

"The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the United Nations agency devoted to advancing opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity.

Within the UN system, the ILO has a unique tripartite structure with workers and employers participating as equal partners with governments in the work of its governing bodies.

With the expansion of labour migration, the ILO has an obligation and unique role to play in developing principles and guidelines for governments, social partners and other stakeholders in labour migration policy and improving practice in pursuit of decent work and social justice for a fair globalization."

Project budget and duration:

Total budget for both countries: EURO 1,884,376.00
Donor: European Union (80%)
Co-funders and implementers: ILO (19,07%) and IOM (0,93%)
Duration: 30 months
Launch date: 1 March, 2011

Project beneficiaries:

- migrant workers and
- return migrants.

Main stakeholders, partners and associates in Moldova:

- Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
- National Bureau of Statistics
- National Trade Unions Confederation of Moldova
- National Employers Confederation of Moldova
- International Organization for Migration
- World Bank.

"The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms.

The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders."

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

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This project is funded by the European Union



The project is implemented by the International Labour Organization together with Moldovan and Ukrainian constituents, the International Organization for Migration and the World Bank. The project is part of the European Union's thematic programme of cooperation with third countries in the areas of migration and asylum.

Effective Governance of Labour Migration and its Skill Dimensions



This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the implementing partners and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

Background:

Migration flows from the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine have significantly increased during the last two decades.

Figures from the National Bureau of Statistics in Moldova suggest that the labour force fell by half a million workers during this period. The main destination countries include Greece, Israel, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine.

The State Statistics Committee of Ukraine Migration survey in 2008 identified up to 1.5 million Ukrainians who worked abroad in the period 2005-2008.

Labour force mobility impacts directly the skills' pools in the countries of origin and destination, thus influencing considerably their economic and social situation.

Legal labour migration can be a win-win solution for both home and destination countries, as well as for individuals, while irregular migration exposes migrants to the risk of exploitation.

The development and implementation of rights-based migration policies and programmes is essential in governing labour migration.

The Project will seek to develop the capacity of relevant actors in the Government, Parliament and Workers' and Employers' organizations, to contribute to adequate migration management.

Main objectives and key activities:

Strengthening Moldova and Ukraine's capacity to regulate labour migration and promote sustainable return, with a particular focus on enhancing human resources and preventing skills waste, by:

- Building capacity to analyze the skills shortage and oversupply as a result of migration:
 - increase knowledge of migration and skills data through migration survey modules to be included in the Labour Force Survey;
 - organize a workshop to align data collection methodology to EU and ILO standards;
 - undertake a study on the link between migration and education;
 - support a study on the impact of migration on a specific profession, particularly affected by migration (teaching professionals).
- Enhancing the capacity of migration sending countries to balance migration flow and return with local and international skills needs:
 - analyze vacancies and skills needs in Moldova and Ukraine and EU countries of destination;
 - carry out occupational skill analysis and design occupational profiles in line with the national and international labour market demand;
 - test mechanisms for the recognition of prior learning;
 - collaborate with Diaspora associations for distributing information on job and business opportunities in Moldova and Ukraine.

• Building capacity to negotiate and manage rights based labour migration schemes, including agreements on social protection:

- review national legislation on social security;
- carry out training on design, negotiation and implementation of social security agreements;
- organize "Speaking days" with countries having social security agreements or negotiations in progress.
- Building capacity to govern labour migration, by enacting relevant legislation and engaging social partners:
 - organize a workshop for policy makers and other stakeholders to disseminate best practices in labour migration management from the EU and elsewhere;
 - undertake a study visit to Brussels for key stakeholders to meet the relevant European Commission services;
 - implement initiatives on social dialogue, including a study visit to Italy, support to tripartite advisory bodies on migration, creation of networks of workers' organizations;
 - review and update studies on private employment agencies and make proposals for mechanisms and sanctions to deter unethical recruitment;
 - raise awareness on ILO Convention 181 on Private Employment Agencies.