



# Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region

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Mapping Report of Programmes and Projects

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**December 2013**



## **International Migration in the Arab Region: Mapping Report**

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## **Abstract**

Given the significance of international migration in the Arab region and the increase in programmatic responses to migration issues, the promotion of joint endeavours among international organizations on research and practical strategies framed to address the issue is crucial in reforming migration management systems in the Arab region and finding sustainable solutions for migration-related challenges and constraints. A Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region was therefore launched in 2013 to meet the need for improved inter-agency cooperation to harmonize the efforts among international and regional agencies and organizations working on different aspects of migration. The purpose of this report is to support this process by mapping the current state of international migration programming among member agencies of the Working Group in the Arab region. It serves to outline how different participating agencies approach the issue of migration, how they have been running migration programmes, projects and activities in the Arab region during the past five years, and what obstacles, challenges and gaps they have confronted. The report then focuses on what future initiatives they have in the pipeline and concludes with recommendations for an integrated approach to programme based on coordination of the complementary expertise of each member agency, and lessons learned.

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## I- Introduction

The Arab region has long been extensively shaped by migration flows, and Arab countries are points of origin, transit and destination of international migrants. These migration flows have the ability to enormously affect the social and economic development of the region, for example through the financial resources provided by migrants' remittances or migrants' role in filling labour or skill gaps. Migration also offers major opportunities to individuals by enabling them to increase their income and access opportunities otherwise inaccessible to them in their countries of origin.

However, the ability of migration to contribute to development depends on several factors, essentially the ability and willingness of governments and other stakeholders to efficiently manage migration flows through responsive migration policies which, at the same time, uphold migrant rights and take into consideration the society's concerns and needs. Migration in the region is frequently accompanied by numerous concerns with regards to the social, economic and legal frameworks in which it takes place, such as unemployment or underemployment, gender-based discrimination, working and living conditions, health issues, and so on. Therefore, the growing importance of the role of dialogue and collaboration between international and regional organizations and stakeholders working in the field of international migration in the Arab region must be recognized and supported. With its increasing understanding of the importance of international migration, the international community is gradually engaging in more research and programmatic responses to support countries in addressing migration-related issues. These issues are widely spread across different areas, and programmatic responses draw on different perspectives and expertise that cover these areas.

Recognizing the need to better cooperate and exchange research and practices to promote the synergies between the different, yet often complementary, approaches they take to international migration, several agencies working within and beyond the United Nations system in the Arab region have initiated a joint collaborative mechanism, the Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region, to effectively organize their programmatic responses to the specific needs of the countries they cover. The Working Group was launched in March 2013 as part of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM)<sup>1</sup> and is co-chaired by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the League of Arab States (LAS). The Working Group brings together several member agencies of the Global Migration Group, as well as other interested regional agencies such as the Arab Labour Organization (ALO).

Members of the Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region include regional offices of the following organizations (listed alphabetically):

- The Arab Labour Organization (ALO)
- The International Labour Organization (ILO), Regional Office for Arab States

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<sup>1</sup> For further information on the RCM, see [www.escwa.un.org/rcm/index.asp](http://www.escwa.un.org/rcm/index.asp)

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM), Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
- The League of Arab States (LAS)
- The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Regional Office for the Middle East
- The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Regional Bureau of Arab States
- The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Office for North Africa
- The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Regional Office for West Asia
- The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)
- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Arab States Regional Office
- The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Regional Office for Arab States
- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), MENA Bureau
- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
- The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Arab States Regional Office
- The World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

In order to contribute to a better understanding of international migration in the Arab region and to develop a common approach towards migration phenomena, a mapping exercise has been undertaken to examine the work of the participating agencies in the Working Group on normative and technical migration-related programmes, projects, and activities that they have been undertaking during the last five years. This report is the outcome of this exercise and serves to outline how different participating agencies approach the issue of migration, how they have been running migration programmes, projects and activities in the Arab region during the past five years, and what obstacles, challenges and gaps they have confronted. The report also describes what future initiatives they have in the pipeline and concludes with recommendations and lessons learned.

## **II- Data Collection Methods**

A qualitative research methodology was used for the mapping exercise. This qualitative approach aimed to take the varying practices of the participating agencies of the Working Group into account. A structured survey instrument was designed and administered to focal points in each participating agency in order to collect information on the agency's background and approach to migration, its programmatic responses in the field of international migration, and the challenges or obstacles it faced during the implementation or the preparation of its projects and programmes. The surveys were either filled in electronically by the participants or administered through telephone or face-to-face interviews.

Focal points from ILO, IOM, LAS, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNECA, UNESCWA, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNODC, UN-Women and WHO provided their insights on the work of their respective organizations on which this report is based.

A qualitative assessment will be utilized in this mapping report in order to analyze this information. This descriptive report will thus outline the activities, projects and programmes of the different agencies, in addition to key challenges and gaps, future initiatives, and concluding remarks, to be used as a basis for identifying needs and priority areas and organizing forthcoming collaborative efforts between international and regional organizations on the issue of international migration in the Arab region.

### III- Approaches to International Migration

Each organization in the Working Group develops its programmes, projects and activities related to international migration according to a specific and unique perspective. However, these perspectives, although defined by mandates and primary areas of focus, are highly complementary. In particular, a common point among the agencies is that their programmatic responses to issues of international migration mostly take a human rights perspective, recognizing that migrants' rights need further protection and promotion. The experiences of the members of the Working Group have shown that cooperation and data sharing are critical in promoting synergies and minimizing duplication in migration-related initiatives in the region.

Most agencies of the Working Group cover Middle Eastern and North African countries, even though not all of them reach all 22 countries of the Arab region.

The **International Labour Organization (ILO)** mainly focuses on introducing proper conduct in workplaces and encouraging decent employment opportunities, with labour migration being a central concern. Thus, ILO is a rights-based organization that has developed and oversees conventions on several concerns of labour migration, such as wages, social security, and other issues of labour protection. The Middle East Regional Office of the ILO currently has a portfolio of recently launched and on-going projects on labour migration with a combined budget of US\$ 8-9 million.

The work on international migration of the **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** focuses on promoting humane and orderly migration by providing services and advice to governments and migrants. IOM works to ensure the orderly and humane governance of migration in four key areas: migration and development, facilitating migration, regulating migration, and addressing forced migration. The IOM Constitution gives explicit recognition to the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as to the right of freedom of movement of persons. IOM also works to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, be they refugees, displaced persons, or other uprooted people. IOM is engaged in assisting governments in



enhancing their migration management systems, providing support with capacity building and technical cooperation in migration and border management, including the humanitarian border management model to be applied in crisis scenarios. Cross-cutting activities include the promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants' rights, migration health and the gender dimension of migration. IOM's Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) provides policy, technical and administrative support to 1,400 staff working on 335 projects in 13 countries in the region. In 2012, expenditures for IOM's programming in MENA amounted to more than USD 147 million.

The ***League of Arab States (LAS)*** has been active in helping the Arab region develop economically and culturally, while finding solutions to resolve conflicts within and outside the League. It offers a framework for the Arab countries to cooperate on issues related to migration and human mobility within the region, and with sending and receiving regions. LAS focuses on developing more effective policies for utilizing migration in favour of Arab regional development, integrating expatriates in national development plans and building bridges of dialogue. The importance of the issue of international migration to LAS has been clear in the past decade, as the declarations of Arab summits have consistently included references to international migration and Arab expatriates.

The ***Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)*** aims at advancing global progress in achieving targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support and at halting and reversing the spread of HIV. Its approach to international migration takes a human rights perspective. This issue is considerably important due to several socio-economic concerns that make migrants more vulnerable to HIV as well as various legal, policy or socioeconomic obstacles hindering their access to HIV services. Thus UNAIDS' work covers technical support, advocacy to increase migrants' access to HIV services, and enable them to protect themselves from HIV, as well as monitoring how HIV responses respond to their needs. Key issues faced by migrants that make them vulnerable to HIV infection and hinder their access to services include: the lack of social support for these people and their isolation, sexual violence and abuse, poor migration conditions, lack of access to information services, discrimination and prejudice, HIV testing of migrants for entry, stay or residence purpose, deportation and other HIV related travel restrictions.

The ***United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*** helps build nations that can survive crises, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life, while coordinating global and national efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals. UNDP leads the United Nations' efforts at national levels with regards to issues of poverty reduction and environmental sustainability, as well as many other issues. For UNDP, the nexus between migration and development is critical, both in terms of international and internal migration flows. In the Arab region, UNDP does not focus on stand-alone projects on migration per se, but rather development projects which touch on issues of migration whether directly or indirectly. By participating in joint activities and conducting research and advocacy, UNDP seeks to improve the understanding of the complex effects of migration on developing countries.

The ***United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)*** works on promoting the economic and social development of its member states, fostering intra-regional integration, and promoting

international cooperation for Africa's development. UNECA's objectives are mainly policy change, information and experience sharing, and capacity building of governments. Its approach to migration is to assist its member states in mainstreaming migration in national and regional development plans and strategies. The Commission's objective is to develop knowledge and advance understanding of migration issues in Africa. Within its work, UNECA targets policymakers, planners, researchers and other strategic actors on migration in Africa in order to strengthen their ability to develop policies and interventions that maximize the benefits of migration whilst minimizing the costs.

The ***United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)*** supports economic and social development in 17 Arab countries and promotes cooperation between them while ensuring interaction between Western Asia and other regions in the world. Migration is cross-cutting across the work of UNESCWA. In particular, the Organization approaches it from a social development perspective with a particular focus on the rights of migrants, the integration of migration into development strategies and the support of inter and intra-regional dialogue on migration. UNESCWA works on projects related to migration, has represented all regional commissions on migration in the Global Migration Group, and has focused on international migration and development as part of the preparations for the High-Level Dialogue in 2013.

The ***United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)*** supports governments in accomplishing population-related tasks, including censuses, surveys and population and development-related research and analysis. One of the key areas of focus is international migration. UNFPA believes there is an inextricable link between population dynamics, international migration and development, and international migration is linked to international economic, political and cultural change which plays an important role in determining the flow of people between countries.

The ***United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)*** promotes socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the aim of providing adequate shelter for all. It approaches the issue of international migration through its mandate to monitor urban development in cities and trends which impact urban populations economically, socially and physically. Migration, human mobility and remittances can have a great impact on shaping cities, with regards to the above issues. UN-Habitat also works on the right of migrants and their families for adequate housing.

The ***United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)*** assists states in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime and terrorism. Its thematic approach to international migration can be grouped into two main categories: programming in response to human trafficking and migrant smuggling, and working on ensuring and promoting the implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (TIP Protocol) and of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (SOM Protocol).

The ***United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)*** supports inter-governmental bodies in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms and helps member states in implementing these standards. It interacts with the issue of international

migration from a gender-based and human rights perspective. UN-Women believes that migrant women are sometimes subject to several constraints, and they can be considered a vulnerable group. It considers various issues that can be related to gender and migration, especially trafficking and smuggling, labour migration, refugees and displaced persons.

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the UN system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends. The issue of health and migration has concerned WHO for a number of years. Most recently, this concern has focused on the impacts of the globalization of labour markets and the emigration of health workers from developing countries. WHO has thus tackled the issue of migration through strengthening health systems and protecting the rights of migrants especially in the area of health and migration.

#### **IV- International Migration Programmes, Projects and Activities**

The work of different agencies and organizations of the Working Group involves developing programmes and projects involving activities such as workshops, trainings, and information sessions that serve to respond to the diverse issues in the field of international migration. With the purpose of identifying and exposing these programmatic responses, the section below categorizes them into thematic groups. Given the fact that migration is a multidimensional phenomenon, some programmes, projects and activities can simultaneously address more than one issue.

##### **1. Labour Migration**

Millions of people are seeking better working and living opportunities globally, whether they are skilled or unskilled workers. As globalization progresses, increasing numbers of migrants are crossing borders for employment, which creates a global challenge in terms of requiring stakeholders to develop better labour migration policies and meet the needs of migration management. In the Arab region, the growth of the oil- and natural resource-rich countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council have drawn in enormous numbers of migrants from both within and beyond the Arab region. Meanwhile, historical links and labour market needs in some European countries have meant that large numbers of migrants from North Africa have moved to these countries to work.

Besides affecting migrant workers directly, this issue also has a great impact on local development of both sending and receiving countries. Migrant workers often work abroad with the specific aim of sending money back to their countries of origin. As a result, Arab countries received almost US\$50 billion

in remittances in 2013, with most of this flowing to the developing Arab countries.<sup>2</sup> Meanwhile, the presence of migrant workers in countries of destination to fill labour force and skill gaps, particularly the GCC countries which had low population and skill bases, has been essential to the development of these countries. However, labour migration in the Arab region takes place in a difficult context. Because of the limited implementation of international human rights and labour standards in the Arab region, migrant workers face many challenges. These include unjust national governance frameworks, such as the *Kafala* (sponsorship) system, limited access to justice, information and services, along with their subjection and exploitation by private employment agencies. Therefore, several organizations have been working on labour migration through various projects and activities, such as capacity building to governments and/or communities, training, advocating for policy reform and assisting migrants. Moreover, the lack of data on labour migration means that there is still a limited understanding of its effects in the Arab region.

To respond to these challenges, the **International Labour Organization (ILO)** has been putting extensive efforts into labour migration activities and projects during the past five years. It has developed a study on the working and living conditions of migrant workers in the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, built on surveys developed in partnership with national institutions. Since 2011, ILO has also been involved in a project funded by the US Department of State on the protection of migrant workers' rights in Jordan.<sup>3</sup> The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is also a major funding agency for several ILO projects. It is currently funding two major projects:

- The first revolves around the promotion of the Convention 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers and its extension to all Arab countries; specifically, it aims to develop legislation in Arab countries of destination in line with the Convention and train people responsible for its implementation.
- The second is a recently initiated project, referred to as "MAGNET" (Migration and Governance Network), which has three components: (i) developing a research network to bring together reputable research institutions in the Arab region and developing a database of macro-level indicators of labour migration and a quantitative survey on trafficking; (ii) raising awareness on labour migration issues through media and reinforcing service delivery to migrant workers; and (iii) building capacity of trade unions and civil society organizations (CSOs) in taking up prominent issues to better counter forced labour and human trafficking.

Other ILO projects also benefited Ethiopian domestic workers in the region. Indian, Nepali and Bangladeshi workers in the Arab region were also targeted as part of the "Work in Freedom"

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<sup>2</sup> Calculation based on World Bank staff calculation based on data from IMF Balance of Payments Statistics database and data releases from central banks, national statistical agencies, and World Bank country desks, October 2013

<sup>3</sup> For further information on the project, see *Protecting Migrant Workers' Rights in Jordan*, at [www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/WCMS\\_213470/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/WCMS_213470/lang-en/index.htm)

programme,<sup>4</sup> and ILO has been involved in many inter-regional projects, namely one in Switzerland on domestic workers in the Arab region, and another on skills-matching for low-skilled Asian workers in the region. ILO also serves as an associate to IOM on the PAVE project (Project to Protect and Assist Vulnerable and Exploited Migrant Workers in the Middle East) through assisting in running training courses for governmental bodies.

The **International Organization for Migration (IOM)**'s work on labour migration in the Arab region is very diverse. It involves training and educating senior officials on how to manage migration flows and facilitate bilateral labour programmes, as well as providing skills trainings for migrant workers, especially youth, and building capacities to match workers with employers domestically and internationally. For instance, it is providing service training on international standards of domestic workers and identifying employment opportunities for Egyptian nationals. IOM also works on protecting the most vulnerable, exploited and trafficked migrant workers through the provision of comprehensive direct assistance and capacity-building efforts, preventing migrant exploitation through capacity building, awareness raising and research, and fostering dialogue and cooperation between labour sending and labour receiving countries to protect migrant workers' rights.

The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** is engaged in a joint inter-agency process with OHCHR and ILO to explore the capacity development needs of institutions in Saudi Arabia for various rights issues, including migrant workers' rights. The assessment report for this process was produced in June 2013 and is currently being reviewed by the government of Saudi Arabia. A programme is expected to be launched in 2014 based on this assessment report. Most recently, Saudi Arabia joined the Human Rights Council in Geneva, which also raises the importance of issues of human rights and puts them on top of the national agenda.

The **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)** developed a regional study on the mobility of labour in the Maghreb region which was presented at an expert group meeting in Morocco in 2011. The publication presented the links between labour migration, regional integration and development, as well as tackling the obstacles and constraints of labour migration in the region and opportunities of integration before coming up with relevant recommendations to labour mobility in the Maghreb region.<sup>5</sup>

The **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** collaborated with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to organize a joint conference on "Mobilizing Migrants' Skills for Development in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region" in Tunisia in May 2013. The conference aimed at analyzing and building on the brain gain versus brain drain of migration in the region. It looked into (i) recent migration trends within, outside and across the region; (ii) skills development and use; (iii) economic migration match with labour market needs; and (iv) availability and

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<sup>4</sup> For further information on the project, see *Launch of DFID-ILO "Work in Freedom" programme* at [www.ilo.org/global/meetings-and-events/events/WCMS\\_217224/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/meetings-and-events/events/WCMS_217224/lang-en/index.htm)

<sup>5</sup> For further information on the publication, see UNECA, *La Mobilité des Travailleurs dans l'Espace Maghrébien*, 2011

quality of statistics; and developed policy options on how different actors can harness the skills of migrants for development. The conference involved OECD member countries, experts and academics from the Arab region, international organizations (UNESCWA, LAS, ILO, UNDP, World Bank, IOM, etc.) and international experts. UNFPA also works to develop strategies to improve human capital in countries of origin, both as a tool for development and a business strategy for labour exchange with employers abroad.

The **United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)** has established a longstanding cross-regional programme between countries of origin and destination for migrant domestic workers from the Arab and Asia-Pacific regions. The programme targets the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and Lebanon, in cooperation with the Bangkok Regional Office. Its activities consist of creating standardized contracts for domestic workers, training labour attachés in embassies, organizing information sessions for migrants before they leave their home countries, examining the possibilities of establishing hotlines in some countries, and organizing a meeting in Sri Lanka with officials from sending and receiving countries to continue dialogue on standardized contracts.

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** has highlighted that the migration of health professionals is increasingly recognized as an important area in the context of addressing challenges related to strengthening human resources for health at national and global levels. While migration is seen as a natural process occurring within realms of human rights, concerns have been raised about its ethical dimensions in terms of implications for health systems in countries of origin. The demand for health workers is increasing in high-income countries, where health systems can depend heavily on doctors, nurses and other health workers who have been trained abroad. At the same time, migration of health workers may result in financial losses and weaken health systems in the countries of origin. Therefore, following the World Health Assembly request to develop a voluntary code of practice (resolution WHA57.19), the WHO initiated a process and discussions around developing a global instrument to help tackle migration challenges. The Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel was adopted by the Assembly in 2010 as a voluntary multilateral framework to tackle health worker migration.<sup>6</sup> At the regional level, the human resources for health technical unit has held inter-country workshops on the code of practice and is currently providing technical assistance to the countries.

Hence, programmatic responses on issues related to labour migration have been fairly diverse, from developing statistics and studies to raising awareness, training officials and offering direct assistance to migrant labour. Nonetheless, extensive efforts are still needed to find alternatives and lobby governments to abolish the *Kafala* system that places migrant labour in the Arab region at risk of vulnerability and to implement international labour conventions.

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<sup>6</sup> The Global Code is available from: [www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/3090/1/A63\\_R16-en.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/3090/1/A63_R16-en.pdf)

## ***2. Migration and Development***

Migration processes not only impact migrants themselves, but also affect the development of countries of origin and destination. Positive effects of migration on countries of origin range from reducing unemployment, the inflow of remittances and increased trade flows, whereas negative effects can include loss of skilled labour resulting in reduced productivity and disparities in incomes. Thus, the management of the impacts of migration needs regional and international interventions, in order to mutually benefit sending and receiving countries. Remittances are widely considered as a significant matter in the migration phenomenon and its relationship with development. Remittance flows provide a substantial link between migrants and their home countries' development. Therefore, countries find it vital to better manage remittance flows and create opportunities for development. Nevertheless, Arab countries, although showing interest in issues associated with remittances, lack research on the topic, and major countries in the region do not have accurate or sufficient data on migrants' remittances. Beyond remittances, programmes to engage the substantial human capital of Arab expatriate communities in the development of their countries of origin through promoting their links with their countries of origin are also important tools for promoting development in Arab countries.

**IOM** is engaged in a number of projects throughout the region aimed at enhancing the development impact of migration as well as the capacity of governments and civil society organizations to harness the potential economic benefits of migration for sustainable development. Active projects include:

- Multi-year projects in Tunisia and Morocco to build government capacity to effectively mainstream migration into development planning in order to ensure that migration policies and programmes align with each country's broader development objectives;
- Development of comprehensive Migration & Development Training Modules: This project, developed in cooperation with Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, and Iraq as well as four West African countries, aims to develop a comprehensive four to five day training programme to build knowledge and capacity of relevant stakeholders to better understand and engage in issues surrounding migration and development. The project delivered two trainings with the new material in Tunisia and Morocco and there are plans to collaborate with **LAS** to deliver three trainings using the material in 2014;
- Supporting Moroccan expatriates in Belgium to develop and implement business ideas in communities of origin in Northern Morocco by providing both technical and financial support to selected projects. The initiative also includes a research component to better document migration impacts on development in Morocco.

**LAS'** work on migration and development varies between policy coordination between member states, communicating with Arab communities abroad and publishing relevant studies and reports. During 2008 and 2009, LAS organized two meetings of Arab Ministers of Migration and Expatriates Affairs. The first discussed the general assessment of the motives and repercussions of migration and the status of Arab migrants abroad. It mainly considered drawing up an Arab strategy to deal with the issues of migration and migrants. The second adopted a number of recommendations regarding coordination among Arab

countries regarding migration, expatriates and Arab communities in foreign countries, exchanging experiences, supporting rights of expatriates and Arab communities abroad, correcting incorrect conceptions about Arabs abroad, defending Arab causes and making use of skilled Arab individuals residing abroad in promoting sustainable development in the Arab countries.

In 2010, LAS also arranged the 'First Conference of Arab Expatriates: A Bridge for Communication'. The conference discussed several issues, mainly the role of the CSOs in the advancement of the Arab Communities and the role of the Arab Expatriates in the development and strengthening of the dialogue of civilizations, cultures and religions.

In 2012, LAS, in collaboration with the Society for the Advancement of Science and Technology in the Arab World in the US (SASTA), held a conference on Arab Expatriate Scientists under the theme "When Arab Minds Integrate" in 2012, which resulted in launching an "Initiative of Arab Expatriate Scientists" aiming to implement projects in several fields that enhances development in the Arab Region.

**LAS and IOM** conducted a study in 2012 focusing on specific aspects of the complex relationships that exist between expatriate communities and their home countries in the MENA region, highlighting in particular the various kinds of social, political, and economic engagement that define these relationships.

**LAS, UNESCWA and IOM** organized a regional consultative meeting on Migration and Development in the Arab region in 2013 in preparation for the second High-level Dialogue on migration and development which was held in October 2013. This meeting targeted all Arab countries with the aim of creating a common regional position between them in an outcome document, through a regional consultative meeting supported by recent research and expert analysis on the subject. The meeting was attended by official representatives of fifteen Arab countries from authorities in charge of migration, expatriates affairs and communities living abroad and authorities in charge of labour in some Arab countries as well as representatives of Arab, regional and international organizations, civil society organizations and experts. The outcome document agreed at the meeting and presented at the High-Level Dialogue identified challenges and opportunities related to migration and development and contained commitments to further engagement and dialogue among Governments on the issues of migration and development.<sup>7</sup>

**UNDP** is implementing the Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI) founded in 2008, in partnership with **IOM, ILO, UNFPA, UNHCR and UN-Women**. The initiative is funded by the European Union and the Swiss Development Agency. The first phase of JMDI ran from 2008-2012 and focused its activities in 16 countries. The second phase, building on successes from the first phase, started in December 2012 and will support local authorities and civil society organizations in the Arab region

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<sup>7</sup> See <http://css.escwa.org.lb/sdd/3173/3-1.pdf>



including Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria to mainstream migration issues into local development policy and planning.

**UNECA** developed three regional studies on migration and development in 2009, 2011 and 2013. The first tackled the issue of international migration and development in Africa, dealing with the financial crisis, human rights and regional integration. The study of 2011 focused on cooperation and policy dialogue to promote regional integration and migration and development in Africa. The final regional study examined how migration is mainstreamed in national development policies and strategies in Africa. UNECA also assists member states to assess the status of how policies and programmes have addressed migration and to use the results to sensitize policymakers to mainstream migration into development policies.

One of **UNESCWA's** main projects on international migration was the global Development Account project (2009-2012) on Strengthening National Capacities to Deal with International Migration and Development, Maximizing Development Benefits and Minimizing Negative Impact, which involved all UN regional commissions led by United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC). The project targeted ten countries (six GCC countries, plus Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon). It aimed to build member countries' capacity to mainstream migration into their development strategies and improve the availability of data on international migration. While working on capacity building of governments, two regional reports and a database on migration experts and research centres in the region were produced.<sup>8</sup> Under the project, UNESCWA also organized a regional workshop on "International Migration and Development in the Arab Region: Integrating International Migration into Development Strategies"<sup>9</sup>, and an inter-regional workshop on "Strengthening Dialogue between ESCWA and ESCAP Countries on International Migration and Development"<sup>10</sup>. The former workshop introduced the concepts of mainstreaming migration into development and presented the outcome of studies carried out on a range of migration issues, while the latter was organized to strengthen dialogue between the countries covered by UNESCWA and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) on migration and development, based on the existing inter-regional migration flows and exchanges between Asian countries of origin and Arab countries of destination.

UNESCWA's other relevant projects include one on remittances which deals with this issue in two parallel perspectives. The first objective of the project is to improve finance for development projects through the use of remittances; and the second to strengthen capacities of stakeholders to formulate and adopt policies to enhance the impact of migrants' remittances on development in the Arab region. The project has developed six qualitative studies that can be used as a foundation for governments to

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<sup>8</sup> The database can be accessed through [cmrsdb.aucegypt.edu/index.php/eng/Researchers-Research-Centers/Research-Experts](http://cmrsdb.aucegypt.edu/index.php/eng/Researchers-Research-Centers/Research-Experts)

<sup>9</sup> For further information on the workshop, see [www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNum=1321E](http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNum=1321E)

<sup>10</sup> For further information on the workshop, see [www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNum=1421E](http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNum=1421E)

create rules and regulations that could enhance the impact of remittances in financing for development. Examples of the project outputs include a framework of regulations and recommendations for the Lebanese government and a training workshop to build the capacity of Lebanese stakeholders. Another aspect that the project highlights is the importance of incorporating the financial needs of the diaspora communities into development planning and the need to create new financial markets and products tailored for their needs. This project is implemented in partnership with national and governmental counterparts in each country, with UNECA covering activities in Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco, and also with IOM and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). It is mainly funded by the UN-DESA Capacity Development Office in New York.

**UNFPA** has also been involved in fostering policy dialogue with other international organizations and governmental counterparts, such as Egypt, Tunisia, Libya and Jordan. Participants in the dialogue which took place in January 2013 examined strategies that can be used to channel migrants' skills into local development. They looked through various aspects, such as inclusive development, matching education with labour market needs, local employment and governance. They also discussed tools suggesting better understanding of how remittances can be used to foster local development within a "win-win-win approach" for inclusive tripartite cooperation (national governments, migrants and employers) in order to reduce the gap between the North and the South to ensure "brain gain" at all levels.

**WHO** and **IOM** collaborated with the Spanish Ministry of Health and Social Policy on the 2010 Global Consultation, in order to address the complex challenges of the health of populations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Global Consultation came as a result of the 2008 World Health Assembly Resolution on the Health of Migrants, which asks Member States to take action on migrant-sensitive health policies and practices, and directs WHO to promote migrant health on the international agenda, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and sectors. As part of WHO's efforts on strengthening health systems in the countries in the region, the issue of migration of health workers is of paramount importance, especially in the Gulf. The countries in the region have been supported by WHO to establish the 'Human Resources for Health Observatory'. To date, Bahrain, Jordan, Oman and Sudan have established the Observatory, and work is in progress in Palestine and Yemen and initiated in Egypt and Bahrain. The Observatory aims to document the movement of human resources for health especially in the Gulf region which heavily relies on international health workers.

In conclusion, migration can encourage positive development in Arab countries; however, their impact depends on the understanding of the potential impacts of migration among governments and policymakers and action to harness the positive impacts and minimize the negative ones. A consensus has emerged on the need to mainstream migration-related issues in national development planning in countries of the Arab region, thus allowing migrants' issues to be incorporated into all aspects of human

and societal development.<sup>11</sup> However, much more research and capacity building is needed in this regard, making this a priority area for future work.

### ***3. Irregular Migration***

Movements that take place outside the regulatory norms of the countries of origin, destination or transit have also been the centre of attention of several agencies of the Working Group, given the importance of these movements in the Arab region. The agencies of the working group consider numerous factors in this regard, mainly promoting regular migration, border management, capacity building, orientations and trainings. However, the number of international and regional organizations working on irregular migration management and prevention has been very limited, and there is a need for more research and data gathering. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) programmatic responses on issues related to irregular migration have been trying to fill these needs.

**IOM** works on irregular migration issues through promoting the rule of law in migration, and through promoting a rights-based approach to migration and border management, using national and regional advocacy strategies and undertaking technical capacity building. The Organization supports governmental efforts in strengthening state authority at borders, through assessing migration and border management systems, including the effectiveness of border controls and migration management infrastructure and enhancing the capacities of law enforcement personnel in order to provide more efficient migration management. The overarching aim of immigration and border management initiative is to support states in curbing irregular migration and cross border crimes such as smuggling of migrants. As an example, **IOM** assisted and continues to assist the Government of Iraq and the Government of Tunisia in developing a holistic strategy to enhance border and migration management and border control services. In areas subject to high migration push factors, IOM also organizes activities to raise awareness about the risks of, and alternatives to, irregular migration. Community development projects are also undertaken in these areas to help mitigate migration push factors and provide alternatives to irregular migration.

**IOM** recently launched the Migration Coordination Task Force for the Eastern African Migratory Route and North Africa (MTF-NOAH). MTF-NOAH will advocate for and help to facilitate a coherent and regionally coordinated migration management response to the increasingly complex migration flows along the Eastern African migration route and North Africa. The **IOM**-led Task Force will work closely with humanitarian partners and governmental authorities across the region, at the central, local and regional levels, to promote and help uphold the human rights of migrants. The European Commission (EC) has noted the importance of MTF-NOAH in its recent communiqué on the EC Task Force Mediterranean. Furthermore, from 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> December 2013, under the Framework of the **UN-LAS**

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<sup>11</sup> See for example, the Final Declaration of the Regional Consultation on International Migration and Development in the Arab Region, which emphasizes “the need to integrate migration into national development plans in countries of origin and countries of destination”. Available from: <http://css.escwa.org.lb/sdd/3173/3-1.pdf>

Collaboration Agreement, negotiated in Vienna 2012 and to which IOM is an observer, **IOM** co-funded the event “Workshop for LAS member States in areas of International Migration, Refugees and Human Displacement” with **UNHCR** and the **LAS**.<sup>12</sup>

**UNECA**, on the other hand, tackled the issue using a different perspective. It has conducted quantitative and qualitative studies on irregular migration, taking into account the economic behaviour of irregular migrants who generally exhibit a strong tendency to save and transfer their savings to countries of origin.

**WHO** works closely with all partners under the International Health Regulation which is a legally binding document to address health security. The purpose is to protect the spread of epidemics and cross-border communicable diseases, especially the prevention and control of pandemics. The organization has an work plan approved by its governing body to ensure that national capacities are built in protecting health of the people regardless of their status. WHO strongly supports all countries in enhancing their disease surveillance system and ensuring increased vaccination coverage, including during emergencies. Irregular migration flows are an important consideration in this context, as they may have considerable health consequences, especially where migrants are unable or unwilling to access health services. The pandemic of influenza due to the A (H1N1) virus of 2009 has reemphasized the links between population mobility and the spread of disease.

The growing numbers of irregular migrants in the Arab region point to a need for more programmatic responses that aim at finding sustainable solutions for this issue with the collaboration of policymakers to reduce these irregular flows.

#### ***4. Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)***

The widespread and longstanding political instability and turmoil in the Arab region has driven large numbers of people from their homes to seek protection and thus become refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). As of 7 January 2014, there were over 1.77 million registered Syrian refugees in Arab countries, a number that is growing on daily basis.<sup>13</sup> Meanwhile, large numbers of Iraqis and Palestinians remain in situations of forced migration, and countries such as Egypt and Yemen face large influxes of refugees from outside the region. Thus there is an increasing need to protect and assist these refugees and IDPs, as well as to provide support to the countries and communities in Arab countries that host them. Many of the Working Group agencies, such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the League of Arab States (LAS), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Health Organization (WHO), have been working on programmatic responses to the humanitarian needs that the issue poses.

Programmes dealing with emergencies and post-crisis management are essential in the region. For example, **IOM** has been providing emergency evacuation, humanitarian aid and resettlement services

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<sup>12</sup> For further information on IOM's immigration and border management projects, see [www.iom.int/cms/tcm](http://www.iom.int/cms/tcm)

<sup>13</sup> UNHCR, 2014, *Syrian Refugees in the Region*, <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=3929>

as well as promoting stability through quick-impact activities, psychosocial support and economic programming. In 2013, IOM assisted with the resettlement of 5,640 Iraqi refugees to Canada and with the repatriation of 960 stranded migrants to their home countries. Furthermore, in 2013 IOM distributed non-food items to 700,000 IDPs in host communities and collective shelters in 12 Syrian governorates. During the 2011 Libya crisis an estimated 800,000 migrants crossed the Libyan borders to escape the conflict; out of those almost 320,000 were assisted by IOM, including maritime evacuations assistance. IOM is the lead of the Global Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster for Natural Disasters in which it co-chairs with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). IOM also actively participates in the Logistics, Early Recovery, Health, Emergency Shelter and Protection Clusters. While IOM was quick to provide humanitarian relief to those in need, with the end of the emergency phase, programmes were set up to promote stabilization through quick-impact income-generating activities and to enhance service delivery, strengthen migrant-inclusive health and well-being services and capacity building mechanisms.

Programmes and projects of some of the Working Group's organizations have also focused on governments and officials. For instance, **LAS**, in cooperation with **IOM** and **UNHCR**, has initiated a capacity building programme for officials in Arab member states in the field of international migration, refugees and IDPs. The programme targeted eight countries at its first stage (Egypt, Jordan, Sudan, Yemen, Somalia, Lebanon, Palestine and Iraq) and was held at the Headquarters of LAS in December 2013.

An on-going **UNDP** initiative in concert with other UN agencies is also significant in this regard, since it aims to assess the development impacts of Syrian refugees and forced migrants in neighbouring countries in the region. This includes launching a new UNDP Sub-Regional Facility for Response to the Syrian Crisis, which is largely focused on the development implications of the Syrian crisis in Jordan and Lebanon, and the establishment of resilience-based development responses. In Jordan for example, UNDP is engaged with several partner UN agencies as part of concerted United Nations Country Team (UNCT) efforts to support the Government in assessing development implications of the Syrian crisis. A needs assessment report was finalized in 2013 by national partners with support of the UNCT in Jordan, as basis for the development of a National Resilience Plan by national partners to be endorsed in 2014.

**WHO** works closely with governments to assess and assist health services provided to populations and refugees. WHO has continued its work as lead agency for the Health Cluster, working with partners, governments and communities in order to reduce avoidable loss of life, burden of disease, and disability in countries affected by crises or vulnerable to them. The Organization has mobilized resources to facilitate the access to health services of populations displaced or affected as a result of crises, by targeting refugees, IDPs, returnees, and host communities, in particular in Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. Efforts have also been made to integrate information concerning the health of displaced people into national health information systems. WHO is also responsible for technical work for Palestinian refugees with UNRWA. Moreover, WHO took part in the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS in accordance with the theme "People on the move – forced displacement and migrant populations".

The huge numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons are on a constant increase in the Arab region, a phenomenon which requires action on the part of the international community. Despite several efforts in camp management, shelter, health, education, nutrition and community services, urgent responses from international organizations are needed to meet the needs of affected populations.

## ***5. Gender and Mobility***

Gender plays a crucial role in structuring the process and outcomes of migration for individuals. Men and women migrate under different circumstances and may face different situations once they arrive at their destinations. For example, in the Arab region, the most important form of labour migration for men is to migration to undertake low-skilled work in masculinised sectors such as construction in GCC countries. Women who migrate are however more likely to work in more feminized sectors such as domestic work and services. Each of these gender-determined migration trajectories brings different challenges and opportunities as well as specific needs to which agencies should respond. Women in particular are considered a vulnerable group in migration since they can be victims of discrimination, trafficking, sexual abuse, or other phenomena. Migration can however also be empowering for women as well as men, and appropriate support can enable migrants from both genders to play a major role in development efforts. Recognizing the importance of gender in migration, most agencies have developed programmes, projects and activities to appropriately respond to the gender implications of migration.

**ILO** has been working on promoting the rights of women domestic workers in the Arab region. Its EU-funded project aims at better managing and monitoring international migration of labour as well as protecting the rights of domestic workers in Lebanon, in collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Labour, governmental bodies, NGOs and other UN agencies.

**IOM** mainstreams gender-related concerns across all of its programming and migration management activities. Through its regional PAVE project and other nationally implemented anti-trafficking projects is also, like ILO, working to not only protect the rights of migrant domestic workers but provide diverse and individualised direct assistance to those who have been abused, exploited and trafficked. This has also included the evacuation of vulnerable migrant domestic workers during the ongoing Syria crisis. At the same time, IOM realises that there is a gap in protection services for trafficked and abused males and is working to reconcile this; for example, through the establishment of shelter and other services for males. In its Immigration and Border management activities, IOM advocates for increasing the number of female police officers at the border and in patrol units, recognizing the considerable advantages that their presence bring in terms of effectiveness of operations.

**LAS** has also been promoting the participation of Arab expatriate communities in the development of the Arab region, through implementing a project entitled "The role of German women of Arab origin in transferring the Micro Project Management skills to Egyptian women". Launched in 2011, the project aims to enhance the level of Egyptian women's participation in the economy through acquiring

knowledge, skills and working style on small-scale projects by female Arab migrant entrepreneurs in Germany. LAS has widely disclosed and disseminated the outcomes of the project, which includes publications, lessons learned and relevant tangible and concrete results, a process that should benefit different stakeholders across the Arab world. The experience and lessons learned throughout the project are intended to serve as guidelines for other NGOs' strategies and programmes in the future.

Immigration regulations often implicitly disadvantage women and thus women are particularly prone to undertaking irregular migration, putting them in vulnerable situations. Hence, **UN-Women** has set up a project in 2012 on political and economic empowerment of women in North Africa, through providing opportunities for women (such as life-skills, trainings, capacity building, micro-credit schemes) as an alternative to embarking on irregular migration. UN-Women has also been engaging in advocacy work with other partners, namely mass media, religious leaders and grassroots communities, along with governments and stakeholders, to lobby for gender-sensitive policies in the legal systems and for a plan to implement Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

In many respects, the impacts of international migration on gender relations and the role of women are complex and diverse. Although issues of migrant women and their rights are more in focus in today's world, these efforts have not been translated into effective policies that protect and promote migrant women and their families. Migrant women have specific needs and conditions that must be taken into consideration and understood by international and regional actors in order to design projects and programmes to advance their rights and wellbeing.

## ***6. Migration and Health***

With increasing globalization trends, governmental institutions and societies are facing health issues associated with migration. These issues are attracting more attention due to their important implications on public health in the Arab region. Insecure migration processes can affect people's physical, psychological and mental health, especially where migrants are forced to live in poor quality or overcrowded housing, or undertake work in dangerous conditions. Moreover, migrants with health problems may face discrimination and segregation in receiving countries, thus preventing them from integrating in the society and from accessing appropriate health services. Finally, international migration can affect health systems in countries of origin and destination by providing new human resources for health, or facing them with new health profiles. In order to ensure that all people equally enjoy the right to the highest possible standard of health, international and regional organizations have been exerting extensive efforts in finding solutions to migration and health related problems.

**IOM** works with governments, civil society and the private sector in the MENA region to ensure the physical, mental and social well-being of migrants, by: (i) advocating to ensure governments enact health-inclusive migration management policies and programmes, as well as migrant-inclusive health policies and programmes; (ii) supporting the development of evidence-based national and regional policies to promote and protect the health of migrants; (iii) facilitating, providing and promoting equitable access of all migrants to comprehensive health care; (iv) raising awareness among

governments, regional organizations, and civil society and migrant groups on migrant health issues, and strengthening the technical, operational and coordination capacity of States and other stakeholders to develop and implement migrant health initiatives; and (v) facilitating and conducting research on migrants' health issues to ensure evidence-based programming, policy and dialogue. For instance, in 2011, IOM and the Egyptian Ministry of Health established a medical recovery unit in Greater Cairo. The recovery unit is an innovative pilot project aimed at providing comprehensive medical and psychological treatment for Egyptian and foreign victims of trafficking. IOM has also delivered training to all physicians and health care staff working at the recovery unit. This project provides a model for the provision of medical care to victims of trafficking, which can be replicated in other areas in Egypt, as well as in the region.

The **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)** has placed a strong emphasis on migration health in its programming and project development in the Arab region. In 2010, UNAIDS organized a sub-regional meeting on HIV and the vulnerability of mobile populations, which resulted in the September 2010 Djibouti Declaration of Commitment and Call for Action, calling for universal access to HIV services for mobile people, migrants and other marginalized populations residing or passing through the ports of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. UNAIDS has also collaborated with the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) (which includes governments of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda) on the organization of a meeting on health and HIV and AIDS in 2010. The meeting resulted in a Declaration, committing to increase and intensify health and migration programmes implementation.<sup>14</sup> Furthermore, UNAIDS collaborated on a Situation and Response Analysis produced by UNDP with IGAD and IOM on mobility, migration and HIV vulnerability.<sup>15</sup> Finally, UNAIDS is advocating for the removal of laws, policies, regulations and practices that specifically deny people entry, stay, residence, work or study on the basis of their HIV status, which are found in many Arab countries. This is a sensitive issue in the Arab region where the rules and restrictions both reflect and contribute to reinforcing stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV. They also present obstacles to effective HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for migrants, as many will hide and not access services in the fear of being deported if found to be HIV positive. Collaboration on the matter has been instigated with ILO on a project related to travel restrictions on entry and residence of migrant labour with health problems in the Gulf countries.

**UNFPA**, on the other hand, is examining the role of the different actors (destination countries, origin countries, local governments, home-town associations, diaspora associations, bilateral and regional cooperative mechanisms) in promoting skill mobilization and development, especially in improving health situations in countries of origin.

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<sup>14</sup> For further information on the Declaration, see

[www.igad.int/attachments/275\\_Declaration%20of%20the%205th%20Ministerial%20Committee%20Meeting%20on%20Health&HIV-AIDS.pdf](http://www.igad.int/attachments/275_Declaration%20of%20the%205th%20Ministerial%20Committee%20Meeting%20on%20Health&HIV-AIDS.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> The analysis can be accessed through

[www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/hiv aids/Mobility%20Migration%20and%20HIV%20Vulnerability%20Report%202012.pdf](http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/hiv aids/Mobility%20Migration%20and%20HIV%20Vulnerability%20Report%202012.pdf)



**WHO's** 1948 Constitution sets out the principle of Universal Health Coverage, which is integral to the Alma-Ata declaration of 1978 and the World Health Report produced by WHO in 2010 on "Health systems financing: the path to universal coverage". The Report refers to universal health coverage as providing all people with access to required health services (including prevention, promotion, treatment and rehabilitation) that is of sufficient quality, while ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship. In 2012, Ministers of Health of the East Mediterranean region endorsed a WHO regional resolution which emphasized the key role of health system strengthening in enabling countries to move towards universal health coverage, including through addressing the lack of policies addressing the migration of health workers. In the Arab region, WHO is currently working with countries to develop a roadmap of actions to accelerate progress towards universal health coverage. The principle of equity and fairness is at the heart of this approach where migrants and displaced are being included to ensure that they are part of health insurance scheme and receive appropriate services.

The nexus between migration and health, therefore, is gradually becoming more prominent among international and regional actors. However, despite various initiatives and programmes, health-affiliated matters are not fully covered, and migrant communities are still considered marginalized in the Arab region, which leads to several complications and challenges that can hinder development in both countries of origin and destination.

## ***7. Human Trafficking and Smuggling***

Migrants, especially when they migrate in an irregular situation, are extremely vulnerable to trafficking in persons, whether for labour, sexual, or other forms of criminal exploitation. This exploitation is a crime and a violation of the rights of the victim in and of itself; however, it can also be aggravated by the use of violence by traffickers. The international community has emphasized the importance of protecting and assisting trafficked and exploited migrants, since trafficking is considered a serious crime. Almost all Arab countries have ratified the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, showing the importance accorded to this issue; however, the phenomenon remains important in the Arab region. Apart from offering direct assistance to victims of trafficking, international and regional organizations have attempted to prevent trafficking situations through several means, such as raising awareness, empowering migrants with information and developing counter-trafficking laws and policies.

**ILO** has undertaken a study on trafficking in Jordan, Lebanon, UAE and Kuwait, which resulted in a publication "Tricked and Trapped: Human Trafficking in the Middle East". The publication discussed the process of trafficking, regional responses to the growing issue, and concluded with recommendations. Those include improving labour migration governance, extending legal coverage of vulnerable groups and improving prevention mechanisms.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> The publication can be accessed through [www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms\\_211214.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---arabstates/---ro-beirut/documents/publication/wcms_211214.pdf)

For its part, **IOM** has conducted trainings for law-enforcement officials, which included border management measures, in order to counter trafficking in several Arab countries such as Jordan and Tunisia. Trainings included guidance on aspects such as how to identify those in need of assistance, how to recognize refugees, how to run shelters for victims of trafficking, and how to provide health services in centres in special situations. The project consisted of capacity building activities, provision of equipment and training of border agencies. IOM is also trying to promote data sharing in the area of smuggling, and is working on the issue of trafficking through the Sinai, even though the issue has not yet been much discussed with the government of Egypt or African countries. IOM is also enhancing efforts to prosecute those involved in human trafficking and labour exploitation, including through providing support to legislative reform. IOM sought to focus its efforts in 2012 on working with national and regional bodies to ensure that criminal justice actors are provided with the knowledge and tools to prosecute cases.

**IOM** takes a multifaceted approach to addressing human trafficking and smuggling of migrants. Building on its individual commitment and global presence, IOM strengthens the capacities of its partners in government and civil society and sets operational standards to achieve sustainable results that will:

- Provide protection and empower trafficked women, men, girls and boys;
- Raise awareness and understanding of the issue; and
- Bring justice to trafficked persons.

**IOM** has been working to counter the trafficking in persons since 1994. Its primary aims are to prevent trafficking in persons, and to protect victims from the trade while offering them options of safe and sustainable reintegration and/or return to their home countries.

In recent years, **IOM** has maintained a strong focus on addressing the abuse and exploitation of migrants, especially the severe human rights violations suffered by trafficked persons. In 2012, the organization provided protection through its direct assistance activities to 6,499 trafficked persons from 89 different nationalities. Most of these persons (76%) are adults aged 18 and over, whereas the rest (24%) were minors. Over half (53%) of these individuals are female, and a little less than half are males (47%). A little under half of individuals have been assisted by IOM after having been trafficked for the purpose of forced labor (45%), a fifth after sexual exploitation (20%), nearly a fifth for domestic servitude (18%), a tenth for other or unknown reasons (10%), and less than 3% each for begging (2.7%), combined labor and sexual exploitation (2.4%), and low level criminal activity (.9%). In 2012, individuals were mostly trafficked across borders (71%), but over a fourth also experienced internal trafficking (28%).

As other examples, **IOM** has conducted trainings for law-enforcement officials, which included immigration and border management measures, in order to counter trafficking in several Arab countries such as Jordan and Tunisia. Trainings included guidance on aspects such as how to identify those in need of assistance, how to recognize refugees, how to run shelters for victims of trafficking, how to provide health services in centres in special situations. Projects consist of capacity building activities, equipment provisions and training of border agencies. **IOM** is also trying to promote data sharing in the area of

smuggling, and is working on the issue of trafficking and migrant exploitation from the Horn of Africa to North Africa and beyond. IOM is also enhancing efforts to prosecute those involved in human trafficking and labour exploitation, including through providing support to legislative reform. IOM sought to focus its efforts in 2013 on working with national and regional bodies to ensure that criminal justice actors are provided with the knowledge and tools to prosecute cases.

**IOM** supports states in embedding procedures that permit law enforcement agencies to more effectively target those responsible for organizing people smuggling while at the same time complementing activity against trafficking in human beings. As an example, IOM has supported and continue to support governments to identify technical equipment required to help detect irregular migrants at border crossings, such as X-ray vehicle scanners or surveillance cameras. IOM's Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) can also be a valuable tool to fight smuggling, since it can be connected to national and international alert lists such as Interpol's I-24/7 Global Communication System.

The **United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)** produced a publication on trafficking, focusing on women and children. This study is considered the first of its kind in the region, since it covered all 17 countries of the UNESCWA region. The study examined trafficking laws in each of these countries and the extent to which these laws comply with the UN Protocol. Legal experts studied the laws and compiled the awareness raising campaigns launched by governments. The study found that even with existing legal frameworks in the Arab region, protection of people at risk of trafficking is very minimal.

**The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** supports anti-human trafficking efforts in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region the framework of its Regional Programme on Drug Control, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Reform in the Arab States 2011-2015, implemented in partnership with **LAS**. Those have included the development of a regional anti-trafficking strategy with priority focus areas to guide national action plans, the establishment of an Anti-Trafficking Coordination Unit under the LAS and capacity building of its personnel on collecting and analyzing data on trafficking to establish a network of focal points in member countries of the Arab region, and eventually developing the first Arab report on trafficking. UNODC furthermore works on legislative capacity building to harmonize legal frameworks on human trafficking, through organizing legislative drafting workshops (for example in Yemen, Morocco, Libya, and other countries that have not yet enacted laws on human trafficking). Police, prosecutors and other criminal practitioners are also targeted by UNODC's capacity building programme, which trains them on the identification and protection of victims and how to investigate cases. Under the Arab Initiative to combat human trafficking, UNODC has also trained to date more than 800 Arab professionals across the region (such as members of national committees, social workers, media representatives, representatives of academic institutions) to prevent and combat human trafficking.

UNODC recently completed a project on smuggling of migrants in North Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Egypt and Tunisia) with partners such as Interpol and Europol. The project included regional cooperation activities involving non-Arab countries such as Malta, Italy and Greece.

Programmes, projects and activities on human trafficking and smuggling have not been limited to assisting victims and drafting legislations and anti-trafficking strategies, but they have also employed frameworks to support implementing them. Partnership and cooperation are again key in answering issues of trafficking of migrants.

## **8. Youth Migrants**

Since the number of youth migrants has increased significantly, the importance of engaging and empowering them has been increasingly-recognized by governments and international and regional organizations. Even though youth are known to be one of the largest social groups in terms of their mobility, research on migration challenges and opportunities presented for them is still very limited in the Arab region and more coherent and engaging policies need to be developed.

For **IOM**, unaccompanied migrant children continued to represent a significant part of the Organization's portfolio. In accordance with specific operational standards (best interests determination, identification of and cooperation with legal guardians, etc.), the support provided by IOM, together with UNICEF and **UNHCR**, includes family tracing, assisted voluntary return and reintegration as well as capacity-building for relevant state authorities in countries of origin. Elsewhere, as part of IOM's humanitarian emergency response to the crises IOM in the Arab region, and in coordination with a range of partners, the Organization oversees activities designed to facilitate the reunification of unaccompanied migrant children with their families. As outlined in the section on labour migration, IOM is also engaged in a number of initiatives throughout the region to support the social and economic integration of marginalized youth as a way of providing alternatives to irregular migration.

**LAS** is one of the most important regional organizations working on young migrants' engagement with their home countries. From 2003-2009, it organized seven cultural and explanatory trips for Arab expatriate youth to strengthen their relationships with their countries of origin. LAS cooperated with some of its member states (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Qatar and Saudi Arabia) and each year a different country hosted a group of Arab immigrant students.

**UNFPA** is developing new data on young migrants originating from the region by skill level, gender and labour market status in OECD countries based on the most recent round of population censuses. It is also in the process of preparing a synthesis report with policy recommendation on "the international mobility of skills for development" and notably the role of young migrants. It will serve as a background document for the Commission on Population and Development's 20-year review of the UN International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) that will take place in 2014.

Arab countries still have not adopted a clear approach to the issue of youth migration in the region. Thus, the role of international and regional agencies is important in assisting in the integration of migrant youth issues into different national development plans.

## ***9. Migration and Urban Planning***

Migratory movements play an important role in shaping cities and affecting urban livelihoods. Migration and urban planning are strongly interlinked, involving sometimes issues related to infrastructure, population redistribution, shelter and settlements, social adaptation and the development of cities in general. Thus, to assist policymakers in responding to the questions raised by migration and urban development, members of the Working Group have developed programmatic responses to this issue.

In Sudan, the **UNFPA** Country Office supported the review of the National Population Policy, which addresses, inter alia, population dynamics, including international migration, urbanization and displacement. UNFPA supported technical thematic groups, recruitment of national experts, the organization of consultative meetings, and the production of thematic background papers. UNFPA also supported the participation of National Population Council staff in expert meetings in conjunction with the Regional Arab Meeting for Directors of National Population Councils.

The **United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)** is working on monitoring and improving the living conditions of migrants as well as proposing innovative approaches to the provision of shelter solutions and policy reform in countries of the Arab region, such as Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Morocco, Libya and Sudan. As a result, UN-Habitat was able to introduce new shelter approaches and tools for recording the physical presence of migrants, along with new action plans for worker housing solutions and policy shifts in the region. Broadly speaking, workers' right to adequate housing is now relatively recognized and options for improving their living conditions understood.

Forced migration flows and exchanges are known to affect the demographics of cities and towns and urbanization processes. Migration can also create challenges for governance and promoting resilience. However, the impacts of migration on cities are not well studied, and there is a lack in data and research on the issue in the Arab region.

## ***10. Climate-Induced Migration***

Climate change and other environmental factors have been long responsible for migratory movements around the world. As a result of more expected climate change, climate-induced migration is also expected to increase, including in the Arab region, which is highly vulnerable to both rising sea levels and scarce water resources. The relationship between migration and climate change is multi-directional: it is evident that climate change causes people to migrate, and indeed that migration can be a positive adaptation strategy against the impacts of climate change; however, it is also important to highlight how migration flows can also impact the environment in both countries of origin and countries of destination.

**IOM** works with governmental and non-governmental partners to assess the linkages between environmental factors and internal and international migration. Based on this, IOM develops and pilots practical measures to prevent forced migration resulting from environmental factors; provide assistance

and protection to affected populations where forced migration does occur and seek durable solutions to their situation; and, facilitate migration as an adaptation strategy to climate change. For example, in Egypt, in partnership with the Ministry of Manpower and Emigration and the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), has conducted a number of specific rapid assessments in Abu Qir to better understand the linkages between the expected impacts of sea-level rise and internal migration. Based on these assessments, IOM has developed and implemented pilot initiatives that aim to support the development of an overarching strategy to address the potential displacement of large populations.

Several initiatives have been taken with regards to climate change-related trends in the region. **UNDP's** Arab Drylands Development Programme, for instance, addresses situations of vulnerability among drylands communities through a community-based resilience approach to development and risks from drought-induced migration and other impacts. Having entered a new phase in 2013, the initiative deals with the issue of land use in six Arab countries and looks at how dryland degradation and desertification can considerably impact communities. A series of climate change adaptation initiatives are underway across the Arab region funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) supporting responses to the risks from climate change on food and water insecurity and disaster prevalence.

**UNECA** has developed a regional study on international migration and development in Africa which deals with the complex migration and climate nexus. The study develops concepts and theoretical frameworks as well as technical tools to encourage policy research, training and capacity development. The outcome publication recommends the development of policies and programmes that are climate sensitive and that build adaptive capacity of local communities for the aim of reducing the need for the poor to migrate.<sup>17</sup>

Programmatic responses to climate-induced migration have been very limited, especially in countries where poor populations largely depend on agriculture and natural resource bases for their income and livelihoods. These populations are in need of support in order to reduce their vulnerabilities to climate change, such as drought and reduced rainfalls, by creating alternatives for them and helping them find secure incomes that do not oblige them to migrate in risky situations.

## ***11. Migration Data***

Data on migration and its impacts are severely lacking across the Arab region, limiting the ability of countries to design and implement effective policies to manage migration, and to assess the effectiveness of their policies. To assist in rectifying this situation, agencies from the working group have engaged in a number of activities.

**ILO** has worked on SDC-funded projects on developing migration statistics in Syria and Yemen. Although the project in Syria has been suspended due to the unstable political situation, the project activities are

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<sup>17</sup> For further information on the publication, see UNECA *International Migration and Development in Africa: the Migration and Climate Nexus*, 2011

still on-going in Yemen to develop a migration module in the implementation of the labour force survey in the country.<sup>18</sup>

**IOM** examines existing mechanisms to collect, analyze and exchange migration-related data in the Middle East and North Africa to identify common and country-specific challenges, as well as developing effective strategies to rectify prevailing data deficiencies. Equipment and training are provided to border management authorities in the region and dialogue and exchange of information between governments and partners are promoted at the bilateral, regional and international levels. IOM is also engaged in the generation of primary research and data collection in the MENA region. For example, IOM is currently supporting the implementation of the Mediterranean Household International Migration Survey, which is a regional, coordinated programme of household surveys developed for Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. The programme is designed to overcome the lack of data on international migration for the region by collecting reliable and representative multi-topic, multi-level, retrospective and comparative data on the characteristics and behaviour of migrants and on the determinants and consequences of international migration and mobility.

**UNESCWA** held a workshop and an Expert Group Meeting International Migration Statistics in the Arab countries in 2009 and 2013. These meetings brought together officials from a number of Arab countries to discuss the capacity of Arab countries to gather and disseminate migration statistics, and identified a number of areas for further work.

**UNFPA** promotes policy dialogue and the enhancement of governments' ability to respond to issues relating to international migration, to promote orderly migration flows and to address the needs of migrants. The Fund supports research and policy-oriented studies, organizes meetings and assists governments in their capacity to collect migration statistics, including gender-specific data. In the Arab region, UNFPA has worked on strengthening policy dialogue between governments and academic institutions, focusing on national population priorities.

In Jordan, for example, UNFPA has been discussing with national partners the issue of improving the availability of data on migration. The Fund seeks to strengthen partnerships with other UN agencies working in this area and with IOM to ensure access to qualified expertise in migration that is responsive to national needs. In Morocco, a study on international migration and development analyzed the issues of irregular migration, return migration, brain drain, and international migration and development. UNFPA is collaborating with MED STAT, World Bank, European Union, UNHCR and other partners in the Mediterranean Households International Migration Survey (MED-HIMS). It is a regional programme of coordinated international migration surveys requested by National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of most of the countries of the MENA region. The MED-HIMS programme includes the implementation of specialized national household surveys in the sending countries aiming to capture current and recent developments in international migration in the region. The survey addresses various forms of

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<sup>18</sup> For further information on the project, see *Implementation of the Labour Force Survey in Yemen*, at [www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/WCMS\\_230517/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/WCMS_230517/lang-en/index.htm)

international migration, including voluntary and forced migration, and implications for migrants, their households, and sending and receiving countries.

Under this programme, the UNFPA Country Office in Palestine supported the first national household survey on internal and international migration conducted by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics in 2010. Other activities supported by the Fund include production of the reports of the main findings and analysis of the national migration survey, policy dialogue to discuss the survey findings conducted by the population policy department within the Ministry of Planning and Administrative Development, dissemination and production of a user-friendly data file for use by academia and research institutes, and production of a policy paper on international migration.

**WHO, UNFPA and UNESCWA**, in collaboration with other partners, have been embarking on a strategic initiative to strengthen civil registration and vital statistics systems in Member States, with regards to migrants' health and the development of cohesive policies.

Thus, work is underway to assist countries to improve their data on migration statistics. However, despite this progress significant gaps remain in terms of Arab countries' capacity to gather, disseminate and analyze migration data.

## **V- Future Initiatives**

Recognizing the need for better and more effective migration policies and programming, the international community is seeking to deepen its response to address issues related to migratory movements. Participating agencies of the Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region are looking to expand their avenues across a wide range of perspectives.

- **ILO** is planning to continue with its work on domestic workers in Lebanon, and develop legislation on domestic workers in all Arab countries.
- **IOM** will continue to work with the Arab League, Governments, and civil society partners in the MENA region, to: (i) Address youth employment and protect minors on the move, through enhanced labour migration management; (ii) Make migration work for development; (iii) Address complex migratory flows and uphold the human rights of migrants; (iv) Protect migrant workers against exploitation and human trafficking; (v) Provide humanitarian assistance and durable solutions to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced persons; and (vi) Promote effective border management within an integrated border management approach. Activities will include research; direct assistance to migrants and host communities; capacity building for government and civil society partners; and the promotion of dialogue and cooperation on migration issues, at the regional and international levels. In cooperation with **UNDP**, in 2014 **IOM** will begin implementation of the second phase of the Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI) with the aim of building capacity of local actors to engage with diaspora on economic and social development initiatives. **IOM** will begin the development of a



multi-year project to build capacity of local actors in Egypt and diaspora associations in the EU to effectively engage in social and economic development initiatives within Egypt with the support of SDC. The Syrian crisis is also drawing IOM's attention, and the Organization is looking to develop more responses on the changing situation that requires coordinated responses. Another programme that IOM is looking to invest more into is the promotion of social cohesion between Egyptians and Syrians, and counter-trafficking programming, especially in Jordan and Libya.

- **LAS'** future initiatives involve strengthening the evidence-based linkages between migration and development in the Arab region, and establishing databases and information systems on international migration.
- **UNAIDS**, while looking into opportunities to develop more projects on access to HIV services for migrants as well as reducing HIV related travel restrictions in the region, finds it crucial to engage with stakeholders when drawing up programmatic responses.
- **UNDP's** possible future programmes in the region include responses to the development impacts of Syrian refugees and forced migrants in Jordan, and drylands development and climate change adaptation initiatives in countries across the region with a focus on preventing impacts on food and water security and developing resilience in development trends.
- **UNESCWA** and **UNECA** are about to implement a project under the United Nations development account on remittances in the Arab region.
- In order to address the scarcity of knowledge and the lack of a comprehensive reference on the issue, **UNESCWA** is planning to engage with its partners in producing a report on international migration in the Arab region. It is also planning to address the limited capacity of Arab countries to mainstream international migration into development strategies by organizing capacity-building workshops on this subject based on the Global Migration Group's *Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning: A Handbook for Policy-makers and Practitioners*. It also aims to promote regional policy harmonization by supporting the creation of regional dialogue processes at the Arab regional level.
- **UNFPA** is analyzing potential initiatives in enhancing and supporting policy dialogue through active participation in the UN global dialogue on migration to ensure its inclusion as part of the ongoing post 2015 development agenda, as well as in supporting efforts to collect data on international migration through various approaches, and ensuring their utilization to further expand the policy dialogue. Additionally, UNFPA is working on enhancing the contribution of migration to the development of both sending and receiving countries, and making informed policy decisions to ensure a win-win situation, particularly for young migrants.
- **UNODC** is planning to hold national and regional workshops and trainings, including Trainings of Trainers (ToTs) in the Arab region in 2014, tackling the issues of human trafficking and smuggling of migrants.
- **UN-Women** will work on establishing a regional civil society advisory group which will serve as a consultative mechanism to highlight the opinion of representatives of migrant communities and give them a voice.

- **WHO** will continue its work on universal health coverage. At the regional level, WHO has started to work with several countries in implementing the endorsed roadmap on strengthening health systems in enabling the countries to move towards development. Work in several countries has started with assessing the coverage of all people with access to required health services (including prevention, promotion, treatment and rehabilitation), including migrant communities. Furthermore, a consultation is being developed to implement the code of ethics with regards to migrants' health and continued support to strengthen the health information system as well as the surveillance system.

## VI- Obstacles and Challenges

Several region-specific obstacles and challenges arise during either the preparation phase or the implementation phase of migration-related projects, programmes and activities carried out by participating agencies of the Working Group:

- **Political will:** some countries find migration to be a controversial subject that might relate to their sovereignty, especially in the GCC countries and in issues related to gender and migration for instance. Some countries are also sensitive because of their human rights records. Likewise, countries of origin sometimes lack interest in participating in activities associated with migration, except in issues that affect their economies such as projects on remittances.
- **Funding concerns:** in addition to the long time needed to deal with funding agencies, there is an issue of a lack or insufficiency of budgetary resources for some projects and activities. In addition, a challenge lies in trying to match the increasing demand for capacity building, technical support and policy advisory services in such limited resources. Organizations thus find themselves faced with the challenge of how to tie donors' expectations with practical issues on the ground. In addition, some countries are reluctant on spending funds on migration problems, especially those related to health.
- **Bureaucracy of organizations:** respecting and following hierarchical structures sometimes delay the work proceedings, hindering proactive responses and decision-making.
- **Changes in counterparts:** changes and reforms in governments in the Arab region often lead to changes in counterparts, especially in countries facing conflict. Some are also distracted by institutional changes, such as in Egypt, Tunisia and Libya, therefore making it harder to establish an effective cooperation in the long run.
- **Changes in security environments:** political instability leads to the need to sometimes postpone or cancel activities given the difficult circumstances.
- **Lack of information:** information gathering and sharing is difficult especially in emergencies when time is an issue and there is a need for quick responses. In non-emergency situations, lack of information is still a major obstacle, particularly on migration stocks and flows. Even if there are data on the issue, they are often inaccurate due to the limited cooperation between agencies, or countries which are reluctant to share their information. There are insufficient databases on migration laws, experts and institutions in the region.

- **Differences in terminologies:** defining non-citizens in different sub-regions in the Arab region is a major concern. For example, GCC countries prefer to prefer the term “temporary contractual workers” to “migrants”.
- **Reaching the appropriate level:** progress of work of organizations ends up targeting mid-level civil servants in one department of the government. Migration is a cross-cutting issue that touches upon several aspects, but it is not easy to reach out to the desired range of people to be involved in dialogues on migration.
- **Keeping dialogue constructive:** tensions may arise between participating country representatives and problems may be created during meetings between countries of origin and countries of destination.

## VII- Gaps in International Migration Programming

Given the ad hoc nature of much cooperation between international and regional organizations working on international migration in the Arab region, responses to the complex effects of migration have been fragmented, sometimes leaving thematic, geographic, or other gaps in their programmatic responses. The survey questionnaire developed in preparation for this mapping report identified and highlighted some of the major gaps that are being neglected in international migration programmes, projects and activities.

First of all, participating agencies in the Working Group agreed that **knowledge generation and raising awareness** are fundamentally important and need further attention. Although organizations have placed extensive emphasis on migrants’ rights, the general public in the Arab region remain uninterested or unaware of the significance of this issue. Additionally, more programmes need to be developed to assist and support migrant labour. Migrant workers’ rights are not fully protected in the Arab region, and many aspects are also neglected in projects and programmes, such as the freedom of association of migrants.

Other programmatic gaps exist in the **situation of migrants themselves**, since some of the migration flows are irregular, placing vulnerable groups and refugees at risk. Increased attention has been placed on border security, and migrants are more at risk of being placed in dangerous situations while making irregular crossing, including being placed in detention. Managing and regularizing the flows of migration is one of the most ignored aspects and there is no massive appeal for such assistance, given that these flows are substantial and have important needs.

Besides, **diffusion of information** on migration and development needs to be strengthened and databases and information systems should be further developed to obtain comparable, comprehensive and up-to-date data on the various dimensions of the migration process.

Sustaining and mobilizing more technical and financial support especially on work related to **travel restrictions** is essential particularly when the political will to assist is absent. Since experiences of coordination mechanisms have been very useful in this regard, better and more extensive cooperation should be emphasized.

The issue of **environment and natural resource security-induced forced migration** has driven many challenges in the region following a series of displacements following resource development projects as well as major droughts in recent history, which have served to strain the resilience of affected communities. Other gaps also exist in the areas of **migrants' health, trafficking victims protection, sexual and reproductive health**, and **migration and development** especially in countries such as Lebanon and Jordan. **Regional dialogue** in the Arab region and cooperation with North African countries, as well as the implementation of laws and ratification of conventions related to migration in some countries are also of equal importance.

Finally, a geographical gap lies in the **limited programmatic responses in the GCC countries**. These gaps have been caused by the difficulty in reaching these countries and the unwillingness of local institutions to collaborate with international and regional initiatives. For instance, more research is needed with regards to the development impact of immigration in the Gulf region.

## VIII- Conclusions and Recommendations

This mapping exercise has found that participating agencies of the Working Group on International Migration in the Arab region work across a wide range of issue areas, ranging from labour migration, migration and development, irregular migration, refugees and IDPs, gender, health, human trafficking, youth, urban planning, climate-induced migration, and data on migration. Their interventions mainly target governmental institutions and officials through means such as technical capacity building support and dialogue, since their key interest is to improve migration management and governance in the Arab region, both in terms of having effective laws and good implementation and follow-up mechanisms. In particular, their interventions focus on strengthening the rights of migrants according to the differing expertise and mandates of each organization. However, this is often difficult as the issue can be heavily politicized and some countries are reluctant to take on advice and recommendations.

With the governments' unwillingness to cooperate and the continuing changes in security environments in the Arab region, programmatic responses have been limited by political instability, lack of information and funding concerns. Therefore, gaps in international migration programmes and projects need to be tackled, especially the information gap, the lack of awareness on migration-related issues, the limited efforts in the GCC region, as well as several other gaps such as the development of responses to travel restrictions and migrant health. Agencies of the Working Group are planning to develop future initiatives as a response to the challenges, obstacles and gaps in international migration issues. For instance, the migration flows resulting from the Syrian crisis have great development impacts on

countries of transit and destination, and international and regional organizations are planning to examine and respond to these impacts in their future programmatic responses. They will also tackle numerous other issues related to health, especially sexual and reproductive health, and domestic workers' situation in the region.

Going forward, sharing experiences and best practices as well as coordinating policies of the Arab countries in the field of migration and dealing with Arab Expatriates abroad are imperatives. International and regional organizations working on issues associated with migration in the region should build a bridge between them for communication, cooperation and joint efforts. The synergy resulting from collaborations based on good will, common objectives and transparency between different agencies both at the regional and international levels is very important.

Moreover, working with migrants should take a more integrated approach. Migration in the Arab takes a wide range of forms – from voluntary to involuntary, regular and irregular, from intra- and inter-regional – as people respond to a wide range of situations and the opportunities and problems they create. Agencies should therefore consider the situation of international migration holistically and seek to further anchor their responses in broader processes of change.

Regarding migrants skills, the underutilization of migrants' skills in their countries of destination appears to be a significant impediment to skills development, while returning migrants' skills are only partially utilized in their home country. Therefore, Arab countries are not maximizing the benefits of their national expatriates by engaging them in the development of their countries of origin and should set measures to boost their engagement and linking the highly-skilled migrants to their appropriate national institutions. Developing effective and permanent mechanisms to benefit from the knowledge, skills, expertise, and resources of the Arab expatriates abroad, especially scientists, through establishing networks, implementable initiatives and scientific programmes, is a high priority. The Working Group on International Migration should thus place more emphasis on helping Arab countries engage their expatriates in development through collaborative efforts and joint future plans and initiatives.

Research and data gathering and sharing, despite existing efforts, are still very limited. Understanding the contexts and concerns associated with international migration is a cornerstone of any further international or regional interventions that aim at integrating migration in development planning in the Arab countries and building the capacity of Arab member states in the field of international migration. The current approach of encouraging the countries to mainstream migration into their overall socio-economic plans should be supported and could benefit from the multiple perspectives offered by different organizations, and the harmonization of migration policies and management should be a primary strategy. Issues in relationship with the impacts of International migration on those left behind should be taken into consideration in future research plans as well as cultural effects on the behaviour of the families of migrants.

Meanwhile, there is also a role for a regional consultative mechanism that includes all Arab countries in order to formulate a comprehensive and integrated Arab strategy for maximizing the benefits of

migration and minimizing its hazards, while strengthening the position of Arab states in negotiating migration issues regionally and globally. This need has been recognized in the final declaration of the Regional Consultative Meeting on International Migration and Development in the Arab Region in preparation of the second High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in June 2013, which emphasized “the importance of establishing a Regional Consultative Process on Migration in the Arab region within the framework of the League of Arab States.” The working group could provide substantive support for this mechanism, ensuring that it follows a right-based approach and providing links to best practice in the different fields covered by each agency at an international level.

## **IX- Acronyms and Abbreviations**

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
ALO	Arab Labour Organization
AUC	American University of Cairo
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LAS	League of Arab States
MED-HIMS	Mediterranean Households International Migration Survey
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NSOs	National Statistical Offices
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PAVE	Protect and Assist Vulnerable and Exploited Migrant Workers in the Middle East
RCM	Regional Coordination Mechanism
SASTA	Society for the Advancement of Science and Technology in the Arab World
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
TIP Protocol	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
UNECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UN-Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
US	United States
WHO	World Health Organization



## X- Appendices

Appendix A: Information Matrix on International Migration Projects											
	Labour Migration	Migration and Development	Irregular Migration	Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)	Gender and Mobility	Migration Health	Human Trafficking and Smuggling	Youth Migrants	Migration and Urban Planning	Climate-Induced Migration	Migration and Data
<b>Information Gathering</b>	ILO; IOM; UNECA; UNFPA	IOM; LAS; UNECA; UNESCWA; UNDP; UNFPA	IOM; UNECA	IOM; LAS; WHO	IOM; LAS	IOM; UNAIDS	ILO; IOM; UNESCWA; UNODC	IOM; UNFPA	UNFPA; UN-Habitat	IOM; UNDP; UNECA	IOM; ILO; UNFPA
<b>Capacity Building of Governments</b>	ILO; IOM; UN-Women	IOM; UNECA; UNESCWA; UNDP; UNFPA	IOM	IOM; LAS	IOM; ILO	IOM; UNFPA; UNAIDS	IOM; LAS; UNODC	IOM	-	IOM	IOM; UNFPA
<b>Capacity Building of Migrant Communities</b>	IOM; UNFPA; UN-Women	IOM; LAS	-	IOM; WHO	IOM; LAS; UN-Women	IOM; UNFPA	IOM	IOM	-	UNECA	-
<b>Awareness Raising</b>	ILO; IOM	IOM	IOM	IOM; WHO	IOM	IOM	IOM	IOM	-	IOM -	-
<b>Direct Assistance to Migrant Communities</b>	IOM; UN-Women	LAS	IOM	IOM	IOM ; ILO	IOM	IOM	IOM	UN-Habitat	IOM	-
<b>Policy Change</b>	IOM ; ILO; UNFPA; UN-Women	IOM ; LAS; UNECA; UNESCWA; UNFPA	IOM	IOM	IOM; UN-Women	IOM; UNAIDS; WHO	IOM; UNESCWA; UNODC	IOM; UNFPA	UNFPA; UN-Habitat	IOM; UNDP; UNECA	IOM; UNFPA
<b>Other</b>	ILO (capacity building of trade unions and CSOs)	LAS, UNESCWA and IOM (consultative meeting to create a common regional position in preparation for the High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development); LAS (conference for Arab expatriates and the role of CSOs); UNESCWA (workshop on strengthening dialogue between ESCWA and ESCAP countries)	-	IOM (ADR programmes)	-	-	UNODC (training professionals to mainstream trafficking into academic curricula)	LAS (organizing cultural trips for Arab expatriates youth to strengthen their relationships with their countries of origin)	-	-	-

## Appendix B: Information Matrix on Participating Agencies

Organization	Brief Overview	Approach to International Migration	Headquarters	Arab Countries Covered	Regional Office	Sub-Regional Offices	Partners in Projects	Donors
<b>International Labour Organization (ILO)</b>	ILO's objectives focus on promoting and realizing standards and fundamental principles and rights at work, creating greater opportunities for women and men to decent employment and income, enhancing the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all and strengthening tripartism and social dialogue	ILO works on introducing proper conduct in workplaces and encouraging decent employment opportunities for migrant workers, and it has also developed and oversees conventions on several concerns of labour migration	Switzerland	Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, KSA, Syria, UAE, Yemen	Lebanon	Kuwait	Research institutions, IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, CARIM, UNHCR, other social partners (trade unions for example) and international organizations	EU, US Department of State, SDC, UK, Irish Aid
<b>International Organization for Migration (IOM)</b>	IOM acts to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants	IOM focuses on promoting humane and orderly migration by providing services and advice to governments and migrants. It works on migrants' assistance, migrants' health and migration and human development	Switzerland	Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, Sudan, Yemen, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Kuwait, Oman, KSA, UAE, Qatar	Egypt	-	UN Country Team in each country (WHO, UNHCR, etc.), LAS, CSOs, organizations of expatriates, international or regional bodies (ALO, etc.), labour unions, CSR (such as Microsoft), governments	IOM Member and non-Member States, EU, UN and other international organizations, international NGOs, IOM Development Fund, private sector
<b>League of Arab States (LAS); Population Policies, Expatriates and Migration Department</b>	LAS' main goal is to draw closer the relations between member States and coordinate collaboration between them, to safeguard their independence and sovereignty, and to consider the affairs and interests of the Arab countries	LAS focuses on developing more effective policies for utilizing migration in favor of Arab regional development and integrating expatriates in national development plans	Egypt	Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen	Egypt	-	International organizations (such as IOM, UNESCWA, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNODC, WHO), concerned ministries, migrant associations and NGOs	LAS regular budget from member states contributions, EC-UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative
<b>Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)</b>	UNAIDS works to revolutionize HIV prevention, foster the emergence of treatment and support to new generations, and promote human rights and gender equality to support response to HIV. It has a "Zero Strategy": zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination, zero AIDS-related deaths	UNAIDS' work covers technical support, advocacy to increase migrants' access to HIV services, and enable them to protect themselves from HIV; as well as monitoring how HIV responses respond to their needs	Switzerland	Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, KSA, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen	Egypt	-	UN-Women, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, ILO, UNESCO, WHO, World Bank	World Bank, UNDP, Islamic Development Bank
<b>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</b>	UNDP's focus is helping countries build and share solutions to achieve poverty reduction and the Millennium Development Goals, democratic governance, crisis prevention and recovery, environment and energy for sustainable development	UNDP's engages in migration and development programming, plays a key role in the global post-2015 migration and development process, and has initiatives on crisis response, drylands development and climate change that engage issues of migration indirectly	USA	Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, KSA, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen	Egypt	-	National and local governments, civil society organizations, private sector	Global trust funds, bilateral donors, host governments, private sector

<b>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)</b>	UNECA's mandate is to promote the economic and social development of its member states, foster intra-regional integration, and promote international cooperation for Africa's development	UNECA assists its member states in mainstreaming migration in national and regional development plans and strategies, and develop knowledge and advance understanding of migration issues	Ethiopia	Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia	Morocco	-	IOM	UNECA Headquarters
<b>United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)</b>	UNESCWA provides a framework for the formulation and harmonization of sectoral policies for member countries, a platform for congress and coordination, a home for expertise and knowledge, and an information observatory	UNESCWA approaches international migration from a social development perspective with a particular focus on the rights of migrants, the integration of migration into development strategies and the support of dialogue on migration	Lebanon	Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen	Lebanon	Jordan	IOM, other Regional Commissions (such as UNESCAP), ILO, ICMPD, OECD, research institutions, LAS, OHCHR	UNECLAC, UN Development Account, UNESCWA regular budget
<b>United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</b>	The goals of UNFPA are achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health, promoting reproductive rights, reducing maternal mortality and accelerating progress on the ICPD agenda and MDG 5	UNFPA supports governments in accomplishing population-related tasks, including censuses, surveys and population and development-related research and analysis in several issues including international migration	USA	Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, KSA, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen	Egypt	-	International organizations (such as IOM, ILO, OECD, World Bank, UNHCR)	EU, World Bank, UNFPA regular budget
<b>United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)</b>	UN-Habitat works on promoting socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all	UN-Habitat approaches migration through its mandate to monitor urban development in cities and trends impacting city population economically, socially and physically, since migration can have great impacts on shaping cities	Kenya	Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, UAE	Egypt	Kuwait	UNHCR, ILO, IOM, UNDP, Arab Towns Organization, Interior Ministries and Municipalities, NGOs	Governments, UN sources
<b>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)</b>	UNODC assists member states in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime, corruption, trafficking and terrorism in all their dimensions	UNODC develops programming in response to human trafficking and smuggling, and works on ensuring and promoting the implementation of the TIP Protocol and the SOM Protocol	Austria	Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen	Egypt	UAE, Libya	CSOs, League of Arab States, UN agencies/international organizations	EU, individual countries
<b>United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)</b>	The role of UN-Women is to support inter-governmental bodies in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms, to help states to implement these standards, to forge effective partnerships with civil society and to hold the UN system accountable for its own commitments on gender equality	UN-Women interacts with the issue of international migration on a gender-based perspective, from a human rights point of view, especially on issues related to trafficking and smuggling, labour migration, refugees and displaced persons	USA	Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen	Egypt	-	CSOs, governmental bodies, UN system, media	EU, Finnish Government, France, The Netherlands, regular UN budget
<b>World Health Organization</b>	WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for public health within the UN system. It works with governments, specialized agencies, partners and other stakeholders in the field of public health to develop health policies and strengthen national health systems	WHO provides assistance to member states in achieving universal health coverage for their population and migrants. The nexus between migration and health has been the focus of WHO for many years	Switzerland	Afghanistan, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen	Egypt	Jordan	Governments and especially Ministries of Health, UN System	



## Appendix C: Knowledge Products on International Migration in the Arab Region Produced by Working Group Member Agencies

- Arab Labour Organization (ALO)
- International Labour Organization (ILO), Regional Office for Arab States
  - *Tricked and Trapped: Human Trafficking in the Middle East* (2013): [www.ilo.org/beirut/publications/WCMS\\_211214/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/beirut/publications/WCMS_211214/lang-en/index.htm)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM), Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
  - *Migrant well-being in the Middle East and North Africa: A focus on gender in Cairo* (2013): [www.egypt.iom.int/Doc/Migrant%20well-being%20in%20the%20Middle%20East%20and%20North%20Africa%20-%20A%20focus%20on%20gender%20in%20Cairo.pdf](http://www.egypt.iom.int/Doc/Migrant%20well-being%20in%20the%20Middle%20East%20and%20North%20Africa%20-%20A%20focus%20on%20gender%20in%20Cairo.pdf)
  - *Development in Motion: Mainstreaming migration and development in Egypt* (2013): [www.egypt.iom.int/Doc/Development%20in%20Motion%20--%20Mainstreaming%20migration%20and%20development%20in%20Egypt.pdf](http://www.egypt.iom.int/Doc/Development%20in%20Motion%20--%20Mainstreaming%20migration%20and%20development%20in%20Egypt.pdf)
  - *A study on the Dynamics of Arab Expatriate Communities: Promoting Positive Contributions to Socioeconomic Development and Political Transitions in their Homelands* (2013, with LAS): [www.egypt.iom.int/Doc/English%20IOM%20Book.pdf](http://www.egypt.iom.int/Doc/English%20IOM%20Book.pdf)
  - *Intra-Regional Labour Mobility in the Arab World* (2011, with ALO): [www.egypt.iom.int/Doc/ALO-IOM%20report%20on%20Intra-regional%20labour%20mobility%20English.pdf](http://www.egypt.iom.int/Doc/ALO-IOM%20report%20on%20Intra-regional%20labour%20mobility%20English.pdf)
- League of Arab States (LAS)
  - *Papers of the international seminar on "International Migration in the Middle East and North Africa after the Arab Uprising: A Long Term Perspective"* (2013, with the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies (CMRS) - the American University in Cairo (AUC), UKAID).
  - *A study on the Dynamics of Arab Expatriate Communities: Promoting Positive Contributions to Socioeconomic Development and Political Transitions in their Homelands* (2012, with IOM).
  - *The "Arab Expatriate" non-periodic newsletter* (2011, 2012 & 2013).
  - *Newsletters and documentary of the project titled "Entrepreneurial knowledge: Towards Arab German-Egyptian Women Development Experience"* (2011, in the framework of the European Commission-United Nations Joint Migration and Development Initiative - JMDI).
  - *Papers presented in the First Conference of Arab Expatriates: A Bridge for Communication* (2010).
  - *Paper titled "Maximizing the Benefit of Arab Skilled Migrants in Development Process Nationally and Regionally"* presented to the Second Meeting of Arab Ministers of Migration and Expatriates Affairs (2009).
  - *Background Papers of the First Meeting of Arab Ministers of Migration and Expatriates Affairs* (2008).
  - *Papers of the seminar on "Arab-African migration Abroad: Problems and Solutions"* (2008, with the Afro-Egyptian Studies Program, the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University).
  - *Papers of the seminar on "Arab expatriates from North Africa in Europe"* (2007, with the Afro-Egyptian Studies Program, the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University).

- *Papers of the seminar on “Arab Expatriates in African Countries” (2005, with the Afro- Egyptian Studies Program, the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University).*
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Regional Office for the Middle East
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
  - *Mobility, Migration and HIV Vulnerability of Populations along the Ports of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (2011, with IOM, IGAD, and UNDP ):*  
[www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/hivaids/Mobility%20Migration%20and%20HIV%20Vulnerability%20Report%202012.pdf](http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/hivaids/Mobility%20Migration%20and%20HIV%20Vulnerability%20Report%202012.pdf)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Regional Bureau of Arab States
  - Human Development Report 2009 Overcoming barriers: Human mobility and development  
<http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-report-2009>
  - Human Development Report 2008 Fighting Climate Change: Human solidarity in a divided world  
<http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-report-20078>
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Office for North Africa
  - *La Mobilité des Travailleurs dans l’Espace Maghrébin, (2011):*  
<http://213.154.74.164/invenio/record/18947/files/mobilite-des-travailleurs-maghrebin2011.pdf>
  - *International Migration and Development in Africa: The Migration and Climate Nexus (2010):*  
[www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/publications/migration-report-2010.pdf](http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/publications/migration-report-2010.pdf)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Regional Office for West Asia
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)
  - *A Conceptual Framework for Integrating Migration into Development Planning in the ESCWA Region (2010):*  
[www.escwa.un.org/divisions/div\\_editor/Download.asp?table\\_name=divisions\\_other&field\\_name=ID&FileID=1355](http://www.escwa.un.org/divisions/div_editor/Download.asp?table_name=divisions_other&field_name=ID&FileID=1355)
  - *International Migration and Development in the ESCWA Region: Challenges and Opportunities (2011):*  
[www.escwa.un.org/information/pubaction.asp?PubID=1142](http://www.escwa.un.org/information/pubaction.asp?PubID=1142)
  - *Inter-Regional Report on Labour Migration and Social Protection (2013, with UNESCAP):*  
[www.escwa.un.org/information/pubaction.asp?PubID=1339](http://www.escwa.un.org/information/pubaction.asp?PubID=1339)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Arab States Regional Office
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Regional Office for Arab States
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), MENA Bureau
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa
  - *The role of organized crime in the smuggling of migrants from West Africa to the European Union (2011):*  
[www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Report\\_SOM\\_West\\_Africa\\_EU.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Report_SOM_West_Africa_EU.pdf)
  - *Smuggling of migrants into, through and from North Africa: A thematic review and annotated bibliography of recent publications (2010):*  
[www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant\\_smuggling\\_in\\_North\\_Africa\\_June\\_2010\\_ebook\\_E\\_09-87293.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant_smuggling_in_North_Africa_June_2010_ebook_E_09-87293.pdf)
  - *Combating Trafficking in Persons in Accordance with the Principles of Islamic Law (2010):*  
[www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Islamic\\_Law\\_TIP\\_English\\_ebook\\_V0985841.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Islamic_Law_TIP_English_ebook_V0985841.pdf)

- Human Trafficking in Lebanon - Measures to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings: Lebanon country assessment (May 2008):  
[www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Lebanon-HTreport-Oct08.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Lebanon-HTreport-Oct08.pdf)
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Arab States Regional Office
- World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean
  - *Framework for planning, mobilization and implementation of healthy hospitals* (2003)  
[www.applications.emro.who.int/dsaf/dsa273.pdf](http://www.applications.emro.who.int/dsaf/dsa273.pdf)
  - *Framework for planning, mobilization and implementation of healthy schools* (2003)  
[www.applications.emro.who.int/dsaf/dsa272.pdf](http://www.applications.emro.who.int/dsaf/dsa272.pdf)
  - الهجرة الدولية والصحة وحقوق الإنسان (2006)  
[www.applications.emro.who.int/dsaf/dsa654.pdf](http://www.applications.emro.who.int/dsaf/dsa654.pdf)
  - *Data on the migration of health-care workers : sources, uses, and challenge / Khassoum Diallo - 2004*  
[www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/72517/1/bulletin\\_2004\\_82%288%29\\_601-607.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/72517/1/bulletin_2004_82%288%29_601-607.pdf)
  - *Migration of health-care workers from developing countries : strategic approaches to its management Barbara Stilwell ... [et al.] - 2004*  
[www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/72508/1/bulletin\\_2004\\_82%288%29\\_595-600.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/72508/1/bulletin_2004_82%288%29_595-600.pdf)
  - *Public health risk assessment and interventions: The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya : Civil unrest : March 2011*  
[www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/70564/1/WHO\\_HSE\\_GAR\\_DCE\\_2011\\_1\\_eng.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/70564/1/WHO_HSE_GAR_DCE_2011_1_eng.pdf)
  - *Health of migrants: the way forward: report of a global consultation, Madrid, Spain, 3-5 March 2010*  
[www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44336/1/9789241599504\\_eng.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44336/1/9789241599504_eng.pdf)
  - *International migration, health and human rights - 2003*  
[www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42793/1/9241562536.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42793/1/9241562536.pdf) (English edition)  
[www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42793/2/9789290214786\\_ara.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42793/2/9789290214786_ara.pdf) (Arabic edition)
  - *EB126/38: Progress reports: report by the Secretariat – 2010 (Please see item “H”: Health of Migrants)*  
[www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/2333/1/B126\\_38-en.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/2333/1/B126_38-en.pdf)
  - *The Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel*  
[www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/3090/1/A63\\_R16-en.pdf](http://www.apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/3090/1/A63_R16-en.pdf)
  - *Migration of health workers – WHO Fact Sheet No 301 – July 2010*  
[www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs301/en/](http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs301/en/)
  - *Towards universal health coverage: challenges, opportunities and roadmap (English edition, 2013)*  
[www.applications.emro.who.int/docs/RC\\_Tech\\_paper\\_2013\\_tech\\_disc\\_2\\_15016\\_EN.pdf](http://www.applications.emro.who.int/docs/RC_Tech_paper_2013_tech_disc_2_15016_EN.pdf)



## Appendix D: International Migration Projects Survey Questionnaire



### Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region

#### *Interview Schedule*

#### **Part A – The Organization’s Background**

- 1- Can you please briefly tell me about your organization? i.e. its objectives, mission and vision.
- 2- How does your organization approach the issue of international migration? [What is the thematic approach? And how important is international migration to the work of the organization?]
- 3- Which countries does the work of your organization cover?
- 4- Besides the regional office, where are your offices located in the Arab Region?

#### **Part B – Describing International Migration Projects**

- 1- What migration projects has your organization undertaken in the last 5 years?
- 2- Which countries did they target?
- 3- What were the aims of these projects? e.g. policy change, information gathering, capacity building of governments, training, direct assistance to migrants/communities?
- 4- Which means did you use to achieve these aims?
- 5- Who were the main beneficiaries of these projects? e.g. migrants, communities of origin/destination, governments?
- 6- Which partners were also involved in these projects? What was the nature of their engagement?



- 7- Who were the donors for these projects?
- 8- Were there any broader effects of your projects?

### **Part C – Outcomes and Lessons Learned**

- 1- What were the results of your migration projects?
- 2- How do you measure the success of these projects?
- 3- What were some of the obstacles or challenges that you faced during the preparation or the implementation of these projects?
- 4- Did you have any particular findings, lessons learned or good practices to share?
- 5- If your organization was to re-design a project again, which one would it be and is there anything particular that you believe you would change? Why?

### **Part D – Future Prospects**

- 1- Do you think that international migration projects in the Arab Region should be dealt with in a specific or different way?
- 2- In which areas or fields do you think gaps exist? How could they be filled, in your opinion?
- 3- What future initiatives does your organization have?
- 4- Thank you for all that valuable information. Is there anything else you would like to add before we end?