

**Matrix to be filled in preparation of the Regional Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration in West Africa  
Dakar, 13-14 November 2008**

Objective: Please identify the most prominent protection gaps and existing rights-based initiatives to address mixed migration in your respective countries, consistent with and in furtherance of ECOWAS's Common Approach on Migration.

	<b>Challenges and gaps</b>	<b>Initiatives (IOM)</b>	<b>Description of the initiative</b>	<b>Target groups</b>	<b>Outputs &amp; Constraints</b>
<b>1. Building local capacities to enhance right-based migration policy and border control</b>	In order to promote legal labour migration, it is necessary to build the capacities of both sending and receiving countries to establish specific labour migration schemes that are in the interests of the country of origin, the country of destination and the migrant workers.	IOM Project <i>'Facilitating a Coherent Migration Management Approach in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and Libya by Promoting Legal Migration and Preventing Further Irregular Migration'</i>	<p>The project aims to facilitate a coherent migration management approach in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and Libya by promoting legal migration and preventing further irregular migration.</p> <p>The main objectives of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhance the national capacities for labour migration management in West-Africa and Libya;</li> <li>- Contribute to the development of mechanisms for the insertion of workers into the</li> </ul>	<p>The project primarily targets government officials in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and Libya who are in charge of managing labour migration.</p> <p>The projects equally targets (potential) migrant workers from Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal.</p>	<p>The main outputs of the project are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National assessments of labour migration policies, legislation and practices conducted in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and Libya</li> <li>- Training provided to government officials in the development of a labour migration policies;</li> <li>- Pilot initiative for job matching between Ghana and Italy being developed to facilitate the identification, registration and</li> </ul>

	<p>Intra-continental, intraregional and international mobility is one of the defining characteristics of African populations Migration management is one of the cornerstones of sustainable development The lack of coherent</p>	<p>IOM Programme “<i>Migration in West and Central Africa: National Profiles for Strategic Policy Development</i>”</p>	<p>EU labour market; - Strengthen networking and dialogue among governments on labour migration within an intraregional and interregional approach; - Enhance efforts at reducing irregular migration from, into and through West Africa and Libya, including to the EU; - Promote and sustain voluntary return to and reintegration in countries of origin.</p> <p>The main objectives of the Programme are to: - Strengthen government capacity in target countries; - Promote greater migration policy coherence at national and regional levels;</p>	<p>The Programme targets eight governments in the West and Central Africa (Côte d’Ivoire, DRC, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal) and at the regional level ECOWAS).</p>	<p>selection of candidate migrant workers to match needs in the host country; - Regional workshop to develop a common regional approach to manage labour migration to be held in 2009; - Creation and distribution of information materials on labour migration schemes and the risks of irregular migration (in 2009).</p> <p>- Improved capacity and competency by ECOWAS Member states to manage autonomously the collection, analysis and transformation of statistical data into migration management policies by way of: Creating eight inter-ministerial multi-</p>
--	--	--	--	---	--

	<p>and comparative data in the region is widely recognised Tools are needed to address irregular migration in Africa. To develop policies promoting diaspora and migrant contributions to home country development</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a framework of data collection and analysis;</li> <li>- To map migration data and information in target countries, identifying the gaps in data collection;</li> <li>Improve the use of migration data by preparing standardized national profiles;</li> <li>- Promote the inclusion of Migration in poverty reduction strategies, insisting on migration's development potential.</li> </ul>		<p>disciplinary national expert panels; Twenty four training sessions in migration data management; Development and usage of a regional training curriculum on the use of statistical data; Twenty four joint studies and the publication of « thematic papers » on topics relevant to the target countries' migration challenges. - A standard national migration profile, tried and completed in eight target countries. - Two regional workshops with a publication at the outcome. - One interactive website with research tools and self teaching modules.</p> <p>Active participation</p>
--	--	--	--	--	---

	<p>This project involves three regions with complex and increasing migration dynamics. Actions envisaged by the project provide for various types of support at the overall, interregional and sub-regional levels and promote the exchanges of best practices.</p>	<p>IOM Programme for the <i>“Enhancement and support of dialogue and management for Western African countries irregular and transit migration in the Maghreb”</i></p>	<p>The main objectives of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhance dialogue and follow-up coordination mechanisms;</li> <li>- Improve institutional capacities in transit and origin countries through technical cooperation;</li> <li>- Organize information campaigns addressing potential migrants in sending</li> </ul>	<p>The Programme primarily targets government officials from five Maghreb countries (Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania) and six countries from Sub-Saharan Africa (Cameroon, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal). European Union member countries (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany,</p>	<p>in, and ownership of, the study and analysis process by government institutions. Target countries have specific priorities and constraints and nevertheless the activities in each country must be timely implemented in coordination with the other countries.</p> <p>The main outputs of the project are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Comprehensive Analytical Report providing an inventory of migratory situation in the three covered regions, with also specific country sections including relevant data pertaining to each of the participating countries.</li> <li>- Five trainings and six technical meetings on</li> </ul>
--	---	---	---	--	---

			countries.	<p>Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain - Austria and United Kingdom are associated to the activities of the project).</p> <p>Potential migrants are also targeted for information campaigns.</p>	<p>relevant migration issues in target countries and elaboration of a global framework of action to provide a prospective vision of the migration phenomenon in the three sub regions and also identify the main lines of common actions between these three groups of countries, notably in the field of the follow up of migration phenomenon and policies.</p> <p>- Information campaigns targeting potential migrants in origin countries in order to provide information on dangers encountered by irregular migrants and expected failure of such a project and regular migration procedures and options.</p>
--	--	--	------------	--	---

<p><b>2. Combating human trafficking and smuggling</b></p>	<p>Lack of protection structures for trafficked victims Lack of stakeholders awareness and capacities on trafficking</p>	<p>IOM Programme <i>Regional programme of assistance for the return and reintegration program in West Africa</i></p> <p>IOM Programme <i>Counter trafficking capacity building project for government officials, judicial authorities, law enforcement and NGOs in West Africa</i></p> <p>IOM Programme <i>Training on cooperation and networking in counter trafficking for ECOWAS TiP Unit</i></p> <p>IOM Programme <i>Counter trafficking protection and prevention in Sierra Leone</i></p>	<p>IOM projects aim to build local, national and regional capacities of relevant stakeholders to fight trafficking in persons. Within the framework of these projects, the ECOWAS TiP Unit, national governments and NGOs have been trained to identify, prevent and prosecute human trafficking and offer an appropriate assistance to trafficked victims. Networking and cooperation amongst stakeholders has been specifically enhanced.</p>	<p>ECOWAS TiP Unit, National governments (relevant ministries, i.e. Interior, Family, Social Solidarity), local NGOs, potentially affected communities, trafficked victims, especially women and children.</p>	<p>Many efforts still need to be deployed to raise public awareness and government and NGOs capacities on the issue of trafficking. The lack of means prevents local actors from developing long term initiatives.</p>
--	--	--	---	--	--

<p><b>3. Fighting against all forms of discrimination and torture against migrants</b></p>	<p>Many Human Rights violations on migrants in West Africa  Free movement - within ECOWAS space – facing problems  Lack of knowledge on migrants’ rights in the sub-region  Lack of information sharing and exchanges of best practices within the governments and between the States</p>	<p>IOM Programme “<i>High level trainings on the Human Rights of migrants and displaced persons in ECOWAS countries</i>”</p>	<p>This project aims to contribute to improving knowledge and enhancing the application of standards meant to strengthen the respect and protection of the rights of migrants and displaced persons in West Africa.  There is a need to promote and strengthen the role of the law in the management of migration and this project intends to contribute to answer this need with a approaches based on trainings and free access to information and analyses written and compiled for pedagogical purposes.</p>	<p>The project targets administrations and other relevant government institutions, academics and researchers (primarily from Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Senegal and Togo but also in all West African countries), students, solidarity associations, particularly those involved in the defense of foreigners, Human Rights organizations and other civil society actors and intergovernmental organizations involved in migration issues.</p>	<p>The main outputs of the project are the following:  - two training workshops held in Dakar in 2004 and 2007 with participants from seven West African countries;  - a publication on “Migrations and Human Rights Protection”;  - a website on law and migration in West Africa.</p> <p>West Africa is a large area so it is difficult to cover all the countries.</p>
--	---	--	--	---	---

<p><b>4. Providing nationals with sustainable return and reintegration programmes</b></p>	<p>Lack of adequate structures for a safe reintegration of trafficked victims Lack of awareness on the issue that can develop re-trafficking pattern</p>	<p>IOM Regional programme of assistance for the return and reintegration program in West Africa Counter trafficking protection and prevention in Sierra Leone Assisted voluntary return and reintegration of Ghanaian children victims of trafficking for labour exploitation in Yeji fishing communities Counter trafficking protection and prevention in Sierra Leone</p>	<p>These projects aim at providing comprehensive return and reintegration assistance for trafficked victims through a network of service provider local organizations. IOM is currently supporting shelters and providing medical and psychological care for victims. When both the victim and its family accept the victim's return to the community, IOM provides travelling assistance and long term monitored assistance for a successful reintegration of the victim in his/her community of origin.</p>	<p>Trafficked victims, especially women and children, local NGOs, affected communities.</p>	<p>Lack of means in sheltering and assistance facilities Lack of community awareness on trafficking Fragile economic tissue in communities of origin.</p>
---	--	---	---	---	---



<p><b>4. (continued)</b></p>	<p>Facilitate sustainable return to the country of origin and prevent irregular migration.</p> <p>Facilitating sustainable return to the country of origin and combat irregular migration by providing reintegration activities.</p>	<p>IOM Programme Voluntary Assisted Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP)</p> <p>IOM Brussels' Voluntary Return and Reintegration Program – (REAB) program (Return and Emigration of Asylum Seekers ex-Belgium)</p>	<p>The aim of the Reintegration Fund is to facilitate sustainable return to the country of origin. The assistance is designed to assist people in finding income generating activities to become financially independent.</p> <p>This Reintegration Project aims at facilitating sustainable return to the country of origin, providing additional reintegration support to returnees of the REAB Program.</p>	<p>Reintegration activities should be well managed and this constitutes a great constraint and challenge.</p> <p>However reintegration cases succeed in providing the returnees with more possibilities and help them achieving their goals.</p>	
<p><b>5. Providing solutions for migrants with unsuccessful asylum application</b></p>	<p>Irregular migrants who return voluntarily to their country of origin need specific assistance to enable their socio-economic reintegration.</p>	<p>IOM Programme Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) component under the IOM project <i>'Facilitating a Coherent Migration Management Approach in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and</i></p>	<p>Under the AVRR program, irregular migrants from Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal who are in Libya are offered assistance to return voluntarily to their country of origin.</p>	<p>Irregular migrants in Libya who voluntarily declare their intention to return to their country of origin (Ghana, Nigeria or Senegal).</p>	<p>This year 244 irregular migrants have been assisted to return voluntarily from Libya to their country of origin (Senegal, Ghana or Nigeria) through the AVR program. The</p>

		<i>Libya by Promoting Legal Migration and Preventing Further Irregular Migration'</i>	The assistance includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Medical screening</li> <li>- Pre-departure assistance</li> <li>- Return transportation</li> <li>- Reintegration assistance to set up a business activity or undertake a vocational training based on the identified needs of the migrant</li> </ul>		migrants are currently receiving reintegration assistance. It is foreseen that before the end of this year 56 more migrants will be assisted under the program.
<b>6. Ensuring sustainable development in departure regions</b>	There is a political will characterized by the creation of structures and institutions to manage migration. However their capacities need to be strengthened and a better coordination between the different actors involved should be sought. Information on existing opportunities or mechanisms are not well promoted and diffused to the local population as well as	<i>IOM Programme Capacity Building for migration management and fight against irregular migration in Senegal (RRM)</i>	One of the component of the programme consisted in supporting the socio economic integration of young potential candidates to emigration and returnees trough financial and technical assistance for the creation of micro projects	Young potential candidates to emigration Returnees	Training of 69 beneficiaries On the creation and management of micro enterprise  selection and funding 57 micro projects

	<p>the diaspora willing to invest in the country.</p>	<p>IOM Programme <i>Mobilization of human, financial, social resources of the Senegalese and Ghanaians living in Italy- (MIDA-Italy/ Ghana/Senegal)</i></p>	<p>The programme offers Ghanaian and Senegalese diasporas living in Italy the possibility of creating small or medium-sized enterprises (SME) in their countries of origin in order to enhance the socio-economic development of these countries.</p>	<p>Senegalese and Ghanaians expatriates living in Italy who are interested in promoting the social and economic development of their home country</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 200 migrants' associations registered</li> <li>- More than 150 SME project proposals received</li> <li>- 12 Co-Development projects selected (7 Senegal/5 Ghana)</li> <li>- Partnership established with 12 Italian local authorities</li> <li>- 40 beneficiaries trained in enterprise creation and management (incl. access to credit) and tutoring by specialized institutions in Ghana &amp; Senegal</li> <li>- Creation of hundreds of permanent and temporary employment for local population</li> <li>- Innovative mechanisms for remittances transfer identified and promoted with</li> </ul>
--	---	---	---	---	--

					financial institutions (prepaid ethical cards) - Innovative credit mechanism for migrants identified and developed (Senegalese Migrants Foundation)
<b>7. Developing information strategies to discourage irregular movements and combat xenophobia</b>	Lack of information on the dangers of irregular migration. Increasing number of irregular migrants.	<i>IOM Programme for the enhancement and support of dialogue and management of Western African irregular and transit migration in the Maghreb</i>  <i>IOM Programme Reinforcement of the awareness-raising activities on the danger of irregular migration in Senegal</i>	Mass Information Campaigns to Prevent Irregular Migration The campaign includes: TV and radio spots; forum, concerts, meetings, ...  The campaign includes the organization of fora, concerts, meetings, painting exhibitions illustrating the subject of irregular migration, thus creating debates with the population at a grass root level.	The project targets potential migrants and their families and vulnerable population (Cameroon, Senegal, Mali, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria)  The project targets potential migrants and their families and vulnerable population (Senegal)	Many efforts still need to be deployed to raise public awareness on the danger of illegal migration and on the opportunities to migrate legally

		<p>IOM Programme <i>The dangers of irregular migration: information &amp; sensibilization actions in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania</i></p> <p>IOM Programme <i>Les dangers de la migration irrégulière: renforcement des actions d'information et de sensibilisation au Sénégal et au Mali</i></p>	<p>Increase awareness on the danger of illegal migration in Mauritania</p> <p>Increase awareness on the danger of illegal migration in Senegal and Mali</p>	<p>The project targets potential migrants and their families and vulnerable population in Mauritania</p> <p>The project targets potential migrants and their families and vulnerable population in Senegal and Mali</p>	
<p><b>8. Other types of protection challenges and initiatives</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>				