Dear all,

Please find below minutes of our last MCG meeting and attached the project matrix and training overview to be populated by all of us.

Kind regards

Janine

Migration Coordination Group, 21.06. 2017 at the German Embassy

Attendees. EU DEL (Piotr Zaporowski, Philippe Crespo), CH (Beat Hägi), DE (Janine Rohwer), ES (José Lorenzo), GB (Jamie Hamill) IT (Fabio Tusch, ITA Cooperation), ND (Reé Kersten), ECHO (Esteban Arriaga)

1. Matrix

Presentation and discussion of the new matrix layout.

Key idea:
- more use of filters and drop down menus
- all past, current and future projects to be included, filter by start and end year possible
- various aggregation formats will be possible, e.g. to selected by VJAP Pillars, Khartoum Process support, Geographical Location, Lead Agency, etc.
The matrix is for MCG- internal use only. It is raw data and not be shared with outsiders and not for publishing. Information from the matrix can be used for multiple purposes but should be selected carefully to match the specific purpose and not provide unnecessary information to outsiders.

ACTION FOR CO-Chair (DE) matrix including changes agreed during MCG meeting made available to all – see attachment. (I might have overlooked a change, so please provide feedback on this)

ACTION FOR ALL
1. Due to technical issue that only one entry can be selected from the drop down list: all to provide Janine with information which state-combinations and VJAP Pillar- combinations need to be included in the drop down menus
2. Populate matrix before the MCG July meeting, with the exception of the project number (this is for identification within the matrix only and will be used to id links between different projects)

2. Updates

a) By EU DEL:
   ROC – drafting of Host Agreement underway, currently with MoFA – unclear when it will be completed. Afterwards participants have to be identified
   EU DEL is considering new programmes
   • Protection of migrants along the migration routes (in particular Dongola and Atbara) and covering the essentials like psychosocial support, legal aid, NFI, food. A lack of referral process has been identified and there is no follow up for migrants apprehended on route.
   • Support around Khartoum – IOM and UNHCR are working with five “reception centers”, these are in fact refugee camps. One of them is used to accommodate people apprehended in other parts of the country. It is limited to 80 spaces. Other people are send to Omdurman prison

b) Government engagement, mainly National Coordinating Mechanism – GB had to leave due to other commitments
   IOM role in the NCM formation remains unclear

ACTION FOR CO-CHAIR (GB) brief about state of NCM at the next MCG meeting
ACTION FOR CO-CHAIRS (all three) meet with IOM to get better overview what IOM is doing in Sudan in total and how this fits in with the GB-funded NCM project

c) Missions and visits
   EU DEL has been on a field mission to Atbara on the route to Dongola. There is currently no assistance available to this area. Due to the strict controls of the Egyptian border area, migration flows are shifting further East and are required to use the Dongola route.
   Local police is not active in apprehending migrants. 2016 a total of 150 arrests was reported in the area, end of Mai 2017 already 196 migrants.
   Atbara has a sizeable Ethiopian communities, some Syrians and some Eritreans, yet foreigners are not welcome and are pushed to move towards the edge of the gold mining area.
   Police, Sudanese Red Crescent and Ethiopain community all report mixed migration in the mining areas – from regular foreign workers to irregular migrants working in the mines

Transit in general:

There are three different scenarios, when migrants are arrested:
• Non-Eritreans who entered the country illegally – they are usually deported as illegal aliens
• Eritreans who are registered refugees – they will be brought back to Shagarab
• Eritreans who entered the country illegal and have no refugee status – they are treated like the first group and deported.
The head of COR Protection Unit had explained to CH and DE that COR will not speak up for the last group. Since they decided not to seek asylum, COR does not consider them refugees and will not support that they may want to seek asylum after arrest.

ECHO noted that within Africa, migrants should prima facie be regarded as refugees. This might be an area for political follow up.

Some Western African migrants (Nigeria, Niger and Chad) were arrested in Red Sea state.

Figures for Eritreans are changing again, while during the first quarter no Eritreans were apprehended in Dongola, it appears that they are moving again. UNHCR is registering increasing numbers of Eritrean arrivals in Shagarab. COR is also sometimes present during round ups to identify people with refugee status.

New routes are opening: from Western Africa via Chad into Sudan (North Darfur) and further to Libya.

CH and DE visited COR Protection Unit to gather information relevant for Family reunification with recognized refugees in Europe, mainly on ID documents, Convention Travel Documents, Registration process – further information is available from Beat and Janine.

3. Information Exchange

DE highlighted the importance which in particular the information provided by the EMLO Philippe Crespo has for reporting to HQs. Due to the different roles of members of the MCG there are different levels of access to information and hence not everyone has a lot of information to share. However the ones who can and do share information provide extremely valuable input for all the others. Everyone who can provide information, whether figures or reports or studies, should share them.

ACTION FOR CO-CHAIR (DE) – to prepare an Excel spreadsheet to gather information about trainings conducted in 2016 and 2017 as well as further planned trainings. Also to contract CAN and USA embassies to gather information about trainings from their side.

ACTION FOR ALL – to populate the attached Excel spreadsheet

4. Mandate Review

In order for the MCG to improve its outcome and provide meaningful contributions on various Levels, e.g. technical expertise, operational information sharing, political decision making, the group has decided to start a review process:

1. The technical level is going to engaged in a frank and open braun storming session, guided by the following questions

1. What are your issues with the way we (meaning the EU and the member states together) work on migration in Sudan?
2. Want would you like to see the MCG do

2. The results of the above exercise will be structured and presented to the technical level.

3. Based on the presented results the technical Level will develop recommendations on how to strengthen the MCG and enhance its value for all levels (technical, operational, political).
4. The recommendations will be presented to the MCG HoMs for further consideration and finally approval.

**ACTION FOR ALL** - to contemplate the guiding questions until the next MCG meeting.