

## Migration MPTF JOINT PROGRAMME UPDATE

PROJECT INFORMATION	
<b>Joint Programme Title</b>	Evidence-based migration policy planning and discourse in North Macedonia
<b>Country(ies)/Region (or indicate if a global initiative):</b>	North Macedonia
<b>Project Identification Number:</b>	00124541
<b>Convening UN Organization:</b>	International Organization for Migration – IOM
<b>Participating UN Organization(s) (PUNOs):</b>	United Nations Population Fund – UNFPA United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – UNHCR
<b>Key Partners: (Include Implementing Partner)</b>	Ministry of Interior; State Statistical Office; Ministry of Labor and Social Policy. Ministry of Information Society and Public Administration, National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia; and Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>Project Period (Start – End Dates):</b>	28.10.2020-27.04.2023
<b>Update as of:</b>	<b>01.01-30.06.2021</b>
<b>Total Approved Migration MPTF Budget: (Breakdown by participating UN organization)</b>	IOM: 653,628 USD UNHCR: 474,010 USD UNFPA: 372,362 USD Total: 1,500,000 USD
<b>Total Funds Received to Date: (Breakdown by participating UN organization)</b>	IOM: 457,540 USD UNHCR: 331,807 USD UNFPA: 260,653 USD Total: 1,050,000 USD
<b>Update Submission Date:</b>	13.08.2021
<b>Update Prepared by: (Name, title, email)</b>	Jelena Krasic, Joint Project Coordinator, <a href="mailto:jkrasic@iom.int">jkrasic@iom.int</a>



## Progress Summary

- **Draft Migration Policy 2021-2025 developed.** The project supported the Intra-governmental body on Migration Policy with expert and logistics support. The Intra-governmental body will be submitting the Draft Policy for government review and approval, followed by Parliament review and adoption. Adoption of the Migration Policy expected by the end of 2021.
- **New country specific Migration Profile 2021 developed,** covering the period 2009-2020, and including relevant migration management information. The gathered data for the Profile contributed for the development of the new Migration policy.
- **Migration Module questionnaire and Guidelines** for its implementation developed. Piloting of this module in the Labour force survey in planned for 2022. The questionnaire was developed in close cooperation with the State Statistical Office (SSO) as per the EUROSTAT standards and included questions that are covering the information about the country nationals that are living and working abroad. Note: Outside of this Joint Project, the SSO has developed a separate module by following EUROSTAT standards that includes questions about the foreigners residing in the country.
- **“Migration Governance Index”** implemented, with usage of the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) methodology. Its findings also contributed to the development of the new Migration Policy 2021-2025. By 30th of June 2021, the MGI matrix was finalized and the draft of the MGI Report was reviewed by the national stakeholders represented in the Technical Working Group (TWG) and shared with the Economist Intelligence Unit for its finalization.
- Identified needs and provided recommendations for the improvement of the **inter and intra institutional data collection and exchange mechanisms** through the assessment conducted within the Joint Project.
- **Identified areas for the improvement of the functioning of the Intra-governmental body on Migration Policy and its members’ capacity building needs** through the assessment conducted with the Joint Project support. Based on the findings, a series of capacity building trainings will be organized and the development of procedural documents for the body will be supported.
- **Set grounds for the planned piloting of the usage of “big-data”** for government-led migration population analysis through the established cooperation with the Southampton University, the Faculty of Computer Science & Engineering (FINKI) in Skopje, the National Bank, the Ministry of Information Society and Administration, the State Statistical Office, and the private sector (telecommunication and electro-distribution companies).
- **Initiated development of the Communications Strategy for Social Change** with identified key messages and narratives in order to create a positive and proactive view on migrants and refugees among the national stakeholders. Strengthened work of the Advisory Body with the University of Florida which supports the drafting and implementation of the strategy, ensures a community-engaged approach, and widens the perspective of the communications experts.
- **Built capacities of 163 individuals** (58% women, 89.2% average rating of the overall experience of the training) from the governmental bodies and relevant ministries, civil society organizations and UN entities on the “Effective Crisis Communication”, “Social media use and metrics” and the “Social marketing and social capacity building” with the support from the University of Kentucky. The number of trained individuals has exceeded the target set in the Joint Project by 36%. The capacity building sessions were funded as a contribution to the project by UNHCR North Macedonia.
- Organized first Steering Committee (SC) meeting (10<sup>th</sup> of February 2021) with 23 SC members as well as the second (31<sup>st</sup> of March 2021) and the third (30<sup>th</sup> of June 2021) TWG meetings of the Joint Project with 14 TWG members attending on average, as well as regular monthly meetings of the three implementing UN entities and RCO. The meetings were used to **further build the partnerships with the governmental bodies and relevant ministries, civil society organizations and UN entities** in the area of migration management, noting the important role that the migration plays in the country development by lobbying for the incorporation of these points in the development of the new country migration policy and the relevant migration data management tools and mechanisms.
- To assure the **project visibility**, the information about the 1<sup>st</sup> project Steering Committee meeting ([UN North Macedonia Sustainable Development Bulletin February 2021](#)) and implementation of the Migration Governance Index ([UN North Macedonia Sustainable Development Bulletin March 2021](#)) were presented and shared with the national stakeholders and the donor community through the UN North Macedonia monthly bulletin, reaching more than **2000 stakeholders** from government, civil, private sector and international community, and [IOM bi-monthly newsletter](#). A new institutional [Instagram account](#) was opened in order to reach a greater portion of youth in the country with the messaging that will be developed within the Communication Strategy. The account has succeeded in getting **303** followers by end of June 2021. In addition, specific design templates were developed for the purpose of communicating messaging on social media with a unified Joint Project visual.

**Indicative financial progress**

	PUNO 1 - IOM		PUNO 2 - UNHCR		PUNO 3 - UNFPA		TOTAL (all PUNOs)	
	Budget	Expenditures / commitments	Budget	Expenditures / commitments	Budget	Expenditures / commitments	Budget	Expenditures / commitments
Outcome 1	215,000	43,480	33,000	4,000	196,830	73,000	444,830	120,480
Outcome 2	136,258	7,033	30,000	0	30,000	0	196,258	7,033
Outcome 3	50,000	0	225,660	27,990	0	0	275,660	27,990
Other costs (*)	252,370	36,719	185,350	29,305	145,532	0	583,252	66,024
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>653,628</b>	<b>87,232</b>	<b>474,010</b>	<b>61,295</b>	<b>372,362</b>	<b>73,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>221,527</b>

**3,000 USD from UNHCR's own funds were used as contribution to the Joint Project for implementation of the trainings on: "Effective Crisis Communication", "Social media use and metrics" and the "Social marketing and Social capacity building"**

**Please state what US\$ amount was planned to be allocated to activities focussed on gender equality and women empowerment and how much has been actually spent/committed to date: 517,028 USD/76, 427 USD**

**Is the payment of the second tranche required: No**

- o **If yes, what is the percentage of consumption of the first tranche (more than 70% must be spent or committed):**
- o **If no, when do you expect to seek payment of the second tranche: Q3 or latest Q4 of 2022**