



ICMPD

International Centre for
Migration Policy Development

**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



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Thank you very much for your attention!

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