

Silk Routes Partnership Project

The project “*Support to the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration under the Budapest Process*” aims at **strengthening the migration management capacities** of the **Silk Routes countries** Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, both at national and regional level. Following several initiatives, this project reflects the first big step and multilateral pledge to contribute to the implementation of the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration.

Launched in February 2014, the project will be running over three years until April 2017.

Background

On 19 April 2013 the **Istanbul Ministerial Declaration on a Silk Routes Partnership for Migration** was adopted at the 5th Budapest Process Ministerial Conference, establishing the **operational framework for cooperation** along the Silk Routes from Asia to Europe. Letting the positive spirit and valuable exchange that guided the developments of the ancient Silk Routes be an inspiration for modern day migration management, this project translates the political commitments of the Silk Routes Partnership into concrete actions.

Approach

Through a combination of components, the improvement of basic structures for migration management and competences in the Silk Routes countries is targeted by approaching the issue from three necessary angles: **capacity** (training), **information** and **policy**, which will together raise the capacity of migration authorities in the region. These three basic components are flanked by policy **intergovernmental dialogue** at all levels and new skills gained will be put into practice in **pilot projects**.



Study Visit on Migration Management in Georgia

Specific Objectives

The **specific objectives** of the project are:

1. To **raise the migration-related knowledge**, expertise and management skills of relevant government officials in the Silk Routes countries.
2. To **strengthen the national migration data management systems** and consolidate the knowledge base on the migration realities in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan.
3. To support the **development** of comprehensive national **policy frameworks** for migration management.
4. To **strengthen regional and intergovernmental dialogue** and information exchange on migration matters among the Silk Routes' countries through the regular Budapest Process meeting structure.
5. To increase the **concrete operational cooperation** among the Silk Routes countries in the area of migration.

Activities

Linked to the objectives, the project is built on blocks of five components with a mixed set of activities and inherently intertwined:

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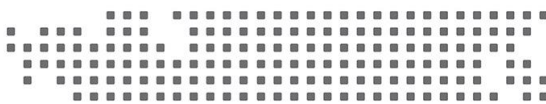


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Component 1 - Developing sustainable training systems

A set of **regional and national trainings** to each priority topic of the Istanbul Ministerial Declaration:

- legal/labour migration and integration,
- irregular migration, return, smuggling of migrants and anti-trafficking,
- migration and development,
- international protection

Combined with the **development of training programmes, training of trainers and technical assistance** shall contribute to (a) improved knowledge, common understanding and strengthened training structures on migration matters and (b) enhanced frameworks for interagency cooperation and peer-to-peer contacts



Regional Training on Legal/Labour Migration in Iran

Component 2 - Improving data management & knowledge base

One regional, several national workshops and **targeted expert support** aim at (a) strengthening structures for **migration data collection, management and analysis**, (b) enhance inter-agency, regional and international cooperation regarding data collection and management and (c) consolidate knowledge base on

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migration realities and serve as a basis for **informed policy making**

Component 3 - Launching the process towards comprehensive migration policies

through the establishment or continuation of **inter-agency working groups** and procedures to **elaborate comprehensive national policy frameworks** for migration management, supported through **regional and national working group meetings and expert input**

Component 4 - Furthering regional and inter-governmental dialogue

through regular **expert-level dialogue** at the Silk Routes Region Working Group and further Budapest Process meetings

Component 5 - Piloting the way ahead

With **innovative approaches**, concrete cooperation among the Silk Routes countries will be fostered in the framework of **pilot projects**, two of which will be launched in 2015:

- Establishment of Migration Information Centres and Raising Awareness on Migration in Pakistan
- Initiating Regional Police Cooperation – Silk Routes Region and Turkey

Project Partners and other Participating Countries

Silk Routes countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan

Donors: European Union, Bulgaria, Hungary (lead state), the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Implementing agency: ICMPD

ICMPD

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