IOM-EU Cooperation on Migration and Mobility
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IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

IOM-EU Cooperation on Migration and Mobility

Partnerships in Action

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Forewords

William Lacy Swing,
Director General, International Organization for Migration

It is emblematic of the IOM-EU partnership that IOM was born out of the disorder and displacement in Western Europe following the Second World War, which coincided, in the early 1950’s, with the first steps in the formation of what would become the European Union.

IOM has since evolved from a logistics agency into a global migration organization while the EU – which also emerged from the ruin and dismemberment of World War II, first as a modest economic community of six states – has become a political and economic union of 28 member states with global influence and reach.

The migration challenges we face in Europe and globally have grown as well, both in scale and complexity. The EU and its Member States, as well as international partners, have been called upon to respond simultaneously to the consequences of increasing human mobility, multiple complex emergencies, and persistent economic challenges. Demographic decline, a changing climate, and migration-adverse political discourse are features of today’s landscape.

IOM, as the leading agency delivering comprehensive migration management services and policy advice, has been a steadfast partner assisting governments, the EU, migrants and societies to meet these mounting challenges and to harness the benefits that migration brings. This booklet tries to capture the main features and tangible results of our collaboration, made possible through the generous backing of the EU and its Member States, which contributed more than EUR 1.08 billion to the activities of IOM worldwide between 2010 and 2014.

It is imperative, in my view, that EU migration policies be adapted to respond more effectively to a world scenario that continues to pose new and complex challenges that only intensified collective action can address.

The EU and IOM recognize the importance of a balanced approach to migration, one that is essential for establishing mutually beneficial cooperation, strengthening migration governance – and as recognized in the Europe 2020 strategy – realizing migration’s full potential to boost competitiveness and economic growth.

IOM believes that migration is inevitable, necessary and desirable – when well governed. I am optimistic that, in lockstep, IOM and the EU can ensure that migration issues of mutual concern can benefit all – efforts in which I offer IOM’s continued partnership and cooperation.

Sincerely,

William Lacy Swing
Alain Le Roy, 
Secretary General, European External Action Service

Migration is an increasingly complex challenge interlinked with a series of broader issues such as economic and political stability, human rights, security, crisis management, humanitarian and development policy, as well as climate change. Hence, it requires a comprehensive, coherent and long term response that addresses the root causes of the phenomenon but also offers to all the stakeholders involved the possibility to benefit from migration in terms of economic growth and competitiveness. Taking into account that sustainable solutions to migration require an intensified cooperation with countries of origin and transit, the EU has developed a series of bilateral and regional frameworks of cooperation with third countries on migration issues. The EU highly values IOM as a key partner in developing responses to the growing complex challenges and opportunities presented by migration nowadays.

Claus Sørensen, 
Director General, Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

As humanitarians, we face parallel, large-scale complex emergencies in a world with a level of forced displacement and numbers of people who need help that are unprecedented since World War II. IOM's unique field presence, role as camp coordination and camp management cluster leader, vast experience in crisis management, and solid contacts with national, regional and local authorities have made IOM a valuable partner for ECHO. This has been tested in close partnerships in all four ongoing level III crises and resulted in the highest ever ECHO funding for IOM in 2014. I rely on our continued cooperation where we can focus on vulnerability, work on better coordination and efficiency, innovative approaches to aid and respect for the humanitarian principles.

Fernando Frutuoso de Melo, 
Director General, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development

As development actors, we consider that migration is both an opportunity and a challenge for development and development policymakers, which produces important economic, social and environmental impacts for low- and middle-income countries of origin and destination, as well as for migrants themselves. The key to unlocking the huge potential of migration as a development enabler is effective governance. IOM’s excellent expertise on key aspects of the development-migration nexus and its strong field presence make it a valued partner for the European Commission and my Directorate General in charge of International Cooperation and Development in particular, in our efforts to build the capacity of our partner countries to maximize the development impact of migration.

Matthias Ruete, 
Director General, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs

IOM is a close and trusted partner in our efforts to manage migration effectively, not least by carrying out Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration programmes, which contribute to ensuring a more humane and sustainable return policy. IOM shares our objective of making migration a positive force in national and international affairs and an enabler of development.
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Philippines Emergency Response | IOM and DG ECHO provided evacuation support, shelter and non-food items to over 55,000 Typhoon Haiyan survivors in the Philippines. In the picture, hygiene and dignity kits are distributed to Haiyan victims across seven barangays including three island barangays in Tacloban, Leyte. © IOM 2014
The International Organization for Migration (IOM), as the leading intergovernmental organization dealing with migration, is a key partner of the European Union (EU). Together, the EU and its Member States are the second largest contributors to IOM's budget. IOM and the EU work closely to promote a holistic, coherent and humane approach to migration management, development, humanitarian responses and human rights issues. Such fruitful cooperation builds on the shared view that well-managed migration can equally benefit migrants, states and societies worldwide.

In 2011, the Regional Office for the European Economic Area, the EU and NATO (RO Brussels) replaced the "Mission with Regional Functions" to ensure better coordination, regional coverage, and to bring IOM action closer to EU institutions and Member States, all of which are also members of IOM.

The collaboration between IOM and the EU rests on long-standing dialogue. The European Union follows IOM discussions at the Council in its capacity of observer, and IOM's action reflects its full support to the priorities set out in the Europe 2020 Strategy and in the Strategic Guidelines in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice issued in 2014, as well as to the four pillars of the EU's external migration policy framework, the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM).

The establishment of the IOM-EU Strategic Cooperation Framework in July 2012 followed the signature of the Framework Agreement in 2011. Prior to this, in 2008, IOM and DG ECHO renewed the Framework Partnership Agreement, and cooperation between IOM and the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States (Frontex) was formalized through an exchange of letters.

The reinforced Regional Office closely follows migration, development, and humanitarian issues within the EU and worldwide, participates in policy and programmatic discussions held by the European Parliament and Commission, contributes to policy debates and consultations with the Council of the EU, and provides recommendations to its rotating Presidencies. Moreover, IOM and RO Brussels cooperate with the EU's specialized agencies, such as the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), Frontex, the European Training Foundation (ETF), the Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

The IOM-EU STRATEGIC COOPERATION

To enhance IOM-EU collaboration on the growing challenges of the 21st century migration, a Strategic Cooperation Framework was signed between IOM, three European Commission services (DG DEVCO, DG ECHO and DG HOME) and the European External Action Service (EEAS) in July 2012.

The agreement builds on the pre-existing cooperation and establishes regular channels through meetings of Senior Officials, Heads of Unit/Division and experts on a regular basis to consolidate, further develop and structure IOM-EU cooperation on migration issues.

Between 2010 and 2014, the EU and its Member States contributed more than EUR 1.08 billion to IOM's operations around the world, with EUR 280 million in 2014 alone.

The 2nd Annual Senior Officials Meeting took place on 1 October 2014.
WHERE WE WORK TOGETHER

Gender activities | International Women’s Day celebration in Tacloban City (Philippines) jointly organized by the GBV cluster and the City Government. © IOM 2014
**OUR GLOBAL REACH**

The map indicates IOM HQ and Regional Offices, and marks all countries (129) where IOM is currently leading implementation of EU-funded projects under the responsibility of:


In 2014, the EU and its Member States contributed EUR 280 million to IOM's global operations.

### IOM MEMBER STATES
- 157

### IOM OBSERVERS
- 10 Observer States
- 117 Intergovernmental and non-governmental observers

### IOM STAFF: 9,063
- 4,171
- 4,892

More than 95% of IOM staff are based in the field.

### IOM FIELD STRUCTURE
- 9 Regional Offices
- 2 Administrative Centres
- 2 Special Liaison Offices
- 9 Country Offices with resource mobilization and coordinating functions
- 481 Country Offices and field locations

### IOM HEADQUARTERS: Four Operational Departments:
- Department of Migration Management
- Department of International Cooperation and Partnerships
- Department of Operations and Emergencies
- Department of Resource Management

### IOM GOVERNING BODIES:
- Council
- Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance

### IOM INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION (IDM)
Since 2001, the IDM provides an informal forum for policy dialogue and exchange for stakeholders to address the full range of migration issues. Workshops elaborate themes and conclude at the IOM Council Sessions. The IDM is steered by the IOM membership. The 2015 IDM will address ‘Migrants and Cities’.

*Figures as of March 2015*
IOM is also implementing projects with funding from DG Sante and DG Research where the majority of project countries are in Europe.
Includes countries where the EU Foreign Policy Instrument Service supports IOM implementation of EU Election Observation Missions in 2014 and ongoing IOM projects under the Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace.

* Hereinafter referred to as Kosovo/UNSC 1244
WHERE IOM SUPPORTS THE EU DIALOGUE WITH PARTNER COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

- Support to the Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration and Asylum
- Strengthening the Dialogue and Cooperation between the EU and LAC to Establish Management Models on Migration and Development Policies
- Establishment, Management and Implementation of an ACP Observatory on Migration and Supporting the ACP-EU Dialogue and Cooperation on Migration and Development
WHAT WE WORK ON TOGETHER

Labour migration | Migrant construction workers in Turkmenistan
THE EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY INCLUDES LABOUR MIGRATION AND MIGRANT INTEGRATION AMONG THE POTENTIAL DRIVERS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND INNOVATION. AS EUROPE IS FACED WITH PRONOUNCED MANPOWER SHORTAGES AND ITS POPULATION IS AGING, IOM IS COMMITTED TO PROPOSING AND IMPLEMENTING EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE CONTRIBUTION OF LABOUR MIGRATION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE EU. BESIDES PROVIDING EU INSTITUTIONS, NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER ACTORS WITH POLICY ADVICE, IOM’S INITIATIVES ADDRESS UNETHICAL PRACTICES IN INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT AND IMPROVE JOB-MATCHING AND THE BEST USE OF MIGRANT SKILLS.

In EU partner countries, IOM supports the establishment of Migrant Resource Centres to provide services facilitating legal migration to the EU and to mitigate the risks of irregular migration. This is coherent with the human rights-based approach supported by IOM and the EU to empower migrants and help them build realistic expectations about society in their destination countries, with a view to easing their socioeconomic integration.

IOM works to support the EU Member States in building tolerant, inclusive and cohesive societies based on common values and effective equality. With EU support, IOM collaborates with a wide range of actors to promote active citizenship and community dialogue, mainstreaming integration into public policy, fostering integration of vulnerable migrants, combating discrimination and promoting a more balanced public discourse on migration.

INDEPENDENT NETWORK OF LABOUR MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION EXPERTS

The Independent Network of Labour Migration and Integration Experts (LINET) was created to provide the European Commission with expert analysis and advice on economic migration and labour market integration of non-EU nationals.

Diversity | Ukrainian women dance to the beat of West African drum. Diversity Initiative members participate in Europe Day activities in May 2008. The Diversity Initiative (DIN) project strives to uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants, refugees and visible minorities in Ukraine. © IOM 2008
IOM’s support to Bilateral, Regional and Global Dialogues

IOM has long-standing experience in providing its expertise on migration in support of global, regional and country-level dialogues. Tasked with secretariat or technical expert functions upon request of states, IOM advises, facilitates dialogues, implements activities and undertakes studies to foster exchanges on migration-related issues.

IOM supports and participates in key migration processes and dialogues globally. The Organization regularly organizes the Global Consultation of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs), and is the main facilitator of regional dialogues such as the Bali, Puebla, Lima and Colombo processes.

Moreover, IOM works closely with the EU to support dialogue with other regions, including the ACP countries, Eastern Partnership, Latin America and Asia.

Labour Migration | A temporary migrant worker in her bakery in Nariño, a business she runs thanks to the savings obtained from her visit to Spain through IOM's Temporary and Circular Labour Migration programme.

Over 3,000 migrants benefitted from temporary circular migration schemes to Spain supported by IOM and co-funded by the EU. © IOM

Migration Health | EQUI-HEALTH aims to improve the access of migrants in regular and irregular situations, Roma people and other minority groups to quality health care services. This project is the first Direct Agreement on migration health co-funded by DG Sante within the framework of the EU’s 2nd Programme of Community Action in the Field of Health (2008–2013).

Voluntary Return and Reintegration | Célia is a beneficiary from an AVRR programme conducted by IOM Netherlands: “I returned to Angola in 2010 with my mother and my niece Felicidade. Making up our minds to return was a difficult decision, especially since my mother was ill and I had my six-year-old niece with me. I might have chosen a different path if I had been in the Netherlands alone, but I had to think about my family. I knew that it would be hard on them to remain here without papers”. © IOM 2014
Complex migration flows have put significant pressure on EU Member States’ response capacities with regard to rescue at sea, reception, processing asylum requests, responding to the needs of vulnerable groups and addressing irregular migration. In order to uphold the human rights of migrants and respond to such challenges, EU support has allowed IOM to promote, in collaboration with partners such as the UN, well-managed migration through a humane and coordinated approach to border management and return policy.

IOM joins the EU in reaffirming the need for sustainable returns grounded in a human rights-based approach. First-hand experience and extensive research through its Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programmes allow IOM to advise and inform EU policy on how to better harmonize and facilitate comprehensive approaches to migrant return and reintegration in full respect of their dignity while prioritizing the needs of vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking and unaccompanied migrant children.

First assistance and monitoring | IOM, as part of the PRAESIDIUM Project’s multi-agency team co-funded by the EU, assists irregular migrants landing on the Italian coasts, provides tailored assistance to vulnerable cases, and monitors migrant reception centres in Italy. © IOM 2014

Immigration and Border Management | Nearly 400 senior public officials and 1.5 million migrants were reached by efforts to strengthen cooperation between Europe and China on migration management, assistance to victims of trafficking and awareness-raising on the risks of irregular migration. © IOM 2013

Counter-trafficking | Children in Somalia participate in the #migrationmeans campaign to mark the World Day against Trafficking in Persons © IOM Somalia 2014

PROMOTING ORDERLY MIGRATION AND THE FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING IN HUMAN BEINGS

#MIGRATION MEANS SAY NO TO CHILD TRAFFICKING.
IOM and the EU are key partners in fighting trafficking in human beings and addressing the needs of unaccompanied migrant children. With the support of the EU, IOM has provided capacity-building support, direct assistance to victims, and has raised awareness and understanding through incisive information campaigns. In line with the EU’s Action Plan on Unaccompanied Minors 2010–2014 and with EU support, IOM has been increasingly conducting family tracing/assessment in search of durable solutions such as family reunification, and is also able to carry out research and capacity-development activities for legal guardians, as well as helping to define the best interest of the child.

Immigration and Border Management | Launch of the PRINEX project in the presence of EU, Belarussian and Ukrainian officials, 2013. PRINEX aims to increase the effectiveness of customs procedures at border checkpoints between Ukraine and Belarus through capacity-building and development of an electronic pre-arrival information exchange system.


Emergency and Post-Crisis | IOM and DG ECHO joined efforts to assist the millions of people in Southern Pakistan whose houses were destroyed by floods, and build their shelters with a view to enhancing resilience.
ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF CRISIS-AFFECTED POPULATIONS

IOM and the EU play a crucial role in responding to the humanitarian needs of populations affected by man-made crises and natural disasters. Thanks to its highly decentralized structure, IOM has implemented more than 106 programmes since 2008 with DG ECHO (Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection) in various areas such as Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), shelter and non-food items, logistics, early recovery and livelihoods, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), health and disaster preparedness.

Crises – man-made and natural – not only have immediate consequences for the well-being of affected populations, but also have long-term consequences on communities and displaced persons. EU-backed IOM programmes in the post-crisis phase have sought to bridge the gap between relief and development by empowering communities to assist in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of affected areas as one of the ways to prevent forced migration. Under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace, IOM closely cooperates with EU delegations to support transition and peacebuilding, community stabilization, promotion and durable solutions for the displaced.

As one of the durable solutions to forced displacement, the EU recognizes that resettlement is a compelling instrument and symbol of international solidarity and responsibility sharing for those refugees who are unable to return to their country of origin for fear of persecution and do not have the option to stay in their country of asylum. With more than 60 years’ experience in resettlement, IOM is a co-founder of the European Resettlement Network and operates at the request of the EU Member States several resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes. With crucial EU support, IOM has carried out case processing, health assessments, pre-departure orientation, travel operations and travel health assistance.

Crisis also negatively impact development gains and governance structures, contributing to state fragility and increasing the human and material cost of crisis, and crisis response. IOM provides assistance to governments to expand access of migrant communities to the democratic electoral process in their countries of origin, primarily through support to the implementation of the EU’s Election Observation Missions, and through direct assistance to governments and migrants via voter education initiatives, voter registration programmes and projects that foster the enfranchisement of minority groups and internally displaced populations.

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IOM and the EU assist communities prone to insecurity by providing targeted peacebuilding support, small grants and assistance for their implementation through training and counselling.

IOM and EU/ECHO provided evacuation support, shelter and non-food items to over 55,000 Typhoon Haiyan survivors in the Philippines: “Things are slowly getting better and aid organizations have been coming to help us. Together with my family, I’m now rebuilding a permanent house using the materials we got at a distribution on the island. I’m glad that we’ll have a proper place to call home again”.

Resettlement | Since 2007, IOM, UNHCR and the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) work with the EU to enable resettlement countries in Europe to pool expertise, exchange knowledge, share good practices and link resettlement programmes with processes outside of the EU. In order to further support the development of resettlement in Europe, they launched the European Resettlement Network in 2012.
IOM and the EU work together to maximize the positive impact of migration on development through capacity-building activities, the promotion of dialogue with third countries, and by filling knowledge gaps. IOM-EU efforts to advance policy and research on this complex nexus are exemplified by the experience of the ACP Observatory on Migration, successful cooperation on Extended Migration Profiles, and participation in global discussion on migration and development.

The EU has supported IOM projects to leverage the developmental potential of labour migration and to identify strategies to strengthen the positive impact of remittances on the well-being of migrants, their families and communities. These initiatives have sought to generate synergies with the EU and other development stakeholders, including the private sector and diasporas.

IOM participates in global platforms such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and contributed to the 2006 and the 2013 UN High Level Dialogues on International Migration and Development. Moreover, it holds membership in the Global Migration Group and participates actively in global discussions on the definition of the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda to factor migration into development planning, improve public perceptions of migration and promote the human rights of all migrants.
Migration and Development | Marechi Togonidze is a Georgian risk manager based in the Netherlands who returned to her native Georgia with IOM to work with a micro-finance organization:

“Migrants are unique people with immense potential, because they can become a bridge between two different cultures and countries. IOM has successfully utilized that potential and now, migrants can prove to themselves and others that they can contribute to development in their homelands. This discovery is what IOM has given to us and for that, I thank them.”

© IOM, Migration and Development - Migrant Stories, 2010

DIALOGUES ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Structured and Comprehensive EU-CELAC Dialogue on Migration | The EU-LAC project (2011−2015) aims to provide concrete support to the development of the EU-CELAC Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration launched in June 2009. More specifically, it provides technical assistance for strengthening migration data collection and expanding channels for information sharing on migration policy and migratory practices in a migration and development framework, between the EU, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Supporting the ACP-EU Dialogue and Cooperation on Migration and Development | Launched in July 2014 for a 42 month period, the IOM-implemented ACP-EU Migration Action aims to support the ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration through the provision of demand-driven technical assistance, support to local non-state actors and collection and dissemination of information. Its activities are open to the 79 ACP countries based on the requests for support from governments and regional organizations.

Post-2015 Development Agenda | IOM’s post-2015 activities work to create a better understanding of the links between international migration and development, to highlight the development potential of migration, and to contribute to a sustainable framework that recognizes the potential of migration.

Mobility Partnerships | One of the ways IOM supports Mobility Partnerships is through Migration Profiles. Since 2006, IOM has prepared Migration Profiles for more than 40 countries around the world. One such example is the EU-funded Extended Migration Profile of the Republic of Moldova which was an outcome of IOM’s support to the implementation of the migration and development component of the Mobility Partnership with the Republic of Moldova.
IOM-EU Cooperation on Migration and Mobility, as well as the instruments developed to cope with complex migration crises, such as the Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) – and with Mass Evacuations in Natural Disasters, such as the MEND Guide – demonstrate IOM’s commitment to providing the EU with a solid evidence base for policy-making in the crucial areas of migrant protection and development.

IOM’s work and interest in these areas stem from its dedication to explore rapidly evolving themes related to migration governance. Paying attention to these issues is part of IOM’s commitment to helping the EU and Member States find innovative solutions by turning challenges into opportunities, not least through the production of high quality studies, which foster a broadening of knowledge and translate into substantial inputs for EU policymaking.

Response to Natural Disasters | Funded by DG ECHO, the Comprehensive Guide for Planning Mass Evacuations in Natural Disasters – the MEND Guide – was designed to bring together emergency planning needs and humanitarian considerations. It was developed by the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, where IOM is the Global Cluster Lead for natural disasters.

Migration and Climate Change | The MECLEP project combines advanced research with the formulation of policy options that contribute to the global knowledge base on the relation between migration and environmental change, and foster comprehension of how migration can benefit adaptation strategies to environmental and climate change.

South–South Migration and Development | Professor Mariama Awumbila, University of Ghana, on the ACP Observatory on Migration: “Although quite challenging, it has been a useful experience working on this multi-country research project. It provided an excellent opportunity for migration researchers to work together. This experience should be strengthened for future projects”.

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South–South Migration and Development, Environment and Climate Change, as well as the instruments developed to cope with complex migration crises, such as the Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF) – and with Mass Evacuations in Natural Disasters, such as the MEND Guide – demonstrate IOM’s commitment to providing the EU with a solid evidence base for policy-making in the crucial areas of migrant protection and development.

IOM’s work and interest in these areas stem from its dedication to explore rapidly evolving themes related to migration governance. Paying attention to these issues is part of IOM’s commitment to helping the EU and Member States find innovative solutions by turning challenges into opportunities, not least through the production of high quality studies, which foster a broadening of knowledge and translate into substantial inputs for EU policymaking.
In an increasingly interconnected world, and on a continent where demographic trends, uncertain economic recovery, multiple crises and complex migration flows present unremitting challenges to the governance of migration – the move towards a comprehensive and common European migration policy is, in our view, vital for the future of Europe, its economy, its development and its security.

The new EU leadership has already moved definitively in this direction. European Commission President Juncker has called on Europe to manage migration better in all its aspects as both a humanitarian and an economic imperative. Appeals have also come from the European Parliament and President Schulz for Europe to find a common approach to managing migration that is humane and realistic, with a fair sharing of responsibilities among all EU countries, while the EU’s Strategic Guidelines for the area of Freedom, Security and Justice also note the need for a comprehensive approach. The new European Agenda on Migration is therefore a welcome response which introduces comprehensive measures to promote well-managed migration that addresses the challenges and maximizes the opportunities that migration brings.

IOM supports these policies and looks forward to continuing close cooperation with the EU in the coming years to keep up the momentum at this critical juncture where multiple migration and mobility challenges and opportunities present themselves within Europe, at its borders and beyond. More specifically, we are convinced that given current trends and global outlook, further collaboration with the EU will be necessary in the coming years in several interlocking, strategic priority areas:

**MIGRATION FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Anticipated labour and skills shortages in Europe will reinforce the need for facilitated legal migration and mobility to support growth and innovation. Ultimately, the overall positive impact of legal migration policies depends on the successful integration of immigrants arriving and residing in the EU, as the benefits of migration stem from their socioeconomic inclusion, and generating a more positive dialogue on migration will go hand in hand with this. Migration’s indispensable role in promoting sustainable human development will figure prominently on the international agenda this year and beyond.

**MIGRATION CRISSES**

The ongoing migrant boat tragedies in the Mediterranean Sea and shifting tactics of ruthless smugglers have rightly elevated the issues of saving lives, migrant protection and the fight against trafficking and smuggling to the forefront of EU and international concern. The provision of adequate channels for regular and safe migration is widely recognized as a measure capable of undermining the root causes of irregular migration, trafficking and smuggling.

**ENHANCING LEGAL MIGRATION CHANNELS TO THE EU**

IOM and partners expect in the near- and long-term that human mobility – in both its forced and voluntary forms – will be increasingly impacted by environmental and climatic factors. We therefore need to be prepared for changing migration dynamics both in the region and externally. IOM argues that human mobility can contribute to the development of sustainable adaptation strategies and has been marshaling its global capacities in research, data collection and operations in support of the EU and European governments.

**MIGRATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Europe is clearly exposed to the migration consequences of external crises – and has not been immune to migration crises developing within its borders. Today we are facing multiple complex emergencies in the Central African Republic, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq as well as the Ebola epidemic. Complex migration flows to Europe and the resulting migration pressures, are expected to remain a concern for the Region. Going forward, a greater emphasis on addressing migration pressures from a wider migration perspective will be necessary. IOM applauds EU initiatives to expand the number of resettlement places and the recognition that more still needs to be done in practical cooperation at the EU and national levels.

**Eugenio Ambrosi**
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Since its foundation in 1951, IOM’s close collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders has enabled the Organization to grow and become the leading agency for migration matters. The Partnerships in Action series highlights IOM’s cooperation with these various partners and aims to recognize their crucial role and impacts.