The timely adoption of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) this month by a significant majority of countries is evidence that migration has become the great issue of this era. The GCM represents a step forward towards global acknowledgment that migration is not an issue to be solved, but a reality to embrace and deal with in concerted efforts.

Funded by the European Union’s Partnership Instrument, the EU-China Dialogue on Migration and Mobility Support Project (MMSP) was especially designed to tackle a range of challenges linked to migration (p8). In the next pages, we present the activities undertaken in 2018 in line with MMSP’s comprehensive approach to migration. The activities include workshops dedicated to counter-human trafficking (p2-3), as well as training aimed at strengthening border security management capacity—a key component of our fight against irregular migration (p2-3). These workshops had the twofold objective to provide a unique platform to promote cooperation between China and the EU, whilst delivering practical technical training to front-line officers. Yet, migration management is not limited to fighting irregularities, but it also requires building an all-round understanding of the multilayered nature of migration. With this in mind, IOM hosted seminars on mixed migration, migration and development, and migrants’ integration (p4), as well as carrying out various research studies (p5&6).

As the release of this newsletter coincides with the end of the first phase of MMSP, this is a good opportunity to look back at the achievements and challenges encountered during these past years. Engaging over 1000 national and foreign stakeholders across more than 50 activities, we can say with confidence that MMSP has been instrumental in supporting EU-China dialogue around relevant migration issues. Yet, as migration is an ever-changing phenomenon, we know that much more can be done to respond to new challenges and changes.

If efficiently managed, migration can be a powerful driving force for progress for both hosting and sending communities. We, therefore, must focus not only on protecting the lives of those on the move, but also on the many migration challenges faced by different actors across the entire migration journey – migrants, hosting communities, left behind families and policy makers among others. Only by doing so can we achieve migration that is safe, orderly and dignified for all (p7).

To conclude, I wish to thank and bid farewell to my predecessor, Pär Liljert, who completed his assignment in China after six successful years.

Giuseppe Crocetti
IOM Chief of Mission, China and Mongolia
Immigration and Security management is based on the core principle that individual border agencies are generally more effective when they create synergies at national, regional and international level. To facilitate the growth of these synergies, IOM has organised several activities in China on border security management. In fact, as a transit, source and destination country for migration, China too has strong interests in strengthening its capacity on ascertaining the authenticity of passports and identity documents.

Most recently, IOM in cooperation with China’s National Immigration Administration has organized two workshops (see below) to facilitate EU-China exchange on latest trends and innovative techniques for traveler identity verification and fraudulent document detection. Attended by Chinese and European officials, the workshops provided an opportunity to share first-hand experience, exchange technical expertise and create opportunities for future cooperation.

As criminals continue to better the quality of forged documents and expand their range of illegal activities, immigration inspection agencies must continuously develop innovative techniques to combat identity and document fraud. Numerous technological developments have already been adopted by public authorities worldwide. These and others were discussed by experts from fronties, European countries and China during the workshops. The experts all recognised that advanced technologies used for border management should always be complemented by traditional verification techniques. Periodical technical training for border officials is crucial in this regard. In fact, the sophistication of document and identity fraud techniques is such that forgery can only be detected by a trained eye.

Identity and document verification are a key component of any border control system that wishes to effectively facilitate safe and efficient migration while simultaneously ensuring that security concerns are addressed. This fits with the objective of the EU-China Dialogue on Mobility and Migration Support Project to combat irregular migration.

**WORKSHOP ON AUTOMATED BORDER CONTROL (ABC), SHANGHAI, JULY 2018**

**Identity Verification Experts:** Experts from IOM Headquarters, the United Kingdom’s Border Force and Systems, and Helsinki Airport (Finland).

**Participants:** 48 Chinese participants from relevant departments of the Public Security and Border Control Troops and Entry and Exit Frontier Inspections – all part of the China Immigration Inspection of the National Immigration Administration (NIA). Representatives from the British, German and Hungarian Consulates General in Shanghai also attended the workshop.

**Key topics:** E-Gates and Traveler Identification Management.

The workshop ended with a tour at Pudong International Airport, where the participants had the opportunity to observe how practical tools for border management operate in a main Chinese airport. As such, it provided a space for foreign experts to learn and discuss technical aspects of ABC in China.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING: UNDERSTAND>WATCH>PROTECT>PREVENT**

IOM trains visa officers of EU Member States Embassies and Consulates in China on identification of (potential) victims of trafficking

**"Officials likely to come into contacts with victims or potential victims of trafficking should be adequately trained to identify and deal with such victims."**


Human trafficking trends from China to Europe already are a concern. Although data on the volume of trafficking involving Chinese nationals remains limited, cases are evident in several European countries.

Front-line visa officers have the first opportunity to identify victims or potential victims of trafficking when reviewing documents and conducting face-to-face interviews during visa application process. With this in mind, IOM facilitated three trainings on "Victim Identification for European Embassies and Consulates General Visa Officers" in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

The trainings aimed at equipping frontline visa officers with practical tools for identifying (potential) victims such as victim-screening interviews.

The three workshops attracted 58 visa and consular officials from the Embassies and Consulates General of the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland based in Beijing, Shenyang, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chengdu.

Victims are extremely vulnerable. In some cases, they are not aware of or are reluctant to acknowledge being victims of trafficking for fear or shame. Front-line officers can play an important role in preventing exploitation and providing assistance to the victims.

**CONCLUSION**

Migration and Security management is based on the core principle that individual border agencies are generally more effective when they create synergies at national, regional, and international level. To facilitate the growth of these synergies, IOM has organized several activities in China on border security management. In fact, as a transit, source, and destination country for migration, China too has strong interests in strengthening its capacity on ascertaining the authenticity of passports and identity documents.

The fight against trafficking in human beings falls within the scope of the EU-China Dialogue on Mobility and Migration Support Project (MMP), and the work of the UN Migration Agency (IOM) in China.

In January 2018, IOM organised a two-day seminar on "Facilitating of Exchanges & Establishment of Networks between Chinese & European Anti-Trafficking Criminal Investigation Specialists". This activity was designed to enhance knowledge exchange on techniques and procedures to standardize operations related to counter-trafficking.

20 Chinese officials from MPS and local investigative bureaus discussed with experts from Europol, and from investigative bureaus of Germany, Spain, Denmark, United Kingdom, and Switzerland the common challenges faced during trafficking investigations and analysed the various factors essential for successful investigations.

China is both a source and a destination country for trafficking in human beings. Countries alone cannot face the challenge of defeating human trafficking, as this is usually a complex form of transnational crime that requires joint efforts to keep up with its diverse criminal activities. The establishment of effective investigative networks among law enforcement agencies is thus fundamental to dismantle transnational criminal organisations involved in human trafficking. International investigative networks can open up informal and faster channels of communication, and enhance cooperation in collecting and sharing operational and strategic information essential for investigations.
On February 2018, IOM hosted in Beijing the two-day seminar "Global approach to Mixed Migration".

The seminar was attended by 26 Chinese Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Bureau of Exit and Entry Administration (BEEA) of the Ministry of Public Security (MPS), Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA), State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs, and form provincial Foreign Affairs Offices (FAO). 6 Officials from EU Member States were also present.

Experts from Germany, Sweden, South Africa and IOM described current global trends in mixed migration flows national approaches to managing the issue, IOM’s practical response to supporting migrants in countries in crises, and the role of the international community in establishing shared principles and commitments for effective management of such flows. As technology plays a fundamental role in understanding trends and characteristics of this complex phenomenon, participants were introduced to various types of software that can track migratory movements in emergency situations and facilitate effective response measures.

Mixed migration is the term used to describe complex migratory movements of an irregular nature, triggered by a multiplicity of factors and involving people with differentiated needs and profiles, including unaccompanied minors, environmental migrants, smuggled people, victims of trafficking and stranded migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.

Today’s world is witnessing unprecedented flows of people leaving their home countries in search of new economic opportunities or fleeing food insecurity, war, terrorism or to escape from areas affected by natural disasters caused by accidents or by environmental degradation due to climate change. Effectively managing these flows has become one of the greatest challenges for many countries around the world, regardless of their economic development: mixed migratory flows are evident in developed countries, emerging and developing countries alike.

Designing policies that mainstream M&D into government’s action represents an important opportunity to unleash the potential benefits brought by a world constantly on the move. The operation though requires enhanced understanding of the complex nature of migration and its interplay with a broad spectrum of policies related to development.

Bearing this objective in mind, IOM and ILO facilitated three senior Chinese National Immigration Administration (NIA) officials’ attendance to the training "Mainstreaming Migration into Policy Planning", which took place in November at the International Training Center of the ILO in Turin (ITC-ILO). The training gave Chinese officials a solid theoretical understanding on the nexus between M&D and sectorial policies. Participants also had the chance to reflect the global context in their policy development process and to engage with fellow policy makers and international practitioners involved in policy setting work.

Follow-up training for a wider group of Chinese Officials from provincial and central agencies will be organised in Beijing next year. Facilitated by IOM and international experts, the workshop will complement the outcome of the Turin training and deepen understanding on possible processes to mainstream migration into sectoral and practical policy development, given the specific Chinese developmental characteristics and priorities.

In April, IOM organized a two-day policy seminar focusing on citizenship, residence permit systems and migration institutional arrangements in Europe and China.

The seminar brought together 33 officials from central and provincial levels of China’s National Immigration Administration with experts from Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain to showcase various systems and identify best practices in facilitating mobility and integration of migrants.

China is experimenting with various migrant integration initiatives, including in Yiwu as well as other local authorities in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou with pilot programmes to optimize the benefits of migration for both migrants and local communities. The schemes are based on the premise that better integration of migrants at local and regional level will maximize the positive impact of migration on local development.

With regards to dual citizenship, China does not recognise dual nationality. Foreigners wishing to attain Chinese nationality must renounce their current nationalities.

Chinese and EU actors face more similarities than differences in needs and challenges in relation to migration management despite the varied political, legal and cultural scenarios: both need to attract labour and face challenges in permanent residence systems.

The need for mutual collaboration remains evident.
In May, IOM hosted the Forum on EU-China Migration and Mobility. Officiated by the outgoing IOM Director General H.E. Ambassador William Lacy Swing, the Forum brought together various EU and Chinese stakeholders working on migration.

The Forum marked the three-year anniversary of the EU-China Dialogue on Migration and Mobility Support Project, and it was an opportunity for IOM, the European Union and other key stakeholders to reflect and take stock on the project to date. It also provided space for reflecting on the milestones achieved, lessons learnt, challenges prevailing and future prospects in the various result areas of the project.

In attendance were IOM and ILO’s major stakeholders, including officials from the European Union Member States and Schengen Zone embassies, officials from UN Agencies, and officials from Chinese authorities, namely the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Public Security and the National Immigration Administration.

Besides Ambassador Swing’s remarks, participants also had the opportunity to hear from the Deputy Head of EU Delegation, Mr Christopher Wood; Deputy Director General of the National Immigration Administration, Mr Liu Shibin; and IOM China former Chief of Mission, Mr Pâr Liljert., at one of his last official events.

IOM launches the Global Migration Indicators Report 2018

In October 2018, IOM officially released the Global Migration Indicators Report 2018. Prepared by IOM’s Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC), the report responds to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Global Compact for Migration’s (GCM) call for improving the weak evidence base on international migration. Following the SDGs, countries need to provide comparable data across migration topics to monitor progress on targets, as well as improve disaggregation of all data by migratory status.

Based on statistics accessible through the Global Migration Data Portal, the report offers a snapshot of recent migration trends showcasing 21 indicators across 17 migration themes of relevance to the SDGs and GCM.

It also makes a first attempt to explicitly link the global migration policy agenda with migration data availability. By doing so, it illustrates how data availability and quality vary considerably across migration topics and how there is a clear need to improve migration data across the board. At the same time, it identifies migration data gaps that are particularly important in the context of the SDGs and GCM.

“While the GCM and the SDGs provide important frameworks to improve how we govern migration, more accurate and reliable data across migration topics is needed to take advantage of this opportunity. This report provides an overview of what we know and do not know about global migration trends,”

Frank Laczko, Director of IOM’s Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC).
Research on Recruitment costs for Chinese workers in EU Member States by ILO

Case study: Chinese chefs in Germany

The number of Chinese regular workers residing in the EU is increasing which calls for more effective policies and regulations on the recruitment of migrant workers.

For many, migration is an opportunity to improve their livelihood. However, it is often accompanied by numerous investments such as travel expenses, the acquisition of documents for visa application, health examination, and – in particular – intermediary fees. For lower skilled migrants especially, these investments might leave the migrants and their families indebted even before they begin their actual employment. Some might even fall victims of exploitation, trafficking and forced labor.

Costs related to taking up employment in another country (e.g. recruitment fees) are very high. These should be covered by employers but in practice often they are not. High recruitment costs further exacerbate migrants’ vulnerability.

Reducing costs associated to labor mobility can enhance the impact that migration has on development.

Based on a case study on Chinese chefs in Germany, ILO’s research on Recruitment costs for Chinese workers in EU Member States aims to assess migration costs borne by regular Chinese workers to the EU with the ultimate goal of identifying ways to reducing them.

Social Media Research:
Monitoring irregular migration trends

In China, a growing number of Chinese travellers rely on the Internet to obtain migration-related information. This goes together with the steady development of internet communications and technologies that is affecting the way in which individuals access information and purchase services including support for the visa application process.

Resources found on the internet are genuine and valuable, but the anonymity of internet services also offers fraudulent businesses opportunities to a number of service providers. IOM undertook an internet analysis to enhance a comprehensive understanding of online irregular migration services offered to prospective migrants heading to the Schengen Zone.

This research targeted selected Chinese internet and social media platforms, IOM was able to identify and analyse trends about irregular migration services, as well as relevant information about providers offering these services.

TOOLs AND RESOURCES

AMBASSADOR SWING OFFICIALLY LAUNCHES IOM PDO APP!

On his last official visit, former DG Swing took the opportunity to launch the IOM Pre-Departure Orientation APP (PDO APP), an APP designed by IOM to support Chinese workers going abroad. The APP provides practical support to Chinese migrants and their families and places useful information right in the palm of their hands.

To access the APP, follow IOM WeChat Official Account by scanning the QR code and clicking on the bottom right.

Step 1 SCAN

Step 2 CLICK

Step 3 BROWSE
On 24 October, IOM gathered together with other members and guests of the United Nations in China to celebrate the 2018 UN Day, which marks the entry into force of the UN Charter in 1945.

This year’s celebration, themed “Better Together – Partnerships for SDGs”, aimed to highlight the importance of partnerships to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. No Government, no individual, and no organization, will be able to achieve the SDGs alone.

Some 600 participants from Government agencies, the diplomatic corps, international organizations, the private sector, and media all gathered together to continue to reflect on the 2030 Agenda and how its 17 SDGs touch upon almost every aspect of development, including migration.

Migration is one of the defining features of the 21st century and significantly contributes to economic and social development everywhere. The 2030 Agenda’s core principle to "leave no one behind", including migrants, recognizes for the first time the contribution of migration to sustainable development.

On 18 December 2018, IOM celebrates International Migrants Day. Since 2000, IOM has used the event to acknowledge the positive contribution of migrants and their fundamental role in sustainable development. IOM encourages cooperation among governments around the world to ensure safe, orderly and dignified migration for all.

With this in mind, IOM has chosen “Migration with Dignity” as the theme of 2018 International Migrants Day.

The majority of world migrants move through safe channels, passing through borders with their passports in hands. Yet, the reality that we sometimes forget is that safe migration seems to be limited to a global elite. For many millions of others, the status of migrant turns into a stigma: discrimination, persecution, degradation and death are the interlinked results both of prejudice and the failure to effectively manage the phenomenon of migration for the benefit of both the migrants and the communities of origin and destination.

In China, under the framework of the MMSP project, IOM has worked together with the Chinese government, the EU and other partners to improve access to safe regular pathways. This includes providing clear information about the risks of irregular migration, promoting ethical recruitment for migrant workers, facilitating the establishment of international networks to crack down on human trafficking and irregular migration, as well as supporting migrants integration through pre-departure programmes.


goal 16 peaceful societies

Preventing trafficking in persons and offering survivors of trafficking safe and sustainable reintegration support efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls.


goal 10 reduce inequalities

Effective governance and regulation of migration is required to prevent abuse and exploitation of migrants, contain xenophobic hostility, and sustain social cohesion.


goal 17 partnership

Having specific and current data pertaining to a group’s specific needs, especially in developing countries, helps increase the capacity to deliver migrant services.


goal 8 decent work

Ethical recruitment, humane work conditions and safe migration helps enhance the impact of migrants on development.


goal 3 health

Migrants can be especially vulnerable to health risks and may not have access to health care in their destination.


goal 13 climate action

Migrants are often among the most affected by climate-related disaster. To better protect them, we are strengthening responses to disaster and climate change.


goal 5 gender equality

Migrant women and girls are especially vulnerable to human trafficking and gender-based violence. Supporting women’s participation and leadership reduces the risk of gender-based violence and inequalities.


goal 11 sustainable cities

Migrants help cities to thrive and become more vibrant, successful centers of economy and life. Local governments are encouraged to include migration and migrants in their urban development planning and implementation.
IOM staff wish to thank all the stakeholders that have made MMSP possible.

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LET’S KEEP IN TOUCH !!!
Follow us on IOM official WeChat Account by scanning the QR code.