The Role of Regional Migration Dialogues and the Global Migration and Development Agenda
- Results of an Empirical Study -
Empirical study

- **Focus on selected Regional Migration Dialogues (RMDs):**
  - Budapest Process
  - Prague Process
  - MTM dialogue
  - Rabat Process
  - The “Euromed Migration III” framework includes dialogue components and was for this reason included in the research

- **Interviews:** 21 semi-structured telephone-interviews with experts, state representatives and secretariats conducted June 2015–August 2015

- **Main topics:**
  - Development of respective RMD
  - Role of migration & development in the dialogue
  - Linkages between dialogues and GFMD
Regional Migration Dialogues and development

- Dialogues to the East:
  » The Budapest Process originally had a focus on migration control and EU accession. In line with the development of the migration discourse, and the geographic expansion, M&D has been established as a main priority
  » Prague Process included M&D as a main pillar of cooperation from the start
  » Gradual inclusion of stakeholders from the development field

- Dialogues to the South:
  » M&D issues are at the forefront
  » Diaspora engagement key element of migration policies
  » European Member States show growing interest in diaspora policies of other countries
Key issues discussed

- Diaspora involvement becoming part of development strategy
- Growing importance of private sector in diaspora involvement
- From border management to managed legal labour migration as a tool for development
- Pre-departure measures as main element of prevention of irregular migration
- Circular migration to foster mobility
- Skills recognition and development in cooperation with sending and receiving countries
- Re-admission, sustainable return and re-integration
Involvement of stakeholders from the development field

- Broad range of development stakeholders: Ministries, governmental development agencies, NGOs, diaspora organisations, private sector
- Participation of development stakeholders on ad-hoc base in all dialogues, focusing on provision of expertise
- The two policy fields have different traditions of civil society involvement; and different policy frameworks and discourses
- Diaspora ministries or state secretariats lacking in many European countries
- The broadening of themes in dialogues requires involvement of stakeholders also from other sectors (i.e. trade, education, labour, agriculture)
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and RMDs

- Goal 10.7: “Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”

- Interest in/discussion on debate on SDGs differs from dialogue to dialogue

- RMDs could have a role for implementation and follow-up (although no formal role in the development of SDGs)
The GFMD and Regional Migration Dialogues (RMDs)

- Usually different national stakeholders involved in regional and global frameworks respectively
- Limited regular exchange of information between different stakeholders at
  - national level and
  - regional and global level
- Thematic linkages between regional and global level perceived as useful
- Exchange of information and experience could be increased and improved
- Establishment of regular communication channels discussed
- The global platform could be used to exchange experience on content but also methodology
Impetus for policy discussion

- Common platforms for stakeholders from the migration and development fields needed (national, regional and global levels)
- Improved interaction between RMDs and global fora for migration and development (GFMD, HLD)
  - Development of consultation procedures
  - Regular channels for two-way information exchange
  - “Regional Migration Dialogues Day”
- More targeted cooperation with and involvement of civil society, diaspora organisations and private sector in RMDs
Thank you very much for your attention!

Sedef Dearing
Senior Regional Adviser – Silk Routes

Phone: +43 1 504 4677 2358
Fax: +43 1 504 4677 2375
E-mail: sedef.dearing@icmpd.org

Gonzagagasse 1, 5th floor
1010 Vienna
Austria
www.icmpd.org