Managing Migration in a Mediterranean context

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### Arrivals by boat in selected Mediterranean countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
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<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>15314</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>20458</td>
<td>36951</td>
<td>7567</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>of which</td>
<td>18.350</td>
<td>12169</td>
<td>31236</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lampedusa</td>
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<td>Malta</td>
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<td>2775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
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<td>13424</td>
<td>1798</td>
</tr>
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(Canary Islands)
Mediterranean – a region of mixed flows

- Economic migrants;
- Environmental migrants;
- Asylum seekers;
- Victims of trafficking;
- Unaccompanied minors;
- Other vulnerable groups incl. migrants with special needs (sick, elderly)
Characteristics of Migrants

- Majority – young, able bodied men
- Numbers of women growing (strong suspicion of trafficking)
- Movement: both solo and organized
- Facilitated by stretches of desert
- Absence of state institutions
- Poor Security
Characteristics of Migrants

Sub Saharan Migrants

- Many legs/years/assistance from communities
- Utilize ECOWAS protocol provisions
- Easy blend; language and culturally

Extra Regional

- Numerous agents, largely organized
- Links between origin state and West African and Maghreb agents
Challenge

- Managing migration in a humane manner,
- Observing human rights standards while preventing unauthorized economic migration
Special Factors affecting Migration in the Mediterranean

- Mix of Regional and Extra-Regional Migrants
- Migration IN and OUT of Africa
- Free Movement Protocol – ECOWAS Nationals (particular relevance for SAHEL and MAGHREB flows)
- International cooperation growing but still not well coordinated – national approaches often prevail
Special Factors ctd.

- Proximity to Europe
- Uncontrolled, dangerous desert and sea borders
- Great opportunity for profit and criminal enterprise
- Potential for corruption
- Routes change as smugglers react
- Growing concerns about security links
Special Factors ctd.

- Economic/financial crisis

- Cooperation Africa-Europe
  - AU/EU
  - Rabat process
  - 5+5
  - Forced and Voluntary Returns
  - Organized Labour migration - based on bilateral accords
BUT

 Majority of irregular migrants arrives by plane, train, bus – with papers, visa (fake or valid) that expire or migrants make unauthorized change of status (from student to worker)

Labour markets offer opportunities
Demography an important factor
IOM Responses – Multi faceted

- Irregular migration
  - Information/prevention campaigns in countries of origin
    Cameroon, Ghana, Libya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal
    (supported by EU AENEAS 2004 and 2006, IT, SP, CH)
  - Assistance, information and counselling services at landing areas and in reception centers
  - Assisted voluntary return + reintegration from Europe, Libya, Morocco for
    - Stranded migrants,
    - Victims of trafficking
    - Other vulnerable groups
Enhancing reception

Strengthening the Reception Services along the coasts and at reception centers of southern Italy, where Teams of IOM, UNHCR & CRI officials/cultural mediators

- provide information and legal counseling to irregular migrants,
- support the detection and referral of vulnerable migrants and asylum seekers
- monitor assistance provided in the reception centers in the respect of migrants’ rights
Assisting VOLUNTARY RETURN & REINTEGRATION - AVRR

- More than 6000 migrants assisted to return from Libya and Morocco
- Limited resources to meet AVRR needs/requests expressed by migrants and origin/transit countries
- Transit countries in SubSaharan Africa (Mali, Niger, Mauritania) too need AVRR programmes to assist intercepted/stranded migrants to return
- Lack of cooperation on identification/documentation
IOM Responses – Multi faceted

- Regular migration:
  - Labour migration, job matching, LTCO
  - DNA testing for family reunification
  - Migration for Development (MIDA)
  - Resettlement

- Migration and health
  - HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis
  - Psychosocial aspects
IOM Responses – Multi faceted

- Technical cooperation
  - Support/promote Multi-regional dialogue
  - Capacity Building
  - Training (Counter-trafficking)
Technical assistance. Partner in Across Sahara I & II

IOM has contributed to the implementation of the project, thanks to its operational presence in the three countries:

- **Libya** – IOM Tripoli

- **Niger** – IOM Niamey

- **Italy** – IOM Rome Mission, with Regional Coordination Function for the Mediterranean
IOM core activities in the project

- Participation in the Steering Committee
- Technical assistance for project management and secretariat
- Facilitating coordination among partners
- Administrative support
- **Capacity building; Training with focus on**
  - Migration, Migrants and Vulnerable Groups
  - Migrants’ Human Rights
  - Protection and Assistance of Migrants
  - Principles of interviewing and referral of vulnerable cases
The new African Capacity Building Center – Moshi (Tanzania) offering

- Standardized migration management training modules and curriculum to be delivered in Moshi or in respective countries;
- Technical assessments in border management to assist governments and/or IOM offices;
- Technical assistance to ongoing and future national and regional migration management programs;
- Training of trainers and support to governments to review and enhance its capacity in migration management.