Migration Coordination Group  01 December 2016

National Coordinating Mechanism
Main aim remains to establish contact with the National Coordination Mechanism once it is up and running. IOM is supporting the set up of the NCM as part of regional IGAD project funded by Switzerland. GoS might need financial support to maintain an NCM secretariat, political support is expected to be needed at any rate. Chloe will find out more about the IOM support and report back.

Communication strategy
EU DEL prepared a questionnaire (attached) to establish what kind of communication strategies are already in place by MS and which direction the EU communication strategy should take.

The need for communication remains high. Currently we are seeing high expectations and misplaced hopes combined with little knowledge about the very different reality amongst (potential) migrants

Operational Committee
Postponed until 15 December

Project matrix
It was agreed to update the matrix by the end of the year. The January MCG meeting will be dedicated to comparing the matrix against the VAP priorities and identify gaps in the EUplus MS activities with the aim to better inform the April Operational Committee

Presentation
IOM presented the UK funded study into the drivers for migration into Sudan and onwards and their results. This study is a first attempt to gain better data about motivations and intentions. A key issue remains the lack of accurate figures on migrants needed to identify statistically relevant sample sizes. Figures about legal migration are not reliable since migration is clearly driven through irregular flows.

Questions were raised concerning the consequences of the study results for policy making? The recommendation was to foster safe migration, enhance regular channels of migration and advocate for irregular channels to be stopped.

Unanswered is the question why so few people leave compared to the overall number of people who suffer from poor living conditions. What is the missing link?

Roundtable updates:
UK supporting IOM with a number of projects:
- together is enhancing its support to the IOM Migrant Resource and Response Center in order to allow for an extension of the AVRR program and the possible construction of further MRRC in the East and the West
- The Displacement Tracking Matrix will also be extended to other forms of migration
- IOM capacity building on anti-trafficking law will produce a booklet for the judiciary
- IOM courses on Migration in Doha – Sudanese MoI has been offered a few spaces
Exploring possible project with Sudanese Red Crescent o protection

Norway is also supporting the IOM MRRC and AVRR program and will continue to do so in 2017.

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