Budapest Process
“A Silk Routes Partnership for Migration”

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Presentation

1. What is the Budapest Process?

2. The Istanbul Ministerial Declaration on a Silk Routes Partnership for Migration

3. Priority topics & tools

4. Planned capacity building actions (follow-up package of the 5th Ministerial Conference)
1. What is the Budapest Process?

- Intergovernmental migration dialogue
- Chair: Turkey since 2006. Hungary 1993-2006 (now Co-chair)
- 52 Participating and 7 Observer countries as well as international and regional organisations
- 20 years - 155 intergovernmental meetings
  - 5 Ministerial Conferences
  - 18 senior officials meetings
  - 20 meetings of the Friends of the Chair
  - 91 working group and other meetings

- Three regional Working Groups
  - The Working Group on the South East European Region – chaired by Croatia (Zagreb, April, 2012)
  - The Working Group on the Black Sea Region – chaired by Bulgaria (Sofia, November 2012)
  - The Working Group on the Silk Routes Region – chaired by Turkey (Tbilisi, June 2012)
1. What is the Budapest Process?

- **Phases of the Budapest Process**
  - **First phase** (1993-2003) Cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe - at that time outside the EU framework and South-East Europe
  - **Second phase** (2003-2009) Cooperation starts with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan
  - **Third phase** (2010-) initiated by Turkey – Cooperation with the “Silk Routes” countries as new participating and observer states (Afghanistan (2010), Bangladesh (2010), China (2010), India (2013), Iran (2012), Iraq (2010), Pakistan (2010) and Syria (temp))
1. What is the Budapest Process?

- **1991 Berlin Ministerial Conference:**
  - Immediate Post Cold war era, new states emerging
  - Focus on joint initiatives against the potential increase of irregular migration pressures in Europe

- **1993 Budapest Ministerial Conference:**
  - Early focus: East-West migration and migration control
  - “Asylum crisis” in EU: close to 600,000 applications a year
  - Emphasis on “preventing uncontrolled migration” and focus on the creation of mechanisms for the implementation of recommendations

- **1997 Prague Ministerial Conference:**
  - Pre-accession talks started for Central and Eastern European States,
  - Focus on recommendations achieving a high degree of common legal standards – harmonisation - in the area of migration

- **2003 Rhodes Ministerial Conference:**
  - Pre-accession process finalised
  - Extending cooperation to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan
  - A shift towards a more comprehensive approach in promoting migration co-operation between countries of origin, transit and destination
1. What is the Budapest Process?

- The participating states: Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan.

- EU: the European Commission, the Directorate General of the European Council, EASO, Europol, Frontex

- International organisations: IFRC, ILO, INTERPOL, IOM, OSCE, UNHCR, UNODC

- Regional organisations: BSEC, ECO, MARRI

- Observer states: Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, China, India, Iran and USA.
2. A Silk Routes Partnership for Migration

- Ministerial Conference on **19 April 2013** in Istanbul, chaired and hosted by Turkey covering 230 participants, 53 countries, the EU and 12 organisations
- The Istanbul Ministerial Declaration established **A Silk Routes Partnership for Migration** with the objective to promote dialogue and mutual cooperation in managing migration flows taking place along the Silk Routes
- The Istanbul Ministerial Declaration on a Silk Routes Partnership for Migration has already been referred to as one of the most balanced and far-reaching documents in the field of migration adopted by such a wide range of countries.
- The declaration is setting the framework for operational cooperation and concrete action in the field of migration between the participating countries
- Follow-up package developed following pillars of the declaration and the priorities of participating countries
- (Silk Routes: name and geography inspired from the historic Silk Road, stretching from China to Western Europe)
2. A Silk Routes Partnership for Migration
3. Priority topics & tools

- Example of topical coverage – Istanbul Ministerial Declaration - balance of priorities
- Migration capacity building
- Formulation of a comprehensive migration policy
- National administrative limitations and other restrictions
- Better organise and improve conditions for legal migration and mobility,
- Support the integration of migrants and counteract phenomena of discrimination, racism and xenophobia,
- Strengthen the positive impact of migration on development, both in countries of origin and of destination,
- Prevent and counteract irregular migration, facilitate return and readmission of irregular migrants, and combat criminal networks involved in smuggling of migrants,
- Prevent and combat trafficking in persons, address its root causes and provide adequate protection and support to trafficked persons,
- Promote international protection and the respect of the rights of refugees, in line with international standards.
3. Priority topics & tools

- Interaction between policy dialogue and practical implementation as well as research
  - **Priority areas** defined through intergovernmental dialogue, and based on consultations with and needs assessments in the involved countries
  - Implementation of capacity building projects informing the policy dialogue (network and priority identification)

- **Knowledge base:** Migration Profiles, i-Map
  - *(Extended) Migration Profiles*
    - State ownership: Prepared in close cooperation with respective countries and endorsed by their migration authorities
    - Policy development tool
    - European Commission Template (January 2010)
  - **i-Map**
    - Translation of all available information into an interactive online visual tool ([www.imap-migration.org](http://www.imap-migration.org))
3. Priority topics & tools

- Fostering cooperation in the area of migration with and in the Silk Routes Region (“Silk Routes project I”):
  - Intergovernmental dialogue
  - Research to expand the knowledge base
  - Missions for fact-finding and assessment of needs and priorities (April-June 2012)
  - Consultation meetings between officials from SR and donor countries (the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey) Dec 2012 – March 2013
    - In addition the United Kingdom and the European Commission
  - Joint definition of follow-up activities ensures sustainability and builds trust

- Follow-up operational package developed parallel to preparations for the Ministerial Conference
4. Planned Capacity Building Actions (follow-up package)

- Silk Routes Bridging Measures with UK support (June 2013 – May 2014) – pilot capacity building activities in the area of migration management in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan at both technical and policy level
- EU support earmarked for 2014, aiming at strengthening the migration management capacities of the Silk Routes countries including development of comprehensive migration policies, sustainable training programmes, development / further enhancement of migration data management, development/update of migration profiles
- Under preparation: projects targeting the enhancement of the role of emigrants in the development of the Silk Routes countries as well as returns and reintegration assistance and a joint training programme for the SR countries
- Next meetings: Silk Routes Region Working Group meeting in September 2013 and Senior Officials Meeting in November 2013 to define in detail the operational follow-up programme 2014-2015