledge base.
- **Leveraging ECOWAS' Convening Power:** The project aims to bolster ECOWAS's leadership, especially the Free Movement Department, to continue activities supporting the Free Movement protocol even after the project's lifespan.

At project inception, an exit strategy will be developed analysing sustainability of project structures, policies, and partner activities. The closure phase covers the last three months of the project. During this phase, the final evaluation of the project will be conducted, and the final narrative and financial reports as well as a final audit of FMM II including the Danish funding will be prepared and submitted to the Danish MFA.

Annexes

Annex 1: Context Analysis

ECOWAS Free Movement

The ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol and subsequent instruments aim to establish a socio-economic environment where citizens can freely access opportunities across member states. ECOWAS and West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) have acknowledged the protocol's potential for regional development and have introduced various policies, directives, and action plans to facilitate free movement, protect migrant workers, combat trafficking, and support vulnerable groups. Despite Mauritania's withdrawal, it still engages in regional migration dialogues.

However, implementation varies across member states due to challenges of weak border management, irregular migration, and insufficient protection for vulnerable groups. Efforts such as monitoring mechanisms, biometric identity cards, and regional dialogues aim to improve implementation and address harassment and extortion at borders.

ECOWAS faces challenges in migration governance due to limited resources and bureaucratic complexities. The COVID-19 pandemic prompted initiatives focusing on human security and protecting vulnerable populations from trafficking and violence. Despite technical and legal efforts, challenges in deploying the ECOWAS National Biometric Identity Card hinder free travel.

Mainstream challenges also include climate change and gender equality, with policies underdeveloped at the regional level. ECOWAS has recognized gender equality in its legal framework but needs to strengthen gender-responsive policies for equal movement rights.

At the member state level, divergent interests and limited capacity impede policy application, and an iterative approach is needed to address emerging needs. Local-level civil society lacks the means to effectively engage in migration issues, and a gap remains in involving non-state actors like the private sector and academia.

Overall, efficient border management is essential for the Free Movement Protocol's full implementation. The protocol requires ongoing support for non-state actors and local authorities to enhance technical capacities and address mobility barriers.

Lessons Learned

The FMM initiative has significantly bolstered ECOWAS's capacity in migration governance, transforming supported products into core ECOWAS tools. These tools have been pivotal in strengthening the continent's migration governance framework and will serve as foundational elements for the implementation of FMM II.

FMM has played an instrumental role in enhancing migration governance among ECOWAS Member States by facilitating the development of National Migration Policies, Profiles, and Labour Migration Policies. These initiatives have complemented projects at the national level. Additionally, the Direct Dialogue Facility (DDF) component provided Member States with the opportunity to engage in detailed actions and adopt innovative strategies for actualizing ECOWAS objectives at the country level. Notably, FMM marked the first regional cooperation platform to address migrant smuggling. The successful conduct of MIDWA thematic groups on issues such as border management, cross-border crime, and climate change-induced migration has illustrated the effectiveness of this format in supporting the robust implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocols and the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration.

A renewed emphasis will be placed on integrating gender considerations, with special attention to the needs and rights of women and children. At the grassroots level, FMM has significantly augmented the capabilities of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-State Actors in advancing the ECOWAS Commission's

integration and Free Movement Protocol Agenda. However, further efforts are essential to fully integrate civil society within the regional framework.

The second phase of the initiative will build upon the achievements of the EUTF COMISA programme and the regional civil society partnership component of the 11th EDF “Action against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in Nigeria” programme, which fostered a regional network of CSOs engaged in counter-trafficking efforts.

The enduring strength of the partnerships established under FMM is evident through the continuous collaboration among the ECOWAS secretariat, implementing partners, and EU Delegations. Moving forward, there is a need for enhanced structuring and mainstreaming of inter-agency coordination, collaboration, and communication. Established synergies and complementarities with platforms such as the Rabat Process, GCM, and AFIC, as well as with other national and regional projects in the region, will be sustained and further explored. It is imperative to ensure coherence between FMM II and future regional and national programmes under the Global Europe instrument in areas encompassing migration, peace and security, police cooperation, rule of law, and counterterrorism.

The EU’s support in implementing the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol has solidified its position as a key partner in free movement and migration governance in West Africa. The EU’s continued engagement with established partners active in regional migration management—including international organizations, EU member states, and specialized EU justice and home affairs agencies—remains crucial and aligns with the objectives of the action. Additionally, the EU recognizes the importance of further engagement in regional mobility initiatives to prevent fragmented and uncoordinated approaches, thereby bridging the gap between national-level actions and the overarching ECOWAS policy framework.

Annex 2: Partner Assessment

Brief presentation of partners

The International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1993, with 20 Member States with its Headquarters in Vienna, a mission in Brussels and is locally represented in 30 countries worldwide, including a Regional Office for West Africa in Abuja, Nigeria, and country offices in Ghana, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, and Niger. Over the years, ICMPD has developed solid expertise and working relationships with the ECOWAS Commission and national institutions from Member States in border management, trafficking in persons, and labour migration. Various engagements made this possible, including capacity-building programs, research, policy development, dialogues, and cooperation frameworks. As a specialised international organisation, ICMPD has proven expertise in all key fields of migration governance: irregular migration; return and reintegration; trafficking in human beings; border management and security; asylum and international protection; migration and development; diaspora engagement; labour and legal migration; integration and social cohesion; migration and environment; education and private sector engagement. ICMPD has been active in West Africa for many years through dialogues on migration (the Rabat Process) and active cooperation within the framework of various tailor-made technical assistance programs. ICMPD's work is characterised by a three-pronged approach translating into migration dialogues, capacity building, research, and policy and supported by both extensive in-house expertise and ICMPD's network of experts and practitioners in EU MS, the West African region.

At the regional level, the project will benefit from the existing working relationships ICMPD has been enjoying with the ECOWAS Commission and its various Departments. The latter performs several functions, including the development and adoption of regional policy documents and compliance assessment of Member States with critical regional and international migration-related instruments. ECOWAS also uses its convening power to promote and advocate for areas of collaboration as well as to mobilize resources to support technical assistance initiatives for its Member States. ICMPD, from the onset and throughout the implementation of the project, will engage with the **ECOWAS' Departments of Economic Affairs, Human Development and Social Affairs** as well as the **Office of the Vice President and External Relations Directorate** to ensure that resolutions and policy-related recommendations, emanating from the project deliverables are ultimately taken into consideration at the political level.

At the national level, ICMPD will continue to build on its existing working relationships with relevant **Ministries, Directorates, and Agencies (MDAs)** from Member States and Mauritania (partner countries) to advance the migration management agenda in their respective countries. This includes the Migration desk within labour ministries, the National Employment and Vocational Training Observatory, the National Bureau of Statistics, anti-trafficking task forces, immigration services, criminal justice actors, Ministries in charge of Regional Integration, Foreign Affairs, Interior, national bureaus of statistics; private sector, local authorities; media organizations; academia, etc. ICMPD will build on its demand-driven approach to reinforce national ownership and promote the sustainable impact of its technical assistance instrument, with actions aligned with national policies, strategies, and action plans.

At the local level, the project will engage with Non-State Actors, including social partners, private sectors and a network of Civil Society Organizations, as these partners are central to achieving the *ECOWAS of People* Vision 2050 for development and economic integration within the region. Awareness creation and sensitization campaigns of grassroots and border communities on the opportunities offered by the free movement regime, the AfCFTA, for youth, women groups and migrants are foreseen.

Summary of partner capacity assessment

Within the framework of the FMM II project, ICMPD is leading the implementation of specific activities, delivering results under SO1, SO2 and SO3 (Regional, National and Local levels) on trafficking in persons,

Immigration and Border Management, Free Movement frameworks and the Labour Market and Migration Information System. ICMPD leads the support to national institutions through managing the Demand Driven Facility (DDF), facilitating the political dialogue between the EU and ECOWAS through the Joint EU-ECOWAS Working Group, and supporting the ECOWAS-led donor coordination mechanism.

Through the FMM project, ICMPD and the other implementing partners will endeavor to address constraints that impede the application of free movement and migration-related policies across ECOWAS member states. Therefore, in the framework of this new phase of FMM, the Office of the Vice-President and External Relations Directorate will play a more significant role in ensuring ownership both at the Commission and Member State levels by ensuring seamless coordination between ECOWAS relevant Departments and the project team and by ensuring that project deliverables are effectively promoted within various ECOWAS platforms and recommended for political adoption. The ECOWAS Commission has participated in the formulation process and is committed to implementing the FMM II Action.

ICMPD will build on the lessons learned from the implementation of the first phase of FMM to address the lack of capacity in Member States on border management, protection of mixed migration groups, and labour migration to bolster countries capacity in migration governance. The evaluation of FMM I has showed that the project has created momentum for national institutions to engage various state and non-state actors on critical issues in relation to migration management in Member States. For instance, the DDF implemented by ICMPD, has been instrumental in translating countries' specific needs into actions that contribute to achieving global, regional, and national policy commitments in the migration space. Furthermore, the DDF equipped national institutions with the tools to enable a sense of leadership and drive their own initiatives forward. Moreover, the DDF sought to complement workstreams already initiated by beneficiaries or other international partners, with actions serving as catalysts for progress instead of developing new initiatives.

Moreover, the FMM II and the Danish add-on will support non-state actors in effectively engaging in migration issues, as a gap remains in involving critical actors such as the private sector and academia. Their contribution to the regional consultations will be instrumental in advancing the ECOWAS Commission's integration and Free Movement Protocol Agenda.

Summary of key partner features

Name of Partner	Core business	Importance	Influence	Contribution	Capacity	Exit strategy
ICMPD	Migration management – structurally linking policy & research, migration dialogues and capacity building – contributing to better migration policy development worldwide	High	High	Under the FMM II project and the Danish add-on, ICMPD is leading the implementation of specific deliverables at Regional, National and Local levels.	<p><u>Strength</u>: in-house solid expertise and experience in migration management; compliance with EU regulations on financial management; Seat Agreements with Nigeria, Niger and Ghana; Good working relationships with ECOWAS and the EU Delegations</p> <p><u>Weaknesses</u>: Short-staffed, Not much presence in other WA countries</p> <p><u>Opportunities</u>: Use of coordination platforms and frameworks such like 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM); Vienna Migration conference, Rabat Process, UN Network on migration, keep the international community mobilized on migration-related issues; migration remains a topic of great concern for ECOWAS and its MS, who are looking for reliable partners to support structuring migration discourse.</p> <p><u>Threats</u>: political and security instability in ECOWAS MS affecting the implementation of the project; shift of government priorities; mobility of key project partners</p>	<p>At project inception, an exit strategy will be developed in close collaboration with key project partners.</p> <p>Project deliverables will be uploaded into a knowledge management platform (KMP)</p>
ECOWAS Office of the Vice President	The Vice President's Office coordinates,	Medium	Medium	Provide political support during the	<u>Strength</u> : oversight function of ECOWAS Programs;	If adequately carried along, will recommend pushing project

Directorate of Strategic Planning & Monitoring and Evaluation	monitors, and evaluates ECOWAS Programmes. The Vice President's office is involved in the preparatory consultations of the EU-ECOWAS ministerial dialogue.			implementation of the project Champion migration-related issues into consultations between ECOWAS and EU	<u>Weaknesses</u> : competing priorities, bureaucratic burdens <u>Opportunities</u> : migration remains a topic of great concern for ECOWAS and its MS, who are looking for reliable partners to support structuring migration discourse <u>Threats</u> : unforeseen competing priorities (i.e. ECOWAS statutory meetings)	deliverables for political adoption.
ECOWAS Directorate of External Relations ECOWAS Development Partners Coordination Cell	The Directorate is leading resource mobilization in line with ECOWAS' overall strategic mandate. They ensure sustained consultations and coordination with ECOWAS National Units (MFAs of MS), Permanent Representations in Abuja, and Special Representatives in MS	Medium	Medium	Ease communication between project partners Ensure visibility of the project Convene meetings, including the project steering committee and technical committee	<u>Strength</u> : Ensure coordination between EU-funded programmes and ECOWAS; Develop information management systems as well as other systems for monitoring the programmes <u>Weaknesses</u> : Short-staffed <u>Opportunities</u> : migration remains a topic of great concern for ECOWAS and its MS, who are looking for reliable partners to support structuring migration discourse <u>Threats</u> : unforeseen competing priorities	If adequately carried along, will recommend pushing project deliverables for political adoption.
ECOWAS' Department of Economic Affairs & Agriculture	Oversees free movement and border management programs for ECOWAS	High	High	Compliance assessments of MS with regional instruments and guidelines developed at the regional level	<u>Strength</u> : convening power for MS; <u>Weaknesses</u> : Short-staffed <u>Opportunities</u> : migration remains a topic of great concern for ECOWAS and its MS, who are looking for	If adequately carried along, will recommend pushing project deliverables for political adoption.

Directorate, Free Movement and Migration				on migration-related issues	reliable partners to support structuring migration discourse <u>Threats:</u> unforeseen competing priorities	
ECOWAS' Department of Human Development and Social Affairs Directorate, Humanitarian and Social Affairs	Oversees programmes on labour migration, social protection, child labour and trafficking in persons	High	High	Compliance assessments of MS with regional instruments and guidelines developed at the regional level on migration-related issues	<u>Strength:</u> convening power of Member States <u>Weaknesses:</u> Short-staffed; handle other programs not related to migration (e.g. international humanitarian law, etc.) <u>Opportunities:</u> migration remains a topic of great concern for ECOWAS and its MS, who are looking for reliable partners to support structuring migration discourse <u>Threats:</u> unforeseen competing priorities	If adequately carried along, will recommend pushing project deliverables for political adoption.
Ministries, Directorates, and agencies (MDAs) from Member States and Mauritania (partner countries)	The MDAs in partner countries are the primary beneficiaries of the project. Want to advance the migration agenda within their departments, build internal capacities, develop legal and regulatory frameworks and contribute to achieving regional and international commitments.	High	High	Provide an enabling environment (in-kind support) for the implementation of the project. Promote national ownership of the project by mobilising relevant stakeholders in the country.	<u>Strength:</u> entrusted with a clear mandate <u>Weaknesses:</u> capacities in planning, monitoring and evaluation <u>Opportunities:</u> migration remains a topic of great concern for ECOWAS and its MS, who are looking for reliable partners to support structuring migration discourse <u>Threats:</u> unforeseen competing priorities; leadership shifting focus	Domestication of policies, regulations, and resolutions emanating from project deliverables ICMPD will develop DDF selection criteria (request from MSs should demonstrate ownership and provide an enabling environment for the project implementation)

Donor Coordination

There are numerous initiatives around migration management funded by various donors and the likelihood of duplication of activities between implementing partners (e.g., IOM, ICMPD, Expertise France, ILO, UNODC, etc.) remains high.

The component of the project will commit staffs as well as provide a platform and tools that will maintain permanent communication channel with the donor community, the ECOWAS Commission, staying abreast of news within the migration thematic space and establishing contact with the various work groups in the region. The European Union Delegation regularly offers opportunities for donor coordination; this project will specifically keep close contact with the Embassy of Denmark and Danish MFA as with the EU Delegation.

Member States of the EU have Immigration Liaison Officers (ILOs) or Migration Officers, this project will maintain contact with them to ensure the flow of up-to-date information on all activities that could complement, overlap, or duplicate any of the actions. The project will organise periodic information sharing sessions to bring the donor community up-to-date on project activities.

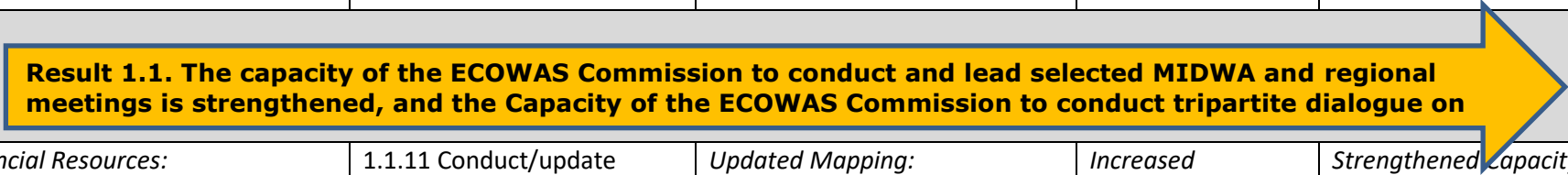
Annex 3: Result Framework

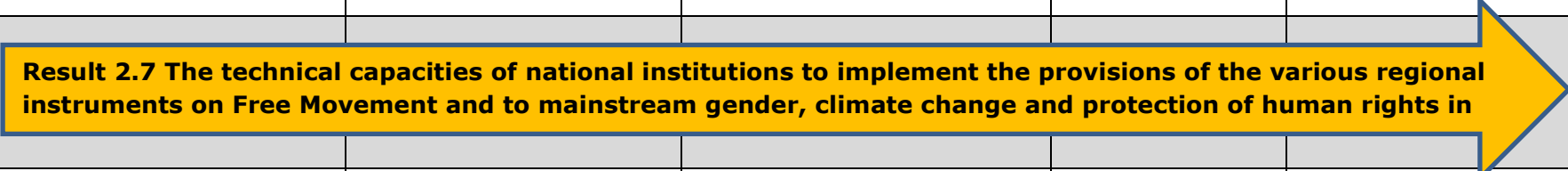
Project		Strengthening Mobility in West Africa (SMiWA) 2023-2027	
Project objective		To maximise the development potential of free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by supporting the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocol and the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration.	
Impact Indicator		Number of state institutions and non-state actors supported on security, border management, countering violent extremism, conflict prevention, protection of civilian population and human rights	
Baseline		Zero (0)	
Outcome		SO 1. Strengthened capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to implement the free movement protocol through intra-regional dialogue on free movement and migration issues, policy development, harmonization as well as monitoring the application and implementation of the Free Movement Protocol.	
Outcome indicator		The EU-ECOWAS Dialogue on migration is strengthened	
Baseline	Year	2023	Zero EU-ECOWAS dialogue preparatory meetings
Target	Year	2028	At least two (2) meetings conducted annually prior to the EU-ECOWAS Ministerial Dialogue
Output 1.1		1.1 The capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected regional meetings is strengthened, and the Capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct tripartite dialogue on migration through the EU-ECOWAS Dialogue is strengthened.	
Output indicator		1.1.11 No. of donor mappings of projects conducted in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration 1.1.12 No. of preparatory meetings organized among migration stakeholders to support EU- ECOWAS dialogue. 1.1.13 No. of migration advisers seconded to the ECOWAS Commission to support EU-ECOWAS Dialogue and ensure donor coordination.	
Baseline	Year	2023	1.1.11 Zero (0) 1.1.12 Zero (0) 1.1.13 Zero (0)
Target	Year 1	2024	At least two (2) preparatory meetings At least one (1) migration adviser seconded to ECOWAS
	Year 2	2025	At least two (2) preparatory meetings At least one (1) donor mapping
	Year 3	2026	At least two (2) preparatory meetings
	Year 4	2027	At least two (2) preparatory meetings At least one (1) donor mapping
	Year 5	2028	At least two (2) preparatory meetings At least one (1) donor mapping
Outcome		SO 2. Enhanced capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania in the areas of migration data collection and management, migration policy development, border management, labour migration, counter trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, diaspora engagement, and migration, environment, and climate change.	
Outcome indicator		No. of ECOWAS MS benefitting from the Demand-Driven Facility	
Baseline	Year	2023	Limited capacity of ECOWAS MS to implement Free Movement Protocol
Target	Year	2028	At least six (6) MS benefitting from the Demand-Driven Facility

Output 2.7		2.7 Technical capacities of national institutions to implement the provisions of the various regional instruments on Free Movement and to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance strengthened.	
Output indicator		2.7.1. Guidelines and procedures for project eligibility, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation Updated. 2.7.2. No of National Institutions contacted and informed about the DDF. 2.7.3. No of focal points trained on strategic planning. 2.7.4. No of ECOWAS MS benefitting from DDF facility. 2.7.5. No. of trainings on mainstreaming gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance conducted for DDF beneficiaries. 2.7.6. No. of DDF actions with gender, environmental migration and disaster displacement mainstreamed.	
Baseline	Year	2023	2.7.1 Zero (0) 2.7.2 Zero (0) 2.7.3 Zero (0) 2.7.4 Zero (0) 2.7.5 Zero (0) 2.7.6 Zero (0)
Target	Year 1	2024	2.7.1 Guidelines updated
	Year 2	2025	2.7.2. At least two (2) National Institutions 2.7.3. At least ten (10) Focal Points trained 2.7.4. At least ten (2) MS benefitting from DDF 2.7.5. At least two (2) trainings 2.7.6. At least two (2) actions
	Year 3	2026	2.7.2. At least two (2) National Institutions 2.7.3. At least ten (10) Focal Points trained 2.7.4. At least ten (2) MS benefitting from DDF 2.7.5. At least two (2) trainings 2.7.6. At least two (2) actions
	Year 4	2027	2.7.2. At least two (2) National Institutions 2.7.3. At least ten (10) Focal Points trained 2.7.4. At least ten (2) MS benefitting from DDF 2.7.5. At least two (2) trainings 2.7.6. At least two (2) actions
	Year 5	2028	2.7.2. at least six total (6) National Institutions 2.7.3 at least ten total (10) Focal Points trained 2.7.4. at least six total (6) MS benefitting from DDF 2.7.5. at least four total (4) trainings 2.7.6. at least six total (6) actions
Outcome		SO 3. Increase the capacities of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in information and protection for the benefit of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations in West Africa.	
Outcome indicator		ECOWAS Non-State Actors engagement strategy drafted, validated, available and implemented.	
Baseline	Year	2023	Zero (0)
Baseline	Year	2028	Engagement strategy drafted
Output 3.1		3.1 Civil society and private sector awareness raising on the activities of the Protocol on Free Movement and regional integration agenda promoted.	

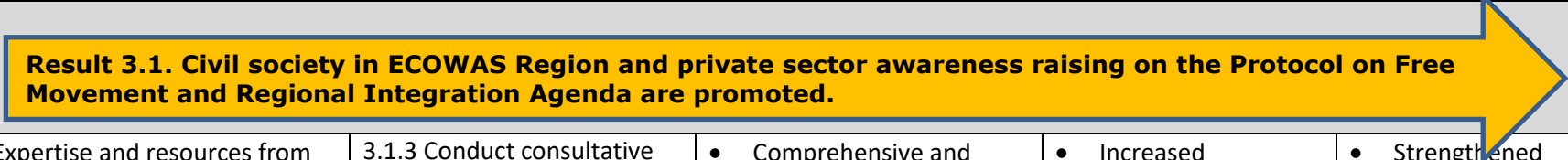
Output indicator		3.1.3 No. of civil society, private sector, transport unions, border officials' engagement on Regional Monitoring Mechanism.	
Baseline	Year	2023	3.1.3 Zero (0)
Target	Year	2024	3.1.3 At least one (1) action
	Year	2025	3.1.3 At least one (1) action
	Year	2026	3.1.3 At least one (1) action
	Year	2027	3.1.3 At least one (1) action
	Year	2028	3.1.3 At least one (1) action

Results chains for the Danish supported outputs are presented below:

Input	Activity	Output	Change in Behaviour	Outcomes/ Result
<div> <div>Result 1.1. The capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected MIDWA and regional meetings is strengthened, and the Capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct tripartite dialogue on</div>  </div>				
<p><i>Financial Resources:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funding to conduct/update mapping of donor projects and organize preparatory meetings. 2. Budget for placing a senior migration adviser at the ECOWAS commission. <p><i>Human Resources:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Experts to conduct mapping and analysis. 2. Senior migration adviser for the ECOWAS commission. 3. Stakeholders and representatives for meetings and dialogues. <p><i>Information & Technology:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data and information for mapping donor projects. 2. Communication tools for organizing meetings and dialogues. 	<p>1.1.11 Conduct/update mapping of donor projects in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration and other migration related policies. The mapping outcome will engage the ECOWAS Commission in strategically reflecting its role in advocating sub-regional migration priorities and enhancing donor coordination.</p> <p>1.1.12 Organize preparatory meetings among migration stakeholders to support EU-ECOWAS dialogue on regional priorities for greater alignment of support to ECOWAS policies.</p>	<p><i>Updated Mapping:</i> An updated map of donor projects aligned with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration.</p> <p><i>Strategic Reflections:</i> Engaged ECOWAS Commission reflecting strategically on advocating sub-regional migration priorities.</p> <p><i>Preparatory Meetings:</i> Organized meetings among migration stakeholders to support EU-ECOWAS dialogue.</p> <p><i>Advisory Placement:</i> Placement of a senior migration adviser at the ECOWAS commission.</p>	<p><i>Increased Proactivity and Strategy:</i> The ECOWAS Commission takes a more proactive and strategic approach in leading selected regional meetings and advocating sub-regional migration priorities. <i>Enhanced</i></p> <p><i>Collaboration:</i> The Commission fosters improved collaboration with the EU, enhancing alignment of support to ECOWAS policies.</p>	<p><i>Strengthened Capacity:</i> The ECOWAS Commission's capacity to conduct and lead meetings and dialogues is enhanced, contributing to stronger regional migration governance.</p> <p><i>Enhanced Donor Coordination:</i> Strategic reflections on the role of the ECOWAS Commission lead to better coordination with donor projects and alignment with regional priorities.</p> <p><i>Improved Implementation of Policies:</i> Facilitation by a senior adviser leads to more effective implementation of policies</p>

<i>Stakeholder Engagement:</i> 1. Involvement of migration stakeholders, including ECOWAS, EU representatives, and other relevant parties.	1.1.13 Place senior migration adviser at the ECOWAS commission to facilitate the implementation of FMM II, particularly the DDF at the MS level.			and initiatives at the Member State level
Input	Activity	Output	Change in Behaviour	Outcomes/ Result
				
<i>Financial Resources:</i> 1. Funding for developing guidelines, conducting trainings, and implementing DDF actions. <i>Human Resources:</i> 1. Experts and trainers for developing guidelines and conducting trainings. 2. Focal points from national institutions. <i>Communication & Media:</i> 1. Various media channels to inform ECOWAS MS of the DDF opportunities.	2.7.1 Develop guidelines and conduct preparatory activities for implementing the Demand Driven Facility for National Institutions. 2.7.2 Inform ECOWAS MS of the DDF opportunities via various media and through participation in regional activities. 2.7.3 Training of focal points from national institutions on strategic planning, action planning, policy	<i>Guidelines and Preparatory Activities:</i> Developed guidelines and conducted preparatory activities for implementing the DDF. <i>Informed ECOWAS MS:</i> ECOWAS Member States informed of the DDF opportunities through various media and regional activities. <i>Trained Focal Points:</i> Focal points from national institutions trained on strategic planning, action planning, policy	<i>Adoption of Guidelines:</i> National institutions implement new guidelines and conduct preparatory activities for the Demand Driven Facility (DDF). <i>Increased Awareness and Training:</i> Institutions enhance their	<i>Enhanced Technical Capacities:</i> National institutions have strengthened technical abilities to implement the provisions of regional instruments on Free Movement. <i>Informed and Strategic Approach:</i> Institutions are better informed and equipped to develop and implement strategic plans, policies, and advocacy efforts.

<p><i>Materials and Tools:</i> 1. Training materials and resources for capacity building.</p>	<p>development, advocacy, and mobilization.</p> <p>2.7.4 Strengthen the capacity of national institutions through DDF actions on migration governance.</p> <p>2.7.5 Trainings on mainstreaming gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance conducted for DDF beneficiaries.</p> <p>2.7.6 DDF actions with gender, environmental migration and disaster displacement mainstreamed</p>	<p>development, advocacy, and mobilization.</p> <p><i>Strengthened Capacity:</i> Enhanced capacity of national institutions through DDF actions on migration governance.</p> <p><i>Training on Mainstreaming:</i> Trainings conducted on mainstreaming gender, climate change, and protection of human rights in migration governance.</p> <p><i>Mainstreamed DDF Actions:</i> DDF actions with gender, environmental migration, and disaster displacement mainstreamed.</p>	<p>awareness of DDF opportunities and undergo training in strategic planning, policy development, and advocacy.</p> <p><i>Mainstreaming Initiatives:</i> A deliberate effort is made to integrate gender, climate change, and human rights considerations into migration governance.</p>	<p><i>Improved Migration Governance:</i> The mainstreaming of gender, climate change, and human rights leads to a more comprehensive and humane approach to migration governance.</p>
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Input	Activity	Output	Change in Behaviour	Outcomes/ Result
Result 3.1. Civil society in ECOWAS Region and private sector awareness raising on the Protocol on Free Movement and Regional Integration Agenda are promoted. 				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expertise and resources from ICMPD, ECOWAS and inputs from others responsible for implementing this activity. Funding allocated for the activity. List of West African Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to engage. Information and knowledge about the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), Free Movement of Persons, and regional integration. 	3.1.3 Conduct consultative meetings with selected West African Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to discuss the linkages between the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), Free Movement of Persons, and regional integration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive and documented reports of the consultative meetings, including minutes, presentations, and any materials shared. Increased awareness among CSOs regarding the linkages between AfCFTA, Free Movement of Persons, and regional integration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased participation and engagement of CSOs in discussions and activities related to AfCFTA, Free Movement of Persons, and regional integration. CSOs showing a greater understanding of how these initiatives can benefit their communities and countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened partnerships between CSOs and relevant governmental and regional bodies in the ECOWAS region. Enhanced advocacy and lobbying efforts by CSOs in support of policies and actions that promote the Protocol on Free Movement and Regional Integration Agenda. Increased public awareness and support for initiatives related to AfCFTA, Free

				<p>Movement of Persons, and regional integration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater alignment of civil society priorities with regional integration goals, leading to more effective collaboration between various stakeholders
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Annex 4: Risk Management

Contextual risks

Risk Factor	Likelihood	Impact	Risk response	Residual risk	Background to assessment
Terrorist activities and the unstable situation in the Sahel belt persist.	Almost certain	Significant	A rigorous risk assessment will help inform programmatic decision making. The programme together with ECOWAS will make informed decisions to halt implementation or suspend activities in hotspot countries and resume once the situation improves. Varying levels of communication will be established and strengthened to triangulate information and assess the risk impact. The project implementing partners will also support the police and other key security agencies for improvement in security provision through other projects.	The project will develop contingency plan to deal with potential residual threats to the project.	There are pockets of ongoing insurgency throughout the Sahel.
General Instability, change in security situation, drastic change in government priorities, including the risk of negative press, or playing on the politics of migration	Unlikely	Major	During the project setup stage, the risks will be carefully examined, and appropriate response developed as part of project initial scoping and contingency planning	Regular monitoring of security, economic and political situation.	The ECOWAS region except the Sahel and Northeast of Nigeria is stable, particularly coastal countries. However, it is not impossible for situations to deteriorate rapidly, given the spate of coups d'état in the region.
Overall situation in the ECOWAS region changes from being somewhat stable to being volatile	Unlikely	Significant	This is unlikely; however, the project will regularly monitor the security advisory from UNDSS, the EU,	In the unlikely event that the whole region is	The coastal countries of the Gulf of Guinea have been stable in the past decade, they

throughout even in the coastal countries.			US State Department, ISOS etc. to make informed decisions on implementation of activities.	unstable, addressing residual risk would be immaterial.	are expected to remain stable for the foreseeable future.
Outbreak of infectious diseases i.e., Ebola, Covid 19, etc	Unlikely	Major	A flexible approach combining satellite programme implementation, remote monitoring and in person physical implementation will be adopted by the project based on lessons learned from the implementation of the previous programme. Furthermore, the project will implement projects at border crossings for an enhanced Integrated Health Border Management.		

Programmatic risks

Risk Factor	Likelihood	Impact	Risk response	Residual risk	Background to assessment
ECOWAS Commission and other counterparts not consistent in their choices of staff members to participate in the consultative process.	Likely	Minor	The project will consult with ECOWAS to agree on the benefits of maintaining staff to ensure continuity and build on existing institutional knowledge. The FMM II will recruit, and place technical staff seconded to ECOWAS to maintain project stability and facilitate implementation.	Participatory implementation approach of the action will bring key stakeholder to understand why consistency of staff in their participation	Staff nominated to participate in projects are sometimes pulled to other duties and replaced with new staff who have no previous knowledge of the project.
Focus of ECOWAS on Free	Unlikely	Significant	The project will work with	The Free Movement	The mandate of the ECOWAS

Movement and regional integration shifts to other more urgent situation, such widespread political instability or insecurity.			departments and units of ECOWAS to avoid concentration of high-ranking staff involved in the project to ensure work continues even when the leadership's focus shifts.	department is unlikely to be directly involved in emergency issues that could disrupt project workflows.	Commission is the promote regional integration through free movement.
Commitment of ECOWAS leadership to the implementation of FMM II wanes.	Unlikely	Major	The project will monitor its work with ECOWAS Commission to ensure consistency and continued interest in the project.	Once the project is underway, diminishing interest at the top would likely not affect the project.	It is not unusual that priorities change, and new ideas dominate regional discourse.
Possibility of duplication of activities by other projects.	Likely	Major	ICMPD will engage other stakeholders and organisations with significant expertise and a strong presence on the ground at every stage before and during project implementation to ensure that activities are not duplicated, but rather complementary.	Communication strategy adopted by the project will share information about project activities through reports, media, invitation to other organizations to participate in ongoing activities.	
Lack of commitment on the part of ECOWAS top management and staff	Unlikely	Major	Keep Management informed at every stage of the project		

Institutional risks

Risk Factor	Likelihood	Impact	Risk response	Residual risk	Background to assessment
Denmark withdraws funding for project due to change in bilateral	Unlikely	Significant	ICMPD will seek to minimize	Preparing a contingency plan and an	

relations/cooperation between ECOWAS and Denmark or due to new internal political agenda.			the effect of this risk by bringing to term all activities in the pipeline.	exit strategy in case of unexpected project closure.	
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Annex 5: Budget

See separate document.

Annex 6: List of Supplementary Materials

Annex 6.1 FMM II Project document

Annex 6.2 FMM II Results Framework

Annex 6.3 Final West Africa migration donor map and matrix (FMM I)

Annex 6.4 Evaluation report of mapping of existing donor support (FMM I)

Annex 7: Plan for Communication of Results

WHAT	WHEN	HOW	AUDIENCE	RESPONSIBLE
Project Narrative and Financial Reports	1 year of Project	Formal Submission of Narrative and Financial Reports including Audits	DK	ICMPD Project Manager, Finance Officer, Regional Resource Manager
Recruitment of Project staff	At the end of inception period	Inception Report	ECOWAS, DK, EU	Project Manager
Recruitment of Senior Migration Adviser	At the end of inception period	Inception Report	ECOWAS, DK, EU	Project Manager
Kick-off meeting with stakeholders	Project Start	Meeting Report	ECOWAS, DK, EU	Project Manager
Develop ME&L, Gender Mainstreaming, Communication Plan, and Update the Results Framework	During Kickoff Period	MEL Report, M&E Report, Communication Plan, Updated Results Framework	ECOWAS, DK, EU	Project Manager
1.1.11 Conduct donor mappings of projects in the region in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration	Project 4th Qtr	Donor Mapping Report and Presentation Workshop	ECOWAS, DK, EU, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager
1.1.12 Organize preparatory meetings among migration stakeholders to support EU-ECOWAS dialogue	Every Qtr, Starting Project 3rd Qtr	Meeting Minutes	ECOWAS, DK, EU, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager
1.1.13 Adviser placed at the ECOWAS commission to facilitate the implementation of FMM II.	Immediately at Project Start	Inception Report	ECOWAS, DK, EU, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager

2.7.1 Update guidelines and procedures for project eligibility, implementation, monitoring and evaluation	Develop updated DDF Guidelines at inception	DDF Guidelines	ECOWAS, DK, EU, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager
2.7.2. Contact National Institutions and inform them about the DDF	During the inception Period	Official Letters	ECOWAS, DK, EU, Member States, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager
2.7.3. Train focal points on strategic planning	Starting 4th Qtr of project	Training report	ECOWAS, DK, EU, Member States, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager
2.7.4. Commence implementation of DDF facility to benefit ECOWAS MS	Starting 4th Qtr of project	Call for Proposals	ECOWAS, DK, EU, Member States, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager
2.7.5. Conduct training on mainstreaming gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance	Starting 4th Qtr of project	Training Report	ECOWAS, DK, EU, Member States, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager
2.7.6. Mainstream DDF actions with gender, environmental migration and disaster displacement	At Start of DDF Technical Assistance Review and design	Action Fiche	ECOWAS, DK, EU, Member States, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager
3.1.3 Engaging civil society, private sector, transport unions, border officials on RMM	3rd Qtr of Project Start	Concept Note of the activity	ECOWAS, DK, EU, Member States, other relevant stakeholders	Project Manager

Annex 8: Process Action Plan for Implementation

<i>Inception Phase</i>	<i>Implementation Phase</i>	<i>Closure Phase</i>
<p>The inception phase will cover the first 6 months of the project. During this phase, the following activities will be conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of the project staff members; • Establishment of the project governance and management structures in coordination with FMM II partners; • Development of a visibility and communication plan for the project; • Implementation of the baseline surveys, needs analyses and capacity assessments foreseen under main activities of the project; • Elaboration and implementation of training plans for all stakeholders; • Development and adoption of guidelines, procedures and tools for the Demand Driven Facility in coordination with FMM II partners; • Development and adoption of guidelines and procedures governing the Call for Proposals for civil society, organisations and local authorities; • Revision of the project activities and budget, based on the results of the baseline surveys, needs analyses and capacity assessments, and development of a detailed Work Plan for the Implementation Phase of the Project. 	<p>The implementation phase of the project will last approximately 51 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this phase, the project activities under the four components of the action will be implemented. • A Mid-Term Review will be conducted half way through the project implementation phase to monitor progress towards achieving the set results. • On the basis of the Mid-Term Review, adjustments might be made in the project implementation where necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the action. 	<p>The closure phase covers the last 3 months of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this phase, the Final Evaluation of the project will be planned and the Final Narrative and Financial Reports of the project will be prepared.

Annex 9: Quality assurance checklist

See separate document.

Annex 9.1: External appraisal report

See separate document.

**Support to Free Movement of Persons and
Migration in West Africa – Phase II**

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1. IMPLEMENTING AGENCY AND PARTNERS

Name of the implementing agency	<u>International Organization for Migration (IOM)</u>
Date of establishment	05/12/1951
EuropeAid ID number	CH-2007-CRV-2711158923
Ongoing contract /Legal Entity File number	XXX
Legal status	International Organisation
Partner 1	Name: <u>International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)</u> Date of establishment: 1993 Legal status: International Organisation EuropeAid ID number: AT-2007-CRZ-2711173670
Partner 2	Name: <u>International Labour Organization (ILO)</u> Date of establishment: 1919 Legal status: International Organisation EuropeAid ID number: CH-2008-AUC-1801681243

2. SUMMARY OF THE ACTION

Title of the action	Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa Phase II
Location of the action	West Africa (ECOWAS MS ¹ and Mauritania)
Total duration	5 years (60 months)
Amount (in EUR)	Total estimated cost: EUR 33 500 000 IOM: EUR 15 200 000 ILO: EUR 7 400 000 ICMPD: EUR 10 900 000
Objectives	<p>Overall objective: To maximise the development potential of the free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by supporting the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons Protocol and the ECOWAS Common Approach to Migration.</p> <p>Specific Objectives (Outcomes):</p> <p>SO1: Strengthened capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to implement the Free Movement Protocol through intra-regional dialogue on free movement and migration issues, policy development and harmonization, and monitoring the application and implementation of the Free Movement Protocol.</p> <p>SO2: Enhanced capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS Member States (MS) and Mauritania in the areas of migration data collection and management, migration policy development, border management, labour migration, counter-trafficking of human beings and mixed migration, child protection and child labour, diaspora engagement, and human mobility in the context of climate change.</p> <p>SO3: Increased capacities of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in information and protection to benefit migrants, returnees, and cross-border populations in West Africa.</p>
Target groups	ECOWAS Commission, ECOWAS MS and Mauritania Selected national institutions responsible for migration management. Non – State Actors (Civil Society Organizations, social partners)
Final beneficiaries	Migrant and cross-border populations in ECOWAS countries and Mauritania
Expected results	Output 1.1 Capacity of ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected MIDWA regional ministerial and technical working group meetings and tripartite dialogue on labour-human mobility through the Social Dialogue Forum (SDF), strengthened.

¹ Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo

	<p>Output 1.2 Data collection, management capacities and implementation of the Guidelines for the Harmonisation of Migration Data Management in the ECOWAS Region operationalized and strengthened.</p> <p>Output 1.3 ECOWAS capacity in document examination, data management and trends analysis to exchange information and share regional migration trends through the Heads of Immigration (HOI) and Integrated Border Management (IBM) Working Group meetings enhanced.</p> <p>Output 1.4 Capacity of the ECOWAS Commission in planning, coordination, monitoring and reporting on counter-trafficking, mixed migration, child protection and child labour strengthened.</p> <p>Output 1.5 Evidence-based understanding of human mobility in the context of climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters in West Africa to support policy development and knowledge sharing strengthened.</p> <p>Output 1.6 Regional public information and sensitization on the Free Movement Protocol, Integrated Border Management, human mobility in the context of climate change; Counter Trafficking and Smuggling, labour migration, cross border communities, ECOWAS National Biometric Identity Card (ENBIC) and regional integration enhanced.</p> <p>Output 1.7 Regional governance frameworks for labour migration, mobility, protection and access to social protection for migrant workers in the ECOWAS region strengthened.</p> <p>Output 2.1 ECOWAS Policies and Frameworks in the field of migration management operationalized in Member States (MS) and Mauritania.</p> <p>Output 2.2 Capacities of MS border management in legal identity/identity management enhancing the security and compatibility of travel documents increased through ensuring technical and advisory expertise towards the rollout of the roadmap of the ECOWAS Biometric ID card and the development and implementation of a strategy for monitoring at border posts in pilot border areas.</p> <p>Output 2.3 Harmonisation and standardisation of training manuals of border agencies in MS, in line with the enhanced ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual.</p> <p>Output 2.4 Capacity of MS and Mauritania to Combat Trafficking in Persons, protect vulnerable mixed migrants, advance child protection and combat child labour and forced labour in the region enhanced, including improved data collection and analysis, reporting, monitoring and evaluation, and interventions reinforced.</p>
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	<p>Output 2.5 National governance frameworks for human labour mobility enhanced, and the protection of migrant workers strengthened.</p> <p>Output 2.6 Harmonisation of MS and Mauritania data collection with the 2018 International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration through FMM II of a Labour Market and Migration Information System (LMMIS) in ECOWAS MS enhanced.</p> <p>Output 2.7 Technical capacities of national institutions to implement the provisions of the various regional instruments on Free Movement and to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance strengthened.</p> <p>Output 3.1 The engagement of civil society, including the private sector, on the Free Movement Protocol and the Regional Integration Agenda in the ECOWAS region strengthened.</p> <p>Output 3.2 Non-State Actors and Local Authorities, including women's organisations and movements promoting gender equality, access to initiatives actively supporting the protection of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations rights increased.</p>
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RELEVANCE OF THE ACTION

2.1 Context and justification

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) aims to promote economic integration among its 15 Member states (MS). The ECOWAS bloc's countries are characterised by high mobility due to millions of community citizens and migrants traversing its borders daily. The demographics of a growing, young population combined with a lack of access to quality training and education systems and decent work opportunities in countries of origin are among the drivers of regional labour migration in West Africa. The region's migration is characterised by irregular and regular migration, with irregular migration linked to a myriad of drivers, including conflict, climate change, limited access to regular migration channels and weak asylum processing systems. Moreover, the complex linkages between human mobility, climate change, environmental degradation and disasters continue to have an unprecedented impact on human security.

The ECOWAS 1979 Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment and subsequent supplementary Protocols set the legal framework for free movement in the region. The 2006 joint ECOWAS-WAEMU regional strategic document, the 2008 ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration, the ECOWAS Vision 2050, and the ECOWAS Strategic Plan 2020-2024 acknowledge the potential that free movement of persons and migration have for regional development if they are adequately managed. Since its inception, ECOWAS has fostered coordinated responses to migration governance through policy dialogue frameworks, such as the Migration Dialogue in West Africa (MIDWA), tripartite Social Dialogue Forum (SDF), Global Compact for Migration (GCM), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the African Union Migration Policy Framework (MPFA 2018-2030) and Plan of Action.

The Common Approach on Migration is the foundational policy document guiding the ECOWAS MS on migration-related matters since 2008. Moreover, ECOWAS Protocols encourage MS to adopt national rights-based labour migration policies to address labour market imbalances while ensuring the adequate protection of migrant workers. Although Mauritania withdrew from its full ECOWAS membership in 2000, it participates in the MIDWA. It remains a country of transit and destination in Sub-Saharan Africa and is targeted by the Team Europe Initiative along the Atlantic/Western Mediterranean route.

Apart from establishing regional consultative processes such as MIDWA and the SDF, other major reforms have been recorded recently. They aimed to contribute to facilitating free movement and mobility, promoting human and border security and the protection of migrant workers' rights in the region, as well as validating the ECOWAS Regional Migration Policy and migration policies at the national level. These reforms include, among other things, the ECOWAS Directive on Minimum Standards for Harmonization of Labour Legislation, the ECOWAS General Convention on Social Security, the ECOWAS Plan of Action for the Combat of Trafficking in Persons 2018 -2022 (currently being evaluated) and the ECOWAS Policy on Care and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking in Persons; Guidelines on Protection, Support and Assistance to Trafficking in Persons Witnesses, ECOWAS Child Policy and Strategic Plan of Action 2019 -2030, Strategic Framework for Child Protection Systems Strengthening 2017 – 2030, and its Implementation Guidelines, Plan of Action on Implementation of International Humanitarian Laws (IHL). Also, the current effort to establish

an ECOWAS Child Rights Information System (ECRIMS), the Regional Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour in West Africa 2021-2030; the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocols Monitoring Framework, the establishment of the Heads of Immigration Meeting (HOI); the removal of the visa requirement for citizens of ECOWAS MS; as well as the adoption and deployment of the ECOWAS National Biometric Identity Card (ENBIC).

Overall, the first phase of the FMM programme positively influenced the ECOWAS' regional migration governance and policy context. At the regional level, the project, with EU funding and support, has enhanced the planning, coordination and monitoring capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to lead intra-regional dialogue and act as a platform for development and harmonisation. The first Phase of the FMM project strengthened the capacities of selected national institutions to manage migration in line with regional strategic policy frameworks whilst contributing to strengthening regional dialogue. **The Demand-Driven Facility (DDF), established under the previous phase of the programme, was instrumental in building institutional capacity. It contributed to achieving objectives already outlined in national policies, strategies or action plans and addressed the needs of the requesting institutions without duplicating existing initiatives in the region.** Non-State Actors and Local Authorities were also supported through initiatives promoting migrants' and cross-border populations' rights. Ultimately, improving free movement and migration governance within West Africa was pursued through a multi-disciplinary approach. The action will build on previous achievements to maximise and continue strengthening the region's development potential and leverage the three implementing partners and the EU's role in West Africa and Africa in general.

The governance of migration, including labour migration within ECOWAS, continues to face challenges due to resource constraints, limited capacity, and bureaucratic complexities at various levels. Major challenges towards the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement of Persons and the Common Approach on Migration at all levels of governance include (i) minimal capacity for policy development and implementation; (ii) weak border management; (iii) Irregular migration; (iv) Climate change-induced migration, (v) limited migrant protection affecting groups in vulnerable situation (e.g. women, youth, LGBTIQI+ individuals); (vi) minimal migration data coverage; (vii) Weak civil society structures. All these challenges must be addressed urgently as they impede free mobility within the region.

At the **regional level**, the degree of implementation of the Free Movement Protocol by MS varies significantly. ECOWAS lacks the policy to manage its common external borders and has been unable to create a joint border force of all 15 states that screen people outside the region. Major challenges remain at land and some sea borders where immigration, customs and other border operatives are often reported to harass travelers, especially women, during border checks. It is envisaged that the establishment of monitoring units and the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Monitoring Mechanism for the free movement of interstate passenger buses will address the concerns of Community citizens by alleviating the impediments which obstruct the application of the Free Movement Protocol as well as provide data for ECOWAS on the labour market, cross-border movements, harassment and extortion along the border to inform policymaking better. The MIDWA, Heads of Immigration (HOI) meeting, SDF, the

regional UN Networks on Migration, and their respective workstreams, and respective national Networks on Migration are aimed at fostering discussions among ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania regarding shared migration issues and concerns, fostering a mutual understanding and collaborative solutions, with the ultimate goal of advancing the objectives of the Free Movement Protocol through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach. While a regional approach to trafficking in human beings has been systematized through support provided to the Focal Points' Annual Review meetings, gaps in reporting on the implementation of the ECOWAS' trafficking in human beings (THB) Directives still exist.

Moreover, in the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Department of Human Development and Social Affairs of ECOWAS has embarked on the promotion of the *whole Human Security approach* (including trafficking in persons) through the Integrated Protection and Human Security Initiative promoting a 'joined up' approach by key protection and human security actors at Member State level on interlinked protection risks and vulnerabilities. Critically, the Department is also implementing a Trafficking in Persons Plus approach incorporating the Regional Network of National Focal Institutions Against Trafficking in Persons Plus (RNNI-TIP+) across the ECOWAS Member States. Together, these initiatives target the wider protection of vulnerable people to address weaknesses or gaps in MS responses to risk and vulnerability factors at individual, local and national levels. This will ensure a holistic fight against factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons, gender-based violence or violence against children. The Departments work to advance the Rights of the Child, including a focus on Child Protection with the implementation of the ECOWAS Child Protection Strategic Framework and its Implementation Guidelines, focus on the establishment of an ECOWAS Child Rights Information System (ECRIMS) initially focused on Child Protection and operational collaboration with the Regional Working Group on Child Protection, as well as the West Africa Network on Child Protection (a field level operational network in all 15 MS comprised of both State and NGO actors) on children on the move; contribute to the goal of protection and human security within the region. This focus includes eliminating violence against children.

Furthermore, migrant smuggling has only been addressed indirectly under the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework, which aims to fight cross-border crime, and the ECOWAS Draft Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Implementation Plan. The Taskforce on Irregular Migration, conceived in 2015 to provide a concerted regional response for managing irregular migrant flows through the Nigerian route, is not operational. Implementation of the current ECOWAS Travel Certificate phase-out and replacement with the new ECOWAS National Biometric Identity Card (ENBIC) for travel among the Community's States are at various deployment levels. Technical, policy, legal, and financial challenges have hindered the deployment, preventing some Member States from progressing. As a result, intra-regional free travel has been significantly impacted.

Other mainstream challenges affecting human mobility within the ECOWAS region include climate change and gender equality. This Action will pay particular attention to them. Identifying the linkages between human mobility, climate change, environmental degradation, and disasters is central to understanding the drivers of human mobility and deciding on additional intervention areas to support regional integration and development further. This

complex policy area is currently underdeveloped at the regional level. Existing structures within the ECOWAS Commission, ECOWAS MS, EU, IOM, the MIDWA and its thematic groups can accommodate human mobility and climate change considerations to mainstream these issues. Likewise, on gender equality, more could be done at the ECOWAS level to ensure that sufficient and coherent policies are adopted and implemented. ECOWAS has incorporated gender equality in its legal framework, specifically in its revised treaty article 63, targeting the “enhancement of women's economic, social, and cultural conditions”. However, many women and men – particularly those with low incomes or those living in rural areas – are still discriminated against and, therefore, cannot reap the benefits of the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol. The intervention will strengthen the implementation of gender-responsive policies by the ECOWAS Commission, regional partners and MS programmes and ensure that women and men have equal rights and opportunities for unrestricted movement. More generally, there is a need to ensure the respect, implementation and enforcement of fundamental principles and rights for migrant workers.

At the **ECOWAS MS level**, divergent interests, security issues, limited capacity and budgetary constraints represent the main challenges preventing the full application of ECOWAS free movement policies. More generally, the iterative approach of the DDF will ensure that emergent needs at both the MS level and within Mauritania are addressed to attain ECOWAS regional integration objectives. Unlike ICMPD-led MIEUX actions that prioritize the use of experts from EU MS to foster peer-to-peer exchange between European officials and their West African counterparts, the DDF prioritises national and West African expertise based on the regional context while ensuring complementarity with initiatives implemented by the other consortium partners as well as through bilateral EU supported programmes at the national level.

At the **local level**, despite establishing the Non-State Actor Fund during the previous phase, civil society lacks the technical or financial means to raise awareness of migrants’ rights and build a bridge with local authorities. The Division of Human Security and Civil Society, responsible for engagement with Civil Society, has developed a draft ECOWAS Non-State Actors Engagement Strategy, which is yet to be validated. Given the current situation, a gap still exists and requires joint efforts of the Private Sector and Humanitarian and Social Affairs Directorate. ECOWAS has not yet fully engaged Non-State Actors or related entities such as the private sector, academia, migrant associations, Networks of West African nationals in the Diaspora, workers’ and employers’ organizations and youth groups in addressing critical challenges in the implementation of the Protocol. Civil society actors can be agents for transforming public opinions on migration and are expected to contribute to promoting intra-regional mobility.

Overall, the full implementation of the Free Movement Protocol needs efficient and functional borders to facilitate movement, particularly those of ECOWAS citizens, while maintaining security and control. Through this Action, the partners propose engagement with the ECOWAS Commission, MS and Mauritania to enhance their efforts in promoting free movement and the conditions for human mobility. It is also clear that there is a need to continue supporting Non-State Actors, social partners and local authorities to enhance their technical and operational capacities to implement the Free Movement Protocol and address concrete issues preventing mobility.

2.2 Stakeholders

The Departments of Economic Affairs & Agriculture and Human Development and Social Affairs are the key stakeholders in this programme. The office of the President and Vice-President and External Relations Directorate will play a key role in ensuring ownership both at the Commission and Member State levels. The ECOWAS Commission has fully participated in the formulation process and is committed to implementing the Action. In addition, the Action will work with the African Union, sub-regional groups of workers' and employers' organizations, relevant EU Delegations, IOM, ICMPD and ILO offices in the region as the three implementing agencies.

National stakeholders include ECOWAS MS Governments and Mauritania; Ministries in charge of Regional Integration, Foreign Affairs, Labour, and the Interior; public employment services; social security institutions; counter-trafficking departments; national institutions involved in the production of migration-related data; diaspora commissions and organizations; employers' and workers' organizations; private sector, including chambers of commerce; local authorities; media organizations; academia. The present Action will focus on capacity-building and strengthening institutional coordination in the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons between origin, transit and destination countries.

At the local level, the Action will target Non-State Actors, including social partners and Civil Society Organizations (Regional and Local), as these partners are central to achieving the ECOWAS vision for development and integration within the region. Awareness raising and sensitization campaigns of grassroots and border communities on the economic development of youth and women groups and migrant and labour rights are foreseen to help establish a link between the ECOWAS Commission, MS, LAs, and border and grassroots communities.

Other stakeholders active in migration, such as Frontex, UNODC and EU MS, have acknowledged the project's key objectives, expected results and main activities during consultations in the context of MIDWA, GCM (regional and continental reviews), the Africa-Frontex Intelligence Community (AFIC) and the Niamey Declaration to improve.

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

The proposed action aims to maximise the development potential of the free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by supporting the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocols and the ECOWAS Common Approach to Migration. This overall objective will be achieved through the implementation of three mutually reinforcing components, having specific objectives:

- 1) Strengthen the capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to implement the Free Movement Protocol through intra-regional dialogue on free movement and migration issues, policy development, and harmonization, as well as monitoring the application and implementation of the Free Movement Protocol.
- 2) Enhance the capacities of national institutions of the ECOWAS MS and Mauritania in the areas of migration data collection and management, migration policy development, border management, labour migration, counter-trafficking of human beings and mixed migration, diaspora engagement, human mobility in the context of climate change.
- 3) Increase the capacities of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in information and protection for the benefit of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations in West Africa.

The inclusion of capacity-building activities at both regional and national levels in data management and evidence-based policymaking, as well as in the six interrelated areas of border management, labour migration, counter-trafficking and smuggling of migrants, diaspora engagement, and human mobility in the context of climate change, is a distinctive advantage of the project. Activities at the regional level will support the definition of common strategies/policies, while activities at the national level will enhance their implementation by the MS. Simultaneously, the flexible and demand-driven mechanism proposed for capacity-building activities will ensure maximum adequacy to national contexts and priorities. Non-State actors and related entities such as the private sector, academia, migrant associations, Networks of West African nationals in the Diaspora, workers and employers' organizations and youth groups will also be mobilized.

4.1. Component I: Strengthening the capacities of the ECOWAS Commission

Component I focusing on the regional level, aims to strengthen the capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to lead an intra-regional dialogue on free movement and migration issues and act as a platform for migration policy development and harmonisation. Building upon the experiences from MIDWA and the first phase of the FMM project, the action will support the ECOWAS Commission to establish a structured, fact-based and result-oriented intra-regional dialogue on migration, supported by effective reporting and monitoring systems. To allow the ECOWAS Commission to act as a platform for migration policy development and harmonisation, the project will continue to reinforce the Commission's capacities in the area of migration management in general, data management, immigration and border management, labour migration governance, and counter-trafficking. It will add other key thematic areas such as diaspora engagement, human mobility in the context of climate change, and counter-smuggling. The project will also support the ECOWAS tripartite Social Dialogue Forum and its working groups on labour migration and social protection. Specific activities will be undertaken to support developing and implementing regional instruments, policies and guidelines in these areas. The Regional Migration Strategy remains a key policy document for the region, and the project will work towards an implementation work plan that will facilitate follow-up. Therefore, supporting the MIDWA process to follow up on migration discussions is key. The project will ensure that the MIDWA WGs are revamped in line with new realities, including the addition/removal/merging of WGs as necessary. Furthermore, the regional information and sensitisation strategy developed under FMM will be reviewed and implemented to ensure that different actors, including ECOWAS citizens, are informed about MS' commitment to mobility so that they uphold their rights and corresponding obligations. Finally, the project will support the ECOWAS Commission to continue and enhance the existing EU-ECOWAS dialogue and donor coordination mechanisms.

4.1.1 Intra-regional dialogue (including social dialogue) and migration policy development.

MIDWA, launched by ECOWAS in December 2000 in cooperation with IOM, aims to accelerate regional integration and address migration issues. It encourages ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania to discuss common migration concerns in a regional context, where national-level solutions may not be immediately available. While MIDWA and its working groups have not been meeting regularly after FMM and are still not fully institutionalized, there's a recognition that they remain an important mechanism that facilitates the promotion of a regional approach to migration. The development of a Regional Migration Strategy and a common approach to regional and international commitments, such as the Global Compact for

Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM) (of which several MS are Champion countries and almost all have National UN Networks on Migration), are positive indicators of the achievements possible through a unified regional approach. These efforts also provide a foundation for discussions at the Heads of Immigration meetings. The project will provide technical support for the MIDWA coordination and institutionalization as an inter-state consultation mechanism (ISCM) on migration in West Africa under the leadership of the ECOWAS Commission and ECOWAS MS which will effectively contribute to the GCM Regional Review of 2024 and the subsequent Africa Continental review as outlined in the GCM Resolution, A/73/L.66. It will also support the operational structure of MIDWA and its working groups. To do so, reinforcing the capacities of the Free Movement Directorate as the Secretariat of MIDWA and the engagement of other key ECOWAS directorates and departments, as well as the ownership by MS, is key. The project will support the organisation of MIDWA thematic working groups, with thematic expertise provided by the implementation partners. This process is expected to result in a structured and result-oriented dialogue on migration between ECOWAS and its MS, supported by effective reporting and monitoring systems to ensure a strong follow-up. The dialogue will facilitate the regional governance of free movement and migration issues and enhance the implementation of regional policies once adopted. More importantly, MIDWA paves the way for the Heads of Immigration (HoI) meeting, an important platform to exchange vital information, experiences, and good practices while adopting a common position on contemporary free movement and migration matters.

Strengthening ECOWAS-led donor engagement is considered important for the coordination and harmonisation of resource mobilization and its alignment with the priorities of the ECOWAS Common Approach. ICMPD mapped donor support to the six priorities of the Common Approach at the national and regional levels under FMM; findings and recommendations served to promote advocacy and dialogue between ECOWAS and donors, to ensure even distribution of resources. Under Phase II, this mapping will be updated to present the current state of support, areas in which support is lacking and areas in which better coordination of donor funding is needed. The mapping will serve as a coordination and advocacy tool for the ECOWAS Commission. The project will support meetings between ECOWAS and donors to foster harmonised technical and financial support to the ECOWAS Common Approach and other regional instruments. The outcomes of these meetings will feed into the MIDWA and the EU-ECOWAS dialogues.

The Tripartite Social Dialogue Forum (SDF) was established in 2012 and includes working groups on labour migration and social protection. Further, capacity-building efforts are required to strengthen the functioning of the SDF and sub-regional workers' and employers' organizations (including the private sector), as well as efforts to support their sustainability.

FMM provided capacity building to employers' and workers' organizations on various aspects of labour migration policies and governance mechanisms to facilitate their engagement in policy development and implementation and strengthen labour dialogue processes. The second phase of the project will continue this effort further. It will operationalize the results by supporting employers' and workers' organizations' participation in migration coordination mechanisms at national and sub-regional levels. The proposed Action will also support deeper intra-regional cooperation on labour migration issues among the Government, trade unions and employers' organizations, and between workers' and employers' organizations. To support the engagement of employers' and workers' organizations, the ILO will conclude implementation agreements with relevant social partners' organizations that will strengthen the capacities of employers' and workers' organizations to actively contribute to labour migration policy design,

implementation, monitoring and evaluation at national, regional and continental levels. It will also contribute to effectively implementing ILO migrant-related labour standards, recommendations and frameworks.

Expected results:

Result 1.1. The capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected MIDWA and regional meetings is strengthened, and the Capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to conduct tripartite dialogue on human labour mobility through the Social Dialogue Forum (SDF) is strengthened.

Activities:

Activity 1.1.1 Support and engage the ECOWAS Commission, including through the recruitment of 6 technical experts in ECOWAS Commission directorates of Free Movement, to reinforce their capacity to follow up on key topics relevant to MS, to the MIDWA process and its working groups and other relevant processes.

Activity 1.1.2 Support the organization of regional ministerial meetings to ensure formal engagement by MS and Mauritania on the MIDWA process through a kickoff meeting that will agree on a roadmap and follow-up meetings to follow up on the roadmap and to discuss topics highlighted in the different MIDWA working groups.

Activity 1.1.3 Support the organization of MIDWA thematic meetings through virtual (where possible) and annual physical meetings aiming to agree on priorities, develop a roadmap and follow it with clear monitoring and evaluation plans to facilitate the Free Movement Protocol and to respond to key migration issues in the Region, with a focus on gender needs.

Activity 1.1.4 Ensure coordination meetings between ECOWAS and the Consortium agencies to ensure a smooth implementation of the Action.

Activity 1.1.5 Support the organization of regional meetings of the Social Dialogue Forum, including its working groups on labour migration and social protection, and develop a sustainability strategy.

Activity 1.1.6 Provide technical support to sub-regional workers and employers organizations to facilitate regional tripartite dialogue on labour-human mobility and strengthen capacity to contribute to the governance of labour migration, including promoting migrant workers' rights and engagement in the SDF and its working groups.

Activity 1.1.7 Organize private sector consultative meetings, including with employers' organizations, including the Federation of West African Employers' Organisations (FOPAO), the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), and the Global Business Network on Forced Labour (GBNFL), to increase their capacity to participate fully and effectively in tripartite dialogue on human labour mobility.

Activity 1.1.8 Organize peer-to-peer consultations and exchange programs with other RECs that have successfully established similar dialogue mechanisms and produced tangible results in specific migration management and governance areas.

Activity 1.1.9 Organize MIDWA working sessions with the African Union Commission to align regional priorities to the various continental frameworks on human mobility.

Activity 1.1.10 Support MIDWA's representation in key continental platforms, notably the Pan-African Forum on Migration (PAFOM) and GCM reviews.

Activity 1.1.11 Conduct/update mapping of donor projects in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration. The mapping outcome will engage the ECOWAS Commission in strategically reflecting its role in advocating sub-regional migration priorities and enhancing donor coordination.

Activity 1.1.12 Organize preparatory meetings among migration stakeholders to support EU- ECOWAS dialogue on regional priorities for greater alignment of support to ECOWAS policies.

4.1.2 Migration data collection and management

The absence of reliable and comparable migration data hampers ECOWAS' efforts to develop evidence-based migration and free movement policies. While FMM focused on developing standardized procedures to collect and process migration-relevant data, FMM II will focus on their operationalization and strengthening of the capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to promote harmonised methodologies for migration data collection and management in the region. Several capacity-building efforts will be implemented based on the results of the regional assessment that will identify key needs and priorities for data collection for migration management. The project will also support the ECOWAS Commission in developing and publishing a regional migration profile based on national migration profiles, giving an overview of migration data and trends in the ECOWAS region and developing ECOWAS annual migration data reports.

Under FMM II, the project will support operationalising the Labour Market and Migration Information System (LMMIS) at both regional and MS levels, based on the roadmap developed under FMM, to enable common reporting on the labour market and migration data across the sub-region. To implement the LMMIS, it is important to support (regional and national) annual data collection that can adequately inform the labour market and migration indicators established under FMM. The project will support ECOWAS and its MS in establishing a minimum annual programme to collect statistical data on labour migration in all ECOWAS countries. The project will continue to build the capacities of national institutions to collect data (through surveys) and use harmonised data based on the standardised data indicators adopted in the first phase.

Expected results:

Result 1.2 Data collection, management capacities and implementation of the Guidelines for the Harmonisation of Migration Data Management in the ECOWAS Region are operationalized and strengthened.

Activities:

Activity 1.2.1 Undertake baseline surveys to identify existing needs and priorities of the ECOWAS Commission, its MS and Mauritania on migration management data collection, incl. immigration and border management, with a gender focus.

Activity 1.2.2 Build the capacities of key national institutions in ECOWAS MS in migration data collection and management, based on the Guidelines for the Harmonisation of Migration Data Management in the ECOWAS Region, that will be strengthened and operationalized. The capacity-building activities will include national trainings, facilitated by the experts that will have benefited from the Training of Trainers (ToT) on migration data collection and management organized at the regional level under the first phase of this project.

Activity 1.2.3 Support the ECOWAS Commission in developing a Regional Migration Profile. Coordinate, develop, and publish the ECOWAS annual migration data report based on national reports following harmonized key migration definitions and indicators.

Activity 1.2.4 Support coordination of data collection and statistics management with like-minded platforms such as AU observatories.

Activity 1.2.5 Support MS in updating their national migration profiles when one exists and in developing one in countries where this exercise has never been undertaken.

Activity 1.2.6 Commission policy-oriented studies on various aspects of free movement of persons and migration in the region as per needs identified and discuss them in the MIDWA thematic group meetings and ministerial meetings.

Activity 1.2.7 Strengthen capacity on labour migration data and statistics and support the ECOWAS commission to advance the ECOWAS Directive on LMMIS.

Activity 1.2.8 Organise a regional meeting with ECOWAS MS and Mauritania on the road map for the roll-out of the LMMIS at the national level and discuss data collected by national observatories – and related institutions – on labour market and migration information.

Activity 1.2.9 Establish reporting indicators for MS annual reports on labour market and migration data.

Activity 1.2.10 Compile and analyse country reports on the level of implementation of LMMIS in different MS and engage MS and ECOWAS on the findings.

4.1.3 Immigration and border management

While there has been undeniable progress in facilitating movements of ECOWAS citizens within the region, the Protocols on Free Movement, the Right of Residence and the Right of Establishment still encounter problems and challenges in their application. The project intends

to support the Free Movement of Persons Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission to address these challenges by strengthening its capacities in the area of border governance and border management based on the results of an ECOWAS Commission and MS assessment on integrated border management and Free Movement. To further promote the free movement of community citizens, the project will work with the ECOWAS Free Movement Directorate to revive the Regional Monitoring Mechanism for the Free Movement of Interstate Passenger Vehicles, Persons and Goods (RMM). The RMM is an ECOWAS framework which seeks to operationalize the free movement of community citizens across the region.

Furthermore, the Action will also support revising the border management and free movement manual, developed during the first phase of FMM, to capture emerging trends (e.g. pandemics), its final validation and appropriation by Immigration academies across the Region. Furthermore, the project will continue to strengthen the capacity of MS Immigration Services on IBM and Free Movement through the organisation of different trainings, capacity building and skills and knowledge sharing activities on the protocol, border management and Free Movement. Finally, FMM II aims to strengthen the annual Heads of Immigration Meetings as leading institutions for intra-regional dialogue on immigration and border governance issues.

Expected results:

Result 1.3 ECOWAS capacity in document examination, data management and trends analysis to exchange information and share regional migration trends through the HoI and Integrated Border Management (IBM) Working Group meetings is enhanced.

Activity 1.3.1 Undertake baseline assessment on the capacity of ECOWAS Commission and MS on IBM and Free Movement (FM) with a focus on document examination, data management and trends analysis and another one on gender.

Activity 1.3.2 Support IBM working group under the MIDWA process to further exchange among ECOWAS MS on IBM and Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment and agree on recommendations and way forward on key topics such as documentation, the opening of borders, common border management system, procedure within the region and introduction and adoption of ECOWAS biometric ID and Passports, ENBIC and harmonization of travel documents such as passports, ID cards, vehicle registration and driver's license. The results and recommendations of these discussions will be submitted for discussion and validation of HoI.

Activity 1.3.3 Support the development of standardised procedures and processes for opening borders, risk profiling, cross-border cooperation, and information exchange between MS.

Activity 1.3.4 Organise the annual HoI and support it as a key intra-regional dialogue on immigration and border management issues that will allow a follow-up on the Free Movement Protocol and IBM.

Activity 1.3.5 Support the organisation of regional Training of Trainers (TOT) to ensure appropriation by MS training academies of the existing standardised ECOWAS training curriculum for border officials (immigration, customs, security etc.). If needed, support the development of additional ECOWAS standardised training material for MS border operatives depending on further needs identified at project inception, and organise related ToT events.

4.1.4 Counter-trafficking, mixed migration, child protection and child labour

Combating Trafficking in Persons (TiP) is a priority for the ECOWAS Commission and MS. The ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration states, "Combating human trafficking is a moral and humanitarian imperative". ECOWAS has adopted several regional standards and guidelines in this regard, including the ECOWAS Regional Policy on Protection and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking, the ECOWAS Guidelines on Protection, Support and Assistance to Witnesses; the ECOWAS Support Procedures and Standards Regional for the Protection and Reintegration of Vulnerable Children on the Move" and Young Migrants. In 2021 the Human Development Division introduced the ECOWAS Protection and Human Security Integrated Coordination Mechanisms (ECO-PHSICM) in the 15 ECOWAS MS. So far, this has been implemented in The Gambia, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Togo, Niger and Liberia; with the missions in Ghana and Cape Verde to hold in 2023.

Building upon these initiatives, FMM II will support the ECOWAS Division of Human Security and Civil Society (in charge of the TiP programme) in the development, adoption, promotion and implementation of its new Plan of Action and will strengthen the annual ECOWAS review meetings on counter-trafficking by reinforcing related planning, coordination, monitoring and reporting mechanisms. Specific attention will be given to the appropriation and use by ECOWAS MS of the existing regional policy framework and the development of further regional policies and guidelines for combating TiP in West Africa.

FMM II will collaborate closely with OCWAR-T² to ensure that the findings and matters arising from the assessment are incorporated into project implementation. In view of the limited number of staff in the Division, the project will also support the provision of additional staff to support the Division with the implementation of the PoA. Currently, the Human Security Division is not mandated to combat SoM. Still, discussions will be initiated with the Directorate of Humanitarian and Social Affairs and the supervising Department of Human Development and Social Affairs on the possible adoption of a SoM mandate.

The Division of Human Security and Civil Society developed a Regional Crime Against the Persons Prevention Policy (RCAPP) in line with the TiP+ approach of working with MS to conduct a holistic appraisal of protection issues to address the root causes make people vulnerable to trafficking. The project will support the expansion of the RCAPP expert Working Group set up in three MS (Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo) by the OCWAR-T project and in the adoption of a Regional RCAPP, as well as its implementation.

² In 2022, the ECOWAS Division of Human Security and Civil Society (in charge of ECOWAS TiP programme) approached ICMPD who is implementing the TiP component of the Organised Crime: West African Response to Trafficking (OCWAR-T) project to conduct an assessment of the implementation status of the ECOWAS Plan of Action for combatting Trafficking in Persons 2018 –2.

FMM II will also support the ECOWAS Commission in its child protection work focused on the operationalization of the ECOWAS Child Rights Information Systems, which will initially be focused on the implementation of the ECOWAS Strategic Framework on Child Protection with five specific priority focus areas: Violence against Children, Children on the Move, Child Labor, Child Marriage and Birth Registration. This will highlight cross-border elements (i.e. where the risks and vulnerabilities might entail cross-border elements such as birth registration of children in border communities etc., as well as critical issues relating to the movement of children both within and across borders, including where such children are at risk of violence. This work will also focus on applying the Guidelines for implementing the ECOWAS Strategic Framework on Child Protection.

The elimination of child labour, including through the publication of a regional child labour report, support to operationalize the national child labour focal points, and implementation of the Regional Action Plan will be pursued under the Project. These activities will be implemented in cooperation with Alliance 8.7 and IPEC+, the ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour.

Expected results:

Result 1.4 The capacities of the ECOWAS Commission in planning, coordination, monitoring and reporting on counter-trafficking, mixed migration, child protection and child labour are strengthened.

Activities:

Activity 1.4.1 Conduct a gaps and needs assessment of the ECOWAS Human Development and Social Affairs Department, in collaboration with the Human Security and Civil Society Division, to identify existing needs and priorities on counter-trafficking and its linkages with related offences, as well as on mixed migration.

Activity 1.4.2 Support planning, monitoring and coordination activities of the ECOWAS TIP programme through the organisation of the ECOWAS Annual Review Meeting of the Regional Network of National Focal Institutions Against Trafficking in Persons Plus (RNNI-TIP+). Work with ECOWAS to provide mentoring to national focal points to address issues arising from the national reports.

Activity 1.4.3 Support the development of the Regional Crime Against Persons Prevention Policy. The policy will be drafted through an expert Working Group drawn from selected focal points from MS.

Activity 1.4.4 Develop a monitoring framework for the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour, prepare a regional child labour report in different languages, and publish the Regional Action Plan on Child Labor and Forced Labor.

Activity 1.4.5 Support working group meetings at a regional and national level to pilot the RCAPP concept at the national level and oversee the implementation.

Activity 1.4.6 Disseminate soft copies of the ECOWAS Strategic Framework on Child Protection and its Implementation Guidelines.

Activity 1.4.7 Support activities on developing data and information alliances, databases and sets, production of reports, dissemination and capacity building through the ECOWAS Child Rights Information Systems (ECRIMS).

Activity 1.4.8 Strengthening regional capacities for the protection of vulnerable mixed migrants.

Activity 1.4.9 Support the development of an ECOWAS Policy on Missing, Detained and Deceased Migrants and develop critical benchmarks.

Activity 1.4.10 Finalize and validate the draft Strategy for the Protection of Vulnerable Mixed Migrants.

Activity 1.4.11 Support collaboration of national child labour focal points at the regional level through a dedicated platform and SOP through the pilot of the SOP tool drafted by the Humanitarian and Social Affairs Directorate.

4.1.5. Human Mobility in the Context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters

In line with ECOWAS climate strategy integrating human mobility and with IOM's institutional strategy on Migration Environment and Climate Change, the proposal outlines a holistic approach aiming at the development of solutions "for people to move, (...) for people on the move, and (...) for people to stay". It will also build on IOM's programming and partnerships on migration environment and climate change in West Africa. More specifically, it includes IOM's programming in several countries of the region, the results of the France-funded project "Implementing Global Policies on Environmental Migration and Disaster Displacement in West Africa" led by IOM together with the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD), but also in the spirit of the collaboration with the UN working group on Climate Change, Environment, Security and Development in West Africa and the Sahel, founded by IOM, UNOWAS, UNEP and UNFCCC-RCC in 2021. The programme seeks to promote a shared understanding and policy approach among regional and national stakeholders on human mobility in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and regional disasters. According to IDMC figures published in 2022, as of the end of 2021, the region accounted for 265,400 IDPs due to disasters (such as floods, storms or landslides); flooding hotspot countries are Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone.

In addition to these data, World Bank's 2021 Groundswell report projects that "by 2050, without concrete climate and development action, West Africa could see up to 32.0 million people moving within their countries as a consequence of slow-onset climate impacts, such as water stress, drops in crop and ecosystem productivity, and sea level rise compounded by storm surge."

Last, in recent years, climate change, environmental degradation and sometimes disasters, exponential population growth, urbanization, land privatization, changes in farming practices,

and insecurity have affected transhumance patterns, routes and periods, and relations with other communities.

To this end, with the ECOWAS Commission and its MS, the project will work towards concrete climate security and development actions. Based on existing evidence and regional expertise, FMM II will support ECOWAS and its Member states in prioritizing policy areas for concrete action and define the tools to support States in implementing the commitments made under the GCM Objectives 2 and 5 related to environmental migration and disaster displacement at national and subnational levels, in synergy with ECOWAS climate strategy and other relevant strategic frameworks (e.g. Transhumance protocol, Early Warning and Early Response Strategic Plans 2022-2026). Based on the results of FMM and of the project “Implementing Global Policies on Environmental Migration and Disaster Displacement in West Africa”, and taking into consideration current dynamics within the region, the Action will aim at improving the understanding of ECOWAS Commission and MS on the current and foreseen impacts of climate change on regional human mobility dynamics; supporting ECOWAS and MS in integrating these dimensions in relevant policy frameworks, developing and implementing policy related to the subject matter, working hand-in-hand with Non-State Actors.

It is essential to intensify dialogue and cooperation within ECOWAS, between ECOWAS and its MS and with international partners, on relevant measures related to human mobility in climate change, environmental degradation and disasters. At the regional level, where communities and economies are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, the Action will contribute through MIDWA and in collaboration with other relevant ECOWAS Departments, like the Department of Economic Affairs and Agriculture, to comprehensive policy dialogue, at several levels of governance and in alignment with the commitments made in the GCM, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, but also in the ECOWAS climate strategy, that was published in July 2022 and integrates human mobility.

Climate change is acting as an aggravating factor, multiplying threats, vulnerabilities, and inequalities. In a region whose economy relies massively on natural resources and where human mobility has always been an important adaptive capacity, ECOWAS MS stated that climate change, desertification and land degradation must be considered in the definition of comprehensive migration management strategies. The Action will promote green jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities at the community level in selected countries. This will contribute to consolidating the nexus between migration, employment, and migration in the ECOWAS region. This will be done through training activities, labour market assessments and market system analyses to identify opportunities for piloting local green job creation in migration-prone areas based on needs identified by MS. Relevant synergies with other actors involved in this area, such as the World Bank will also be, pursued.

Expected results:

Result 1.5 Evidence-based understanding of human mobility in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters in West Africa to support policy development and knowledge sharing, ensuring a gender approach is strengthened.

Activities:

Activity 1.5.1 Undertake baseline assessment on the capacities of ECOWAS Commission, its MS and Mauritania on human mobility in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters.

Activity 1.5.2 Support the ECOWAS Commission in facilitating intersectoral policy dialogue to ensure excellent and tailored management of human mobility, including identifying other regional sectoral policies relevant to support excellent and tailored management of human mobility in climate change in West Africa.

Activity 1.5.3 Conduct training and workshops to improve the understanding of the ECOWAS Commission, its MS and Mauritania on the current and foreseen impacts of climate change on human mobility dynamics in the region.

Activity 1.5.4 Conduct training and workshops on transition tools and the nexus with human mobility as per assessment and requests from MS and Mauritania.

Activity 1.5.5 Support the ECOWAS Commission in implementing its Regional Climate Strategy, particularly R9.SC/GRC.

Activity 1.5.6 Strengthen the capacity of the ECOWAS MS and Mauritania as relevant on mainstreaming nature-based solutions, green jobs and creating livelihood opportunities; within the governance framework addressing the nexus between migration, climate change and labour markets (employment).

Activity 1.5.7 Strengthen the capacity of ECOWAS and MS to implement a gender-sensitive, human mobility and community-centred ECOWAS Climate strategy and a Regional Operational Framework and roll-out plan for MS.

Activity 1.5.8 Implement pilot programmes targeting selected MS to implement nature-based solutions, green jobs, and create livelihood opportunities, with mobile populations, in climate-affected and in migration-prone and host areas.

4.1.6. Information and sensitization of ECOWAS citizens

Ensuring ECOWAS citizens are aware of their rights and responsibilities regarding mobility and migration in West Africa is critical to enabling the free movement of persons. Within the framework of the FMM, the ECOWAS Commission developed a comprehensive regional information and sensitization strategy. It started implementing it with the support of Civil society organizations, migrant associations and social partners. The topics covered under the information materials developed included, amongst others: (i) free movement rights and corresponding obligations; (ii) rights of migrant workers and their families; (iii) departure, return and employability information for migrants; and (iv) prevention of trafficking in persons and support services for victims of trafficking.

This project's second phase aims to review the Public Information and Sensitization strategy developed under FMM and expand its scope. In addition to ensuring the integration of a gender dimension, the revised document will also look at the contribution of small-scale cross-border trade to community development. The action will support new awareness campaigns on critical topics like cross-border trade, migrant smuggling, TiP, human mobility, the environment, and climate change. These campaigns will be developed with local partners and focus on key regional cross-border corridors. Various tools will be utilized to raise awareness of these critical issues effectively.

Expected results:

Result in 1.6 Regional public information and sensitization on the Free Movement Protocol, IBM, human mobility in the context of climate change; Counter Trafficking and Smuggling, labour migration, Cross border communities, ENBIC and regional integration are enhanced.

Activities:

Activity 1.6.1 Update the regional public information strategy on the Free Movement Protocol, integrated border management and regional integration to reach a wider scope by integrating dimensions such as small-scale cross-border trade and a stronger gender approach.

Activity 1.6.2 Conduct awareness raising of the community citizens and border officials through robust sensitization using available media to build their capacity on the privileges of the Free Movement Protocol to promote safe and orderly movement within the region (ENBIC); this includes developing different information tools to conduct awareness raising campaigns addressing eight thematic areas.

Activity 1.6.3 Support advocacy for implementing a simplified border crossing regime for the border communities and cross-border traders, in line with AU Convention and ECOWAS Protocol.

4.1.7. Labour migration governance at the regional level

Legal and social protection mechanisms and their application are crucial pillars affecting the free movement of people across the ECOWAS regions. The fifth principle of the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration reaffirms MS' "commitment to ensuring the implementation of the Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons within the ECOWAS zone and the International Convention on the Rights of Migrants and Their Families." A majority of MS have ratified relevant international instruments on the protection of the rights of migrants and refugees. However, the implementation of ratifying States of international protection standards and national legislation remains inadequate to ensure the protection of migrants in practice.

Extending social protection to migrant workers can promote decent work, reduce inequalities, ensure inclusive growth and serve as a bridge towards formal, more productive employment. Enabling migrant workers to benefit from and maintain social security rights across countries can also facilitate mobility, including return and reintegration. The ECOWAS General Convention on Social Security is based on the principles of equal treatment between migrant

workers and nationals of the host country and is largely inspired by ILO Conventions. The project will support the implementation of the ECOWAS General Convention on Social Security through sensitization and capacity development of national social security institutions and support the ECOWAS committee of experts on social security. The project will utilize the ILO Capacity Building Toolkit on the ECOWAS General Convention on Social Security, developed in collaboration with ITCILO and the ECOWAS Commission under the EU-funded JLMP social protection project implemented by ILO. Additionally, the Training of Trainers toolkit will facilitate sustainable regional trainings to enhance awareness and implementation of the ECOWAS General Convention on Social Security at national and sub-regional levels.

The project will also support the ECOWAS committee of experts in the design and dissemination of administrative, policy/institutional and regulatory frameworks, monitoring and reporting frameworks and IT tools to facilitate coordination and exchange between social protection institutions to enhance the portability of social security in the region. As effective social dialogue is a critical component of labour migration governance, the project will also organize regional dialogues on social protection in selected thematic areas to promote the extension of social protection to all, including migrant workers and the ratification of ILO standards relevant to migrant workers' social protection including the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102), the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), the Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118), the Maintenance of Social Security Rights Convention³ 1982 (No. 157).

Expected results:

Result 1.7 Implementation of Regional governance frameworks for labour migration, mobility, protection and access to social protection for female and male migrant workers in the ECOWAS region are strengthened.

Activities:

Activity 1.7.1 Support the capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to evaluate the implementation of the ECOWAS Protocols on Free Movement of Persons.

Activity 1.7.2 Conduct regional capacity-building activities on the ILO Guide for policymakers on extending social protection to migrant workers, refugees and their families.

Activity 1.7.3 Organize a regional meeting to reactivate the ECOWAS Committee of Experts on Social Security; organize regional dialogues on social protection.

Activity 1.7.4 Organize dialogues on social protection along key migration corridors and roll out awareness-raising and communication actions on extending access to social protection targeted at migrant workers and their families, as well as staff of social protection agencies and relevant actors in the ECOWAS region.

4.2. Component II: Strengthening the Capacities of National Institutions

FMM II aims to boost government institutions' capacity in ECOWAS MS and Mauritania for effective migration management and governance. This involves promoting a common approach to migration within ECOWAS and facilitating progress on international commitments like the GCM, relevant national and regional reviews and the associated IMRF preparations. The project also focuses on operationalizing these commitments at the national level by strengthening capacities in labor migration, counter-trafficking, migrant smuggling, child labor, border management and legal identity/identity management at the MS level.

To address institutional gaps and migration capacity-building needs of government institutions in ECOWAS MS, the project will continue providing support through the DDF. The DDF presents advantages in terms of beneficiary ownership that were appreciated by beneficiaries in the first phase, as documented in reports commissioned by ICMPD and the EU. Therefore, the demand-driven logic will help ensure that interventions are tailor-made, are effectively beneficiary-owned and have a clear exit strategy with concrete outputs which can be built on through further interventions.

The DDF provides a platform to engage further and strengthen selected national institutions' capacities in border management, labour migration and counter-trafficking. It also contributes to regional migration governance and global, regional and national commitments. To maximise the impact and sustainability of project activities, it is important to avoid “one-size-fits-all” activities implemented across the board, considering the dynamic nature of the development sector. National context and priorities evolve in line with emerging trends and realities; hence, the DDF will allow national institutions to delve deeper into concrete actions and explore innovative approaches to addressing issues.

The technical assistance could be delivered as support to conduct studies/research or capacity-building activities such as trainings, data collection, advocacy, policy development and implementation, and other emerging needs in line with project objectives. The overarching goal of all activities undertaken at the national level is to advance and bolster the implementation of regional policies, methodologies, and action plans crafted under Component I of this project while aligning them with the priorities of ECOWAS Member States in a harmonious manner.

4.2.1. Regional dialogue and migration policy development

The ECOWAS MS have a significant role in implementing the GCM, considering the vast migration potential the MS has alone and together as a bloc. As a regional body, ECOWAS can bring together its MS's commitment to ensure collectively working to achieve the objectives of the GCM through its implementation at the local, national and regional levels. ECOWAS MS should continue working together to develop and implement legal, institutional, and operational mechanisms to ensure adequate regional migration management. This includes strengthening the capacity of states to manage their borders, protect the rights of migrants, and ensure that migration is an orderly, safe, and regular process that contributes to the sustainable development of communities, states and migrants. In addition, ECOWAS MS can play a leading role in implementing the Free Movement Protocol.

ECOWAS, with the support of IOM, conducted a consultative meeting with MS and ECOWAS in preparation for the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) in October 2021. That

was the first opportunity for ECOWAS MS and other relevant stakeholders to reflect collectively on initial results, review processes and explore ways to advance the implementation of the GCM. In addition, the review and consultation process offered ECOWAS MS an opportunity for their voices to be featured in the outcome document on the global review in 2022. It identified ways to adapt the GCM as a guiding framework for improving regional migration governance and process.

The project aims to support GCM implementation by organising regional meetings to review the GCM, following the recommendations resulting from the IMRF Progress Declaration. On that basis, priorities can be established, as well as an operational plan and the review processes for the GCM Regional Review and Continental GCM Review in 2024 and the IMRF in 2026. The project will also work with MS and Mauritania to reinforce their capacity to mainstream migration into national development strategies and policies and assist the development of RCP submissions and MS of the GCM Voluntary National Reviews. It will also further engage in other regional processes, such as other ISCMs, such as the Rabat Process and the Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD).

To do so, the project foresees the organization of regional consultations that will allow for follow-up on the recommendations of previous GCM consultations, the definition of priorities for the region and the elaboration of a work plan for implementing the GCM that will facilitate ECOWAS joint positioning and reporting to the IMRF. At the national level, the project will promote trainings that will reinforce the capacities of MS and Mauritania to mainstream migration and to implement the regional work plan for the implementation of the GCM. This may also be done with the local National UN Networks and the Regional UN Network on Migration for West and Central Africa.

Expected results:

Result 2.1 ECOWAS Policies and Frameworks in the field of migration management are operationalized in MS and Mauritania.

Activities:

Activity 2.1.1 Coordinate and organize National Coordination Mechanisms concerning the national review plans of continental and global migration management frameworks such as the GCM, Rabat Process and GFMD, and regional consultative processes for key countries.

Activity 2.1.2 Coordinate and organise regional coordination consultations for reviewing regional, continental and global migration management frameworks, e.g. GCM regional reviews and IMRF.

Activity 2.1.3 Conduct trainings and capacity-building activities on mainstreaming migration management into national policies, focusing on gender.

Activity 2.1.4 Review of the Free Movement Protocol.

4.2.2 and 4.2.3. Immigration and border management and Free Movement

Expected results:

Result 2.2 Capacities of MS border management in legal identity/identity management enhancing the security and compatibility of travel documents are increased through ensuring technical and advisory expertise towards the rollout of the roadmap of the ECOWAS Biometric ID card and the development and implementation of a strategy for monitoring at border posts in pilot border areas.

Activities:

Activity 2.2.1 Develop a national ECOWAS biometric ID card roll-out road map.

Activity 2.2.2 Conduct workshops on the roadmap for the Free Movement Protocol in relation to border management that brings together two or more countries.

Activity 2.2.3 Establish and or strengthen the selected Monitoring unit Points of Entries.

Activity 2.2.4 Establish and coordinate with ECOWAS the Steering Committee meetings for the Monitoring Posts.

Activity 2.2.5 Build the capacity of national committees to oversee the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Monitoring Mechanism for the Free Movement of interstate vehicles, persons and goods (RMM) and support the development/adoption of tools and guidelines for the implementation of the RMM, by designing a Practical Handbook for monitoring and evaluation of the application of border management principles for MS.

Activity 2.2.6 Training course on monitoring and evaluation for applying the Practical Handbook.

Expected results:

Result 2.3 Harmonisation and standardisation of training manuals of border agencies in MS, in line with the enhanced ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual.

Activities:

Activity 2.3.1 Establish a capacity development working group (CDWG), with nominated experts from MS and implementing Organisation/s, which shall serve as the core entity responsible for identifying and formulating the training needs and Training manuals standards for border agencies.

Activity 2.3.2 Evaluate the current training capabilities in border management, providing recommendations and identifying solutions to address the gaps.

Activity 2.3.3 Support the CDWG, in updating and harmonizing the ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual in line with current trends and realities (e.g. new IBM tools, contingency planning, modern border control processes, pandemics);

then liaise with immigration academies in ECOWAS MS to harmonise their training curriculum with the ECOWAS Border Management training manual.

Activity 2.3.4 Assist the CDWG, members adapting the ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual to specialized learning modules/portals of a virtual academy according to the main learning categories (e-learning, distance learning).

Activity 2.3.5 Assists the cooperation between relevant MS training academies and facilitates the consultation and decision-making process to design a new educational and training system focused on border management, while ensuring coordination with other similar initiatives and ongoing processes aimed at developing educational and training systems in the security sector.

Activity 2.3.6 Build capacity of MS training academies to ensure appropriation of the standardized ECOWAS training package on BM and FM and strengthen cross-border collaborations. This will include study visits to border management training institutions with high standards in training on BM delivery.

Activity 2.3.7 Organize regional meetings to review achievements and challenges in joint border management.

2.4. Counter-trafficking, mixed migration, child protection and child labour

In 2001, the ECOWAS Heads of State adopted the initial Plan of Action to combat trafficking in persons. Since then, the Commission has advocated for and supported MS to establish National Task Forces and develop and implement national plans of action. The Network of National TIP Focal Points comprise a peer review mechanism for experience sharing, international collaboration, monitoring, and evaluation. In addition, establishing the ECOWAS Protection and Human Security Integrated Coordination Mechanisms (ECO-PHSICM) in 7 Member States of ECOWAS so far (the balance planned for 2023 and 2024) provides an umbrella protection and human security internal coordination platform and approach for Member States. The objective of the ECO-PHSICM is to promote and institutionalise a whole Government/ State and Society approach to strengthening the protection web and human security of the individual. The MS mandate of ECOWAS TIP program has also been expanded to include a broader protection of vulnerable populations against risks that make them vulnerable to trafficking, exploitation, and violence (the TIP Plus approach).

Across the 15 ECOWAS MS and Mauritania, combatting TIP is not a one-agency effort but often involves multiple agencies in charge of protection, investigation and prosecution. Consequently, the National TIP focal points often coordinate mobilising the different government and non-government actors involved in the fight against TIP. The ECOWAS Human Security and Civil Society Division has also been promoting the whole Government and Society approach to strengthening the protection and human security of the individual. To enhance the capacity of the National TIP focal points to play this coordinating role as well as collect and collate data from national actors to produce the national reports submitted to ECOWAS, the FMM II project will support dedicated trainings and mentoring of the focal points.

Furthermore, under the OCWAR-T project, ICMPD is collaborating with ECOWAS HSCS on developing the TIP Regional Referral Mechanism (TIP-RRM). This a mechanism and the associated procedures for the comprehensive assistance and transnational support of trafficked persons through coordinated interventions amongst an array of anti-trafficking responders and civil society. The TIP-RRM aims to standardize cross-border cooperation in identification, referral and assistance by relevant national institutions for providing necessary assistance and services based on human rights, gender-sensitive and trauma-informed approaches. The TIP-RRM translates into guiding principles and a set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) across four key stages of supporting the victims of human trafficking. FMM II will continue supporting the collaboration between National TIP task forces to enhance transnational referrals, mutual legal assistance for investigations and prosecutions and the exchange of trends and information on cross-border cases.

Regarding SOM, the ECOWAS Human Security Division is not mandated to combat SOM yet; therefore, there is no reporting mechanism on SOM at the ECOWAS level, only at the UNODC level with CoP to the UNTOC. Nevertheless, four MS (Ghana, Niger, Nigeria and Sierra Leone) have specific laws against SOM.

The HSCS Division, however, has a clear mandate for protecting vulnerable migrants in the ECOWAS space and migrants of West African extraction beyond the borders of West Africa. To the extent this approach overlaps with the combat of SOM, the program will explore strengthening protection approaches for vulnerable migrants. This will include focused work on missing, stranded and dead migrants (focusing on policy and capacity building). At the same time, it should be noted that the Humanitarian Affairs Division retains operational responsibility for rescue, return and reintegration. The programme will also focus on finalising the Mixed Migration Strategy within the ECOWAS Migration Policy (EMP) framework, the draft Strategy developed during the first phase of FMM. The program will also advance other initiatives to protect vulnerable migrants, including utilising the SOPs on Protection of the Rights of Mixed Migrants developed by the ECOWAS Commission and the work of the Mixed Migration Working Group under the MIDWA.

The program will also support the work of the Division of Human Security and Civil Society on Child Protection, including the take-off of the ECOWAS Child Rights Information Systems (ECRIMS), a technical and operational level Child Observatory leading on information and data management, advocacy and mobilization and capacity building on child rights, at political and policy level, strategic and operational and technical levels. It will also popularize the ECOWAS Child Protection Strategic Framework and its Implementation Guidelines, ensuring the initiation of benchmarking processes at Member State and Mauritania level in collaboration with the Child Protection Directors of Member States and Mauritania, the Child Protection Regional Working Group, and other key child protection regional actors.

In alignment with the activities developed with the ECOWAS Commission, the project will work to increase the capacity of national stakeholders on child labour and forced labour, including through national capacity-building workshops and support for national-level networks.

Result 2.4 Capacity of MS and Mauritania to combat trafficking in persons (including improved data collection and analysis, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of THB/SOM interventions), protect vulnerable mixed migrants, promote child protection and combat child labour and forced labour, are reinforced.

Activities:

Activity 2.4.1 Carry out organizational capacity assessment of MS and Mauritania TIP coordination structures on Result Based Management, data collection and analysis, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of THB and SOM interventions.

Activity 2.4.2 Organise training and mentoring activities to strengthen the capacity of THB focal persons to collect, analyse and report on TIP and SOM-related data. This will include case digest sessions where countries will delve into current TIP cases requiring peer review and insights from third parties. The activity will also include a review of the in-country implementation status of the TIP-RRM guidelines developed under OCWAR-T.

Activity 2.4.3 Support coordination mechanisms to enhance communication and information sharing (on protection, investigation, prosecution) between national TIP task force members at the national level and with other countries. This will strengthen national responses and cross-border cooperation on trafficking in persons and related forms of criminal victimization (TIP+ Approach).

Activity 2.4.4 Capacity building for the Mixed Migration Working Group in the technical implementation of Mixed Migration instruments, including the SOPs for protecting Vulnerable Mixed Migrants.

Activity 2.4.5 Support capacity building at the national level for review of Migration Policies and other relevant policy instruments focused on the improved response to vulnerable migrants, including missing and detained migrants etc.

Activity 2.4.6 Conduct National level baseline assessments of the National Child Protection System and conduct national capacity-building workshops with the involvement of Child Protection partners with a presence at the national level on the Strategic Framework for Child Protection Systems Strengthening.

Activity 2.4.7 Organize national capacity-building workshops on the Regional Action Plan for the Elimination of Child and Forced Labour.

Activity 2.4.8 Align national action plans on child labour with the Regional Action Plan.

Activity 2.4.9 Support national child labour networks.

4.2.5. and 4.2.6. Labour migration

In ECOWAS MS and Mauritania, labour market and migration information are scattered, incomplete, irregularly produced and not sufficiently analysed. In addition, they are difficult to access and are not centralized. Countries struggle to coordinate dispersed information without

a national mechanism to establish links between institutions producing statistical data on labour and migration.

Implementing a Labour Market and Migration Information System (LMMIS) involves putting in place all the provisions, procedures and institutional mechanisms needed to coordinate the collection, processing, analysis, storage, retrieval and dissemination of labour market information. An LMMIS is an instrument to support decision-making in employment, vocational training and migration. It provides decision-makers with up-to-date forward-looking analyses for formulating and monitoring national employment and migration policies. Unfortunately, the low integration of LMMIS severely limits MS' ability to process, produce and disseminate labour market information labour market and migration actors. A preliminary study identifying the data systems in place, their weaknesses and shortcomings that hinder data production, analysis and management was conducted by ICMPD, which led to the development of the Methodological guide on key indicators of international labour migration and harmonized questionnaire modules in the ECOWAS region and Mauritania. In this context and in response to the need for more reliable statistics on labour migration, the ECOWAS Commission, through the DDF action under FMM, implemented a capacity-building and LMMIS implementation programme in 6 pilot countries. One of the outcomes of this action was the development of a road map for implementing LMMIS at regional and national levels. This road map foresees the development of national action plans and capacity-building activities (trainings, training materials, equipment, support for research etc.) for the national institutions with the mandate to implement the LMMIS. The project will consolidate the gains of the FMM by supporting a minimum annual programme for the regular collection of statistical data on labour migration in all ECOWAS countries and Mauritania.

The weaknesses of migration data management systems and the insufficient coordination between national stakeholders are a shared feature in all ECOWAS MS. This project, therefore, includes activities aimed at reinforcing migration data collection/management capacities and stakeholder coordination in all MS and Mauritania as relevant through the strengthening of data management tools and approaches at the national level, the updating of Migration Profile initiatives in countries where they already exist, and the extension of research and capacity building activities to remaining countries. The project will assist in the development and implementation of national migration policies, as well as the integration of migration considerations into national development strategies.

Comprehensive labour migration frameworks in line with international labour standards and developed through social dialogue are key to ensuring safe, fair, and orderly migration and protection of men and women migrant workers. Other key pillars include negotiation and effective implementation of rights-based bilateral labour agreements (BLAs), effective regulation and monitoring of recruitment practices, and ensuring coverage and portability of social protection rights. Harmonization of these elements within the ECOWAS region remains a challenge.

An essential instrument for facilitating human labour mobility and protecting migrant workers' rights is the establishment of rights-based gender-responsive labour migration policies. Developing dedicated labour migration policies is a relatively new phenomenon among

ECOWAS MS and Mauritania. More work is required at the country level to support the capacity to design, implement, monitor and evaluate coherent, evidence-based and gender-sensitive labour migration policies based on international labour standards.

The project will support the ECOWAS Commission in developing gender-responsive and rights-based frameworks for labour migration governance and protecting migrant workers' rights. The project will collaborate with ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania to enhance governance mechanisms for human labor mobility at the national level. This will include strengthening labour migration policies, conducting legislative gap analysis, supporting ratification and domestication of key ILO Conventions, promoting fair recruitment practices, facilitating capacity building on bilateral labour agreements, and promoting social protection agreements, in line with regional activities. These activities will be guided by ILO's rights and standards-based approach to labour migration governance and the fundamental principles and rights at work. ECOWAS MS and Mauritania will be capacitated to bring national governance frameworks in line with international labour standards and best practices, guided by ILO tools and frameworks, including the ILO Practical Guide on Developing Labour Migration Policies, the General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment and Definition of Recruitment Fees and Related Costs, the UN Network on Migration's Guidance on Bilateral labour migration agreements developed jointly by IOM and ILO, the ILO Guide for Policymakers and Practitioners on Extending Social Protection to Migrant Workers, Refugees and their Families and the ILO Capacity Building Toolkit on the ECOWAS General Convention on Social Security developed in collaboration with ITCILO and the ECOWAS Commission as well as the Training of Trainers toolkit to support sustainable regional trainings to raise awareness on the ECOWAS General Convention on Social Security and thus improve its implementation at national and sub-regional level. The project will also work to support the Directive on Minimum Standards towards the Harmonization of Labour Laws of ECOWAS MS.

The conclusion and implementation of bilateral or multilateral social security agreements, which are designed to coordinate the social security schemes of two or more countries, is one of the most effective and commonly used policy options for extending social protection to migrant workers and is essential to ensuring the portability of entitlements. The mere existence of these agreements can incentivise workers to migrate through regular channels and work in the formal economy to benefit from the social protection they provide. Such agreements require administrative coordination, common databases, and shared information systems to be implemented effectively. In West Africa, only a few social security agreements exist in addition to the ECOWAS General Convention on social security. Therefore, more efforts are needed to support ECOWAS MS to strengthen their capacities to extend social protection to migrant workers, including those in the informal economy, through unilateral (e.g. legal reforms, flexibility in the design of the schemes) and bilateral and multilateral measures. The practical barriers faced by migrant workers to access social protection, including a lack of information or knowledge about their rights, complex administrative procedures, and language barriers amongst others, is also crucial and will be addressed through this action.

A strong statistical knowledge base is needed to inform labour market and migration policies, yet little data is currently available on labour migration in West Africa. Data collection and

analysis on the labour market and labour migration in ECOWAS MS are not homogeneous in terms of methodology, governance and data availability, especially for labour migration data. Challenges include a lack of consensus around statistical definitions and methodologies and weak capacities of the relevant authorities. Consequently, data and information about the labour market and migration are fragmented, narrow in scope, and underutilized in policymaking. Key data about the situation of women migrant workers is also lacking in the region. The project will work towards harmonization of MS' capacity with the 2018 ICLS Guidelines to improve LMMIS. The project will support capacity-building workshops and production of national reports on labour migration.

Expected results:

Result 2.5 National governance frameworks for human labour mobility enhanced and protection of men and women migrant workers is strengthened.

Activities:

Activity 2.5.1 Organise training workshops and provide technical support to ECOWAS MS and Mauritania as relevant in the development, evaluation, revision and implementation of rights-based and gender-responsive labour migration policies and facilitate the engagement of workers' and employers' organizations

Activity 2.5.2 Support the ratification and implementation of ILO standards and guidelines on labour migration through the strengthening of institutional capacities of constituents for advocacy and organization of sensitization workshops, the review of law, policy and practice related to relevant ILO Conventions and the organization of multi-stakeholder validations meetings

Activity 2.5.3 Promote fair recruitment practices through the review of laws and regulations on recruitment agencies and the implementation of awareness-raising activities

Activity 2.5.4 Provide technical support to ECOWAS MS and social partners in the application of the Guide for Policymakers on the Protection of Migrant Workers' Rights

Activity 2.5.5 Support the negotiation, implementation and monitoring of rights-based and gender-sensitive bilateral labour agreements (BLAs) through the organization of awareness-raising and capacity-building activities and the review and harmonization of BLAs.

Activity 2.5.6 Organize capacity building and training workshops to advance the conclusion and practical implementation of bilateral and multilateral social security agreements at the national level and support national policy and legislative reforms for effective coverage of migrant workers and alleviate legal and practical barriers to portability of rights and conduct assessments and/or actuarial studies of national social security schemes including the portability of rights.

Activity 2.5.7 Support the implementation of the Free Movement Protocols in line with the guidelines developed during the first phase of the FMM project, including through the development of work plans and the organization of training workshops.

Activity 2.5.8 Review national legislation and organize training workshops in support of the Directive on Minimum Standards towards the Harmonization of Labour Laws of ECOWAS MS.

Result 2.6. Harmonisation of MS and Mauritania data collection with the 2018 International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration through Phase II of a Labour Market and Migration Information System (LMMIS) in ECOWAS MS is enhanced.

Activities:

Activity 2.6.1 Capacity building of MS on the Methodological guide on key indicators of international labour migration and harmonized questionnaire modules in the ECOWAS region and Mauritania for the data collection on Labour Market and Migration.

Activity 2.6.2 Produce and adopt Technical Plan for regularly collecting and disseminating data on the 7 Labour Market and Migration indicators proposed and adopted by 5 MS in the first phase.

Activity 2.6.3 Support the production of national labour migration reports.

Activity 2.6.4 Develop training curricula and train labour migration focal points in MS and Mauritania on the labour market and migration information systems adapted to the West African context.

Activity 2.6.5 Organise study visits of National Labour Observatories/Statistics Bodies and ECOWAS as part of peer-to-peer learning efforts.

Activity 2.6.6 Launch procurement for basic IT equipment relevant for data collection, analysis and production in the six pilot countries as per the capacity and equipment assessment;

Activity 2.6.7 Organise a workshop involving ECOWAS MS and Mauritania to discuss the results attained, share data collected by national observatories on the labour market and migration information, and discuss the way forward.

Activity 2.6.8 Support standardized data collection on labour migration at the national level through household and labour force surveys with a focus on data on the migration of women.

Activity 2.6.9 Provide technical support on standards to measure labour migration in line with the 2018 ICLS Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration.

4.2.7. Demand-Driven Facility for national institutions.

To address existing institutional gaps and migration capacity-building needs in ECOWAS MS and Mauritania, the project established a flexible Demand Driven Facility (DDF) for national institutions in the first FMM project. Areas of intervention include migration policy implementation, immigration and border management, labour migration and counter-trafficking. 49 requests were received from national institutions, with 11 actions implemented, covering the 15 ECOWAS MS and Mauritania.

Priority was given to requests submitted by the national institutions that demonstrate a regional added-value, i.e. by enhancing the implementation of regional policies and instruments at the national level. Similar to the first phase, national institutions in ECOWAS MS and Mauritania will be invited to submit requests for technical assistance to the DDF team (ICMPD) according to their specific needs. The DDF team will work with the beneficiary institutions to further elaborate and shape the desired actions and manage the action implementation in collaboration with beneficiary institutions.

The demand-driven logic will help ensure that interventions are tailor-made and are effectively beneficiary-owned, which presents advantages in terms of beneficiary ownership that was appreciated by beneficiaries. The DDF considers the dynamic nature of the migration sector, where context and priorities often evolve. The Facility will therefore offer project actors the opportunity to delve deeper into concrete actions to explore innovative approaches to addressing migration-related issues. The technical assistance could be delivered as support to conduct studies/research or capacity-building activities such as trainings, data collection, policy development and implementation, and other emerging needs in line with project objectives. Each action will be linked to the targeted thematic areas. The requesting institution or organisation will demonstrate a clear need for the requested assistance, which should be complimentary and not duplicate existing initiatives in the region.

The requesting institution/organisation will play a central role in designing and implementing their DDF actions. The gaps and needs they identify will be used to design the necessary technical or capacity-building activities, which will be further fine-tuned with their feedback. Requesting institutions/organisations will actively participate in implementing their actions through, among other things, setting the agenda, identifying participants to events, and ensuring its implementation. Finally, these institutions/organisations will be asked to evaluate their actions and to provide recommendations for future/follow-up activities.

In the project's first phase, each DDF action costs an average of EUR 500.000; hence FMM II DDF actions will also be capped at about the same amount except for multi-country actions which are expected to cost more, with an implementation period of 24 months. DDF Actions will be implemented in 10 beneficiary countries of the FMM II project, managed by the DDF team (ICMPD), and implemented using in-house or external expertise. Denmark is also supporting the DDF and will fund the implementation of the action in 6 ECOWAS countries, hence ensuring that all ECOWAS MS and Mauritania benefit from the facility in a meaningful and comprehensive manner. The funding from Denmark will enhance targeted support to the ECOWAS member states and Mauritania, building their capacity to leverage opportunities from free movement and to tackle the issues of TiP, SoM and other forms of exploitation. Increased assistance will be provided to more countries creating opportunities to deepen their engagement under FMM II. Gender and human rights issues will be mainstreamed in all actions, and actions that address climate change, gender and human rights in migration management will be prioritised. Consequently, trainings will be provided to DDF beneficiaries, with experience-sharing meetings organised for beneficiaries to ensure the cross-fertilization of ideas.

The DDF will continue to prioritise the use of regional experts, and a call for experts will be launched to update the database of experts developed in FMM, facilitating the swift selection of experts to implement DDF projects. Based on lessons learnt during the first phase, the application guidelines and procedures will be reviewed and updated in terms of; eligibility; project selection; the template for the action fiche; expert selection from the database; project implementation; financial management; and project monitoring, evaluation and closure. A DDF Technical Committee (TC) will be established with clear Terms of Reference (ToR) to review the guidelines and procedures, which will be validated with relevant ECOWAS departments.

Once the DDF guidelines and procedures are validated, a communication strategy on the DDF will be crafted to cover awareness raising on the DDF and communication updates on ongoing actions and outputs. The communication strategy will include an information package and a DDF webpage. Awareness raising on the DDF and its application procedure/eligibility criteria will target national institutions through FMM activities at both regional and national levels; ECOWAS focal points; technical working groups; implementing partners; EU Delegations; etc.

Interested national institutions will be invited to submit requests for technical assistance to the DDF Team (ICMPD) according to their specific needs. The DDF team will then undertake a pre-screening of all requests to ensure they are in line with the thematic guidelines and submitted by an eligible institution, as well as to determine whether the implementation of the project would not duplicate efforts (complementarity screening). This process will include consulting the implementing agencies, the ECOWAS Commission and the concerned EUDs.

If the request passes the pre-screening phase, the DDF team will work with the requesting institution to further elaborate a short concept which will be presented to the TC. All requests will be thoroughly assessed with the TC which will include the relevant ECOWAS departments or directorates (depending on the thematic area of the request) before a final decision is taken. Once the concept note is approved, the DDF Team will work closely with the requesting institution to develop a fully-fledged action fiche, which will be presented to the TC before implementation. ICMPD will manage the action implementation in collaboration with beneficiary institutions. The TC and CPSC will be updated periodically on ongoing actions.

The Technical assistance can be delivered as support to conduct studies/research or capacity-building activities such as trainings, data collection, policy development and implementation, and other emerging needs in line with project objectives. Each action will be linked to the targeted thematic areas. The requesting institution or organisation will demonstrate a clear need for the requested assistance, which should be complimentary and not duplicate existing initiatives in the region.

The requesting institution/organisation will be central in designing and implementing their DDF actions. The gaps and needs which they identify will be used to design the necessary technical or capacity-building activities, which will be further fine-tuned with their feedback. Requesting institutions/organisations will actively participate in the implementation of their actions through, inter alia, setting the agenda, identifying participants to events and ensuring

its implementation. Finally, these institutions/organisations will be asked to evaluate their actions and to provide recommendations for future/follow-up activities.

Expected results:

Result 2.7 The technical capacities of national institutions to implement the provisions of the various regional instruments on Free Movement and to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance is strengthened.

Activities:

Activity 2.7.1 Conduct preparatory activities for implementing the Demand Driven Facility for National Institutions and commence the implementation of the DDF among MS and Mauritania ensuring gender mainstreaming.

Activity 2.7.2 Inform ECOWAS MS and Mauritania of the DDF opportunities via various media and through participation in regional activities.

Activity 2.7.3 Training of focal points from national institutions on strategic planning, action planning, policy development, advocacy and mobilisation.

Activity 2.7.4 Build the capacity of national institutions to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights into DDF actions and in migration governance.

4.3. Promoting the engagement of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities

Local Authorities are essential to the success of the ECOWAS Commission initiatives. By implementing practical projects at the local level, they are well-positioned to reach out to migrants and those living in border communities. To this end, Component III of the project will strive to involve Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in activities that will inform and protect migrants and foster cooperation between border populations in West Africa.

Efforts will be made to actively engage Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), private sector stakeholders, and border communities in supporting key ECOWAS frameworks, such as the Regional Monitoring Mechanism for the free movement of interstate passenger vehicles, passengers, and goods (RMM). Through advocacy, trainings, and sensitization activities, these actors will be encouraged to take ownership and promote the sustainability of the RMM. Given that the RMM directly affects community citizens who travel for business or pleasure, cross-border traders, private sector operators (e.g., transport companies), and border communities, these targeted engagement activities will ensure their participation and involvement in the process.

Following the same process as in FMM, these actors will receive grants through a Call for Proposals to implement specific projects in this field. Projects funded will be limited in size (between EUR 50 000 and EUR 100 000 per project) and duration (maximum of 18 months). To achieve maximum efficiency, capacity-building activities for the selected Non-State Actors

and Local Authorities will also be conducted, i.e., in project formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

During the inception phase of the project, the guidelines, and procedures for the functioning of the Call for Proposals as well as a communication strategy to raise awareness on the Call for Proposals, will be revised and endorsed by the Committee for Project Steering and Coordination (CPSC), to learn from phase 1 of the project as well as from the ECOWAS – Spain Fund on Migration and Development.

During the second and third years of the project (and at a later stage if needed), two Calls for Proposals among the 15 MS and Mauritania will be launched. A validation Committee, comprising a representative of the concerned ECOWAS Departments, a representative of each implementing agency and the EU Delegation (EUD), will be closely engaged in selecting the project proposals. Strong support and monitoring will be given to the selected Non-State Actors and Local Authorities throughout the process, starting with a training before the actual implementation of the projects on project development, management, and reporting, as well as on how to conduct advocacy campaigns for Free Movement. Local actors will work in the development of sensitization tools that will contribute to the Regional public information and sensitization strategy of ECOWAS.

The project foresees a special focus on gender. It will engage women's organisations and movements promoting gender equality and promote regional stakeholder consultation as a useful mechanism for gaining buy-in and insight for gender-responsive actions. Organisations and networks such as WACTIPSOM, NACTAL and CSOnetMADE will be duly involved in implementing the action, as they already have a regional role in migration governance in the ECOWAS region as well as the implementation and alignment with ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration.

Expected results:

Result 3.1. Civil society in ECOWAS Region and private sector awareness raising on the Protocol on Free Movement and Regional Integration Agenda are promoted.

Expected activities:

Activity 3.1.1 Develop a regional advocacy plan for civil society and private sector awareness raising on the activities of the protocol on Free Movement and the regional integration agenda developed.

Activity 3.1.2 Engage, train and sensitise diaspora associations, civil society actors, private sector, transport owners and unions, border communities and border officials on the RRM. Border Communities will also be sensitised on the simplified border crossing regime for the border communities and cross-border traders, in line with AU Convention and ECOWAS Protocol esp. FM Protocol.

Activity 3.1.3 Conduct consultative meetings with West African Civil Society Organizations on the linkages between the African Continental Free Trade Area, Free Movement of Persons and regional integration.

Expected results:

Result 3.2 Non-State Actors and Local Authorities, including women's organisations and movements promoting gender equality, access to initiatives actively supporting the protection of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations rights increased.

Expected activities:

Activity 3.2.1 Organise a regional stakeholder consultation meeting to gain buy-in and insight for gender-responsive programming.

Activity 3.2.2 Launch two calls for proposals for non-state actors, including social partners and local authorities, for the implementation of prevention, advocacy and assistance activities targeting migrants and cross-border populations, in particular, vulnerable migrants and populations at risk: women, children and youth, stranded migrants, and victims of trafficking, as well as transition to formal economy.

Activity 3.2.3 Support review and identification of proposals

Activity 3.2.4 Provide training for non-state actors, including social partners and local authorities, for implementing prevention, advocacy and assistance activities targeting migrants and cross-border populations.

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION

5.1 Actors and their roles

The project will be implemented by a Consortium of Partners, under the lead of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), together with the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), in close coordination with the ECOWAS Commission. The role of each organization in the implementation of the project is described below:

ECOWAS Commission

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is a regional group of fifteen countries founded in 1975. Its mission is to promote economic integration in "all fields of economic activity, particularly industry, transport, telecommunications, energy, agriculture, natural resources, commerce, monetary and financial questions, social and cultural matters..." The MS are Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo. The main Institutions are the Commission, the Community Parliament, the Community Court of Justice and the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development.

The ECOWAS Commission has the responsibility and authority to adopt rules for implementing Acts enacted by Council and for binding community Treaties and Protocols. The Commission also makes recommendations, gives advice, and supports the implementation of Community instruments. In that regard, the ECOWAS Commission prepares and ensures the coordination of Community projects and programmes. The ECOWAS Commission operates in the framework set by ECOWAS Vision 2050 of a "fully integrated community of peoples, living in a peaceful and prosperous region, with strong institutions and respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, striving for inclusive and sustainable development" and the borderless, peaceful and cohesive region" and "a developed and integrated West Africa where Community citizens see and freely operate in any of the fifteen national economies as one integrated, competitive and resilient market".

As the project's main stakeholder and principal partner, the ECOWAS Commission will steer the project's overall direction in close coordination with the Project Support Unit (PSU). The ECOWAS Commission, namely the Free Movement Directorate, will oversee and validate the overall direction and policy of the project and ensure that activities of all components are in line with the ECOWAS key strategic and policy orientations. For this purpose, a Committee for Project Steering and Coordination (CPSC) will be established and chaired by the ECOWAS Commission.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is a leading intergovernmental organization specialising in migration management and governance and the UN Migration Agency. It was established in 1951 and currently has 174 member states (including all ECOWAS MS and Mauritania) and a further 8 States holding observer status, making it the leading global agency on migration issues.

With the overall objective of “promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all, IOM provides services and advice to governments and migrants. IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: (i) assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management; (ii) advance understanding of migration issues; (iii) encourage social and economic development through migration; and (iv) uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants. IOM works in the four broad areas of migration management: migration and development, facilitating migration, regulating migration, and addressing forced migration. Cross-cutting activities include promoting international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants’ rights, migration health and the gender dimension of migration.

In West Africa, IOM plays a crucial role in addressing the complex challenges of migration, including promoting safe and orderly migration, protecting the rights of migrants, and supporting governments and stakeholders in managing migration effectively.

For FMM II, IOM will play a coordinating role in the implementation of the project; IOM will also lead activities related to MIDWA; policy and migration management; Free Movement; data; human mobility in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disaster; and protection and support to local actors.

To promote cost efficiency and economies of scale, IOM staff directly working on the project in the project offices will be physically placed in the existing offices, and the charging of the actual direct office costs related to their functions (rental of premises, consumable, other office services, etc.), will be based on actual expenditures incurred during the period distributed in proportion to the amount of time spent by the staff on the activities directly linked to the project.

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) is an international organisation with 20 MS. Active in more than 90 countries worldwide, it takes a regional approach in its work to create efficient cooperation and partnerships along migration routes. Priority regions of operation include Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Mediterranean, Silk Routes, Western Balkans and Türkiye.

ICMPD’s approach to migration management – structurally linking policy & research, migration dialogues and capacity building – contributes to better migration policy development worldwide. With headquarters in Vienna, ICMPD has a mission in Brussels and is locally represented in 30 countries worldwide. ICMPD strives for comprehensive, sustainable and future-oriented migration governance and is actively supported by more than 30 governments, including its 20 MS.

As a specialised international organisation, ICMPD has proven expertise in all key fields of migration governance: irregular migration; return and reintegration; trafficking in human beings; border management and security; asylum and international protection; migration and development; diaspora engagement; labour and legal migration; integration and social cohesion; migration and environment; policy and research, education and private sector.

ICMPD strives to be an objective and fair-minded companion in migration discourses by bringing all important players around the same table and has vast experience in bridging the gap between theory and practice. Accordingly, ICMPD provides policy makers and politicians

with the necessary groundwork needed to make decisions. Furthermore, ICMPD is present on the ground with its capacity building activities in various areas of migration management.

ICMPD has been active in West Africa for many years, through dialogues on migration (the Rabat Process) and active cooperation within the framework of various programs. ICMPD's work is characterised by a three-pronged approach translating into migration dialogues, capacity building and research and documentation. Research at ICMPD focuses on salient current migration issues, the processes and mechanisms of international migration and its regulation, causes and consequences of migration, discrimination, as well as integration. Capacity building activities benefit both from extensive in-house expertise and ICMPD's network of experts and practitioners in EU MS, the West African region and elsewhere.

Within the framework of the FMM II project, ICMPD is responsible for and leading the implementation of specific activities, delivering results under SO1, SO2 and SO3 (Regional, National and Local levels). These include leading the implementation of the support to the ECOWAS Commission and MS as well as Mauritania on THB and SOM, Immigration and Border Management, Free Movement frameworks and the LMMIS. In addition, ICMPD leads support to national institutions through management of the Demand Driven Facility, the facilitation of the political dialogue between the EU and ECOWAS through the Joint EU-ECOWAS Working Group, and the support for the ECOWAS-led donor coordination mechanism. ICMPD will work collaboratively with ILO and IOM by providing technical expertise to other activities within the project, in the areas of immigration- and border management, counter trafficking and smuggling and promoting synergies between MIDWA and the Rabat Process.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the United Nations agency responsible for the world of work. The ILO brings together governments, employers and workers of 187 MS, including all ECOWAS MS and Mauritania, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men. The main aims of the ILO are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and strengthen dialogue on work-related issues. The ILO has a unique tripartite structure, giving equal voice to workers, employers and governments to ensure that the views of the social partners are closely reflected in labour standards and in shaping policies and programmes.

The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, adopted in 1998 and amended in 2022, affirms the obligations and commitments inherent in membership of the ILO. There are five fundamental principles and rights at work: Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining; the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour; the effective abolition of child labour; the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation; and a safe and healthy working environment.

The ILO mandate on the protection of migrant workers was established in its 1919 Constitution; this mandate was re-affirmed by the 1944 Declaration of Philadelphia and the 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and in the ILO's Fair Migration Agenda, called for in the Director-General's report to the International Labour Conference in June 2014.

In principle, all international labour standards (ILS), unless otherwise stated, are applicable to migrant workers. The ILO promotes the rights of migrant workers through its body of standards, including the fundamental rights conventions, and ILO Conventions No. 97 and 143 on the protection of migrant workers and the governance of labour migration, and accompanying Recommendations No. 86 and 151, as well as the Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration.

Fair recruitment is a key pillar of work. The key ILS and guidance are the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181), and the General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment and the Definition of Recruitment Fees and Related Costs. The ILO also hosts the Fair Recruitment Initiative, an office-wide initiative that works to ensure that recruitment practices are grounded in labour standards, developed through social dialogue, and ensure gender equality.

The elimination of forced labour is of fundamental concern to the ILO. The relevant ILS are the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105), the 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (P029) and its Recommendation, 2014 (No. 203). The 2014 Protocol and Recommendation complement and strengthen international labour on forced labour. The Protocol establishes the obligations to prevent forced labour, protect victims and provide them with access to remedies, and emphasizes the link between forced labour and trafficking in persons. In line with Convention No. 29, the Protocol also reaffirms the importance of prosecuting the perpetrators of forced labour and ending their impunity. The Recommendation provides orientations and guidelines to implement these obligations. The ILO, in partnership with Walk Free and the IOM, publishes Global Estimates on Modern Slavery, including Forced Labour and Forced Marriage. The ILO also hosts the Global Business Network on Forced Labour, which drives action, scale and sustainability through collaboration. The ILO also serves as the Secretariat for the Alliance 8.7, a global partnership of over 250 partners and 21 Pathfinder Countries working together to coordinate, innovate and accelerate progress to end child labour, forced labour, human trafficking and modern slavery.

Since the ILO's founding in 1919, child labour has been a core area of concern. The key ILS on child labour is the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), which in 2020 achieved universal ratification by the ILO's 187 MS.

Child labour is the focus of one of the ILO's largest development cooperation projects – the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour (IPEC+), which has supported over 100 countries in all continents. IPEC+ works from the village to the global stage, with ILO constituents as well as enterprises and small producers' organizations, NGOs and CSOs, to promote the eradication of child labour and forced labour and the realisation of all fundamental rights at work, with a focus on the rural and informal economies; enterprises and global supply chains; and in countries in crisis and fragile situations. IPEC+ currently operates in 66 countries. ILO also serves as the Secretariat of Alliance 8.7 (see above), and hosts the Child Labour Platform, which is the leading business initiative working to eradicate child labour in supply chains.

ILO works towards the promotion of sustainable enterprises for innovation, growth, and more and better jobs. This includes delivering expertise in the areas of cooperatives, small and

medium enterprises, multilateral enterprises, green jobs and social finance. The ILO Enterprises department delivers advisory policy services in the areas of sustainable enterprises, systems change, and value chain development; and offers capacity-building packages such as “Know About Business”, “Making Microfinance Work”, and “Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB). At the enterprise level, ILO hosts the “ILO Helpdesk for Business on international labour standards”, “My.Coop” which supports agricultural cooperatives, and the Women’s Entrepreneurship Development training programme, among others. The ILO also leads work on the Just Transition – defined as greening the economy in a way that is as fair and inclusive as possible, creating decent work opportunities and leaving no one behind. The ILO has adopted Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all.

As the United Nations agency responsible for the world of work, the ILO brings its unique tripartite structure and expertise in international labour standards to provide comprehensive technical advisory services in the areas of labour migration governance; labour inspection and administration; labour law; forced labour (including trafficking in persons); child labour; gender equality, diversity and inclusion; green jobs; the informal economy and rural economy; skills and employability; supply chains; social protection; and youth employment, among other areas.

The ILO’s labour migration strategy for Africa contribute to the Abidjan Declaration - Advancing Social Justice: Shaping the future of work in Africa (output on improving fair & effective LM governance through strengthening the efficiency of the institutions of work to ensure adequate protection of all workers) and aims to support effective governance of labour migration, protection of migrant workers’ rights while enhancing the development benefits of labour migration. The strategy is implemented through development cooperation projects (14 projects at Regional, Subregional, Corridor, national and local levels) covering a wide range of thematic areas where expertise, knowledge, capacity building tools are development and technical assistance provided to target beneficiaries (AUC, RECs, Social partners, whole of government...):

1. Gender-response labour migration policies
2. International labour standards and national legislation on the protection of migrant workers
3. Bilateral labour migration agreements
4. Social security and portability of benefits for migrant workers
5. Fair recruitment and regulation of private employment agencies
6. Skills, matching, skills profiling and recognition of qualifications of migrant workers
7. Labour migration statistics
8. Return and reintegration.
9. Labour migration (displacement), climate change and employment

Within the framework of the FMM II project, the ILO is responsible for leading several activities in the areas of: tripartite dialogue on labour human mobility (with a focus on the ECOWAS Social Dialogue Forum and subregional employers’ and workers’ organizations); increasing capacity on labour market and migration information systems and data; support at the national and regional (ECOWAS) level on child labour in the areas of capacity building, research and coordination; support to ECOWAS on regional social protection dialogues and capacity building; and support for the development of national governance frameworks for

labour human mobility and protection of women and men migrant workers, including national policy development, ratification efforts, fair recruitment, bilateral labour agreements, and social protection and portability.

The project will contribute to a number of national and regional development plans, including the labour migration governance outcomes in the draft Decent Work Country Programmes (DWCPs) currently being developed in Nigeria (2023-27) and Sierra Leone (2023-27), as well as the ECOWAS Regional Decent Work Programme. The project will also contribute to several Country Programme Outcomes (CPOs), including SDA903, CIV904, NGA904, GHA904, MRT108, TGO128 and SLE902. The project will also contribute to the ILO's current and future Programme & Budget (P&B), including Outcome 7.5 in the P&B 2022-23, and Output 6.4 in the P&B 2024-25. The project will also contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

5.2 Project governance and management structures

To coordinate the implementation of the action, a comprehensive governance and management structure will be established. At the policy level, the project will be governed by a Committee for Project Steering and Coordination (CPSC). At the operational / management level, the implementation of the project will be coordinated and executed by the Project Support Unit (PSU).

Committee for Project Steering and Coordination (CPSC)

A Committee for Project Steering and Coordination (CPSC) shall be set up to ensure ECOWAS ownership of the project, to oversee and validate the overall direction and policy of the project, and to ensure that activities of all components are in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration and other key strategic and policy orientations. This Committee will be chaired by the ECOWAS Commission, represented at Commissioner and Director level (Commissioner of Economic Affairs & Agriculture or Director of Free Movement of Persons, Migration & Tourism), or their representatives. Other Members of the CPSC will include the IOM, ILO, ICMPD and the EUD in Abuja. Where appropriate, participation to the CPSC meetings will be open to other observers (e.g., other donors, EU or ECOWAS MS and Mauritania or other Directorates, civil society representatives, workers and employers organizations, research institutions, etc.) The CPSC shall meet every 3 months during the first year of programme implementation. The frequency of meetings can then be revised, and a new calendar established by consensus of its members.

Project Support Unit (PSU)

A Project Support Unit (PSU) will be established to manage the implementation of the project. The PSU will comprise managerial, technical, financial and administrative staff of the three implementing agencies (IOM, ICMPD, ILO) of the project. The PSU will be coordinated by the project manager of the lead agency. Each agency will have a Project Manager who will ensure the management and coordination of their activities and assume the final responsibility for the implementation of their respective activities. Each agency will recruit the number and

profile of International Experts, local staff and support staff needed to implement their activities. Based on lessons learned in FMM, the three agencies have agreed to manage their individual activities as they deem appropriate to avoid possible differences in approach that could undermine the implementation of the project. The PSU staff members will be recruited according to the recruitment procedures of the respective implementing agencies. In addition, Short-Term Technical Assistants will be identified, selected and recruited for carrying out operational activities as per project needs. Expertise will be drawn from in-house staff of implementing partners where appropriate, and public or private entities. Particular attention will be given to the use of regional expertise.

The PSU will be based in Abuja. Based on the lessons learnt from the first phase and depending on the possibilities and considering logistical and security requirements, the PSU will be based at the ECOWAS Commission and meetings will be hosted in the premises of the ECOWAS Commission.

The PSU will have the overall management responsibility over the project, in coordination with the ECOWAS Commission. Each of the three partners' Regional Office in West Africa will provide strategic guidance and technical support, including the facilitation of training activities and international dialogue meetings, review of draft policy and strategy documents, and endorsement of project reports as pertaining to their respective components. The PSU members report monthly, and also when needed, to the EU Delegation in Abuja. As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the European Commission may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action.

ILO staff will include a Chief Technical Advisor, National Officer and Finance and Administrative Assistant in Abuja, a Technical Officer and Finance and Administrative Assistant in Dakar, and the project supported Technical Officer at the ECOWAS Secretariat. The project will benefit from technical backstopping from ILO HQ, the ILO Decent Work Team-Dakar, and the ILO Regional Office for Africa (Abidjan), including experts from the labour migration branch, the statistics branch, the social protection department, and the fundamental principles and rights at work department (forced labour and child labour).

ECOWAS Departments

The Department of Economic Affairs & Agriculture will be the key department for this project as it houses the directorates of private sector and industry, trade, free movement of persons, migration and tourism, environment and research and statistics. The Department of Human Development & Social Affairs houses the Department of Humanitarian and Social Affairs, another key department to be engaged in. To ensure the operational involvement of the departments in the implementation of the activities, technical-level meetings will be held monthly between the PSU and the departments.

To enable the ECOWAS Commission to play its role in project implementation fully, measures are also foreseen to upgrade staffing in these key targeted Directorates: 5 ECOWAS technical staff positions will be funded by the project for the duration of the project. The ECOWAS Staff that the project will support will be hired using the recruitment procedures of the funding Organisations and in close collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission.

5.3 Phases in the project implementation

The Project will be implemented in 3 phases: (i) the inception phase, (ii) the implementation phase, and (iii) the closure phase.

Inception Phase

The inception phase will cover the first 9 months of the project. During this phase, the following activities will be conducted:

- Draft a MoU to guide the partnership of the consortium members and a conflict resolution plan
- Recruitment of project staff members by IOM and ILO.
- Establishment of the project governance and management structures.
- Development of a visibility and communication plan for the project.
- Implementation of the baseline surveys, needs analyses and capacity assessments foreseen under each thematic area of the project
- Develop and adopt guidelines, procedures and tools for the Demand Driven Facility for national institutions.
- Develop and adopt guidelines and procedures governing the Call for Proposals for civil society and local authorities.
- Revision of the project activities and budget based on the results of the baseline surveys needs analyses and capacity assessments, and development of a detailed Work Plan for the Implementation Phase of the Project.

Implementation Phase

The implementation phase of the project will last approximately 45 months. During this phase, the project activities under the three components of the action will be implemented. A Mid-Term Review will be conducted halfway through the project implementation phase to monitor progress towards achieving the set results. Based on this review, adjustments might be made in the project implementation where necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the action.

Closure Phase

The closure phase covers the last 3 months of the project. During this phase, the Final Evaluation of the project will be conducted, and the Final Narrative and Financial Reports of the project will be prepared and submitted to the EU Delegation.

5.4 Reporting

The implementation of the action will be documented through regular project reports, including Annual Progress Reports, and Financial Reports and a Final Narrative and Financial Report. The format and details of the reporting formats will be provided for in the Standard Contribution Agreement with the three agencies. The coordinating agency will put all partners in copy of the transmission email to the EUD to ensure that the final copy of their report is the version being submitted.

Project Progress Reports

Project Progress Reports will be submitted every 12 months. Each report will provide an overview of the project activities implemented during the reporting period, achievements, difficulties encountered and planning for the 12 months. The Progress Reports will provide the following information:

- A summary and context of the action.
- Activities implemented so far under the three Components of the action;
- Assessment of the results of the action so far (achievement of outputs, outcomes and impact in relation to overall and specific objectives) against the final logical framework;
- Difficulties encountered in the project implementation and potential risks as well as measures taken to overcome problems and eventual changes introduced.
- Relationship with project partners and beneficiary institutions.
- Visibility of the action.
- Recommendations for the further implementation of the action and updated work Plan for the next reporting period.
- Conclusion

The Progress Reports will be accompanied by a Financial Report, giving a detailed overview of the project expenditure per budget line for every 12 months of the action. The financial report will provide the following information:

- A breakdown of the total costs, following the structure set out in Annex III, incurred from the beginning of the Action as well as the legal commitments entered into by the Organisation during the reporting period;
- A summary of controls carried out and available final audit reports in line with the Organisation's policy on disclosure of such controls and audit reports. Where errors and weaknesses in systems were identified, an analysis of their nature and extent, as well as information on corrective measures taken or planned, shall also be provided;
- Where applicable, a request for payment;
- Budget forecast for the next reporting period.

Final Narrative and Financial Report

At the end of the project, a Final Narrative Report and Final Financial Report will be submitted. The Final Narrative Report will cover the entire duration of the project (60 months) and will provide the following information:

- Project description.
- Activities implemented under the three Components of the action.
- Results (achievement of outputs, outcomes and impact in relation to overall and specific objectives) against the final logical framework.
- Difficulties encountered in the project implementation.
- Relationship with project partners and beneficiary institutions.

- Visibility of the action.
- Recommendations.
- Conclusion.

The Final Financial Report will give a detailed account of the actual expenditures per budget line, using the implementing partners' formats.

5.5 Communication and visibility

To ensure adequate visibility of the project and its activities, a visibility and communication plan will be developed at the project start in close coordination with the ECOWAS Commission and in line with the “*Communicating and Raising EU Visibility. Guidance for External Action*” of July 2022 to achieve an FMM image and EU visibility. This also implies that each implementing partner will involve the EU in developing and implementing strategic communication activities, such as press engagement, events or production of audiovisual content. Each implementing partner will ensure adequate communication and visibility of project activities and outputs (publications, research, reports, meetings etc.). The project visibility and communication plan will guide the development and use of communication and visibility tools by the project and elaborating regular press releases to advertise the major project events and achievements. All printed materials that will be produced will include the EU logo and acknowledge that the European Union funds the project. Public events undertaken in the framework of the project will equally acknowledge the EU support, and the EU will be engaged and invited to participate and do opening remarks.

6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

6.1 Monitoring

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partners shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the log frame matrix.

The European Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the European Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the European Commission).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

Based on lessons learnt from FMM and the Evaluation results, the Action shall ensure a systematic joint M&E system covering the overall project and specific M&E systems to capture each organization's progress towards implementation. The development of these component-level M&E systems shall be done in close association between EUD and each implementing partner. Yearly M&E sessions shall be set up at the level of the project, including the institutional beneficiaries' representatives, and regular M&E documentation shall be provided by the IPs (bi-annually or quarterly) to ensure a comprehensive follow-up and assessment. Monitoring and evaluation will assess gender equality results, an impact on rights of groups living in the most vulnerable situations and the implementation of the rights-based approach working principles (applying all human rights for all; meaningful and inclusive participation and access to decision-making; non-discrimination and equality; accountability and rule of law for all; and transparency and access to information supported by disaggregated data). Monitoring and evaluation will be based on indicators that are disaggregated by sex, age, disability and group when applicable. Human rights and gender equality competence is ensured in the monitoring and evaluation teams.

6.2 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance and nature of the action, a mid-term and final evaluations will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the European Commission. A mid-term evaluation will be carried out for problem solving, learning purposes. A final evaluation will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the innovative architecture of the action and the importance of the involvement of the EU in this field.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least three months in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all

necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities. The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination³. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project. Evaluation services may be contracted under a framework contract.

ILO, IOM and ICMPD will conduct an evaluability assessment and joint independent evaluation at an opportune time in line with agreed frameworks/guidelines and requirements. The partner agencies will be involved at all stages of the evaluation process (joint identification of evaluation objectives and purpose, development of terms of reference, selection of evaluation experts / consultants, etc.). Evaluation results will feed into other evaluations in a timely manner. Implementing partner agencies will secure appropriate funds for conducting these evaluations.

7. SUSTAINABILITY

7.1 Risks and assumptions

³ See best practice of evaluation dissemination.

Category	Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Risk category 1 – External environment	Security situation deteriorates in ECOWAS countries	H	A rigorous risk assessment will help inform programmatic decision making. The programme together with ECOWAS will make informed decisions to halt implementation or suspend activities in hotspot countries and resume once the situation improves. Varying levels of communication will be established and strengthened to triangulate information and assess the risk impact. The project implementing partners will also support the police and other key security agencies for improvement in security provision through other projects.
Risk category 1 – External environment	Outbreak of infectious diseases i.e Ebola, Covid etc.	H	A flexible approach combining satellite programme implementation, remote monitoring and in person physical implementation will be adopted by the project based on lessons learned from the implementation of the previous programme. Furthermore, the project will implement projects at border crossings for an enhanced Integrated Health Border Management.
Risk category 2 – Planning, processes and systems	Project management structure comprising three international organisations with dissimilar implementation approaches and conflicting corporate culture bring about competing interests, disagreements, and coordination challenges.	H	The project will convene the CPSC (as appropriate), to intervene in the conflict. An MoU or a coordination and conflict resolution strategy will be developed at the inception of the project. The strategy will contain coordination, communication, mediation and conflict resolution plans of action.
Risk category 2 – Planning, processes and systems	Delays and deficiencies in delivering the NSA grant scheme	H	The programme will combine approaches including remote monitoring and supervision from Abuja and an in-depth monitoring and decentralised management from IOM country offices resulting in the recruitment of dedicated Programme Offices in each NSA country location. Capacity building support to selected NSAs will ensure their awareness of rules and regulations of the grant, as well to provide targeted training to address identified project management skills and capacity gaps. A communication and risk assessment mechanism will be developed to ensure that NSAs are supported to implement projects in accordance with FMM and EU policies and in line with the parameters of the grant scheme.

Risk category 2 – Planning, processes and systems	Communication, coordination and visibility challenges	M	The programme will continue the mitigation measure communication and coordination mechanism put in place during FMM implementation. Regular channels and intervals for exchange, ensuring adequate information will be made available in accessible formats to enable preparatory actions for outcome-oriented consultations and engagement. The FMM communications project team will consist of EU Delegation in Abuja and all the EUD in MS, ECOWAS Commission technical and senior management staff as well as country offices, stakeholders and implementing agencies.
Risk category 3 – People and organisation	Limited staff resources and the competing demands upon ECOWAS staff within the Directorate of Free Movement and the Directorate of Humanitarian and Social Affairs.	H	The programme will continue to undertake technical capacity building support with ECOWAS in recruiting expertise, organising trainings and workshops for ECOWAS Staff, development of Standing Operating Procedures to ensure smooth delivery of plans and organising regular meetings with ECOWAS technical and senior management staff.
Risk category 3 – People and organisation	Insufficient/inconsistent engagement and/or support from ECOWAS MS and Mauritania	M	The programme will continue to work closely with representatives and focal points from ECOWAS MS and Mauritania to encourage active participation within relevant regional-level consultations, events and activities.

7.2. Sustainability of the action

Many of the products supported by FMM are now ECOWAS tools which in turn have made ECOWAS stronger in migration governance in the continent and will serve as the starting point for the implementation of the new Action. FMM has supported ECOWAS MS on migration governance through the development of National Migration Policies and Profiles as well as Labour Migration Policies and has been complementary to projects at national level. Furthermore, the flexible DDF component allowed MS to delve deeper into concrete actions and explore innovative approaches to translating ECOWAS objectives into actions at the country level. FMM was also the first cooperation platform where migrant smuggling had been discussed in the region. Lessons learned from holding MIDWA thematic groups on border management, cross-border crime or climate change-induced migration demonstrated how this format can support the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocols and the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration.

Several key elements from the project development and management will also contribute to the sustainability of the action. First, the project has been designed and will be implemented in close collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission, the main project right holder of the action,

and it is a second phase, which shows also the interest from ECOWAS and its MS in the topics. The proposed project governance arrangements ensure full involvement of the ECOWAS Commission - including through staffing upgrading in key targeted Departments – which will enhance ownership of the project results. At the national level, MS engagement will be reinforced through project activities, and the alignment of project activities with national strategies and priorities will be ensured through the use of demand-driven mechanisms. Given the dynamic migration landscape, the demand-driven approach will further ensure that actions continue to align with beneficiaries' objectives, promoting national ownership. Activities to enhance adoption and implementation of legal instruments will ensure binding commitments to ongoing action and supervision of implementation. Extensive knowledge sharing and training will enhance political will and capacity to implement the multiple measures to sustain free movement, and to implement the necessary accompanying measures such as harmonized labour and trade law and portability of social security rights. Finally, the extended project implementation period, and building upon what was done on FMM, was an important feature contributing to the sustainability of the action's objectives by providing more adequate time to put in place the complex web of inter-related measures, training and knowledge base. Some additional provisions will be made during implementation, such as a written commitment from ECOWAS to maintain the DIWA website operational but also retain, to the extent possible, the staff recruited under the action. Ideally, through this action ECOWAS' convening power and leadership of the Free Movement Department in particular will be ensured for eventual continuation of activities contributing to the Free Movement protocol after the lifespan of the programme.

8. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Budget of the Action

Appendix 2: Logical Framework

Appendix 3: Work Plan for the Action

Appendix 4: Organigram of the Project Support Unit (PSU)

Appendix 5: Terms of reference of the Project Support Unit (PSU)

1. Results Matrix

	Indicators	Data Source and Collection Method	Baseline	Target	Assumptions
Overall Objective: To maximise the development potential of the free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by supporting the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocol, and the ECOWAS Common Approach to Migration.	1. Number of laws, policies and strategies on migration management developed/updated with the support of the Action 2. Number of state institutions and non-state Non- State Actors supported on security, border management, countering violent extremism, conflict prevention, protection of civilian population and human rights 3. Number of grassroots civil society organisations benefitting from EU support 4. Number and percentage of new actions that are gender responsive/targeted at country/regional levels	ECOWAS annual synthesis reports Policy/framework/manuals discussed and validated. Project annual reports. MIDWA annual ministerial reports. Meeting reports Strategies available	1. Zero (0) 2. Zero (0) 3. Zero (0) 4. Zero (0)	1. 40 by 2028 2. 110 by 2028 3. 16 by 2028 4. 85% of national/regional actions by 2028	
Outcome 1: (SO1) Strengthened capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to implement the Free Movement Protocol through	1.1 No. of Regional Ministerial MIDWA meetings held, No. of MIDWA Technical Working Group meetings held. 1.2 No. of Policy/framework/manuals discussed and validated. 1.3 No. of ECOWAS annual meetings held on labour market and migration system.	MIDWA annual ministerial reports. Project annual reports. Policy/framework/manuals discussed and validated. Minutes of meetings ECOWAS Meeting reports	1.1. Zero (0) 1.2. Zero (0) 1.3. Zero (0) 1.4 Zero (0) 1.5 Zero (0)	1.1 Four (4) one meeting per year and Sixteen (16) Four per year 1.2. Sixteen (16) Four per year 1.3 Three (3) 1.4 Three (3) 1.5 four (4)	Commitment of the ECOWAS Commission and ECOWAS Member States towards the implementation of the Free Movement Protocol

intra-regional dialogue on free movement and migration issues, policy development, and harmonization and monitoring the application and implementation of the Free Movement Protocol	<p>1.4 No. of ECOWAS Annual review meetings on THB/SOM held</p> <p>1.5 No of meetings organized to Increase Advocacy for funding of ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration</p>	<p>ECOWAS annual synthesis reports</p> <p>Report of meetings</p>			
Outcome 2: (SO2) Enhanced capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania in the areas of migration data collection and management, migration policy development, border management, labour migration, counter-trafficking of human beings and mixed migration, child	<p>2.1 No. of immigration academies with training curricula/manual harmonised with the regional BM and FM manual</p> <p>2.2. No. of trainings organised for MS and Mauritania focal points trained</p> <p>2.3. No. of MS reporting LMMIS data to ECOWAS</p> <p>2.4. No. of ECOWAS MS and Mauritania benefitting from the Demand-Driven Facility.</p>	<p>Action Fiche</p> <p>Training Reports</p> <p>ARM meeting reports</p> <p>Committee meeting reports</p> <p>Action fiches</p> <p>Technical Committee reports</p>	<p>2.1 To be defined in baseline report</p> <p>2.2 Zero (0)</p> <p>2.3 Zero (0)</p> <p>2.4 Zero (0)</p>	<p>2.1 At least four (4)</p> <p>2.2 At least four (4)</p> <p>2.3. At least five (5) countries</p> <p>2.4. At least ten (10) countries</p>	ECOWAS MS and Mauritania build ownership of co-operation mechanisms within country and regionally

protection and child labour, diaspora engagement, and human mobility in the context of climate change.					
Outcome 3: (SO3) Increased capacities of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities information and protection to benefit migrants, returnees and cross-border populations in West Africa.	3.1. ECOWAS Non-State Actors engagement strategy drafted, validated, available and implemented. 3.2. Database for Regional and National NSA partners, stakeholders and actors developed and utilized. 3.3. No. of NSAs at national and regional level supported.	Project annual progress report. Meeting reports Strategies available NSA databases	3.1 Zero (0) 3.2 Zero (0) 3.3 Zero (0) 3.4 Zero (0)	3.1 Yes 3.2 Yes 3.3. Fifteen (15)	Civil society and local authorities all willing to participate in activities supporting the implementation of the protocol
Output 1.1: Capacity of ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected MIDWA regional ministerial and technical working group meetings, and tripartite dialogue on labour human mobility through the Social Dialogue Forum	1.1.1. No. of Technical experts recruited. 1.1.2. No. of ECOWAS Departments engaged and supported. 1.1.3. No. of MIDWA thematic working groups engaged. 1.1.4. No. of regional SDF meetings held 1.1.5 No. of SDF working groups meetings held 1.1.6 SDF sustainability strategy available 1.1.7 No. of capacity building activities organized 1.1.8 No. of trainings held	Project annual Reports Experts Contracts and TORs Meeting reports SDF meeting reports. SDF working groups meeting reports. SDF sustainability strategy document. Workshop/consultative meeting reports. Implementation agreement reports	1.1.1. Zero (0) 1.1.2. Zero (0) 1.1.3. Zero (0) 1.1.4. Zero (0) 1.1.5 Zero (0) 1.1.6 Zero (0) 1.1.7. Zero (0) 1.1.8 Zero (0) 1.1.9 Zero (0) 1.1.10 Zero (0)	1.1.1. Six (6) 1.1.2. Four (4) 1.1.3. Eight (8) 1.1.4. At least two (2) 1.1.5 Zero (0) 1.1.6 Yes 1.1.7 At least five (5) 1.1.8 Two (2) 1.1.9 At least four (4) 1.1.10 At least two (2)	Interest and availability of national experts of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania to participate in migration data collection and analysis activities.

(SDF) strengthened	1.1.9 Consultative meetings with private sector held 1.1.10 No. of implementation agreements concluded				
<p>Activities that lead to Output 1.1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity 1.1.1 Support and engage the ECOWAS Commission, including through the recruitment of 6 technical experts in ECOWAS Commission directorates of Free Movement, to reinforce their capacity to capacity to follow up on key topics relevant to MS, to the MIDWA process and its working groups and other relevant processes. • Activity 1.1.2 Support the organization of regional ministerial meetings to ensure formal engagement by MS and Mauritania on the MIDWA process through a kickoff meeting that will agree on a roadmap and follow-up meetings to follow up on the roadmap and to discuss topics highlighted in the different MIDWA working groups. • Activity 1.1.3 Support the organization of MIDWA thematic meetings through virtual (where possible) and annual physical meetings aiming to agree on priorities, develop a roadmap and follow it with clear monitoring and evaluation plans to facilitate the Free Movement Protocol and to respond to key migration issues in the Region, with a focus on gender needs. • Activity 1.1.4 Ensure coordination meetings between ECOWAS and the Consortium agencies to ensure a smooth implementation of the Action. • Activity 1.1.5 Support the organization of regional meetings of the Social Dialogue Forum, including its working groups on labor migration and social protection and develop a sustainability strategy. • Activity 1.1.6 Provide technical support to sub-regional workers and employers organizations to facilitate regional tripartite dialogue on labour human mobility and strengthen capacity to contribute to the governance of labour migration, including promote migrant workers' rights and engagement in the SDF and its working groups. • Activity 1.1.7 Organize private sector consultative meetings, including with employers' organizations, including the Federation of West African Employers' Organisations (FOPAO), the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), and the Global Business Network on Forced Labour (GBNFL), to increase their capacity to participate fully and effectively in tripartite dialogue on human labour mobility. • Activity 1.1.8 Organize peer-to-peer consultations and exchange programs with other RECs that have successfully established similar dialogue mechanisms and produced tangible results in specific migration management and governance areas. • Activity 1.1.9 Organize MIDWA working sessions with the African Union Commission to align regional priorities to the various continental frameworks on human mobility. • Activity 1.1.10 Support MIDWA's representation in key continental platforms, notably the Pan-African Forum on Migration (PAFOM) and GCM reviews • Activity 1.1.11 Conduct/update mapping of donor projects in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration. The mapping outcome will engage the ECOWAS Commission in strategically reflecting its role in advocating sub-regional migration priorities and enhancing donor coordination. 					

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 1.1.12 Organize preparatory meetings among migration stakeholders to support EU- ECOWAS dialogue on regional priorities for greater alignment of support to ECOWAS policies. 					
Output 1.2: Data collection, management capacities and implementation of the Guidelines for the Harmonisation of Migration Data Management in the ECOWAS Region operationalized and strengthened.	1.2.1 % improvement in collection, analysis and management of migration data. 1.2.2 No. of Regional migration data reports or materials developed. 1.2.3 No. of Migration data collection trainings and skills and knowledge development conducted. 1.2.4 No. of migration studies and surveys meant to increase awareness and access on regional migration and mobility issues and provisions in the region. 1.2.5 Revamped ECOWAS Migration Data collection tool in place and in use. 1.2.6 ECOWAS Regional Migration Profile developed and available. 1.2.7 No. of Direct capacity and policy support to member states finalised 1.2.8 No. Of Regional meeting on LMMIS organised 1.2.9 No. Of capacity building activities conducted 1.2.10 ECOWAS Directive on LMMIS available	Project annual reports. Studies and survey reports and TORs Training reports Meeting reports ECOWAS meeting report Activity reports ECOWAS Directive on LMMIS	1.2.1. 0% 1.2.2 Zero (0) 1.2.3 Zero (0) 1.2.4 Zero (0) 1.2.5 No 1.2.6 No 1.2.7 Zero (0) 1.2.8 Zero (0) 1.2.9 Zero (0) 1.2.10 Zero (0)	1.2.1 55% 1.2.2 Three (3) 1.2.3 Five (5) Regional trainings that bring together two or more countries will be prioritized. 1.2.4 Three (3) studies and surveys undertaken to inform discussions during MIDWA meetings and with Member states. 1.2.5 Yes 1.2.6 Yes 1.2.7 Fifteen (15) 1.2.8 Fifteen (15) 1.2.9 At least one capacity building activity conducted 1.2.10 ECOWAS Directive available.	ECOWAS Member States are committed and responsive to support review of the implementation of Free Movement Protocols.
Activities that lead to Output 1.2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 1.2.1 Undertake baseline surveys to identify existing needs and priorities of the ECOWAS Commission, its MS and Mauritania on migration management data collection, incl. immigration and border management, with a gender focus. Activity 1.2.2 Build the capacities of key national institutions in ECOWAS MS in migration data collection and management, based on the Guidelines for the Harmonisation of Migration Data Management in the ECOWAS Region, that will be strengthened and operationalized. The capacity-building activities will include national trainings, facilitated by the experts 					

<p>that will have benefited from the Training of Trainers (ToT) on migration data collection and management organized at the regional level under the first phase of this project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity 1.2.3 Support the ECOWAS Commission in developing a Regional Migration Profile. Coordinate, develop, and publish the ECOWAS annual migration data report based on national reports following harmonized key migration definitions and indicators. • Activity 1.2.4 Support coordination of data collection and statistics management coordination with like-minded platforms such as AU observatories. • Activity 1.2.5 Support MS in updating their national migration profiles when one exists and in developing one in countries where this exercise has never been undertaken. • Activity 1.2.6 Commission policy-oriented studies on various aspects of free movement of persons and migration in the region as per needs identified and discuss them in the MIDWA thematic group meetings and ministerial meetings. • Activity 1.2.7 Strengthen capacity on labour migration data and statistics and support the ECOWAS commission to advance the ECOWAS Directive on LMMIS. • Activity 1.2.8 Organise a regional meeting with ECOWAS MS and Mauritania on the road map for the roll-out of the LMMIS at the national level and discuss data collected by national observatories – and related institutions – on labour market and migration information. • Activity 1.2.9 Establish reporting indicators for MS annual reports on labour market and migration data. • Activity 1.2.10 Compile and analyse country reports on the level of implementation of LMMIS in different MS and engage MS and ECOWAS on the findings. 					
<p>Output 1.3: ECOWAS capacity in document examination, data management and trends analysis to exchange information and share regional migration trends through the Heads of Immigration (HOI) and Integrated Border Management</p>	<p>1.3.1 Assessments of the capacity of ECOWAS Commission and Member states on Integrated Border Management (IBM) and Free Movement (FM). 1.3.2 No. of ECOWAS Member States IBM institutions engaged. 1.3.3 No. of trainings, capacity building, skills and knowledge development on the protocol, border management and Free Movement undertaken. 1.3.4 No. of HOI meetings held.</p>	<p>Project annual progress report. Meeting reports Assessments reports Training and capacity building reports.</p>	<p>1.3.1. No 1.3.2 Zero (0) 1.3.3 Zero (0) 1.3.4 Zero (0)</p>	<p>1.3.1 Assessment available 1.3.2 Seven (7) 1.3.3 Five (5) 1.3.4 Four (4)</p>	<p>ECOWAS Commission staff and Member States officials interested and available in capacity building and training activities.</p>

(IBM) Working Group meetings enhanced.					
Activities that lead to Output 1.3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 1.3.1 Undertake baseline assessment on the capacity of ECOWAS Commission and MS on IBM and Free Movement (FM) with a focus on document examination, data management and trends analysis and another one on gender. Activity 1.3.2 Support IBM working group under the MIDWA process to further exchange among ECOWAS MS on IBM and Free Movement of Persons, the Right of Residence and Establishment and agree on recommendations and way forward on key topics such as documentation, the opening of borders, common border management system, procedure within the region and introduction and adoption of ECOWAS biometric ID and Passports, ENBIC and harmonization of travel documents such as passports, ID cards, vehicle registration and driver's license. The results and recommendations of these discussions will be submitted for discussion and validation of Hol. Activity 1.3.3 Support the development of standardised procedures and processes for opening borders, risk profiling, cross-border cooperation, and information exchange between MS. Activity 1.3.4 Organise the annual Hol and support it as a key intra-regional dialogue on immigration and border management issues that will allow a follow-up on the Free Movement Protocol and IBM. Activity 1.3.5 Support the organisation of regional Training of Trainers (TOT) to ensure appropriation by MS training academies of the existing standardised ECOWAS training curriculum for border officials (immigration, customs, security etc.). If needed, support the development of additional ECOWAS standardised training material for MS border operatives depending on further needs identified at project inception, and organise related ToT events. 					
Output 1.4: Capacity of the ECOWAS Commission in planning, coordination, monitoring and reporting counter-trafficking, mixed migration, child protection and child labour strengthened	1.4.1 Baseline survey to identify existing needs and priorities of the Humanitarian and Social Affairs Department (THB Unit) in the area of counter-trafficking, including an analysis of existing and projected capacity building needs; 1.4.2 Impact assessment of the ECOWAS THB Plan of Action and prepare a new Plan of Action on Combating THB in the region 1.4.3 No of ECOWAS Annual THB review meeting organised 1.4.4 ECOWAS MS reporting template reviewed and implemented	Assessment reports ECOWAS ARM Meeting reports ECOWAS reporting template Annual synthesis reports Monitoring framework for the Regional Action Plan Regional child labour report Meeting reports Regional Action Plan and Strategic Framework	1.4.1. Zero (0) 1.4.2. Zero (0) 1.4.3. Zero (0) 1.4.4 Zero (0) 1.4.5 Zero (0) 1.4.6. Zero (0) 1. 4.7 Zero (0) 1.4.8. Zero (0) 1.4.9 Zero (0) 1.4.10 Zero (0) 1.4.11 Zero (0)	1.4.1 Baseline survey 1.4.2 Impact assessment conducted and new Plan of Action prepared 1.4.3 Four (4) meetings (one per year) 1.4.4 One (1) reporting template 1.4.5 Four (4) synthesis reports produced	ECOWAS Commission staff and Member States officials interested and available for planning, coordination, monitoring and reporting activities

	1.4.5 No. of Annual synthesis report on THB and SOM compiled 1.4.6 Monitoring framework for the Regional Action plan developed 1.4.7 Regional child labour report developed 1.4.8 Regional platform of national child labour focal points operational 1.4.9 ECOWAS Regional Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour and the Strategic Framework for Strengthening National Child Protection Systems and its Guidelines for implementation published 1.4.10. ECOWAS strategy on missing migrants available 1.4.11. Regional mixed migration strategy updated, validated and available.			1.4.6 Monitoring framework available 1.4.7 Report developed 1.4.8 Platform operational 1.4.9 Action Plan and Framework published 1.4.10. ECOWAS strategy on missing migrants 1.4.11. Yes, ECOWAS mixed migration strategy available	
Activities that lead to Output 1.4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 1.4.1 Conduct a gaps and needs assessment of the ECOWAS Human Development and Social Affairs Department, in collaboration with the Human Security and Civil Society Division, to identify existing needs and priorities on counter-trafficking and its linkages with related offences, as well as on mixed migration. Activity 1.4.2 Support planning, monitoring and coordination activities of the ECOWAS TIP programme through the organisation of the ECOWAS Annual Review Meeting of the Regional Network of National Focal Institutions Against Trafficking in Persons Plus (RNNI-TIP+). Work with ECOWAS to provide mentoring to national focal points to address issues arising from the national reports; Activity 1.4.3 Support the development of the Regional Crime Against Persons Prevention Policy. The policy will be drafted through an expert Working Group drawn from selected focal points from MS. Activity 1.4.4 Develop a monitoring framework for the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour, prepare a regional child labour report in different languages, and publish the Regional Action Plan on Child Labor and Forced Labor. Activity 1.4.5 Support working group meetings at a regional and national level to pilot the RCAPP concept at the national level and oversee the implementation. 					

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity 1.4.6 Disseminate soft copies of the ECOWAS Strategic Framework on Child Protection and its Implementation Guidelines. • Activity 1.4.7 Support activities on developing data and information alliances, databases and sets, production of reports, dissemination and capacity building through the ECOWAS Child Rights Information Systems (ECRIMS). • Activity 1.4.8 Strengthening regional capacities for the protection of vulnerable mixed migrants. • Activity 1.4.9 Support the development of an ECOWAS Policy on Missing, Detained and Deceased Migrants and develop critical benchmarks. • Activity 1.4.10 Finalize and validate the draft Strategy for the Protection of Vulnerable Mixed Migrants. • Activity 1.4.11 Support collaboration of national child labour focal points at the regional level through a dedicated platform and SOP through the pilot of the SOP tool drafted by the Humanitarian and Social Affairs Directorate. 					
Output 1.5: Evidence-based understanding of human mobility in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters in West Africa to support policy development and knowledge sharing strengthened	1.5.1. Assessments of the capacity of ECOWAS Commission, its Member states and Mauritania on environmental migration and disaster displacement. 1.5.2. No. of actions towards creating synergies and harmonisation on the reduction of the effect of environment and climate change amongst member states. 1.5.3. No. of Meetings on Migration Environment and Climate Change (MECC) supported. 1.5.4. Regional Operational framework and roll out plan for Member States developed, validated and available. 1.5.5. No. of trainings and workshops supported 1.5.6. No. of Member states targeted for pilot programmes. 1.5.7. No. of ECOWAS Commission staff and Member states focal persons trained.	Project annual progress report. Meeting reports Policies, strategies and frameworks available Training reports Training plans, presentations and concept notes Pictures	1.5.1. No 1.5.2. Zero (0) 1.5.3. Zero (0) 1.5.4. No 1.5.5. Zero (0) 1.5.6. Zero (0) 1.5.7. Zero (0)	1.5.1. Yes (assessment report available) 1.5.2. Four (4) 1.5.3. Four (4) 1.5.4. No 1.5.5. Three (3) 1.5.6. Five (5) 1.5.7. Seventy-Five (75) 25 per training and workshop.	ECOWAS Commission staff and Member States officials interested and available in capacity building and training activities

Activities that lead to Output 1.5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 1.5.1 Undertake baseline assessment on the capacities of ECOWAS Commission, its MS and Mauritania on human mobility in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters. Activity 1.5.2 Support the ECOWAS Commission in facilitating intersectoral policy dialogue to ensure excellent and tailored management of human mobility, including identifying other regional sectoral policies of relevance to support excellent and tailored management of human mobility in climate change in West Africa. Activity 1.5.3 Conduct training and workshops to improve the understanding of the ECOWAS Commission, its MS and Mauritania on the current and foreseen impacts of climate change on human mobility dynamics in the region. Activity 1.5.4 Conduct training and workshops on transition tools and the nexus with human mobility as per assessment and requests from MS and Mauritania. Activity 1.5.5 Support the ECOWAS Commission in implementing its Regional Climate Strategy, particularly R9.SC/GRC. Activity 1.5.6 Strengthen the capacity of the ECOWAS MS and Mauritania as relevant on mainstreaming nature-based solutions, green jobs and creating livelihood opportunities; within the governance framework addressing the nexus between migration, climate change and labour markets (employment). Activity 1.5.7 Strengthen the capacity of ECOWAS and MS to implement a gender-sensitive, human mobility and community-centred ECOWAS Climate strategy and a Regional Operational Framework and roll-out plan for MS. Activity 1.5.8 Implement pilot programmes targeting selected MS to implement nature-based solutions, green jobs, and create livelihood opportunities, with mobile populations, in climate-affected and migration-prone and host areas. 					
Output 1.6: Regional public information and sensitization on the Free Movement Protocol, Integrated Border Management, migration, human mobility in the context of climate change; Counter Trafficking and Smuggling, labour migration, cross border	1.6.1. Public information, awareness-raising and sensitization strategy developed/reviewed, validated and implemented. 1.6.2. No. of Cross border corridors targeted. 1.6.3. No. of cross border engagement meetings held. 1.6.4. No. of information and awareness-raising campaigns conducted. 1.6.5. No. of thematic areas addressed. 1.6.6. No. of information tools utilized.	Project annual progress report. Meeting reports Strategies available Engagement meeting reports, pictures, success stories etc.	1.6.1. No 1.6.2. Zero (0) 1.6.3. Zero (0) 1.6.4. Zero 1.6.5. Zero (0) 1.6.6. Zero (0)	1.6.1. Yes 1.6.2. Five (5) 1.6.3. Eight (8) (Two per year) 1.6.4. Fifteen (15) corridor approach/border focused awareness will be prioritized. 1.6.5. Eight (8) 1.6.6. Five (5) Video, Audio, social media, website, prints in all 3 languages.	ECOWAS and ECOWAS Member States accept to implement public information activities and sensitization activities.

communities, ECOWAS National Biometric Identity Card (ENBIC) and regional integration enhanced					
Activities that lead to Output 1.6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 1.6.1 Update the regional public information strategy on the Free Movement Protocol, integrated border management and regional integration to reach a wider scope by integrating dimensions such as small-scale cross-border trade and a stronger gender approach. Activity 1.6.2 Conduct awareness raising of the community citizens and border officials through robust sensitization using available media to build their capacity on the privileges of the Free Movement Protocol to promote safe and orderly movement within the region (ENBIC); this includes developing different information tools to conduct awareness raising campaigns addressing eight thematic areas. Activity 1.6.3 Support advocacy for implementing a simplified border crossing regime for the border communities and cross-border traders, in line with AU Convention and ECOWAS Protocol. 					
Output 1.7: Regional governance frameworks for labour migration, mobility, protection and access to social protection for migrant workers in the ECOWAS region strengthened	1.7.1 No. of regional capacity building activities on the Guide for policymakers conducted 1.7.2 Regional meeting to reactivate ECOWAS Committee of Experts held 1.7.3 No. of regional dialogues on social protection held 1.7.4 No. of dialogues on key migration corridors held	Meeting/dialogue reports; Report of ECOWAS Committee of Experts Dialogue reports	1.7.1. Zero (0) 1.7.2 Zero (0) 1.7.3 Zero (0) 1.7.4 Zero (0)	1.7.1 At least two (2) 1.7.2 At least one (1) 1.7.3 At least two (2) 1.7.4 At least three (3)	Interest and availability of ECOWAS to engage in validation of regional governance frameworks for the areas concerned
Activities that lead to Output 1.7: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 1.7.1. Support the capacity of the ECOWAS Commission to evaluate the implementation of the ECOWAS Protocols on Free Movement of Persons: 					

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 1.7.2 Conduct regional capacity-building activities on the ILO Guide for policymakers on extending social protection to migrant workers, refugees and their families. Activity 1.7.3 Organize a regional meeting to reactivate the ECOWAS Committee of Experts on Social Security; organize regional dialogues on social protection. Activity 1.7.4 Organize dialogues on social protection along key migration corridors and roll out awareness-raising and communication actions on extending access to social protection targeted at migrant workers and their families, as well as staff of social protection agencies and relevant actors in the ECOWAS region. 					
Outcome 2: (SO2) Enhanced capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS Member States (MS) and Mauritania in the areas of migration data collection and management, migration policy development, border management, labour migration, counter-trafficking of human beings and mixed migration, child protection and child labour, diaspora engagement, and human mobility in the context of climate change.	2.1. No. of immigration academies with training curricula/manual harmonised with the regional BM and FM manual 2.2. No. of trainings organised for MS and Mauritania focal points trained 2.3. No. of MS reporting LMMIS data to ECOWAS 2.4. No. of ECOWAS MS and Mauritania benefitting from the Demand-Driven Facility.	Project reports Attendance records	2.1 To be defined in baseline report 2.2 Zero (0) 2.3 Zero (0) 2.4 Zero (0)	2.1 At least four (4) 2.2 At least four (4) 2.3. At least five (5) countries 2.4. At least ten (10) countries	ECOWAS MS build ownership of co-operation mechanisms within country and regionally

Output 2.1: ECOWAS Policies and Frameworks in the field of migration management operationalized in Member States (MS) and Mauritania	2.1.1 Regional roadmap developed. 2.1.2 Comparative analysis on operationalized policies and frameworks report available. 2.1.3 No. of policies/frameworks developed and or reviewed. 2.1.4 No. of National Coordination Mechanisms established in Member States that have demonstrated commitment to establishing such coordinating mechanisms.	Project annual reports. Policies and analysis reports Call for proposal and consultancy Terms of Reference	2.1.1. Zero (0) 2.1.2. Zero (0) 2.1.3. Zero (0) 2.1.4. Zero (0)	2.1.1. Yes (roadmap developed) 2.2.1. Yes (report available) 2.1.3 Five (5) 2.1.4. Two (2) Sectoral approaches targeted.	Interest and availability of national experts of ECOWAS Member States to participate in migration data collection and analysis activities.
Activities that lead to Output 2.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 2.1.1 Coordinate and organize National Coordination Mechanisms concerning the national review plans of continental and global migration management frameworks such as the GCM, Rabat Process and GFMD, and regional consultative processes for key countries. Activity 2.1.2 Coordinate and organise regional coordination mechanisms concerning the review of continental and global migration management frameworks e.g. GCM regional reviews and IMRF. Activity 2.1.3 Conduct trainings and capacity-building activities on mainstreaming migration management into national policies, focusing on gender. Activity 2.1.4 Review of the Free Movement Protocol. 					
Output 2.2: Capacities of MS border management in legal identity/identity management enhancing the security and compatibility of travel documents increased through ensuring technical	2.2.1 No. of Regional trainings and workshops held on the roadmap conducted. 2.2.2. No. of personnel trained 2.2.3 No. of Pilot Countries targeted. 2.2.4 No. of national rollout plans/frameworks/initiatives undertaken. 2.2.5 No. of Points Of Entries (POEs) targeted in the Pilot Phase. 2.2.6 No. of assessments of risks, trade and mobility conducted in the selected POEs.	Project annual reports Meeting and workshop reports National rollout plans/frameworks/initiatives report. Survey/assessment/analysis reports available/published	2.2.1 Zero (0) 2.2.2 Zero (0) 2.2.3 Zero (0) 2.2.4 Zero (0) 2.2.5 One (1) 2.2.6 Zero (0) 2.2.7 Zero (0)	2.2.1 Five (5) Regional trainings that bring together two or more countries will be prioritized. 2.2.2 Two Hundred and Fifty (250) 50 per Regional training. 2.2.3 Five (5) 2.2.4 Five (5) 2.2.5 Three (3)	Interest and availability of national experts of ECOWAS Member States to participate in activities on identity management.

and advisory expertise towards the rollout of the roadmap of the ECOWAS Biometric ID card and the development and implementation of a strategy for monitoring at border posts in pilot border areas	2.2.7 No. of national rollout plans/frameworks/initiatives undertaken			2.2.6 Five (5) 2.2.7 Three (3)	
Activities that lead to Output 2.2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity 2.2.1 Develop a national ECOWAS biometric ID card roll-out road map. • Activity 2.2.2 Conduct workshops on the roadmap for the Free Movement Protocol in relation to border management that brings together two or more countries. • Activity 2.2.3 Establish and or strengthen the selected Monitoring unit Points of Entries. • Activity 2.2.4 Establish and coordinate with ECOWAS the Steering Committee meetings for the Monitoring Posts. • Activity 2.2.5 Build the capacity of national committees to oversee the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Monitoring Mechanism for the Free Movement of interstate vehicles, persons and goods (RMM) and support the development/adoption of tools and guidelines for the implementation of the RMM, by designing a Practical Handbook for monitoring and evaluation of the application of border management principles for MS. • Activity 2.2.6 Training course on monitoring and evaluation for the application of the Practical Handbook. 					
Output 2.3: Harmonisation and standardisation of training manuals of border agencies in MS, in line with the enhanced ECOWAS Border	2.3.1 ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual updated 2.3.2 No of MS immigration academies' training manuals harmonised to ECOWAS BM and FM manual. 2.3.3 No of training for immigration academies on the harmonised manual to ensure appropriation of the	Updated BM manual Meeting reports Training reports Harmonised MS manuals	2.3.1 No 2.3.2 Zero (0) 2.3.3. Zero (0) 2.3.4 Zero (0)	2.3.1 Updated manual 2.3.2 At least four (4) 2.3.3 Four (4) 2.3.4 At least two (2)	Interest and availability of national experts of ECOWAS Member States to participate in activities on border management

Management and Free Movement manual	standardized ECOWAS training package on BM and FM; 2.3.4 No of regional meetings organised to review achievements and challenges in the area of joint border management and strengthen cross border collaboration				
Activities that lead to Output 2.3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 2.3.1 Establish a capacity development working group (CDWG), with nominated experts from MS and implementing Organisation/s, which shall serve as the core entity responsible for identifying and formulating the training needs and Training manuals standards for border agencies. Activity 2.3.2 Evaluate the current training capabilities in border management, providing recommendations and identifying solutions to address the gaps. Activity 2.3.3 Support the CDWG, in updating and harmonizing the ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual in line with current trends and realities (e.g. new IBM tools, contingency planning, modern border control processes, pandemics); then liaise with immigration academies in ECOWAS MS to harmonise their training curriculum with the ECOWAS Border Management training manual. Activity 2.3.4 Assist the CDWG, members adapting the ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual to specialized learning modules/portals of a virtual academy according to the main learning categories (e-learning, distance learning). Activity 2.3.5 Assists the cooperation between relevant MS training academies and facilitates the consultation and decision-making process to design a new educational and training system focused on border management, while ensuring coordination with other similar initiatives and ongoing processes aimed at developing educational and training systems in the security sector. Activity 2.3.6 Build capacity of MS training academies to ensure appropriation of the standardized ECOWAS training package on BM and FM and strengthen cross-border collaborations. This will include study visits to border management training institutions with high standards in training on BM delivery. Activity 2.3.7 Organize regional meetings to review achievements and challenges in joint border management. 					
Output 2.4: Capacity of MS and Mauritania to combat Trafficking in Persons, protect	2.4.1 Assessment of the capacities of MS and Mauritania TIP focal points on RBM, data collection and analysis, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of TIP interventions conducted	Assessment report Activity reports Training reports	2.5.1 Zero (0) 2.5.2 Zero (0) 2.5.3 Zero (0) 2.5.4 Zero (0) 2.4.5 Zero (0) 2.4.6 Zero (0)	2.4.1 One assessment conducted 2.4.2 At least 4 training workshops organised	Commitment of ECOWAS Member States to support review of the implementation of interventions in

vulnerable mixed migrants, advance child protection and combat child labour and forced labour in the region enhanced, including improved data collection and analysis, reporting, monitoring and evaluation and interventions reinforced	<p>2.4.2 No of training workshops to strengthen the capacity of TIP focal persons to collect, analyse and report TIP related data.</p> <p>2.4.3 No of countries with coordination mechanism of national TIP taskforce members strengthened</p> <p>2.4.4 No. of national capacity building workshops on the Regional Action Plan for the Elimination of Child and Forced Labour held</p> <p>2.4.5 No of national action plans aligned with the Regional Action Plan</p> <p>2.4.6 No of national capacity building workshops on the Strategic Framework for Child Protection Systems Strengthening;</p> <p>2.4.7 No of national child protection of networks supported</p>	<p>Workshop reports</p> <p>Aligned national action plans</p>	<p>2.4.7 Zero (0)</p> <p>2.4.8 Zero (0)</p>	<p>2.4.3 At least 10 MS</p> <p>2.4.4 At least five</p> <p>2.4.5 At least five</p> <p>2.4.6 At least five</p> <p>2.4.7 At least three</p>	the areas concerned
<p>Activities that lead to Output 2.4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 2.4.1 Carry out organizational capacity assessment of MS and Mauritania TIP coordination structures on Result Based Management, data collection and analysis, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of THB and SOM interventions. Activity 2.4.2 Organise training and mentoring activities to strengthen the capacity of THB focal persons to collect, analyse and report on TIP and SOM-related data. This will include case digest sessions where countries will delve into current TIP cases requiring peer review and insights from third parties. The activity will also include a review of the in-country implementation status of the TIP-RRM guidelines developed under OCWAR-T. Activity 2.4.3 Support coordination mechanisms to enhance communication and information sharing (on protection, investigation, prosecution) between national TIP task force members at the national level and with other countries. This will strengthen national responses and cross-border cooperation on trafficking in persons and related forms of criminal victimization (TIP+ Approach). Activity 2.4.4 Capacity building for the Mixed Migration Working Group in the technical implementation of Mixed Migration instruments, including the SOPs for protecting Vulnerable Mixed Migrants. Activity 2.4.5 Support capacity building at the national level for review of Migration Policies and other relevant policy instruments focused on the improved response to vulnerable migrants, including missing and detained migrants etc. 					

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 2.4.6 Conduct National level baseline assessments of the National Child Protection System and conduct national capacity-building workshops with the involvement of Child Protection partners with a presence at the national level on the Strategic Framework for Child Protection Systems Strengthening. Activity 2.4.7 Organize national capacity-building workshops on the Regional Action Plan for the Elimination of Child and Forced Labour. Activity 2.4.8 Align national action plans on child labour with the Regional Action Plan. Activity 2.4.9 Support national child labour networks. 					
Output 2.5: National governance frameworks for human labour mobility enhanced and protection of migrant workers strengthened	2.5.1 No of labour migration policies assessed/revised/developed 2.5.2 No of workers' and employers' organizations supported 2.5.3 Number of implementation agreements conducted 2.5.4 No of sensitization dialogues on the ratification of ILO standards and guidelines organized 2.5.5 Number of gap analyses conducted 2.5.6 Number of multi-stakeholder validation meetings held 2.5.7 Laws and regulation of private recruitment agencies reviewed 2.5.8 No of awareness raising activities on fair recruitment practices conducted 2.5.9 No of awareness raising and capacity building interventions on BLAs implemented 2.5.10 No of BLAs harmonized 2.5.11 National labour legislation reviewed 2.5.12 No of national workshops on the guidelines for policymakers held 2.5.13 No of workshops on social security agreements held	Labour migration policies Capacity building activity reports Gap analysis reports Meeting reports Laws and regulation of private recruitment agencies reviewed Harmonized BLAs National review reports Assessments and actuarial studies on the portability of rights Country work plans on the Guidelines	2.5.1 Zero (0) 2.5.2 Zero (0) 2.5.3 Zero (0) 2.5.4 Zero (0) 2.5.5 Zero (0) 2.5.6 Zero (0) 2.5.7 Zero (0) 2.5.8 Zero (0) 2.5.9 Zero (0) 2.5.10 Zero (0) 2.5.11 Zero (0) 2.5.12 Zero (0) 2.5.13 Zero (0) 2.5.14 Zero (0) 2.5.15 Zero (0) 2.5.16 Zero (0)	2.5.1 At least five policies assessed, revised or developed 2.5.2 At least ten (10) in at least five countries 2.5.3 At least five (5) 2.5.4 At least five (5) 2.5.5 At least five (5) 2.5.6 At least five (5) 2.5.7 Laws and regulation reviewed in at least five Member States 2.5.8 At least five (5) 2.5.9 At least four (4) 2.5.10 At least five (5) 2.5.11 Labour legislation reviewed in at least six Member States 2.5.12 Five (5) 2.5.13 Three (3) 2.5.14 One (1)	Commitment of ECOWAS Member States to support protection of men and women migrants workers

	2.5.14 No of assessments or actuarial studies on the portability of rights developed				
Activities that lead to Output 2.5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 2.5.1 Organise training workshops and provide technical support to ECOWAS MS and Mauritania as relevant in the development, evaluation, revision and implementation of rights-based and gender-responsive labour migration policies and facilitate the engagement of workers' and employers' organizations Activity 2.5.2 Support the ratification and implementation of ILO standards and guidelines on labour migration through the strengthening of institutional capacities of constituents for advocacy and organization of sensitization workshops, the review of law, policy and practice related to relevant ILO Conventions and the organization of multi-stakeholder validations meetings Activity 2.5.3 Promote fair recruitment practices through the review of laws and regulations on recruitment agencies and the implementation of awareness-raising activities Activity 2.5.4 Provide technical support to ECOWAS MS and social partners in the application of the Guide for Policymakers on the Protection of Migrant Workers' Rights Activity 2.5.5 Support the negotiation, implementation and monitoring of rights-based and gender-sensitive bilateral labour agreements (BLAs) through the organization of awareness-raising and capacity-building activities and the review and harmonization of BLAs. Activity 2.5.6 Organize capacity building and training workshops to advance the conclusion and practical implementation of bilateral and multilateral social security agreements at the national level and support national policy and legislative reforms for effective coverage of migrant workers and alleviate legal and practical barriers to portability of rights and conduct assessments and/or actuarial studies of national social security schemes including the portability of rights. Activity 2.5.7 Support the implementation of the Free Movement Protocols in line with the guidelines developed during the first phase of the FMM project, including through the development of work plans and the organization of training workshops. Activity 2.5.8 Review national legislation and organize training workshops in support of the Directive on Minimum Standards towards the Harmonization of Labour Laws of ECOWAS MS. 					
Output 2.6: Harmonisation of MS and Mauritania data collection with the 2018 International	2.6.1 No of Workshops on state of play on the implementation of the LMMIS 2.6.2 No of Country assessments Developed 2.6.3 No of Action Plans for implementation developed 2.6.4 No of study visits organised	Training report Assessment report Action plan document Activity reports National reports on labour migration	2.6.1 Zero (0) 2.6.2 Zero (0) 2.6.3 Zero (0) 2.6.4 No 2.6.5 Zero (0) 2.6.6 Zero (0) 2.6.7 Zero (0)	2.6.1 Three (3) 2.6.2 One (1) 2.6.3 Five action plans 2.6.4 One (1) 2.6.5 Yes (Training materials available)	Commitment of ECOWAS Member States to support implementation of LMMIS

Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration through FMM II of a Labour Market and Migration Information System (LMMIS) in ECOWAS MS enhanced	2.6.5 Training materials available 2.6.6 No of capacity building workshops held 2.6.7 No of ECOWAS Members States supported in the collection of data on labour migration 2.6.8 No of national reports on labour migration produced 2.6.9 No of implementation agreements concluded	Implementation agreement reports	2.6.8 Zero (0) 2.6.9 Zero (0)	2.6.6 Two (2) 2.6.7 At least five (5) 2.6.8 At least three (3) 2.6.9 At least three (3)	
Activities that lead to Output 2.6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity 2.6.1 Capacity building of MS on the Methodological guide on key indicators of international labour migration and harmonized questionnaire modules in the ECOWAS region and Mauritania for data collection on Labour Market and Migration. • Activity 2.6.2 Produce and adopt Technical Plan for regularly collecting and disseminating data on the 7 Labour Market and Migration indicators proposed and adopted by 5 MS in the first phase. • Activity 2.6.3 Support the production of national labour migration reports. • Activity 2.6.4 Develop training curricula and train labour migration focal points in MS and Mauritania on labour market and migration information systems adapted to the West African context. • Activity 2.6.5 Organise study visits of National Labour Observatories/Statistics Bodies and ECOWAS as part of peer-to-peer learning efforts. • Activity 2.6.6 Launch procurement for basic IT equipment relevant for data collection, analysis and production in the six pilot countries as per the capacity and equipment assessment; • Activity 2.6.7 Organise a workshop involving ECOWAS MS and Mauritania to discuss the results attained, share data collected by national observatories on the labour market and migration information, and discuss the way forward. • Activity 2.6.8 Support standardized data collection on labour migration at the national level through household and labour force surveys with a focus on data on the migration of women. • Activity 2.6.9 Provide technical support on standards to measure labour migration in line with the 2018 ICLS Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration. 					

Output 2.7: Technical capacities of national institutions to implement the provisions of the various regional instruments on Free Movement and to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance strengthened.	2.7.1 DDF Guidelines and procedures for project eligibility, implementation, monitoring and evaluation Updated. 2.7.2. No of National Institutions contacted and informed about the DDF 2.7.3. No of DDFs Action Fiches developed 2.7.4. No of ECOWAS MS and Mauritania benefitting from DDF facility. 2.7.5. No. of trainings on mainstreaming gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance conducted for DDF beneficiaries. 2.7.6. No. of DDF actions with gender, climate change and protection of human rights mainstreamed	DDF guidelines DDF request log DDF communication strategy Approved action fiches Activity reports Training reports	2.7.1 Zero (0) 2.7.2 Zero (0) 2.7.3 Zero (0) 2.7.4 Zero (0) 2.7.5 Zero (0) 2.7.6. Zero (0)	2.7.1 Yes (guidelines updated) 2.7.2. 15 + Mauritania 2.7.3. At least eight (8) actions 2.7.4. At least ten (10) MS 2.7.5. At least four (4) trainings (one per thematic area) 2.7.6. At least five (5) actions	ECOWAS Member States are willing to take into account regional guidelines when implementing national policies
Activities that lead to Output 2.7: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 2.7.1 Conduct preparatory activities for implementing the Demand Driven Facility for National Institutions and commence the implementation of the DDF among MS and Mauritania ensuring gender mainstreaming. Activity 2.7.2 Inform ECOWAS MS and Mauritania of the DDF opportunities via various media and through participation in regional activities. Activity 2.7.3 Training of focal points from national institutions on strategic planning, action planning, policy development, advocacy and mobilisation. Activity 2.7.4 Build the capacity of national institutions to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights into DDF actions and in migration governance. 					
Output 3.1: The engagement of civil society including the private sector on the Free Movement	3.1.1 Regional advocacy plan developed and implemented. 3.1.2 No. of CSO and NSA advocacy activities undertaken. 3.1.3 No of women and men CSO staff Trained on conducting advocacy campaigns for free Movement	Participant list Concept Notes Copies of tools developed CSO staff lists Workshop reports Implementation reports	3.1.1 Zero (0) 3.1.2 Zero (0) 3.1.3 Zero (0) 3.1.4 Zero (0) 3.1.5 Zero (0)	3.1.1 Yes 3.1.2 Four (4) Corridor approach and cross border communities prioritised.	CSO are willing to participate in awareness raising on the activities of the Regional Monitoring Mechanism and on

Protocol and Regional Integration Agenda in the ECOWAS region strengthened	3.1.4 No of Sensitization tools developed 3.1.5 No of women and men CSO staff in each country to conduct advocacy events regularly			3.1.3 Three hundred (300) (150 men, 150 women) 3.1.4. A least one (1) 3.1.5. Two hundred (200) (100 men, 100 women)	the Protocol on Free Movement.
Activities that lead to Output 3.1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity 3.1.1 Develop a regional advocacy plan for civil society and private sector awareness raising on the activities of the protocol on Free Movement and the regional integration agenda developed. Activity 3.1.2 Engage, train and sensitise diaspora associations, civil society actors, private sector, transport owners and unions, border communities and border officials on the RRM. Border Communities will also be sensitised on the simplified border crossing regime for the border communities and cross-border traders, in line with AU Convention and ECOWAS Protocol esp. FM Protocol. Activity 3.1.3 Conduct consultative meetings with West African Civil Society Organizations on the linkages between the African Continental Free Trade Area, Free Movement of Persons and regional integration. 					
Output 3.2: Non-State Actors and Local Authorities, including women's organisations and movements promoting gender equality, access to initiatives actively supporting the protection of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations' rights increased	3.2.1 Grant Evaluation Committee established. 3.2.2 No. of call for proposals requested. 3.2.3 Amount of funding directed towards women's organisations and movements 3.2.4 No of sensitization activities by CSOs along the borders are supported.	Project annual progress report. Call for proposals document Proposal received database	3.2.1 Zero (0) 3.2.2 Zero (0) 3.2.3 Zero (0) 3.2.4 Zero (0)	3.2.1 Yes (Committee established) 3.2.2 Fifteen (15) – one per country. 3.2.3 50% of amount available for SO3 3.2.4 Twenty four (24)	Sufficient number of quality proposals are submitted by the NSAs.

<p>Activities that lead to Output 3.2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity 3.2.1 Organise a regional stakeholder consultation meeting to gain buy-in and insight for gender-responsive programming. • Activity 3.2.2 Launch two calls for proposals for non-state actors, including social partners and local authorities for the implementation of prevention, advocacy and assistance activities targeting migrants and cross-border populations, in particular, vulnerable migrants and populations at risk: women, children and youth, stranded migrants, and victims of trafficking, as well as transition to formal economy. • Activity 3.2.3 Support review and identification of proposals • Activity 3.2.4 Provide training for non-state actors, including social partners and local authorities for implementing prevention, advocacy and assistance activities targeting migrants and cross-border populations. 	

Identifying information - grant and partner													
Engagement	Strengthening Mobility in West Africa (SMiWA). 2024-2028.												
Partner	ICMPD												
File no.	23/31940												
Engagement period	15.12.2023 - 31.12.2028												
Budget currency	EUR												
Original outcome (total budget/grant)	30.000.000 DKK												
Date	12-12-2023												
Prepared by	Amade Charles Nelson												
Exchange rate (DKK/other currency)	8												
Unit	Unit Cost	Quantity	Budget	Year 1 (Q1-Q2)	Year 1 (Q3-Q4)	Year 2 (Q1-Q2)	Year 2 (Q3-Q4)	Year 3 (Q1-Q2)	Year 3 (Q3-Q4)	Year 4 (Q1-Q2)	Year 4 (Q3-Q4)	DKK	
Total Output A-F				3.460.131	350.954	473.454	425.954	518.454	425.954	473.454	465.954	325.954	27.681.048
Output A													
Senior Project Manager - (IP5) 20%	Months	12.938	12	155.256	19.407	19.407	19.407	19.407	19.407	19.407	19.407	19.407	
Senior Migration Adviser for EU-ECOWAS Dialogue	Months	9.680	50	484.000	60.500	60.500	60.500	60.500	60.500	60.500	60.500	60.500	
Project Officer (LP2) 100% (Accra)	Months	3.500	30	105.000	13.125	13.125	13.125	13.125	13.125	13.125	13.125	13.125	
Communication Officer (LP1) 100%	Months	3.754	30	112.620	14.078	14.078	14.078	14.078	14.078	14.078	14.078	14.078	
Project Assistant (LS2) 100% (Accra)	Months	2.000	30	60.000	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	
Project Officer (LP2) 30% (Abuja)	Months	4.881	18	87.858	10.982	10.982	10.982	10.982	10.982	10.982	10.982	10.982	
HQ Finance Staff 25% Finance Officer/ HR/ ICT	Months	7.500	15	112.500	14.063	14.063	14.063	14.063	14.063	14.063	14.063	14.063	
Security Officer (LP3) See FMM II Budget	Months	6.199	12	74.388	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	
Regional Resource Officer (LP3) See FMM II Budget	Months	6.199	12	74.388	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	9.299	
Finance Officer 20% LP2 See FMM II Budget	Months	4.881	12	58.572	7.322	7.322	7.322	7.322	7.322	7.322	7.322	7.322	
Total direct cost output A				1.324.582	165.573	165.573	165.573	165.573	165.573	165.573	165.573	165.573	10.596.656
Share indirect cost output A				92.721	11.590	11.590	11.590	11.590	11.590	11.590	11.590	11.590	741.766
Total budget output 1				1.417.303	177.163	177.163	177.163	177.163	177.163	177.163	177.163	177.163	11.338.422
Output B													
Local Transportation		5.000	5	25.000	3.125	3.125	3.125	3.125	3.125	3.125	3.125	3.125	
Bank Charges		400	30		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Laptop Computers & accessories @3000/ea*5		3.000	5	15.000	1.875	1.875	1.875	1.875	1.875	1.875	1.875	1.875	
Office Operational costs (Abuja, Accra, Vienna)		310	221	68.510	8.564	8.564	8.564	8.564	8.564	8.564	8.564	8.564	
Security Service		500	60	30.000	3.750	3.750	3.750	3.750	3.750	3.750	3.750	3.750	
Staff International Travel (Avr. 4 days)		2.500	15	37.500	4.688	4.688	4.688	4.688	4.688	4.688	4.688	4.688	
Regional Travel (Avr. 4 days)		800	35	28.000	3.500	3.500	3.500	3.500	3.500	3.500	3.500	3.500	
Travel Insurance		180	40	7.200	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	900	
Perdiem		227	207	46.989	5.874	5.874	5.874	5.874	5.874	5.874	5.874	5.874	
Total direct cost output B				258.199	32.275	32.275	32.275	32.275	32.275	32.275	32.275	32.275	2.065.592
Share indirect cost output B				18.074	2.259	2.259	2.259	2.259	2.259	2.259	2.259	2.259	144.591
Total budget output B				276.273	34.534	34.534	34.534	34.534	34.534	34.534	34.534	34.534	2.210.183
Output C													
C 1. Presentation of Donor Mapping Reports		7.500	3	22.500		7.500		7.500		7.500			
C 2. Build the capacity of national committees to implement RMN		30.000	2	60.000	15.000		15.000		15.000		15.000		
C 2. Training course on monitoring and evaluation		20.000	2	40.000	20.000			20.000					
C 2. Training of focal points from national institutions on strategic		5.000	12	60.000	7.500	7.500		7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	
C 2. Border management/ Labour Migration		75.000	6	450.000		75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	
C 2. Trafficking in Persons/ Return and Reintegration		75.000	6	450.000		75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	75.000	
C 2. Strategy/Policy Development/Diaspora Engagement		40.000	6	240.000	40.000	40.000		40.000		40.000	40.000	40.000	
C 2. Equipment /Information Systems		40.000	6	240.000	40.000	40.000	40.000		40.000	40.000			
C 2. Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Research		25.000	1	25.000								25.000	

C 2.Expert fees		500	249,7	124.850	15.606	15.606	15.606	15.606	15.606	15.606	15.606	15.606	
C 3. Civil society, private sector, transport unions, border officials		15.000	6	90.000	15.000	15.000		15.000		15.000	15.000	15.000	
Midterm and Final Evaluation		25.000	2	50.000				25.000					25.000
Translation costs (French, English, Portuguese)		10.000	1	10.000							10.000		
Interpretation Costs (French, English, Portuguese)		15.000	1	15.000							15.000		
Total direct cost output C				1.877.350	153.106	275.606	228.106	320.606	228.106	275.606	268.106	128.106	15.018.800
Share indirect cost output C				131.415	10.717	19.292	15.967	22.442	15.967	19.292	18.767	8.967	1.051.316
Total budget output C				2.008.765	163.824	294.899	244.074	343.049	244.074	294.899	286.874	137.074	16.070.116
Contingency													
Contingency				-									
Total direct cost				3.460.131	350.954	473.454	425.954	518.454	425.954	473.454	465.954	325.954	27.681.048
Indirect cost													
Administrative costs (max. 7% of direct cost)				242.209	24.567	33.142	29.817	36.292	29.817	33.142	32.617	22.817	1.937.673
Audit	item	7.000	4	28.000			7.000		7.000	-	7.000	7.000	224.000
Total indirect cost				270.209	24.567	33.142	36.817	36.292	36.817	33.142	39.617	29.817	2.161.673
Total budget				3.730.340	375.521	506.596	462.771	554.746	462.771	506.596	505.571	355.771	29.842.721

Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa (FMM II)						
BUDGET OF THE ACTION		Total Approved Budget (60 months)				
Description		Unit	Qty	Unit rate (in EUR)	Total Costs all years (in EUR)	Total Costs all years (in EUR)
A	STAFF COSTS:					
	<u>ICMPD Staff</u>					
	1.27 Head of Region - 20%	Person Months	12	12.938,00	155.256	155.256
	1.28 Senior Project Manager - 100%	Person Months	57	10.870,00	619.590	619.590
	1.29 Security Officer 30% + 25%	Person Months	60	3.968,50	238.110	238.110
	1.30 Regional Resource Manager - 25%	Person Months	15	6.330,00	94.950	94.950
	1.31 National Project Officer - 100% IT & Communication	Person Months	60	3.370,00	202.200	202.200
	1.32 IT Support /HR/ Travel	Person Months	18	7.500,00	135.000	135.000
	1.33 Project Assistant 100%	Person Months	60	2.580,00	154.800	154.800
	1.34 Finance Officer 35%	Person Months	21	9.190,00	192.990	192.990
	1.35 Procurement Officer 30%	Person Months	18	4.610,00	82.980	82.980
	1.36 Admin Assistant 25%	Person Months	15	2.580,00	38.700	38.700
	1.37 Driver100%	Person Months	57	1.000,00	57.000	57.000
	Subtotal Staff Costs				1.971.576	1.971.576
B	OFFICE COSTS:					
	<u>ICMPD Office Costs</u>					
	2.1 Vehicle	Item	1	54.000,00	54.000	54.000
	2.2 Vehicle mgt, Insurance & maintenace 10% per yr	Year	5	5.400,00	27.000	27.000
	2.3 Rent Costs + Maintenance + Utilities	Months	50	2.500,00	125.000	125.000
	2.4 Office Infrastructure costs - Vienna	Person Months	54	650	35.100	35.100
	2.5 Bank Charges	Months	60	850	51.000	51.000
	2.6 Laptop Computers & accessories @3000/ea*11	Item	6	3.000,00	18.000	18.000
	2.7 Office Equipment & Furniture	Item	1	20.000,00	20.000	20.000
	2.8 Office Operational Cost	Months	60	850	51.000	51.000
	2.9 Staff International Travel (Avr. 4 days)	Flights	30	2.500,00	75.000	75.000
	2.10 Regional Travel (Avr. 4 days)	Flights	65	800	52.000	52.000
	2.11 Travel Insurance	Days	20	180	3.600	3.600
	2.12 Regional Perdiem	Days	260	227	59.020	59.020
	2.13 International Per Diem	Days	120	227	27.240	27.240
	2.14 Security Service	Months	50	2.000,00	100.000	100.000
	2.15 Expert management tool /database	Per Tool	1	5.000,00	5.000	5.000
	2.16 ICT Cloud Licence	Per/PM	181	60	10.860	10.860
	Subtotal Office Costs				713.820	713.820
C	OPERATIONAL COSTS:					
	COMPONENT 1. Strengthened capacities of the ECOWAS Commission					
	<u>Donor Cordination</u>					
1.1.11	1.1.11 Mapping of projects supporting the ECOWAS Common Approach	per action	3	20.000,00	60.000	60.000
1.1.12	1.1.12 EU-ECOWAS Working Group to facilitate political dialogue	per action	10	5.500,00	55.000	55.000
	Subtotal donor cordination				115.000	115.000
	<u>Labour Market & Migration Information System (LMMIS)</u>					
1.2.8	1.2.8 Regional meeting on LMMIS organised	per action	1	40.000,00	40.000	40.000

Year 1 budget			
Person Months	2	12.938	31.051
Person Months	11	10.870	123.918
Person Months	12	3.969	47.622
Person Months	3	6.330	18.990
Person Months	12	3.370	40.440
Person Months	4	7.500	27.000
Person Months	12	2.580	30.960
Person Months	4	9.190	38.598
Person Months	4	4.610	16.596
Person Months	3	2.580	7.740
Person Months	11	1.000	11.400
			394.315
Item	1	54.000	54000
Year	1	5.400	5400
Months	10	2.500	25000
Person Months	11	650	7020
Months	12	850	10200
Item	6	3.000	18000
Item	1	20.000	20000
Months	12	850	10200
Flights	6	2.500	15000
Flights	13	800	10400
Days	4	180	720
Days	52	227	11804
Days	24	227	5448
Months	10	2.000	20000
Per Tool	1	5.000	5000
Per/PM	36	60	2172
			220.364
per action	1	20.000	20.000
per action	2	5.500	11.000
			31.000
per action	0	40.000	-

1.2.9	1.2.9 Establish reporting indicators for MS on labour market and migration data	per action	7	10.000,00	70.000	70.000
1.2.10	1.2.10 Compile and analyse country reports on level of implementation of LMMIS in different MS, and engage MS an ECOWAS on the findings	per action	5	15.000,00	75.000	75.000
2.6.1	2.6.1 Capacity building of MS on key indicators of labour migration and harmonized questionnaire	per action	1	30.000,00	30.000	30.000
2.6.4	2.6.4 Develop training curricula and train labour migration focal points in MS	per action	1	10.000,00	10.000	10.000
2.6.5	2.6.5 Organise study visit of National Labour Observatories/Statistics Bodies and ECOWAS	per action	1	50.000,00	50.000	50.000
2.6.6	2.6.6 Launch procurement for basic IT equipment relevant for data collection, analysis and production	per action	1	30.000,00	30.000	30.000
2.6.7	2.6.7 Organise a workshop to discuss the results attained and share data collected by natl observatories	per action	1	20.000,00	20.000	20.000
2.6.8	2.6.8 Support standardized data collection on labour migration with a focus on women	per action	1	15.000,00	15.000	15.000
	Subtotal LMMIS				340.000	340.000
	<u>Trafficking in Human Beings</u>					
1.1.1	1.1.1 THB expert recruited for ECOWAS (IP3)	Person Months	60	6.080,00	364.800	364.800
1.4.1	1.4.1 Conduct a gaps and needs assessment of the ECOWAS Human Development and Social Affairs Department	lumpsum	1	28.000,00	28.000	28.000
1.4.2	1.4.2 Organisation of ECOWAS Annual Review Meeting	lumpsum	5	60.000,00	300.000	300.000
1.4.3	1.4.3 Support the development of the Regional Crime Against Persons Prevention Policy.	per action	4	20.000,00	80.000	80.000
1.4.5	1.4.5 Support working group meetings at regional and national level to pilot the RCAPP concept at national level, and oversee the implementation	lumpsum	1	4.000,00	4.000	4.000
2.4.1	2.4.1 Carry out organizational capacity assessment of MS TIP coordination structures	lumpsum	1	7.500,00	7.500	7.500
2.4.2	2.4.2 Organise training and mentoring activities to strengthen the capacity of THB/SOM focal persons	per action	4	20.000,00	80.000	80.000
2.4.3	2.4.3 Support coordination mechanisms to enhance communication and information sharing	per action	12	7.500,00	90.000	90.000
	Subtotal THB				589.500	954.300
	Subtotal Component 1				1.044.500	1.409.300
	COMPONENT 2. Enhanced capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania					
	<u>Regional Monitoring Mechanism</u>					
2.2.5.	2.2.5. Build the capacity of national committees to implement RMM	per action	2	30.000,00	60.000	60.000
2.2.6.	2.2.6. Training course on monitoring and evaluation for the application of Practical Handbook	per action	1	20.000,00	20.000	20.000
	Subtotal Regional Monitoring Mechanism				80.000	80.000
	<u>Border Management</u>					
2.3.1	2.3.1 Establish the Training needs working group (TNWG)	lumpsum	1	5.000,00	5.000	5.000
2.3.2	2.3.2 Evaluate the current training capabilities in the area of border management	per action	2	15.000,00	30.000	30.000
2.3.3	2.3.3 Assist the TNWG in updating and harmonizing the ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual	per action	2	15.000,00	30.000	30.000
2.3.4	2.3.4 Assist the TNWG members adapting ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual	per action	1	40.000,00	40.000	40.000
2.3.5	2.3.5 Assist the cooperation between relevant Member States training academies	per action	1	40.000,00	40.000	40.000
2.3.6	2.3.6 Build capacity of Member States training academies	per action	2	15.000,00	30.000	30.000
2.3.7	2.3.7 Organize regional meetings to review achievements and challenges	per action	2	15.000,00	30.000	30.000
	Subtotal Border Management				205.000	205.000
	<u>Demand Driven Facility</u>					
2.7.1	2.7.1 Conduct preparatory activities for the implementation of the Demand Driven Facility (DDF) for National Institutions	per action	1	5.840,00	5.840	5.840
2.7.2	2.7.2 Inform ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania of the DDF opportunities via various media	per action	16	250	4.000	4.000
2.7.3	2.7.3 Training of focal points from national institutions on strategic planning	per action	10	500	5.000	5.000
2.7.4	2.7.4 Build capacity of national institutions to mainstream gender, climate change	per action	10	463.520	4.635.200	4.635.200
	Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Research	per action	1	145.000	145.000	145.000
	DDF APO - (LP2) 100% BM	Person Months	36	2.580	92.880	92.880
	DDF Officer - (IP2) 100% CT/LM	Person Months	36	7.500	270.000	270.000
	Internal expert fees	Per day	264	500	132.000	132.000

per action	7	2.000	14.000
per action	1	15.000	15.000
per action	1	30.000	30.000
per action	0	10.000	-
per action	0	50.000	-
per action	0	30.000	-
per action	0	20.000	-
per action	1	15.000	15.000
			74.000
Person Months	12	6.080	72.960
lumpsum	1	28.000	28.000
lumpsum	1	66.000	66.000
per action	1	20.000	20.000
lumpsum	1	4.000	4.000
lumpsum	1	7.500	7.500
per action	1	20.000	20.000
per action	4	7.500	30.000
			175.500
			280.500
per action	1	30.000	30.000
per action	0	20.000	-
			30.000
lumpsum	1	5.000	5.000
per action	0	15.000	-
per action	0	15.000	-
per action	0	40.000	-
per action	0	40.000	-
per action	1	15.000	15.000
per action	1	15.000	15.000
			35.000
per action	1	5.840	5.840
per action	4	250	1.000
per action	2	500	1.000
per action	2,4	469.600	1.127.040
per action	1	48.333	48.333
Person Months	7	2.580	18.576
Person Months	7	7.500	54.000
Per day	53	500	26.400

	Sub-total Demand Driven Facility				5.654.720	5.289.920
	Subtotal Component 2				5.939.720	5.574.920
	COMPONENT 3. Increased capacities of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities					
3.1.3	3.1.2 Civil society, private sector, transport unions, border officials engaged	per action	8	52.600,00	420.800	420.800
	Sub-total Component 3. Increased capacities of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities				420.800	420.800
4	4 Other Costs					
	Internal Monitoring					
	Financial Monitoring	Item	5	2.500,00	12.500	12.500
	Internal Monitoring and Evaluation/Quality Assurance	Months	48	500	24.000	24.000
	Translation costs (French, English, Portuguese)	Lumpsum	1	29.999,89	30.000	30.000
	Interpretation Costs (French, English, Portuguese)	Lumpsum	1	30.000,00	30.000	30.000
	Subtotal Other Costs				96.500	96.500
	Sub-total Operational Costs				7.501.520	7.786.520
D	Total direct eligible costs of the action (A+B+C)				10.186.916	10.186.916
E	7% Indirect Costs				713.084	713.084
F	Total eligible direct and indirect costs (D+E)				10.900.000	10.900.000
	TOTAL (in EUR)				10.900.000	10.900.000

			1.355.149
			1.420.149
per action	-	52.600	-
			-
Item	1	2.500	2.500
Months	10	500	4.800
Lumpsum	1	6.000	6.000
Lumpsum	1	6.000	6.000
			19.300
			1.719.949
			2.334.629
			163.424
			2.498.053
			2.498.053

DRAFT Template budget monitoring report

Identifying information - grant and partner

Engagement	name of project/programme/engagement
Partner	name of partner
File no.	MFA file no.
Engagement period	dd.mm.yyyy - dd.mm.yyyy (total budget period)
Budget currency	DKK (or other currency)
Original outcome (total budget/grant)	amount of originally approved budget/grant
Reporting period	mm.yyyy-mm.yyyy (period covered by the budget monitoring report) <i>In this example year 2 is chosen as reporting period</i>
Date	dd.mm.yyyy (date of preparation of report)
Prepared by	name of person responsible for preparing report

	Total budget (year 1-3)	Budget period (year 1 Q3-Q4)	Actual spent period (year 1 Q3-Q4)	Budget vs. actual period			Budget utilisation			
				Budget variance	Budget variance %	Comments budget variance	Accumulated actual spent (year 1)	Balance available to date	Grant utilised to date %	Forecast (year 2-3)
Outcome (total budget)	3.730.340	506.596	-	506.596			350.954	3.379.386	9%	-
Output A										
Activity 1	155.256	19.407		19.407			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 2	484.000	60.500		60.500			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 3	105.000	13.125		13.125			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 4	112.620	14.078		14.078			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 5	60.000	7.500		7.500			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 6	87.858	10.982		10.982			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 7	112.500	14.063		14.063			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 8	74.388	9.299		9.299			#REF!	#REF!	0%	
Total direct cost output A	1.324.582	148.953	-	148.953			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	-
Share indirect cost output A	92.721	11.590	-	11.590			-	92.721	0%	
Total budget output A	1.417.303	160.543	-	137.363			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	-
Output B										
Activity 1	25.000	3.125		3.125			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 2	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 3	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 4	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 5	15.000	1.875		1.875			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 6	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 7	68.510	8.564		8.564			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 8	37.500	4.688		4.688			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Total direct cost output B	258.199	18.251		18.251			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	-
Share indirect cost output B	18.074	2.259		2.259			-	18.074	0%	
Total budget output B	276.273	20.510		20.510			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	-
Output C										
Activity 1	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 2	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 3	22.500	7.500		7.500			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 4	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 5	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 6	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 7	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Activity 8	-	-		-			#REF!	#REF!	0%	
Total direct cost output C	1.877.350	7.500		7.500			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Share indirect cost output C	-	-		-			10.717	(10.717)	0%	
Total budget output C	945.000	7.500		7.500			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Contingency										
Contingency (max 10% of total direct cost excluding contingency)	-	-	-	-						
Contingency activated (upon approval)	-	-	-	-						
Indirect cost										
Administrative costs (max. 7% of direct cost)	242.209	33.142	-	33.142			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	
Audit	28.000	-	-	-			#REF!	#REF!	-	
Total indirect cost	270.209	33.142	-	33.142			#REF!	#REF!	#REF!	



Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa (FMM II)



Strengthening Mobility in West Africa (SMiWA)

Workplan December 2023 - November 2024

#	AGENCY RESPONSIBLE	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	Targets (## sessions/events/pax, locations)	ECOWAS Directorate	Comments and explanations
Recruitment of ICMPD staff	ICMPD													5 project staff	NA	
Recruitment of Senior Migration Adviser	ICMPD													1 ECOWAS Expert	TIP UNIT	
Kick-off meeting with stakeholders	ICMPD													1 Kickoff meeting	All Relevant Directorates	
Develop ME&L, Gender Mainstreaming, Communication Plan, and Update the Results Framework	ICMPD													3 short-term Experts	All Relevant Directorates	
Objective 1: To strengthen the capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to lead intra-regional dialogue on free movement and migration issues and act as a platform for policy development and harmonization.																
Result 1.1. Capacity of ECOWAS Commission to conduct and lead selected MIDWA and regional meetings is strengthened and Capacity of ECOWAS Commission to conduct tripartite dialogue on labour migration and mobility through the Social Dialogue Forum (SDF) strengthened.																
1.1.11 Conduct donor mappings of projects in the region in line with the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration	ICMPD													1 donor mapping	All Relevant Directorates	Implementation with Danish add-on funds
1.1.12 Organize preparatory meetings among migration stakeholders to support EU-ECOWAS dialogue	ICMPD													2 Preparatory Meetings for the EU-ECOWAS Dialogue	International Cooperation Directorate, Free Movement	Implementation with Danish add-on funds
1.1.13 Adviser placed at the ECOWAS commission to facilitate the implementation of FMM II.	ICMPD															Implementation with Danish add-on funds
Result 1.2. The Migration data-collection, management capacities and implementation of the Guidelines for the Harmonisation of Migration Data Management in the ECOWAS Region operationalized and strengthened.																
1.2.8 Organize Regional meetings on LMMIS	ICMPD													Begin Organization of Regional Meeting	Humanitarian & Social Affairs; Research & Statistics	
1.2.9 Establish reporting indicators for ECOWAS MS on labour market and migration data.	ICMPD													7 Reporting Indicators agreed by MS based on FMM I	Humanitarian & Social Affairs; Research & Statistics	
1.2.10 Compile country reports and analyse results.	ICMPD													Begin process of compiling country reports	Humanitarian & Social Affairs; Research & Statistics	
Result 1.4. Capacity of the ECOWAS Commission in planning, coordination, monitoring and reporting in the area of counter-trafficking, migrant smuggling and child labour strengthened																
1.4.1 Baseline survey to identify existing needs and priorities of the Humanitarian and Social Affairs Department (THB Unit);	ICMPD													1 Baseline Survey conducted	Humanitarian & Social Affairs	
1.4.2 Impact assessment of the ECOWAS THB Plan of Action and new Plan of Action on Combating THB and SOM in the region	ICMPD													1 Assessment of the impact of previous ECOWAS THB Action Plan	Humanitarian & Social Affairs	
1.4.3 Organize ECOWAS Annual THB and SOM review meeting	ICMPD													1 Review meeting	Humanitarian & Social Affairs	
1.4.4 Support Policy on Regional Crime Against Persons Prevention	ICMPD													Support development of RCAPP Policy	Humanitarian & Social Affairs	
1.4.5 Support working group meetings at regional and national level to pilot the RCAPP concept.	ICMPD													Support working group meeting of RCAPP	Humanitarian & Social Affairs	
Objective 2: To strengthen the capacities of national institutions of ECOWAS member states and Mauritania in the areas of migration data collection and management, migration policy development, border management, labour migration and counter trafficking.																
Result 2.1. ECOWAS Policies and Frameworks in the field of migration management operationalized.																
2.1.5 Build capacity of national committees to implement Regional Monitoring Mechanism	ICMPD													1 training workshop for National Committees	Free Movement	
2.1.6 Training course on monitoring and evaluation for the application of Practical Handbook	ICMPD													1 M&E training	Free Movement	
Result 2.3.: Harmonisation and standardisation of training in MS in line with the ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual enhanced																
2.3.1 Establish the Training needs working group (TNWG)	ICMPD													1 TNWG establish	Free Movement	
2.3.2 Evaluate the current training capabilities in the area of border management	ICMPD													1 Evaluation conducted	Free Movement	
2.3.3 Assist TNWG to update and harmonize the ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual	ICMPD													1 Update conducted on BM Manual	Free Movement	
2.3.4 Assist TNWG members to adapt ECOWAS Border Management and Free Movement manual	ICMPD													Train 20 to adapt BM Manual	Free Movement	
2.3.5 Support cooperation between relevant Member States training academies	ICMPD													Prepare Joint training between MS	Free Movement	
2.3.6 Organize capacity building activities of Member States training academies	ICMPD													Prepare training activities of BM academies of MS	Free Movement	
2.3.7 Organize regional meetings to review achievements and challenges	ICMPD													Prepare activity to review achievements and challenges of MS in BM	Free Movement	
Result 2.4: Capacity of MS to combat child labour, forced labour and trafficking in human beings within the region enhanced, including improved data collection and analysis, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of TIP/SOM interventions reinforced.																
2.4.1 Conduct assessment of the capacities of MS TIP focal points on RBM, data collection and analysis, reporting, etc.	ICMPD													1 Assessment conducted	Humanitarian & Social Affairs	
2.4.2 Conduct training workshops to strengthen the capacity of TIP focal persons to collect, analyse and report TIP related data.	ICMPD													Prepared and conduct 1 training workshop	Humanitarian & Social Affairs	

2.4.3 Strengthen MS with coordination mechanism of national TIP taskforce members	ICMPD														3 MS with coordination mechanism on TIP Taskforce	Humanitarian & Social Affairs	
Result 2.7.: Technical capacities of national institutions to implement the provisions of the various regional instruments on Free Movement and to mainstream gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance strengthened.																	
2.7.1 Update guidelines and procedures for project eligibility, implementation, monitoring and evaluation	ICMPD														1 DDF Guidelines updated	All Relevant Directorates	Implementation with Danish add-on funds
2.7.2. Contact National Institutions and inform them about the DDF	ICMPD														15 MS and Mauritania Contacted to inform about DDF	All Relevant Directorates	Implementation with Danish add-on funds
2.7.3. Train focal points on strategic planning	ICMPD														5 FP trained on strategic planning	All Relevant Directorates	Implementation with Danish add-on funds
2.7.4. Commence implementation of DDF facility to benefit ECOWAS MS	ICMPD														4 MS benefiting from DDF	All Relevant Directorates	Implementation with Danish add-on funds
2.7.5. Conduct training on mainstreaming gender, climate change and protection of human rights in migration governance	ICMPD														1 training on mainstreaming gender, climate change, etc	All Relevant Directorates	Implementation with Danish add-on funds
2.7.6. Mainstream DDF actions with gender, environmental migration and disaster displacement	ICMPD														4 DDF actions with gender, climate, disaster displacements mainstreamed	All Relevant Directorates	Implementation with Danish add-on funds
Objective 3: To Increase the capacities of Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in the areas of information and protection for the benefit of migrants, returnees and cross-border populations in West Africa.																	
Result 3.1.: Civil society and private sector awareness raising on the activities of the Protocol on Free Movement and regional integration agenda promoted.																	
3.1.3 No. of civil society, private sector, transport unions, border officials' engagement on RMM	ICMPD														1 engagement of transport union, private sector, civil society	Free Movement	Implementation with Danish add-on funds



Evaluation Report: Mapping of Existing Donor support to ECOWAS on Migration from 2015-2019

August 2019



Project jointly funded by the EU and ECOWAS

This document has been prepared by Mr. Loksan Harley, migration expert, with the financial assistance of the European Union and the Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS), with technical assistance from the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) under the project “Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa (FMM West Africa)”. The content of this document are the sole responsibility of the author, and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union, ECOWAS or the FMM West Africa project.

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Acronyms

AECID	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AfDB	African Development Bank
CSO	Civil society organisation
ECDPM	European Centre for Development Policy Management
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
EUTF	European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMM	Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
IDP	Internally displaced persons
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MIDWA	Migration Dialogue for West Africa
ODA	Official Development Aid
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SOM	Smuggling of migrants
TIP	Trafficking in persons
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

Executive summary

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and its Member States have taken important steps towards promoting free movement and effective regional migration governance. The 2008 ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration underlined the region's commitment to free movement of persons, encouraging legal migration, combating trafficking, harmonising policies, protecting migrants' rights and recognising the gender dimension of migration policies. The proposed ECOWAS Regional Migration Policy is expected to further strengthen intra-regional cooperation to further facilitate free movement, while promoting security, stability and development.

Donor support plays a crucial role in supporting West African states across diverse areas of migration governance. This 2019 updated donor mapping exercise mapped €2,040,657,838 worth of donor-funded migration initiatives which were implemented between 2015-2019 in the 15 ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania.

Most mapped support went to return and reintegration projects (41.3%), followed by forced displacement and the rights of migrants (21.2%); and irregular migration, human trafficking and migrant smuggling (12.9%). The least went to promoting regular migration (1.2%), free movement and regional integration (2.5%), and migration and development (4.5%). Meanwhile, the highest levels of support mapped (more than half) went to the core Sahel countries like Niger, Nigeria, Mali and Burkina Faso, while far lower levels went to smaller coastal countries like Togo (0.2%) and Guinea-Bissau (0.4%).

The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa has had a major impact on the geographic and thematic distribution of funding and the way in which projects are designed. The scale of migration projects mapped this year has increased significantly when compared with the 2016 mapping exercise, with an increasing number of high-value projects, particularly in zones along trans-Saharan migration routes in areas like returns, border management and smuggling of migrants.

This report concludes that donor assistance is not closely aligned to overall regional migration priorities, as the highest levels of support address themes relating to inter-regional migration control and route-based migrant protection and returns, while the lowest levels of support fund key sub-regional policy priorities like intra-regional labour mobility.

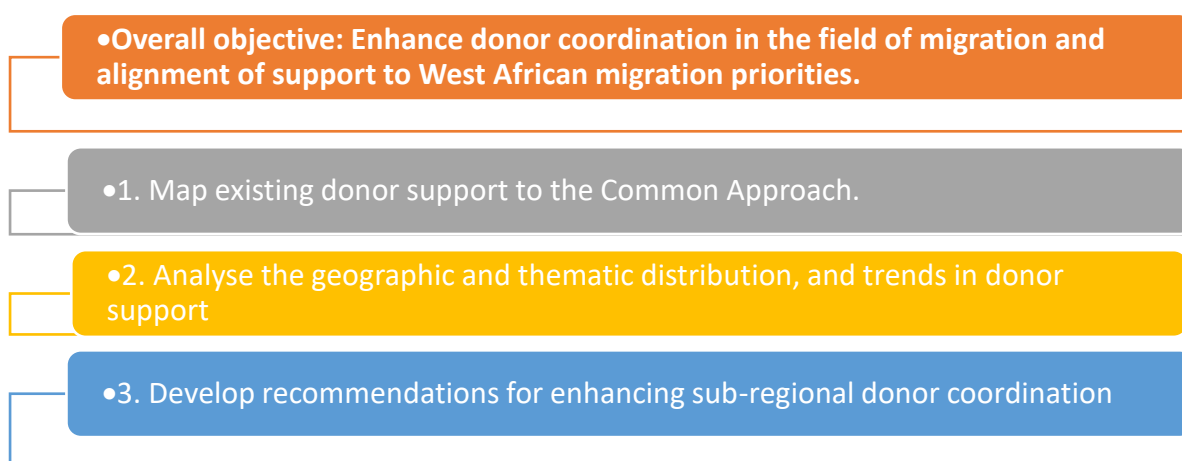
This report recommends engaging the ECOWAS Commission in a strategic reflection about its role in advocating sub-regional migration priorities and enhancing donor coordination, which could begin with engaging West African migration donors and other stakeholders to promote information exchange and greater alignment of support to ECOWAS policies.

1. Introduction and methodology

1.1 Background and objectives

In the framework of the Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa project (FMM West Africa), this donor mapping exercise collected data on donor-funded migration projects and programmes in the 15 Member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Mauritania that were implemented between February 2015 and May 2019.¹ It builds on the original 2015 exercise and the 2016 and 2018 updates.

This Evaluation Report summarises the findings of the donor mapping, while providing an analysis of the geographic and thematic distribution of the donor support, trends in funding, and alignment with sub-regional migration priorities – notably the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration and proposed Regional Migration Policy. In addition, it explores ways to enhance donor coordination.



1.2 Methodology

The donor mapping took place over 20 working days from March to May 2019. It comprised desk research, requesting project information from migration stakeholders, and a stakeholder consultation, including a four-day field visit to Dakar, Senegal to gather insights into West Africa migration donor trends. The results are presented in the updated Donor Map, which included 402 new project entries,² and this Evaluation Report.

1.2.1 Data collection

i. Document analysis and web research: This involved: 1) incorporating data from existing donor mappings (such as ICMPD's Joint Valletta Action Plan database) (see Annex 1); 2) monitoring the websites of donors and international organisations (see Annex 4); 3) reviewing literature on migration donor support and trends (see Annex 1); and 4) reviewing literature on donor coordination (see Annex 1).

¹ The donor map includes initiatives that started before February 2015 and were implemented during the timeframe, initiatives that started during the timeframe and ran beyond May 2019, and upcoming initiatives.

² This is the number of new project entries (highlighted in blue in the Donor Map). This includes replicated multi-country projects, so the number of new unique projects is slightly lower.

ii. Requests for information: Due to incomplete published data, selected migration stakeholders were contacted by email with requests for information (see Annex 3). Requests introduced the objectives and context of the donor mapping, along with a template to specify the information required and a deadline. Follow-up contact was systematically carried out in order to maximise the response rate.

iii. Stakeholder consultation: Semi-structured Interviews were conducted online and offline, including in-person during four days of interviews in Dakar. The aim was to obtain project information not found online and to gather stakeholder perspectives regarding regional donor trends and coordination. Interview requests were also made to ECOWAS Commission officials, with a view to discussing the Commission's opportunities to take a greater role in donor coordination.

Representatives from the FMM West Africa implementing partners were consulted, as were those from the EU Delegation in Senegal and other donors and implementing agencies, with a focus on regional offices. A full list of interviews can be found in Annex 2.³

1.2.2 Data analysis

The data collected on donor funding was compiled into the Donor Map. This map is an Excel file divided into one tab per country (16 tabs), one tab for ECOWAS and other regional initiatives, one tab for sub-regional analysis, one tab for the Donor Matrix (which is also included at the beginning of the findings section of this report), and one tab containing various data visualisations.

While the donor mapping builds on the 2015, 2016 and 2018 iterations, it streamlined the 2018 update by consolidating the thematic categories to focus more on migration-specific initiatives.⁴ As with previous exercises, the data was analysed and presented in this report in a range of visual ways to draw out the geographic and thematic distribution. Quantitative data observations were complemented by the qualitative insights from the interviews.

The donor mapping intended to assess the alignment of donor support to sub-regional priorities, reflected by the ECOWAS Common Approach and the proposed Regional Migration Policy. Since the Common Approach is a political agreement on broad migration-related principles, which are not defined thematic areas, the following categories were used to define areas of donor support while serving as proxies to the Common Approach priorities (in brackets):

³ Interviews were also requested, but could not be arranged, with the following organisations: ECOWAS Commission (External Affairs Directorate, Free Movement Directorate, and Humanitarian and Social Affairs Directorate), the United States Agency for International Development, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, the Danish Red Cross, the Spanish Red Cross, Terre des Hommes, Plan International, World Vision, and the International Social Service.

⁴ The 2018 exercise used 16 categories, including some (e.g. 'migration management' and 'border management') with strong overlap, and others (e.g. 'peace and security' and 'local development') which led to the inclusion of non-migration interventions. This categorisation may have constrained the validity of analysis. Therefore, the categories have been consolidated into more clearly defined categories, while only including projects that directly target migrants or migration.

1. Free movement/regional integration (Common Approach (CA) priority 1)	5. Border management
2. Regular migration (CA2)	6. Migration and development nexus
3. Irregular migration, human trafficking and migrant smuggling (CA3)	7. Return and reintegration
4. Forced displacement and the rights of migrants (CA5)	

Common Approach priorities 4 (policy harmonisation) and 6 (gender dimension) were considered cross-cutting areas to be analysed separately. The thematic categories are defined in more detail in Annex 5.

1.2.3 Limitations

i. Lack of data collected regarding ECOWAS donor coordination: The exercise had intended to analyse existing ECOWAS-level migration-related donor coordination and provide recommendations on how the ECOWAS Commission can take a greater role in coordinating funding. The methodological approach was to analyse previous initiatives and donor coordination principles and best practices, before consulting relevant departments of the ECOWAS Commission to determine how the principles and practices could be applied in the ECOWAS context. Unfortunately, no data related to ECOWAS donor coordination could be collected.⁵ Therefore, this Evaluation Report has outlined broad principles of donor coordination, with some application to the ECOWAS context, based on a review of published literature.

ii. Variation in published project information: Data was collected from multiple sources, which was consequently found in a range of formats. Data sets were almost always incomplete, and the missing data is labelled 'unknown' in the Donor Map. This has skewed the data set, as for some categories and countries, a large number of projects were mapped but the donor support could not be determined. Steps were taken to complete the data through further web research and requests for information to organisations concerned.

iii. Geographic bias in data collection: The donor mapping covered 16 countries but access to information varied according to country. Relatively little information was found for Benin, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, and Togo. This could be due to one or more of the following factors: the countries' lower populations, lower donor interest, lower donor support and insufficient publicly-available data.

⁵ Interview and information requests were sent to officials of the ECOWAS Commission's External Affairs Directorate, Free Movement Directorate and Humanitarian and Social Affairs Directorate.

iv. Effect of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) on understanding migration donor trends: During the stakeholder consultation process, many interviewees confounded overall donor trends with trends resulting from the EUTF. Steps were taken to clarify interview questions accordingly, but the political significance of the EUTF for many stakeholders made it difficult to isolate trends that relate to the EUTF specifically from the overall donor trends. Furthermore, the EUTF funds many general livelihood and resilience projects that do not have activities that relate to migration or migrants, which were hence not included in the Donor Map. When consulting stakeholders on donor trends, efforts were made to clarify that the donor mapping focused on migration initiatives specifically. However, it was clear that many interviewees considered EUTF-funded projects as “migration projects”.

v. Unanswered requests for information: Since limited project/programme information is published, donor mapping exercises rely on actors sharing information. As detailed in Annex 3, requests for information were sent to a wide range of relevant actors and follow-up was conducted on all requests. That said, some organisations did not provide the requested information, which has constrained the exercise’s findings.

vi. Categorisation difficulties: As with any donor mapping exercise, thematic areas had to be created to analyse the distribution of funding. The system used is outlined in Annex 5. However, one drawback of the thematic areas used in this year’s Donor Map is that irregular migration, human trafficking and migrant smuggling form one thematic area. This made it difficult to analyse the nuances and trends in data within this broad thematic area.

vii. Attributing donor support to multiple countries, thematic areas and durations: Many donor-funded programmes cover multiple countries and thematic areas, making it difficult to determine precisely the extent of support to each target country and thematic area. The Donor Map therefore categorises each project into one of the aforementioned categories and attributes equal portions of multi-country donor support to each target country as an approximation. Furthermore, given the difficulties in breaking down multi-year support, the total value of budgets was used, including for projects that started before 2015 (continuing into the mapped time period) and for projects which started during the mapped time period and which are still in the implementation phase.

2. Findings

Graphic 1: Donor Matrix⁶

Country	Free movement/ regional integration	Regular migration	Irregular migration, human trafficking and migrant smuggling	Forced displacement and the rights of migrants	Border management	Migration and development	Return and reintegration	Total	Percentages
Benin	€321,419	€89,170	€1,289,637	€942,077	€188,531	€1,103,122	€0	€3,933,955	0.2%
Burkina Faso	€452,911	€0	€14,931,589	€84,308,938	€49,233,591	€1,600,545	€24,933,333	€175,460,907	8.6%
Cape Verde	€0	€2,610,195	€140,000	€0	€92,954	€1,825,827	€0	€4,668,976	0.2%
Cote d'Ivoire	€138,168	€417,500	€17,711,840	€12,719,083	€2,966,473	€4,466,773	€51,291,405	€89,711,242	4.4%
Gambia	€52,323	€0	€16,615,913	€7,294,372	€222,925	€3,201,265	€11,757,523	€39,144,320	1.9%
Ghana	€675,201	€801,261	€11,410,142	€16,116,006	€9,561,951	€11,335,942	€30,450,562	€80,351,065	3.9%
Guinea	€201,194	€0	€11,763,054	€10,090,946	€7,222,558	€628,340	€13,245,269	€43,151,361	2.1%
Guinea-Bissau	€0	€0	€216,624	€303,128	€412,687	€263,667	€6,135,384	€7,331,489	0.4%
Liberia	€0	€0	€2,877,413	€838,147	€7,634,898	€1,895,006	€37,422,812	€50,668,277	2.5%
Mali	€78,024	€816,923	€16,311,959	€27,100,572	€46,194,552	€18,989,157	€96,171,053	€205,662,240	10.1%
Mauritania	€0	€8,343,440	€7,163,419	€62,213,762	€23,964,111	€1,167,340	€14,932,093	€117,784,165	5.8%
Niger	€180,134	€3,000,000	€61,911,453	€95,263,137	€82,332,104	€13,857,355	€187,806,004	€444,350,187	21.8%
Nigeria	€1,678,283	€417,017	€45,815,156	€89,546,209	€62,458,880	€15,696,150	€219,152,075	€434,763,771	21.3%
Senegal	€305,257	€6,607,129	€13,729,009	€7,823,661	€16,550,729	€10,199,215	€36,753,391	€91,968,390	4.5%
Sierra Leone	€201,194	€0	€3,177,104	€392,297	€7,933,581	€3,779,249	€116,898	€15,600,324	0.8%
Togo	€279,218	€343,440	€558,000	€1,118,545	€0	€526,647	€174,451	€3,000,301	0.1%
ECOWAS	€46,924,860	€1,444,383	€38,570,039	€16,685,913	€15,776,222	€1,722,222	€111,983,228	€233,106,866	11.4%
Total	€51,488,185	€24,890,458	€264,192,352	€432,756,792	€332,746,748	€92,257,821	€842,325,483	€2,040,657,838	
Percentages	2.5%	1.2%	12.9%	21.2%	16.3%	4.5%	41.3%		100.0%

⁶ The Donor Matrix displays data from the Donor Map on 8 August 2019.

2.1 Distribution of donor funding

2.1.1 Geographic distribution

i. **Geographic hot and cold spots:** As outlined in the table below, **Niger (€444 million)** received the most mapped donor support, followed by **Nigeria, Mali and Burkina Faso**. **Togo (€3 million)** received the least, followed by **Benin, Cape Verde, and Guinea-Bissau**. Moreover, Benin receives the least funding per person, followed by Togo and Sierra Leone. Mauritania, Niger and The Gambia receive the most per capita. Liberia would have ranked far lower as a funding recipient if three unusually large United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) programmes had been excluded.

This country funding range of €441 million (€25.57 per capita) underlines a **significant geographic variance in funding**. While less populated countries in general tend to receive less funding than regional giants like Nigeria, countries like Benin, Togo and Sierra Leone also receive far less than regional counterparts on a per capita basis.

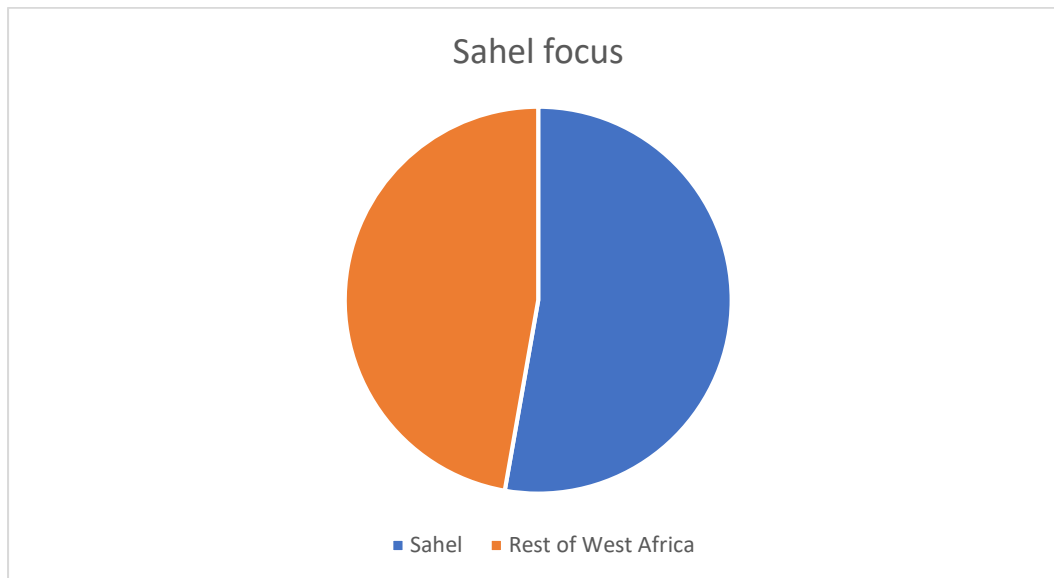
In addition, as outlined in section 1.2.3 and Annex 5, funding for initiatives that did not have any direct relationship with migrants and migration, such as livelihoods and resilience projects implemented in zones of emigration towards Europe, were not mapped. If these projects were included, the same geographic divisions would likely be more pronounced, although more funding may have been mapped in Senegal, The Gambia, and Guinea, who received large sums of EUTF funding for non-migration projects.

Country	Total funding	Percentage	Population ⁷	Per capita funding
Benin	€3,933,955	0.2%	11,490,000	€0.34
Burkina Faso	€175,460,907	8.6%	19,750,000	€8.88
Cape Verde	€4,668,976	0.2%	550,000	€8.49
Cote d'Ivoire	€89,711,242	4.4%	24,910,000	€3.60
Gambia	€39,144,320	1.9%	2,160,000	€18.12
Ghana	€80,351,065	3.9%	29,460,000	€2.73
Guinea	€43,151,361	2.1%	13,050,000	€3.31
Guinea-Bissau	€7,331,489	0.4%	1,910,000	€3.84
Liberia	€50,668,277	2.5%	4,850,000	€10.45
Mali	€205,662,240	10.1%	19,110,000	€10.76
Mauritania	€117,784,165	5.8%	4,540,000	€25.94
Niger	€444,350,1871	21.8%	22,310,000	€19.92
Nigeria	€434,763,771	21.3%	195,880,000	€2.22
Senegal	€91,968,390	4.5%	16,290,000	€5.65
Sierra Leone	€15,600,324	0.8%	7,720,000	€2.02
Togo	€3,000,301	0.1%	7,990,000	€0.38
Total	€1,807,550,972		381,970,000	

⁷ 2018 mid-year UN population estimates. Link: <http://data.un.org/>.

ii. The Sahel effect: Funding from the four West Africa countries of the G5 Sahel comprised over half of funding mapped, despite making up just 17.2% of the sub-region's population. The imbalance is even starker if mapped funding to other geographically Sahel countries like Senegal and Nigeria were included. Mano River and smaller Gulf of Guinea countries, by contrast, receive much lower levels of funding.

Graphic 2: Sahel funding⁸



iii. Route-based and security-based donor interests: Origin and transit **countries along key overland migration routes from Africa to Europe, particularly the Central Mediterranean Route, receive more funding** than countries outside these routes. High levels of funding may also be linked to ongoing security challenges facing the Sahel. This is reflected in the securitised nature of the thematic focus (see below) and reflects the need to address the Sahel's specific challenges, such as high levels of forced displacement and insecurity of border zones.

The amplitude of the gulf in funding, which leaves countries like Guinea-Bissau with almost five times less funding than similarly-populated The Gambia, indicates a **geographic misalignment of support to the region's migration needs**. While alignment issues will be explored further in section 2.4, it is worth noting as an example that three of the bottom five donor recipients face significant challenges in relation to human trafficking,⁹ as just one example among a number of migration-related opportunities and challenges.

Graphic 3: Sub-regional donor heat map

⁸ The Sahel funding calculations aggregate the data of the four West African members of the G5 Sahel: Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.

⁹ Togo, Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau are on the Tier 2 Watch List of the 2018 Trafficking in Persons Report. Link: <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/282798.pdf>.



2.1.2 Thematic distribution

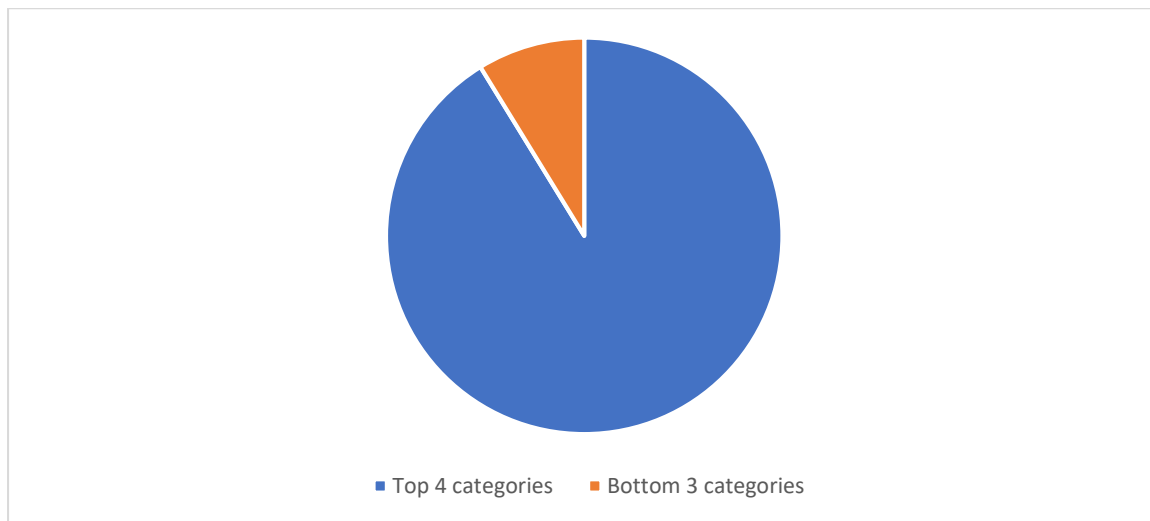
i. Thematic hot and cold spots: As outlined by the below table, **most funding mapped went to return and reintegration, forced displacement and the rights of migrants,¹⁰ border management, and irregular forms of migration**. Stakeholders interviewed also explained that, in the context of return and reintegration, there has been significantly more emphasis on returns, with less emphasis on the reintegration needs of returning migrants. Furthermore, the four highest funded thematic areas (comprising 91.7% of total funding) all focus on addressing the challenges – as opposed to the more positive aspects – of migration.

Thematic area	Funding
1. Return and reintegration	€842,325,483
2. Forced displacement and the rights of migrants	€432,756,792
3. Border management	€332,746,748
4. Irregular migration, human trafficking and migrant smuggling	€264,192,352
5. Migration and development	€92,257,821
6. Free movement/regional integration	€51,488,185
7. Regular migration	€24,890,458

Relatively little funding mapped went towards projects that foster the positive aspects – or opportunities – of migration, such as regular migration (including labour migration), West African free movement of persons and regional integration, and migration and development. These thematic areas received just 8.3% of the total, despite themes like intra-regional labour migration and diaspora engagement being sub-regional migration and development priorities.

¹⁰ As outlined in Annex 5, the “forced displacement and the rights of migrants” category includes support to displaced migrants and migrants in vulnerable situations, such as children on the move.

Graphic 4: Donor support for positive (opportunities) and negative aspects (challenges) of migration



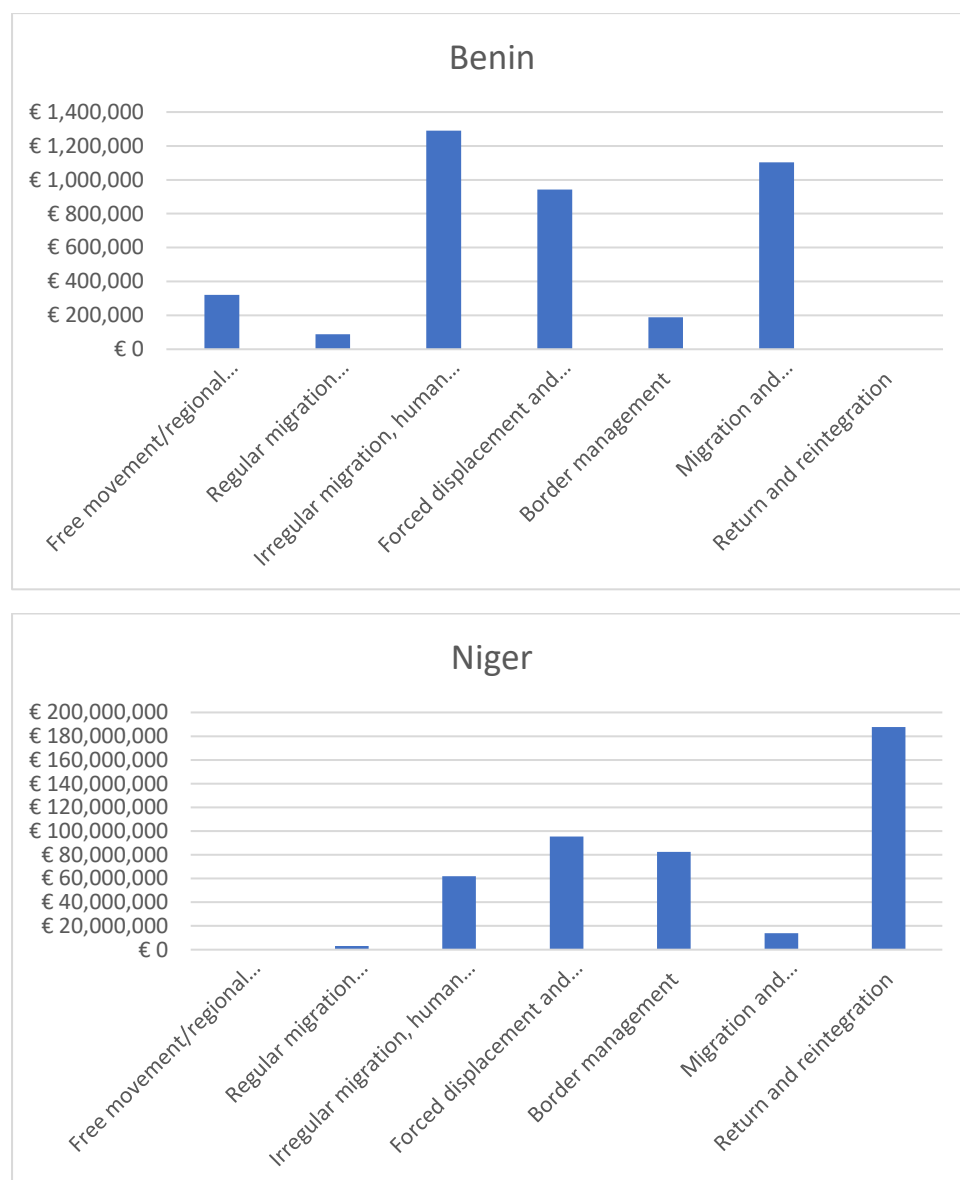
ii. Thematic distribution by country: **In countries along trans-Saharan migration routes** – particularly transit countries in the Sahel like Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger – the aforementioned thematic distribution is more pronounced, with an **emphasis on border management, displacement and returns**. These findings are consistent with those of other studies, such as the Protection Fallout mapping exercise, in which the majority of projects mapped (47 out of 69) involved activities relating to border security and control; and around a sixth (11 projects) emphasised protection for people on the move.¹¹ Data published by Oxfam in 2017 shows that 22% of EUTF funding had been allocated to “migration management.”¹²¹³ Meanwhile, **in countries receiving less overall donor funding, such as Benin and Togo, the thematic distribution appears more balanced** in terms of support to address protection needs and the challenges arising from irregular migration versus support to foster labour migration and the development impact of migration.

¹¹ *Protection Fallout*, Danish Refugee Council and the Global Public Policy Institute, 2017. Link: https://www.gppi.net/media/GPPi_DRC_RMMS_2017_Protection_Fallout_Mapping_Results.pdf.

¹² Oxfam’s 2017 briefing note, *An emergency for whom?*, found that within the €400m allocated to migration management, most projects are designed to restrict and discourage irregular migration through migration containment and control (55% of the budget allocated to “improved migration management”); raising awareness about the dangers of irregular migration (4%) and implementing policy reforms for returns (25%); and improving the identification of countries’ nationals (13%). Only 3% is allocated to developing safe and regular routes. Link: <https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/emergency-whom-eu-emergency-trust-fund-africa-migratory-routes-and-development-aid-africa>.

¹³ The term “improved migration management” is one of the four themes of the EUTF. The EUTF website describes their aim as follows: “we aim to support partner countries in developing national and regional strategies on migration management in line with international standards, to improve capacities to prevent irregular migration and fight against trafficking in human beings and migrant smuggling.” Link: <https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/thematic/improved-migration-management>.

Graphic 5: Comparison of the thematic distribution of funding in Benin and Niger



iii. Potential for overlap in donor support to border management and migrant protection: Border management is not only an area of funding with significant support (16.3% of funding mapped), the Donor Map shows that **support to this area is largely concentrated in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Nigeria**. Stakeholders interviewed highlighted that while there is strong field-level coordination among organisations intervening in highly-funded zones like Agadez, there is nonetheless **potential for overlap, as large-scale initiatives in the same countries can involve similar activities and beneficiaries**. This finding is consistent with the recommendation made by the 2017 Clingendael Report to improve coordination, since

“many projects have been set up, for example in the field of border management. Rather than adding new projects, the coordination of existing projects is important.”¹⁴

A similar point could be made in relation to projects that seek to **protect migrants in transit, which largely targets similar beneficiaries in similar route-focused zones**. As mentioned in section 2.3, some donors interviewed noted a **feeling of “congestion” and lack of a coordinated strategic framework** in the area, with the aforementioned Protection Fallout study also noting that some recipient governments reportedly take advantage of the lack of coordination among donors and implementing agencies in order to shop around for protection-related trainings, recommending that “donors should develop a synchronized protection strategy wherein all protection activities are coordinated among donors and implementing agencies, and training is complemented with other efforts like the strengthening of referral and support systems.”¹⁵

2.1.3 Donors and implementers

i. **Major donors**¹⁶: While the Donor Map does not calculate the levels of donor support provided by specific donors, the below “donor cloud” provides an imperfect proxy based on the frequency of donor mentions in the map.¹⁷ It supports the insights provided by interviewees, who frequently spoke of **the EU as the major donor** which funds all categories. Following the EU is support by large traditional development donors like **the UK, USA, Japan, Germany, France, Spain, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium, and Italy**. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) also appears in the below donor cloud, due to the funding provided by the IOM Development Fund.¹⁸ Pooled funds like the **Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Nigeria Humanitarian Fund (NHF)** also provide significant humanitarian support to displaced populations.¹⁹ Meanwhile, some interviewees noted that development banks like the World Bank and the African Development Bank are taking greater interest in funding migration initiatives, although this is not manifested in the Donor Map.

In addition, **donors fund different thematic areas and utilise different modalities**. The EU and European countries in general appear to target more funding towards border management, return and reintegration, and forced displacement in areas along migration routes from Africa to Europe. Donors like the USA and UK appear more inclined to fund

¹⁴ *For the long run: A mapping of migration-related activities in the wider Sahel region*, Clingendael, 2017. Link: https://www.clingendael.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/Report_For%20the%20long%20run.pdf.

¹⁵ *Protection Fallout*, Danish Refugee Council and the Global Public Policy Institute, 2017. Link: https://www.gppi.net/media/GPPi_DRC_RMMS_2017_Protection_Fallout_Mapping_Results.pdf.

¹⁶ The Donor Map does not distinguish between funding from different departments of the same government.

¹⁷ The “donor cloud” and below “implementation cloud” were created using WordItOut and only included donors and implementing agencies associated with at least four project entries in the Donor Map. Link: <https://worditout.com/word-cloud/create>.

¹⁸ While the IOM Development Fund is itself funded by several countries, IOM is understood to have operational control over the Fund’s disbursement and is therefore considered a donor for the Fund’s projects. IOM’s prominence in the donor cloud may be inflated by the fact that a relatively large number of low-value projects were mapped. Link: <https://developmentfund.iom.int/supporting-fund>.

¹⁹ The CERF and NHF are administered by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and receive contributions from a variety of donors. Links: <https://www.unocha.org/nigeria/about-nhf> and <https://cerf.un.org/>.

initiatives that focus on the protection needs of displaced populations and migrants in vulnerable situations (including counter-trafficking and modern slavery), while donors like the EU, Germany, France and Spain funded projects across a greater diversity of migration themes.

Graphic 6: Donor cloud



ii. Major implementers: While the Donor Map also does not quantify funding to implementing partners, the below “implementation cloud” shows that UN and European bilateral cooperation agencies implement particularly large numbers of projects, including many of the highest value grants.²⁰ **IOM and the UNHCR are key UN implementing agencies**, followed by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). **European bilateral cooperation agencies like GIZ, Expertise France, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) implemented initiatives funded by their own national governments and the EU – notably through the EUTF.** UN and bilateral cooperation agencies implemented grants of varying levels and thematic areas, ranging from multi-million euro regional migration management programmes to small-scale return and reintegration projects. National governments were also key implementing partners, particularly with respect to large-scale migration control and border management initiatives in Niger.

Civil society organisations (CSOs) typically implemented smaller-scale projects in the fields of migration and development, reintegration of returning migrants, and protection to migrants in vulnerable situations (such as children and displaced persons). Major CSOs included the different societies of the Red Cross movement, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, the Swiss Foundation for International Social Services, and the Danish Refugee

²⁰ The “implementing cloud” may show a level of bias towards organisations that provided more data to the Donor Map, such as IOM and Save the Children.

Council/Mixed Migration Centre. Relatively few CSO migration projects have been directly funded by the EUTF, although Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, and the Danish Refugee Council have succeeded in obtaining multi-million euro EUTF grants.

Graphic 7: Implementation cloud



2.3 Trends in donor funding

i. The EUTF and the root causes of migration: **The EUTF has had a major impact on the geographic and thematic distribution of funding and the way in which projects are designed.**

For many stakeholders, migration funding in the region is now synonymous with EUTF funding. The instrument initially focused funding (within its Sahel and Lake Chad window) on the core Sahel countries of Burkina Faso, The Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal.²¹²² This has since been expanded to include Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Guinea, with some stakeholders noting that countries like Guinea have received more funding due to the large number of Europe-bound migrants being returned in recent years.²³

The EUTF's stated aim is "to address the root causes of instability, forced displacement and irregular migration and to contribute to better migration management,²⁴ by funding the action areas outlined in Graphic 8. A proportion of the EUTF funding appears to have financed projects whose activities do not directly target existing migrants or migration governance but rather seek to support populations in key regions of origin, including those which are considered potential migrants. Moreover, some interviewees suggested that early EUTF projects focused on migration control, before civil society criticisms led to a more

²¹ Only West African countries are listed.

²² *A European Agenda on Migration*, European Commission, 2015. Link: https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/21933/euagendafor-migration_trustfund-v10.pdf.

²³ *EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa*, European Commission, 2018. Link: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/eu-emergency-trust-fund-for-africa-20181220_en.pdf.

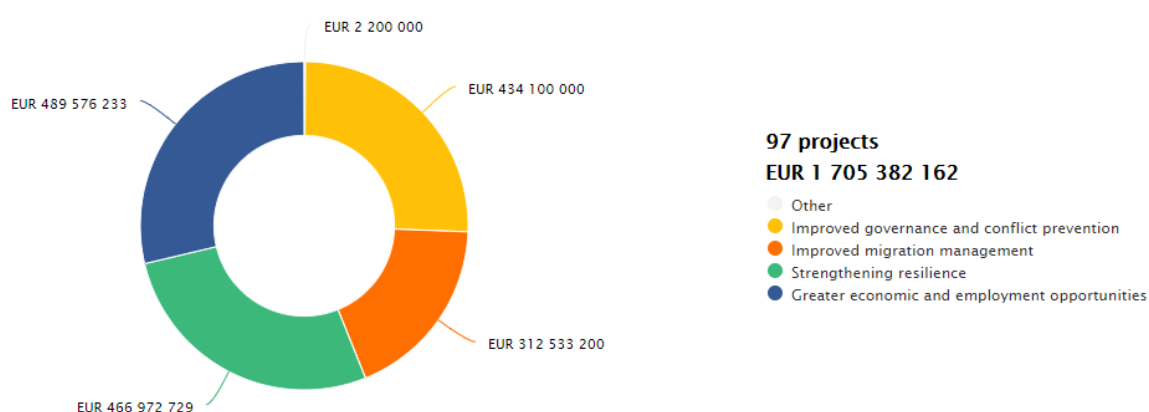
²⁴ *EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa*, European Commission, 2018. Link: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/eu-emergency-trust-fund-for-africa-20181220_en.pdf.

development-focused approach.²⁵ Consequently, many EUTF-funded projects focus on creating livelihoods and building resilience (deemed to be root causes of migration) or on strengthening general security in border zones, without containing activities that directly relate to migrants or migration governance.

Amplifying the impact of the EUTF on the geographic and thematic distribution is the increase in bilateral funding by EU Member States to the same end.^{26,27} Many stakeholders interviewed and literature reviewed further underline this trend towards externalisation of Europe’s migration and asylum policies.²⁸ This has entailed more aid for countries that send migrants to Europe and transit countries along the related migration routes. A 2017 study found that “migration increasingly plays a stronger role for geographical Official Development Aid (ODA) allocations”.²⁹

While these non-migration EUTF projects consequently fall outside the scope of the Donor Map, it is no coincidence that the top four donor recipients (see section 2.1.1) are key EUTF target countries, while the bottom four are among the six non-EUTF countries. If the three aforementioned UNHCR refugee programmes in Liberia are excluded, no single non-EUTF country received more mapped funding than any EUTF target country.

Graphic 8: Thematic breakdown of EUTF funding



²⁵ Such as from the European NGO confederation for relief and development (CONCORD) 2018 report, *Partnership or Conditionality*. Link: https://concordeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/CONCORD_EUTrustFundReport_2018_online.pdf.

²⁶ Examples include: the 2015 UK White Paper, UK aid: Tackling global challenges in the national interest; the 2014 French law for the orientation and programming concerning the development and international solidarity policy; the 2017 German development White Paper and 2014 “special initiative” on tackling the root causes of displacement, reintegrating refugees; and the Netherlands 2016 Addressing Root Causes Fund.

²⁷ According to the 2018 CONCORD report.

²⁸ Relevant literature includes the 2018 CONCORD report and the 2018 policy paper by the Robert Schuman Foundation, *European Union/African Cooperation: the externalisation of Europe’s migration policies*. Link: <https://www.robert-schuman.eu/en/european-issues/0472-european-union-african-cooperation-the-externalisation-of-europe-s-migration-policies>.

²⁹ *Making Waves*, ECDPM, 2017. Link: <https://ecdpm.org/wp-content/uploads/ECDPM-EBA-Making-Waves-Migration-Refugee-ODA-Europe-2017.pdf>.

Source: European Commission, 2019.³⁰

ii. Migration mega-projects implemented by UN and bilateral cooperation agencies: As the EUTF has disbursed €1.7 billion to the Sahel and Lake Chad window countries thus far, **the scale of migration projects mapped in this year's Donor Map has increased significantly** when compared with the 2016 mapping exercise. A cursory look back at the 2016 version shows that the larger projects mapped were worth €2 million-€3million. The EUTF and increased funding from other European donors following the so-called European migration crisis has led to the approval of high-value multi-million euro regional programmes, such as the EU, Germany and Italy-funded Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration in Africa (€70 million) and the UK-funded Safety, Support and Solutions Phase 2 programme (£78 million).

As alluded to above, **many of these mega projects are implemented by UN and bilateral cooperation agencies**, particularly IOM, UNHCR, GIZ, Expertise France, and the AFD, with many being implemented by consortia of several organisations. The choice of implementing agency also appears to relate to the thematic focus, with UN and bilateral cooperation agencies receiving funding to implement large-scale border management programmes that work with partner country governments, while CSOs have received funding to implement protection and reintegration initiatives that more directly target populations. Interviews revealed that high-value packages of funding are increasingly being disbursed to programmes implemented by UN and bilateral cooperation agencies, who can then entrust certain activities to other implementing partners, including CSOs. Some interviewees also pointed to implementation capacity constraints on some of these agencies, who have rapidly expanded staff numbers to cope with new projects.

iii. Root-based protection, control and security: Another consequence of European crisis funding, as alluded to above, is the **shift in geographic focus towards the core Sahel countries along key inter-continental migration routes and a thematic shift of migration funding towards protection, control and security**. Huge amounts of funding continue to pour into Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso. This trend already began to emerge in the 2016 Donor Map, although at the time Burkina Faso was still a relatively small recipient. The trend is significantly more pronounced in this year's Donor Map. Furthermore, some interviewees noted that European funding priorities have shifted since 2015 based on the changing of Europe-bound migrants' preferred routes. As such, countries like Senegal received more funding in the earlier days of the EUTF, while more funding was subsequently directed towards countries that feature more prominently along the Central Mediterranean Route. Some interviewees noted that even more recent grants target the Western Mediterranean Route, as arrivals via the Central Mediterranean Route have been curtailed.

Funding in transit countries along the migration routes towards Europe focuses on border management, protecting and returning migrants in transit towards Europe, and securing border zones. Key examples of such projects mapped are the EU and Germany-funded Management of Migration Challenges in Niger (€28 million), the aforementioned Safety,

³⁰ Correct as of 23 May 2019. Link: https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/region/sahel-lake-chad_en.

Support and Solutions – Phase 2 programme, and the EU-funded Integrated Management of Border Regions in Burkina Faso programme (€35.5 million). Some donors interviewed noted that a lot of funding in the aforementioned transit countries focused on the same areas, giving rise to the aforementioned feeling of “congestion” and lack of strategic framework.

iv. SOM over TIP: Some stakeholders, notably UNODC, noted that while the smuggling of migrants (SOM) and trafficking in persons (TIP) are often considered together as an area of intervention, in recent years **support to counter SOM has increased vis-à-vis TIP support**. While the Donor Map found that counter-TIP support remained significant, the increase in SOM initiatives appears linked to donor-driven concerns regarding smuggling activities along inter-regional migration routes, especially given the fact that ECOWAS free movement protocols should preclude, to a large degree, intra-regional SOM.

In the area of TIP and SOM, it would also appear that large donors have moved beyond funding small-scale technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives to develop large-scale counter-TIP/SOM programmes that embed trafficking and smuggling within broader responses to organised crime and justice issues, such as the EUTF-funded Support for justice and security in Niger to fight organised crime, smuggling and human trafficking (€30 million), and Partenariat Opérationnel Conjoint (POC) de lutte contre l’immigration irrégulière, la traite et le trafic de migrants au Sénégal (€9 million), and the Organized Crime: West African Response to Trafficking (€20 million). UNODC (through the GLO.ACT programme), ICMPD (through the FMM DDF and MIEUX initiatives) and IOM (through the ACP-EU Migration Action programme) nevertheless continued to implement donor-funded technical assistance and capacity-building activities on TIP and SOM (among other migration issues) in the sub-region, while donors like the USA and Canada provided support to West Africa-focused counter-TIP and forced labour initiatives, such as the US-funded Combating Forced Labor and Labor Trafficking of Adults and Children in Ghana (\$2 million). As the Donor Map groups all TIP, SOM and general irregular migration initiatives together, further study is required to gain a more nuanced understanding of the trends within this area.

v. Low funding for intra-regional migration: **Few initiatives mapped directly promoted intra-regional migration or the implementation of the ECOWAS free movement protocols.** Stakeholders also felt that issues like intra-regional labour migration and social security portability were not focus areas for donors despite being of interest to governments across the region, although some interviewees noted that ethical recruitment and labour exploitation issues were starting to gain traction among donors. Stakeholders working on child migration issues also noted that there was more donor interest in inter-regional child migrant protection issues, despite intra-regional children on the move issues comprising a more significant share of movements.

Some of the few intra-regionally-focused initiatives mapped were the EU-funded MADE West Africa - Migration and Development Partnerships for rights-based migration and mobility governance in, from and to West Africa programme (€1.2 million); and previously-mapped initiatives implemented in the framework of FMM West Africa and the Spain-ECOWAS Fund.

vi. Emerging implementers: Given the increased funding for migration-related initiatives, there is an **increasing variety of organisations now implementing projects** mapped. This has not only led to more migration projects being implemented by UN agencies with existing and established migration expertise, but also more migration projects being implemented by **bilateral cooperation agencies and CSOs with little previous migration experience – including many CSOs who did not appear or seldom appeared in the 2016 mapping**, like the Danish Refugee Council, the Red Cross societies and the International Rescue Committee. CSOs who already intervened in specialised areas of migration, such as Save the Children and Terre des Hommes, have also expanded their project portfolios. Interviewees further revealed that several CSOs, including Catholic Relief Services and Oxfam, had conducted migration-related donor mapping exercises and self-funded migration-related initiatives as a means of exploring opportunities to implement donor-funded migration projects.

2.4 Alignment of donor funding to West African migration priorities

i. CA priority 1 – free movement: While 10.7% of donor support mapped in 2015 went to initiatives promoting intra-regional free movement, just 2.5% of corresponding support was mapped in this year's Donor Map. **This level is not in line with the prominence of the priority within the Common Approach.** Most of the initiatives mapped in this area appear to have been initiated around or before 2015. In addition, some stakeholders believed that the **high levels of funding for border management and security projects could be impeding intra-regional free movement.** For instance, according to the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM), anecdotal evidence exists that some governments in the region have been forthcoming to reduce (irregular) migration even if it concerns ECOWAS citizens that enjoy free movement in the ECOWAS community – incentivised by larger funding prospects.³¹ The German Institute for International and Security Affairs noted that the EU's concentration on border protection in Niger hinders free movement of ECOWAS citizens.³² One interviewee also stated that donor-funded border control initiatives have proliferated checkpoints in border zones, thereby undermining ECOWAS free movement protocols by raising the cost of migration due to the additional bribes being required to pass the checkpoints.

ii. CA priority 2 – legal migration to other regions: Only 1.2% of donor support mapped went to initiatives that specifically targeted regular migration, even though the category was used to quantify funding of both intra-regional and inter-regional initiatives. A few small-scale initiatives were mapped, such as those which ostensibly aimed to simplify visa rules for Europe-bound migrants or to facilitate student mobility, in addition to a small number of medium-scale projects like the EU-funded *Projet de renforcement de la mobilité professionnelle en Afrique de l'Ouest* (€1.7 million). Therefore, **donor funding does not appear to sufficiently support CA priority 2.**

³¹ *Making Waves*, ECDPM, 2017. Link: <https://ecdpm.org/wp-content/uploads/ECDPM-EBA-Making-Waves-Migration-Refugee-ODA-Europe-2017.pdf>.

³² *From Exception to Rule – the EU Trust Fund for Africa*, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, 2018. Link: https://www.swp-berlin.org/fileadmin/contents/products/research_papers/2018RP13_kpp.pdf.

iii. CA priority 3 – human trafficking: Notwithstanding the aforementioned shift in focus towards SOM, mapped funding for counter-trafficking initiatives appears sustained. While 12.9% of donor funding mapped is attributed to irregular migration, TIP and SOM, **a large number of TIP-specific initiatives were mapped**. While this indicates relatively high levels of funding for the ECOWAS CA priority 3, the focus on inter-regional trafficking networks may belie the relative importance to the sub-region of internal and intra-regional forms of trafficking.

iv. CA priority 4 – policy harmonisation: Only one initiative mapped contained clear wording in relation to policy harmonisation: the EU-funded technical assistance project in the framework of FMM West Africa to support the development of a pilot Labour Market and Migration Information System (LMMIS) in 5 ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania. Moreover, since the CA's actions for policy harmonisation include setting up information and monitoring systems on migration, a small number of other initiatives, such as the Swiss-funded ECOWAS regional monitoring mechanism on free movement of vehicles, IOM-implemented (donor unknown) displacement tracking work in Niger, and route-based data collection work carried out by the Danish Refugee Council's Mixed Migration Centre could also be considered relevant to CA priority 4, although the latter two examples may have more of an inter-regional, rather than intra-regional, focus. Therefore, **there appears to be insufficient levels of funding for CA priority 4**.

v. CA priority 5 – migrant rights: 21.2% of mapped support went to forced displacement and the rights of migrants. A review of the objectives of some of the related initiatives reveals a strong emphasis on protecting different types of migrants, especially those in vulnerable situations, **indicating that the level of donor support is in line with CA priority 5**. That said, a number of civil society stakeholders believed that **the nature of some donor funding risks increasing migrants' vulnerabilities**. Some said that the growing capacity and will to control borders in Niger and Mali has exacerbated vulnerabilities of people on the move, curtailing migration as a livelihood strategy without providing adequate alternatives, while feeding discrimination.³³ The EUTF has also been criticised for targeting protection support at beneficiaries based on migratory status (e.g. refugees and internally displaced persons), with a minority (36.5%) of projects not identifying beneficiaries based on their migratory status or geographical proximity of the intervention area to migratory routes.³⁴ The Safety, Support and Solutions Phase 2 programme is also understood to only provide support to eligible nationalities.

vi. CA priority 6 – gender dimension: Only 16 mapped projects made reference to gender-specific issues in the project title or description. Few projects directly targeted gender-specific issues, such as the Terre des Hommes-implemented Support to young migrant girls on their journey to the large cities of Burkina Faso and Mali. Based on the low number of projects that explicitly refer to gender, **it would appear that donor funding of CA priority 6 is insufficient**.

³³ *Protection Fallout*, Danish Refugee Council and the Global Public Policy Institute, 2017. Link: https://www.gppi.net/media/GPPi_DRC_RMMS_2017_Protection_Fallout_Mapping_Results.pdf.

³⁴ *An Emergency for Whom?*, Oxfam, 2017. Link: <https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/emergency-whom-eu-emergency-trust-fund-africa-migratory-routes-and-development-aid-africa>.

On the other hand, gender-sensitive approaches involve integrating gender equality throughout projects. Given the constraints in relation to qualitatively analysing gender aspects at the project level in this mapping exercise, **further study is required** to assess the gender responsiveness of donor-funded migration initiatives.

vii. Proposed Regional Migration Policy: While the new ten-year ECOWAS Regional Migration Policy has not yet been adopted, it is expected to focus on nine pillars: 1) intra-regional free movement and regional integration; 2) border management, trafficking and cross-border crime; 3) labour migration and student mobility; 4) the migration and development nexus; 5) protection of people on the move; 6) the gender dimension; 7) climate change; 8) statistical data; and 9) regional migration governance.³⁵

As can be deduced from the above analysis of alignment to the CA and section 2.1.2, **levels of mapped donor funding were relatively low for pillars 1, 3, 4 and 6**. Conversely, **levels of mapped funding were relatively high for pillars 2 and 5**. With regard to **pillar 7, 11 projects were mapped which made reference to environment and climate change** issues in the project title or high-level objectives, including several projects funded by the IOM Development Fund (e.g. Enhancing Capacities in Disaster Risk Reduction in Burkina Faso and Mali). The EU-funded project, Améliorer la protection, le retour volontaire, la réintégration et la résilience pour les enfants et jeunes vulnérables et en mobilité de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (€15.6 million), includes an activity to provide coaching on disaster risk reduction and climate change-related migration. Meanwhile, **many mapped initiatives supported data collection (pillar 8)**, including displacement tracking initiatives, monitoring of movements along migration routes, studies on movements and migration drivers, and data collection on remittance transfers. Finally, in relation to **regional migration governance (pillar 9)**, **few mapped projects directly promoted regional migration policies**, ECOWAS labour migration governance, or ECOWAS and Member State presence in inter-regional and international dialogues. The related initiatives that *were* mapped, like FMM West Africa, Spain-ECOWAS Fund, and the Swiss-funded Regional Migration and Development Programme, were, as mentioned, initiated several years ago. Moreover, it is to be noted that according to IOM, the EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration includes a component to support dialogue and regional coordination for ECOWAS and the Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA).

2.5 Donor coordination³⁶

As explained in section 1.2.3, the following analysis and guidance result from a generalised literature review of donor coordination mechanisms. Further study and consultation of ECOWAS Commission and donor staff are recommended to determine the appropriate ECOWAS-level donor coordination mechanisms.

³⁵ Based on the draft dated 16/06/18 of the ECOWAS Regional Migration Policy June 2018-June 2028.

³⁶ It is to be noted that at the global level, the 2018 Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the newly-established UN Network on Migration aim to contribute to enhancing coordination, with the UN Sustainable Development Partnership Frameworks serving as a tool to promote coordination at the national level.

2.5.1 Existing sub-regional donor coordination initiatives

No ECOWAS-level donor coordination mechanisms were identified, which may in part be due to data collection limitations (see section 1.2.3). Aside from the general coordination forums involving technical and financial partners that exist at national level, a Mixed Migration Working Group, led by IOM, brings together implementing agencies to facilitate coordination of protection and assistance to migrants and refugees. The MIDWA also serves as a platform to encourage ECOWAS Member States to discuss common migration issues, with the European Commission, the AU Commission and IOM sitting as observer organisations.³⁷ Moreover, the ECOWAS Annual Review Meeting on Trafficking in Persons is understood to contribute to coordinating donor support, while the Regional Child Protection Working Group addresses some donor issues relating to child migration. In addition, it is understood that IOM has created a regional group on migration management to support coordination, with a view to replicating the group at the national level.

2.5.2 Guiding principles

The literature review revealed the following key principles of donor coordination:

- i. Alignment with needs and priorities of donor recipients' policies, particularly poverty reduction strategies: Donor support should be guided by partner countries' policies in order to ensure ownership. Applied to the ECOWAS context, this may require engaging donors at sub-regional and national levels to communicate not only the region's migration policies (i.e. the Common Approach and the proposed Regional Migration Policy) but also the commonalities in Member States' national policies.
- ii. Alignment with partner country governments' own systems for budgeting, financial management and monitoring: Donor support should use recipients' own administrative systems to reduce aid fragmentation and enable harmonisation of donor-funded activities with partner governments' own activities. This principle may be more applicable to the coordination of support provided directly to ECOWAS institutions, but less applicable to ECOWAS-led donor coordination due to the diversity of Member States' administrative systems.
- iii. Communication regarding donors' commitments and disbursement schedules: Partner governments require timely information on donors' commitments and disbursement schedules to secure the required predictability of external support and its effective integration into their own planning systems. This may be applicable to the West Africa context, as the ECOWAS Commission can encourage donors to share information regarding pipeline projects, while encouraging Member States to report information on donor funding to the Commission.
- iv. Division of labour: This entails appointing lead donors for different aid sectors to help coordinate support of donors in the different sectors. This could be partially applicable to the ECOWAS context: the EU is the largest migration donor in the region and already plays a coordinating role with respect to its Member States' development assistance. The ECOWAS

³⁷ *Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA)*, IOM. Link: <https://www.iom.int/midwa>.

Commission could intensify information exchange with the European Commission, with a view to influencing the distribution of funding.

2.5.3 Potential next steps towards enhanced sub-regional coordination

The 2016 Evaluation Report on the first donor mapping exercise examined ECOWAS frameworks for dialogue between technical and financial partners, providing recommendations that were based on an extensive documentary review and in-person interviews with ECOWAS Commission officials. There has been no evidence that these recommendations were implemented and, as such, it is suggested that these be revisited. In addition, it is recommended that the following ideas be explored as next steps towards enhanced sub-regional donor coordination:

i. Dedicated study and stakeholder consultation: The main focus of this donor mapping was on mapping donor support and thus in-field interviews took place in Dakar, Senegal to gather insights on donor trends from regionally-focused donor and implementing agency offices. Given the importance and unique complexities of donor coordination, a wide-ranging consultation of its potential implementers, particularly the ECOWAS Commission, is required as well as a detailed examination of the existing ECOWAS and national-level institutional frameworks for coordination. This process could help determine the department(s) who could be responsible for donor coordination, as coordination should be owned and driven by the ECOWAS Commission. It is understood that the department responsible for external affairs may be the relevant department to explore ECOWAS-level donor coordination.

ii. Regional migration stakeholders meeting: As an early step towards enhancing information exchange and advocating for greater alignment of donor support to sub-regional migration policies, the possibility to convene a sub-regional migration stakeholders meeting could be explored.

Such a meeting could bring together representatives from donors, implementing agencies, the ECOWAS Commission and Member State governments to discuss donors' plans to provide assistance. Such a meeting could also serve as a platform for the ECOWAS and national authorities to outline their migration policies and to ask stakeholders about how their assistance contributes to the policies. Furthermore, the meeting could encourage donors and implementing agencies to highlight areas of potential overlap and synergies in support, or to discuss additional areas of need. The possibilities to regularly schedule such meetings, to integrate discussions on specific thematic areas within migration, and/or to integrate such meetings into existing inter-state dialogues could be explored.

iii. Integration of migration into development planning: Migration has strong relevance to development planning (and other sectoral policies), and a key donor coordination and aid effectiveness principle is to align donor support with national development and poverty reduction strategies. Therefore, the inclusion – or “mainstreaming” – of regional and national migration policies into regional and national development planning might further ensure that donors support West African migration priorities. This is particularly relevant given that much of the support mapped focuses on migration control and protection, with low levels of funding in support of the developmental aspects of migration.

iv. Pooled funding mechanisms: Sub-regional pooled funding mechanisms could be explored, which could give the ECOWAS Commission a role in directing funding towards regional migration priorities.

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- Improving Donor Coordination in Nigeria, 2019
<https://www.unodc.org/nigeria/en/article-improving-donor-coordination-in-nigeria.html>

Annex 2: Stakeholder consultation

The following stakeholders were consulted, with in-person interviews taking place in Dakar, Senegal from 29/04/19-03/05/19.

Organisation	Name	Position	Contact	Date
International Centre for Migration Policy Development	Mojisola Sodeinde	FMM Coordinator / Team Leader	amala.nwalor@icmpd.org	28/02/19
	Amala Obiokoye-Nwalor	FMM Programme Officer	Mojisola.Sodeinde@icmpd.org	28/02/19
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation	Fabrice Fretz	Regional Advisor Migration & Development for West Africa	fabrice.fretz@eda.admin.ch	11/04/19
International Labour Organization	Wouter Cools	Partnership Officer (Dakar)	cools@ilo.org	25/04/19
UK Department for International Development	Joe Kuper	Migration Team (West Africa lead)	j-kuper@dfid.gov.uk	25/04/19
Oxfam	Cristina Fernandez-Duran	Global Displacement and Migration Advisor	cristina.fernandezd@oxfam.org	26/04/19
Agence Française de Développement	Romain Régulaire	Head of Governance (Dakar)	regulairer@afd.fr	29/04/19
French Red Cross	Jérémie Sibeoni	Regional Representative (Dakar)	reg-ao.frc@croix-rouge.fr	29/04/19
United Nations Children's Fund	Kristien Van Buyten	Child Protection Specialist (Dakar)	kvanbuyten@unicef.org	29/04/19
	Muna Shalita	Partnerships Specialist (Dakar)	mshalita@unicef.org	
Catholic Relief Services	Jennifer Holst	Deputy Regional Director (Dakar)	Jennifer.holst@crs.org	29/04/19
	Petra Suric-Jankov	West Africa Regional Migration Coordinator	Petra.SuricJankov@crs.org	

Independent	Badara Ndiaye	Independent West Africa migration expert	banjaye@gmail.com	30/04/19
International Organization for Migration	Claudia Natali	Senior Labour Mobility and Human Development Specialist (Dakar)	cnatali@iom.int	30/04/19
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	Henna Mustonen	Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Expert (Dakar)	henna.mustonen@un.org	30/04/19
World Bank	Karen Diop	Consultant – Migration (Dakar)	kdiop1@worldbank.org	02/05/19
	Federica Marzo	Senior Economist (Dakar)	fmarzo@worldbank.org	
British Red Cross	Kouassi Dagawa	Protection Specialist (Dakar)	KDagawa@redcross.org.uk	02/05/19
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Anne Elisabeth Leclerc	Head of Sahel Cluster	anne.leclerc@ifrc.org	02/05/19
Danish Refugee Council / Mixed Migration Centre	Vanessa Leigh	Mixed Migration Specialist (Dakar)	vanessa.leigh@mixedmigration.org	02/05/19
	Katia Golovko	Analyst (Dakar)	katia.golovko@gmail.com	
European Union Delegation to Senegal	Ridwane Abdul-Rahman	Migration and Security Attaché	ridwane.abdul-rahman@eeas.europa.eu	02/05/19
Save the Children	Amanda Azzali	Project Manager (Dakar)	Amanda.Azzali@savethechildren.org	03/05/19
	Matteo Caprotti	West and Central Africa partnership and resources mobilization manager	Matteo.Caprotti@savethechildren.org	
United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration	Geoffrey Parker	Regional Refugee Coordinator for West Africa	ParkerGA@state.gov	03/05/19

Expertise France	Gilles Cressan	Technical Advisor (Dakar)	gilles.cressan@expertisefrance.fr	03/05/19
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Annex 3: Requests for information

Project information provided by the following organisations was integrated into the Donor Map:

- International Centre for Migration Policy Development
- International Organization for Migration
- International Labour Organization
- International Fund for Agricultural Development
- Save the Children

Requests for project information were also sent to the following organisations:

- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Regional Office for West and Central Africa)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Regional Representation for West Africa)
- United Nations Children's Fund (Regional Office for West and Central Africa)
- United Nations Development Programme (Regional Service Centre for Africa)
- United Nations Population Fund (West and Central Africa Regional Office)
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (Regional Office for Africa)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Regional Office for Africa)
- World Bank (Senegal Country Office)

Annex 4: Website monitoring

In order to collect publicly-available project information, the global, West African country and regional office, migration-specific, and project database webpages of the following organisations were checked:

- Agence Française de Développement
- African Development Bank
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- European Commission Directorate General for International Development and Cooperation and EU Delegations
- Expertise France
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies
- International Centre for Migration Policy Development
- International Fund for Agricultural Development
- International Labour Organization
- International Organization for Migration
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- Save the Children
- Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation
- Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
- Terre des Hommes
- UK Department for International Development
- United Nations Children's Fund
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- United Nations Population Fund
- United States Agency for International Development
- United States Department of Labor
- United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
- World Bank

Annex 5: Definition of thematic categories

<p>1. Free movement/regional integration (Common Approach (CA) priority 1)</p> <p>(Including initiatives that focus on promoting sub-regional free movement of persons and the implementation of the ECOWAS protocols.)</p>	<p>5. Border management</p> <p>(Including initiatives that focus on enhancing border controls, border infrastructure, and border security.)</p>
<p>2. Regular migration (CA2)</p> <p>(Including initiatives that manage labour migration and focus specifically on promoting regular forms of migration.)</p>	<p>6. Migration and development nexus</p> <p>(Including initiatives that promote the development contribution of migration and migrants, such as through remittances and diaspora engagement; and excluding general livelihoods and resilience projects with high-level objectives that seek to indirectly address the root causes of migration.)</p>
<p>3. Irregular migration, human trafficking and migrant smuggling (CA3)</p> <p>(Including initiatives that prevent irregular forms of migration, as well as counter-trafficking and counter-smuggling initiatives.)</p>	<p>7. Return and reintegration</p> <p>(Including initiatives that facilitate the return and reintegration of migrants, but excluding initiatives that provide immediate support to displaced persons.)</p>
<p>4. Forced displacement and the rights of migrants (CA5)</p> <p>(Including initiatives that provide support to displaced populations and that protect migrants in vulnerable situations (such as children on the move) or promote the rights of migrants.</p>	

Annex 9: Quality assurance checklist

File number: F2: 2023-23309, Public 360: 23/31940

Project name: ICMPD. Strengthening Mobility in West Africa (SMiWA). 2024-2028.

Project period: 1 January 2024-31 December 2028 (60 months)

Budget: DKK 30 million

Presentation of quality assurance process:

An external appraisal has been conducted by Tana Copenhagen (appraisal report attached as annex 9.1). The recommendations from the appraisal are the following, which have been incorporated to the best possible extent in the final documentation:

- *Recommendation 1:* Describe in precise terms what and why the activities and outputs of the FMM II project have been selected for Danish support and what is meant with add-on for each selected activity.
- *Recommendation 2:* Include considerations of how ownership of the Danish supported activities and outputs can/will be improved.
- *Recommendation 3:* Include lessons learned from FMM I of the activities similar to the activities/outputs supported by Denmark in the new phase (e.g., human resource provision and DDF).
- *Recommendation 4:* Include a summary of the risk matrix presented in the annex to the SMiWA proposal.
- *Recommendation 5:* Include a brief stakeholder presentation in the SMiWA PD (and more extensive in an annex) for a better understanding of the implementation modalities.
- *Recommendation 6:* Include in the PD a brief presentation of an exit strategy and considerations of sustainability building on the relevant information in the FMM II PD.
- *Recommendation 7:* Do not establish a separate SC for the SMiWA but include a Danish representative in the CPCS for the FMM II and report on and monitor the Danish contribution as part of the reporting and monitoring of the relevant outputs in FMM II.
- *Recommendation 8:* Revise the budget to increase the operational part of the budget and justify the administrative costs in addition to the 7%.
- *Recommendation 9:* Present the budget with the EU allocation in a separate column for similar expenses to clarify what is the Danish add-on for each supported output and activity.
- *Recommendation 10:* Consider if the Danish funding can/should cover expenses for activities implemented in 2023.

- ☒ The design of the project has been appraised by someone independent who has not been involved in the development of the project.
- ☒ The recommendations of the appraisal have been reflected upon in the final design of the project.
- ☒ The project complies with Danida policies and Aid Management Guidelines, including the fundamental principles of Doing Development Differently.
- ☒ The project addresses relevant challenges and provides adequate responses.
- ☒ Issues related to HRBA, LNOB, Gender, Youth, Climate Change, Green Growth and Environment have been addressed sufficiently in relation to content of the project.
- ☐ Comments from the Danida Programme Committee (if applicable) have been addressed
Not applicable.
- ☒ The project outcomes are found to be sustainable and in line with the partner's development policies and strategies. Implementation modalities are well described and justified.
- ☒ The theory of change, results framework, indicators and monitoring framework of the project provide an adequate basis for monitoring results and outcome.
- ☒ The project is found sound budget-wise,
- ☒ The agreed budget and financial reporting procedures provide an adequate basis for financial monitoring of funds.
- ☒ The project is found realistic in its time-schedule.
- ☒ Other donors involved in the same project have been consulted, and possible harmonised common procedures for funding and monitoring have been explored.
- ☒ Key project stakeholders have been identified, the choice of partner has been justified and criteria for selection have been documented.
- ☒ The implementing partner is found to have the capacity to properly manage, implement and report on the funds for the programme/project and lines of management responsibility are clear.
- ☒ Implementing partner has been informed about Denmark's zero-tolerance policies towards (i) Anti-corruption; (ii) Child labour; (iii) Sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH); and, (iv) Anti-terrorism.

☒ Risks involved have been considered and risk management integrated in the programme/project document.

☒ In conclusion, the project can be recommended for approval: *Yes*

Date and signature of desk officer: 13/12/23 *Meylin*

Date and signature of management: 13/12/23 *Karen G. Regue*