The Interface between RCPs & the GFMD - an IGAD Case

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Focus:

• Look at the RCPs role in strengthening the process of regional input to GFMD deliberations and
• The role of RCPs in contributing to regional follow-up to GFMD outcomes
IGAD- a brief

- The Intergovernmental Authority on Development-IGAD, is a Regional Economic Community covering the Horn and Eastern Africa.
- Found in 1986 with a mandate to address drought & desertification in the Horn of Africa.
- 1996 saw an increase in mandate scope to include economic integration and matters of peace and security.
- Member states include Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan; - Eritrea has currently suspended membership.
- Both forced and voluntary migration take place within the IGAD region with a spill over to other parts of the world.
Migration at IGAD

• The program came into being in 2008 with signing of MoU between IGAD & IOM with the later seconding a technical advisor on migration with the support of the then 1035 Facility
• The IGAD RCP was born out of this initial cooperation
• Established in 2008, the IGAD RCP was formally adopted by the Council of Ministers in 2009
Mobility and Displacement

The *push and pull factors conceptual framework*

Migration as Mobility or Displacement

Towards Mobility

Displacement

- Forced, Compelled
- Push Factors

Mobility

- Voluntary
- Pull Factors
Migration . Mobility. Integration for Human Insecurity

Seen in Continuum: *Shift from Forced Migration to Mobility*
COMPONENTS OF THE IGAD MIGRATION AND MOBILITY ARCHITECTURE
The IGAD RCP

- Established through a Declaration adopted by IGAD Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs in 2009
- Held its first meeting in 2010 that looked at various migration issues. It was decided at this meeting that every year will carry a theme decided by the Member states
- The I-RCP is composed of IGAD member states, the IGAD partners Forum, key transit and destination countries for migrants from the Horn of Africa. Civil society is also involved on an ad hoc basis.
- UN agencies and other INGOs with migration related mandates e.g UNHCR, ILO, UNODC are engaged in the process
Partners

• IOM has continued to offer technical as well as financial support since the I-RCP inception
• This has included funding towards the realisation of recommendations arising from the I-RCP dialogue e.g. the development of the IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework
• The African Union as the continental body gives guidance on migration policy e.g. the Banjul 2006 Decision that established the Migration Policy Framework for Africa
I-RCP Governance

- With its anchorage within a REC whose decisions are binding on member states, the I-RCP provides more than just an informal and non-binding dialogue platform.

- Decisions/recommendations arising from the dialogue are implemented by the secretariat or MSs with report on progress towards realization of broader migration management objectives.

- The IGAD Secretariat - which is the executing arm of IGAD serves as the secretariat of the RCP with the focal person for migration taking lead.

- The RCP 2013 decided to have a rotational hosting and chairing – with one of the two annual dialogues being held in Ethiopia - the seat of the African Union.
Changing focus of the I-RCP

• The 2012 meeting focused on Migration and Development-inspired by the GFMD being held by an African chair for the first time

• Recommendations arising included:
  1. Need to conduct national labour surveys in MSs- Uganda and Kenya have started
  2. Need to engage the IGAD Diaspora more in development through adoption of Diaspora friendly policies including dual citizenship amongst others- almost all MSs provide for this with Kenya being the latest to provide for it in the New constitution. Diaspora “reach out” campaigns are being undertaken by MSs and the Secretariat with the most recent being the IGAD Diaspora Conference in Toronto
3. Need to establish a Free movement of persons regime that will facilitate labor mobility- negotiations towards this started in 2012 and are ongoing within the broader framework of the IGAD Minimum Integration Plan –roadmap for IGAD Integration.

4. Encourage and continue existing bilateral and multi lateral labor agreements between MSs.

5. Need to mainstream migration into development strategies of the MSs including in their national development blue prints.
I-RCP 2013

- Held in the first week of May 2013
- Themed “Migration & Regional Integration”
- Came in the wake of the adoption by the IGAD Summit of Heads of State and Governments of the Minimum Integration Plan in 2012.
- It aimed at locating the strategic position of migration in the IGAD regional Integration agenda-
- Issues discussed ranged from Migration & Trade; Health, Mobility & Regional Integration, Pastoral Mobility, Drought Disaster resilience building, Integrated Border management, security and Regional Integration & Infrastructural Connectivity & Mobility
The 10 key Priority Action Areas

• The I-RCP 2013 has agreed to focus on the following 10 priorities for the next five years with reporting twice a year on progress
• (the Priorities Matrix)
GFMD 2012 & I-RCP

• The IGAD RCP participated in most of the GFMD round tables- both the secretariat & Member states

• Learning for the R-RCP especially on mainstreaming migration into development planning- issues that have now been taken up by MSs.

• The GFMD Chair 2013 call for increased bilateral labour agreements as a step towards multilateral labour agreements -and is a key focus of the I-RCP
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• MSs of the I-RCP participation at the GFMD round tables has increased the attention to issues of migration and development

• They have also contributed through their sharing of experiences to the final outcomes of the GFMD and are implementing some of those outcomes that have found reinforcement within the Regional process and now more focused within the 10 priority action areas.
Conclusion

• Member states of the I-RCP will remain seized with the GFMD process as they implement decisions and outcomes of the Forum

• GFMD decisions will continue to be followed up at the regional level through the RCP dialogue-

Thank you