



Funded by the European Union



Italy, lead of the RDPP NA Consortium

Supporting Tunisia's Migration Governance to Address the Needs of Vulnerable Migrants

Executing agency: International Organization for Migrations (IOM)

Funding: European Union – Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

Co-funding: Italy, Czech Republic, Norway

Geographical coverage: Tunisia

Partners: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State Secretary for Immigration and Tunisians abroad, Ministry of Social Affairs, Delegate for the Child Protection, Ministry of Youth and Sports, CSO/NGOs, international organizations (UNICEF, ICRC, UNHCR, UNFPA)

Beneficiaries: Vulnerable Migrants, Ministry of Social Affairs, Delegate for the Child Protection, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of the Interior, CSOs/NGOs, Communities of migrants in Tunisia

Duration: 24 months (01.08.2016 – 01.08.2018)

Budget: € 999.872,20

CONTEXT

Located along the central migration route connecting Sub-Saharan Africa to Europe, Tunisia is impacted by complex and mixed migration flows. Thousands of migrants fleeing situations of conflict, political instability in their countries of origin, or in search of better economic opportunities, have been transiting every year through Tunisia in their attempts to reach Europe. The majority of them come from Western Africa, i.e. Ivory Coast, Senegal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon or Mali.

Libya's prolonged crisis significantly contributed to the changes in trends of the migration flows: Departures from the Tunisian shores have decreased while Libya remains today as the main sea departing point within the region. Nevertheless, Tunisia has been impacted by the arrival of boats in distress of its coasts and has been involved in different rescue at sea operations since 2012, as well as humanitarian assistance of people rescued at sea, in coordination with local partners, international organizations and the civil society.

Within this context, the project ***“Supporting Tunisia's Migration Governance to Address the Needs of Vulnerable Migrants”*** aims at the establishment of **Migration Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM)** through an integrated approach designed to respond to the needs of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, all along the Tunisian migratory route (Médenine, Sfax and Grand

Tunis). The multidimensional approach envisaged by MRRM, allows for a combination of direct assistance to migrants, and support to voluntary return and reintegration, together with monitoring of migration flows and planning of public policies based on reliable data on migration issues.



OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this project is to improve the capabilities of Tunisian migration governance and civil society to protect the rights and respond to the needs of vulnerable migrants in the context of mixed migration flows in Tunisia. The present project will seek to cover the strategic transit areas of immigration in Tunisia (Tunis, Sfax and Médenine), the Migration Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM) will support the Tunisian migration governance respectively in:

1. Improvement of migration governance and protection of the rights of the migrants;

2. Assistance and counseling on services designed to respond to the needs of vulnerable migrants, including support to their voluntary return and integration;

3. Collection of data on mixed migration flows in Tunisia aimed at improving the comprehension of migration trends both in the country and in the region.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- IOM Tunisia, in cooperation with its national and international partners will set up a platform of Migration Resource and Response Mechanisms (**MRRM**) to offer social and medical services as well as psychosocial support and legal counseling for those migrants travelling into, through and out of Tunisia, providing them with orientation and information on the existing services available in the country and on **voluntary return and reintegration** for the most vulnerable migrants.
- The MRRMs will improve the access to information and services for migrants and **will warn them on the risks associated to irregular migration**. All this will be achieved through the setting-up of a free **hotline for assistance and orientation**, and thanks to the presence in the field of a **mobile team of IOM** in charge of reaching out migrants' communities in high density migration areas of the country.
- A special attention will be paid to **families, and unaccompanied migrant children (UMCs) or separated children**, to meet their specific needs, psychosocial and recreational activities will be carried out. A series of **trainings on the Best Interest of the Child Determination process (BID)** will be organized with national partners as well as with UNICEF and UNHCR.

- In order to guarantee a good coordination of local networks, meetings will be organized on a bi-monthly basis covering the three regions, throughout the entire project's implementation.

- **A series of trainings on mixed migration flows and on the protection and rights of migrants will be organized** to ensure the updating of professional knowledge of local authorities and NGOs, as well as of migrants' associations in Zarzis, Sfax and Tunis.

- The project will contribute to the improvement of the **collection of data on migrations** along the migratory route across Tunisia. To this purpose, a series of **trainings on data collection and analysis of reliable data on migrations in Tunisia will be organized**, to reinforce, in this way, the capacities of stakeholders present on the three strategic areas of the migratory route.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER :



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Italy - Ministry of Interior
Ms. Carmelita F. Ammendola - Head of Unit III – International Relations
Email: carmelita.ammendola@interno.it
DG HOME AND MIGRATION
Email: Home-notifications-C3@ec.europa.eu