



DANISH SUPPORT TO  
**RIGHTS BASED BORDER MANAGEMENT  
IN THE SILK ROUTES COUNTRIES**



# RIGHTS-BASED BORDER MANAGEMENT IN THE SILK ROUTES COUNTRIES (RBM SILK ROUTES)

## End of Project Factsheet



Funded by Denmark

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF DENMARK**



Implemented by

**ICMPD**

International Centre for  
Migration Policy Development

The RBM Silk Routes project's overall objective was to **implement sustainable, rights-based, border management practices in Iraq and Pakistan towards increasing border management and security and reducing irregular migration**. The action contributed to strengthening the capacities of Pakistani and Iraqi agencies and authorities responsible for borders and migration management, reinforcing their role as duty bearers to uphold the rights of migrants transiting national borders. The project integrated rights-based approach in a context-specific manner throughout all activities, adapting individual activities to support beneficiaries in understanding and applying a human-rights based approach as an integral and integrated aspect of their work.

The project consisted of two country-specific components addressing priority needs of each country.

The **Specific Objective of Component 1** was to **support Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) of Pakistan** to increase its institutional and operational capacity in combatting irregular migration and enhancing border and migration management.

The **Specific Objective of Component 2** was to **enhance border management in Iraq** by strengthening the capacities of border management institutions in planning border control and responding to crisis situations on the basis of risk analysis.



## PAKISTAN

In Pakistan, the project supported the FIA to expand the operation of second line border control officers to four additional major airports, as well as enhancing the functioning of the national forensic document examination laboratory.

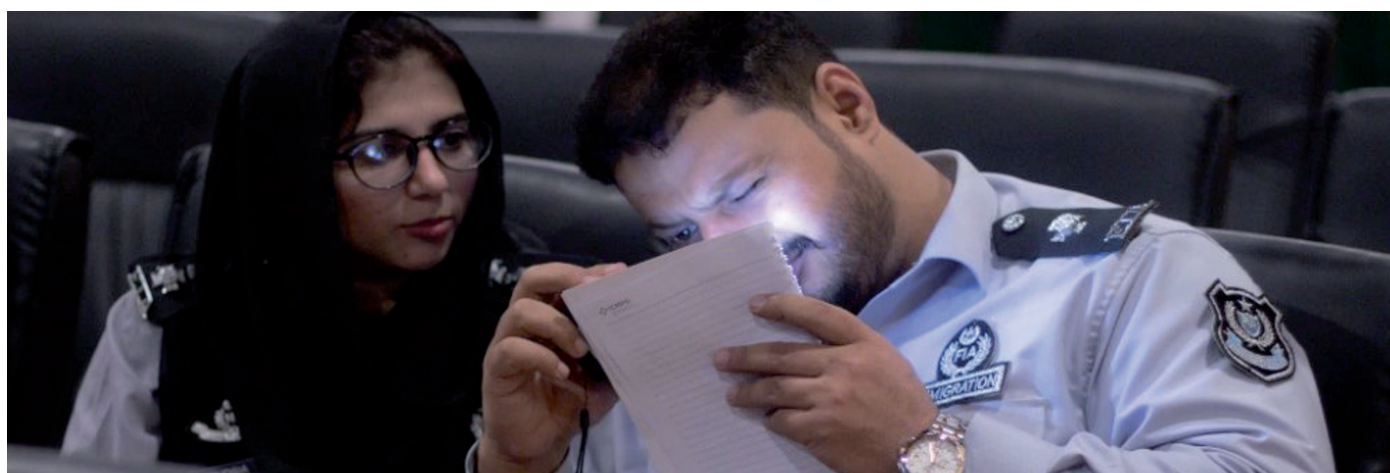
Three inter-linked project components supported the creation of specific enablers required for this:

- improved capacity of operational officers stationed at border crossing points;
- enhanced information exchange and data management systems governing the borders;
- and access to state-of -the art technical and forensic equipment at each air border.



### Project outcomes in Pakistan include:

- **Second Line Border Control Guidelines** validated and approved.
- Expansion of Second Line Border Control Offices to **5 major International Airports including Karachi, Lahore, Multan, Peshawar and Sialkot.**
- A total of **57 Second and Third Line Officers** were comprehensively trained on:
  - Advanced Document Security
  - Risk Profiling
  - Information Exchange
  - Human Rights at Borders
  - Practical Training on Second Line Border Forensic Equipment
  - Training of Trainers (ToT)
- **Each officer completed a minimum of 100 training hours**, through 20 Training Workshops at 5 different locations, ensuring in-depth knowledge and practical application of these core competencies.
- **More than 100** first line Immigration Officers were trained on Basic Document Security by employing 8 Master Trainers under the Cascade Training Initiative ensuring sustainability. Upgradation of the **Forensic Lab** to function as a **Third Line Border Control.**
- Development of **Second Line Interface within the Integrated Border Management System (IBMS)** through the strengthening of information exchange mechanism.
- Integration of **Human Rights at Borders** in training curricula.
- Publication of resource material on:
  - General Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights in Border Management;
  - Second Line Border Control Training Curriculum;
  - Pocket Manual on Checking Security Features in Documents at Border Crossing Points;
  - Pocket Manual on Guidelines for 1st and 2nd line of Border Control;
- **The combined efforts led to 16% increase in preventing irregular migration attempts from Pakistan as per FIA Annual Report, 2024.**





“ [the project] developed a regular second line office and installed [a] lab, so we incorporate data into it and check as well, like reverification of some documents regarding security features etc. This system clears [up] doubts in the best manner [...] there is a huge difference in the number of detections and quality of the work. – response from FIA Pakistan to external evaluation. ”



## IRAQ

The project aimed to address the strategic priorities of the Government of Iraq, as identified in the *National Integrated Border Management Strategy*. This strategy defined the **respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in all activities carried out by law enforcement authorities** as a key principle, and defined the **establishment of viable response capabilities for effective risk management and emergency planning** as a key strategic goal.



To this end, three interlinked sub-components of the project supported the creation of essential enablers to achieve this strategic goal:

- the establishment of an institutional system for risk analysis;
- the development of national guidelines for cooperation and coordination at the border in case of emergency;
- the enhancement of institutional capacity to integrate a rights-based approach in a context-specific manner, applying it as an integral and cross-cutting aspect of border management in Iraq.



### Project outcomes in Iraq include:

- The **Policy on Integrated Risk Management**, developed with the project's support and endorsed by the Minister of Interior (MoI), now guides risk management practices both, at the Ministry level and within its operational agencies, centrally and locally.
- **Six risk analysis units** have been established within the Border Force Command and the MoI Planning and Follow-Up Directorate. Their **operationalisation** is ongoing.
- **Eight national master trainers on risk analysis** are now qualified to deliver basic-level training using a **tailored curriculum, trainer's manual, e-learning training module**, ensuring the sustainable growth of the risk analysis system within the MoI. They independently conducted their first training session for **22 officers** in July 2025.



- An **e-learning module on risk analysis** will provide MoI personnel with flexible, cost- and time-efficient access to content, enabling self-paced and personalised learning enriched by interactive tools.
- A **national model on contingency planning**, in the form of *Guidelines for cooperation and coordination in cases of emergencies at borders*, was developed by an inter-agency working group with contributions from 15 ministries and agencies.
- **Trainers** from the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers and the National Security Advisory have been prepared to deliver contingency planning training.
- A **human rights training curriculum** has been endorsed by the MoI and integrated into the national training programme.
- A **pool of 10 master trainers on human rights**, representing several MoI agencies and the Border Ports Commission (BPC), have incorporated the curriculum into their training cycles with regular scheduled delivery.

- Between November 2024 and August 2025, **11 training sessions on human rights at borders were independently organised** by the Border Force Command, the Passport and Residence Directorate (Mol), and the BPC.
- In total, **689 officials** have been trained on contingency planning, human rights, and risk analysis.

There is reported to have been a significant transformation in thinking about human rights in the context of border management. Interviewees note the profound effect that this component of RBM Silk Routes has had on them and their work and they note the growing interest amongst border management agencies in this subject.

– external evaluation report



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