



Cadiz Action Plan implementation Overview for the period 2023 - 2024

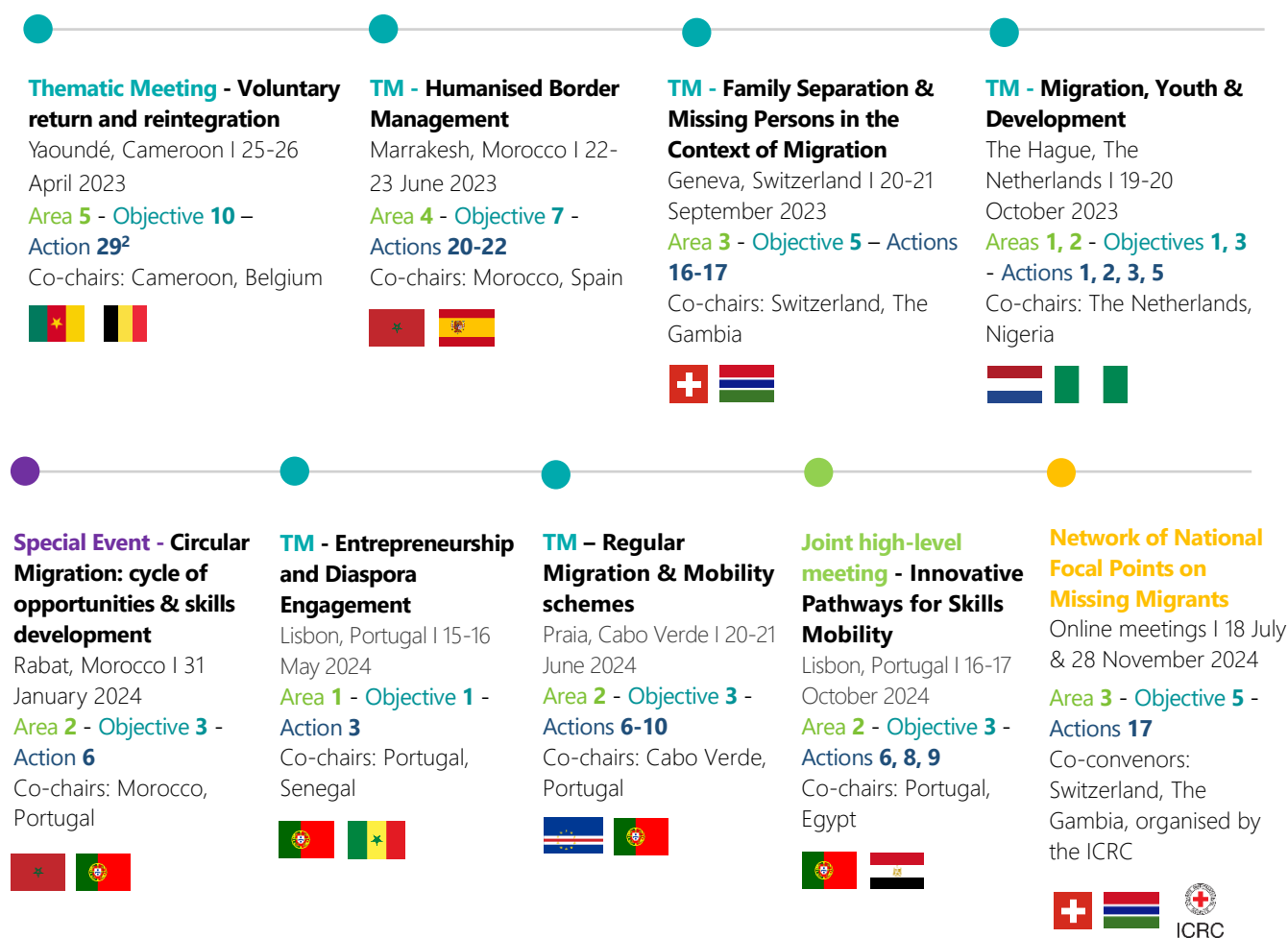
In December 2022, partner countries gathered in Cadiz, Spain, for the 6th Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, adopting the [Political Declaration and Cadiz Action Plan](#) as the guiding framework of the Rabat Process for 2023-2027. This strategic cooperation programme emphasises a comprehensive and integrated approach to migration management, in line with the five priority domains of the Joint Valletta Action Plan.

Ministers of partner countries collectively reaffirmed their commitment to **enhancing cooperation** to promote safe, orderly, and regular migration, while addressing irregular migration, as well as prevent and combat smuggling of migrants and trafficking in

human beings. The Declaration places particular emphasis on stronger partnerships, job creation, youth opportunities, legal migration pathways, and increased attention to women, youth, and diasporas as critical levers of change in achieving sustainable development. It also reinforces the importance of collaboration to support the protection of migrants and refugees, as well as return, readmission and reintegration - all while respecting sovereignty, international law and human rights.

To ensure effective implementation and periodic evaluation of the Cadiz Action Plan, the Dialogue partner countries also agreed to bolster migration research, resource mobilisation and monitoring tools.

Activities 2023-2024¹



¹ Under the Chairmanships of the Kingdom of Morocco and Portugal, excluding political meetings

² See areas, objectives and actions in the [Cadiz Action Plan](#).

Key highlights 2023-2024

A flexible agenda: Over the past two years, the Rabat Process has demonstrated its adaptability by maintaining a flexible agenda, enabling effective responses to shifting migratory contexts and emerging priorities while ensuring the Dialogue remains relevant and action-oriented.

Broader participation: Under the chairmanships of the Kingdom of Morocco (2023-2024) and Portugal (2024-2025), the Dialogue has broadened its scope by engaging a diverse array of migration stakeholders. These include key international organisations, civil society organisations, actors of the private sector, think tanks, academia, research centres, and regional and national migration observatories, such as the African Migration Observatory and the Cabo Verde Observatory.

Engaging with youth and diaspora communities: Special attention was given to involving youth and diaspora communities. Notable milestones include the 2023 Thematic Meeting (TM) on *Migration, Youth, and Development*, where young voices shaped migration policy discussions, and the 2024 TM on *entrepreneurship and diaspora engagement*, which further integrated diaspora actors into the Dialogue. For the first time, youth participated in a TM alongside partner countries of both the Rabat and Khartoum Processes. Youth Advisory Committees contributed to shaping the agenda, ensuring youth perspectives remained central to migration discussions.

Bridging Dialogues, strengthening synergies: During 2023-2024, the Rabat Process and the Khartoum Process deepened their collaboration by actively engaging participants from respective Dialogues in key activities, including in 2023 at the Khartoum Process TM on *Exploring the Potential of Mobility in the Context of Climate Change* and at the Rabat Process TM on *Migration, Youth, and Development*. Additionally, the two Dialogues hosted a joint High-Level Meeting on *Innovative Pathways and Skills Mobility* in 2024. These initiatives underline a shared commitment to harmonising migration policies at the Euro-African level and exploring innovative solutions.

Diversifying meeting formats and outcomes: The Rabat Process embraced innovative meeting formats and activities to foster richer dialogue outcomes. **Field visits**, such as the 2023 trip to the International Committee of the Red Cross Central Tracing Agency and the 2024 visit to the University of Cabo Verde to learn about the national Migration Observatory, provided participants with practical insights into migration-related efforts. The 2024 **side event**

showcasing the work of 10 diaspora civil society organisations (CSO) fostered direct exchanges between CSO representatives and partner countries. Roundtable discussions during the 2024 Joint High-Level Meeting resulted in actionable **policy recommendations**, reinforcing the commitment to addressing shared challenges.

Turning recommendations into action: A major achievement under the current Cadiz Action Plan is the creation of the **Network of National Focal Points for Missing Migrants**, aimed at catalysing government efforts to clarify the fate of missing migrants. This initiative originated as a recommendation from the 2023 TM on *Family Separation and Missing Migrants in the Context of Migration*, which emphasised the need for enhanced cross-border cooperation. Acting swiftly on this recommendation, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), with support from Switzerland, The Gambia, and the Rabat Process Secretariat, launched the Network in July 2024. The Network has since then convened twice and is set to hold regular meetings, fostering sustained collaboration on this critical issue.

Enhanced visibility: The RP Secretariat has prioritised enhancing its visibility and more regularly engaging with partner countries. Communication efforts have resulted in a growing digital presence, with increasing numbers of followers on LinkedIn (1,742) and X (1,551 as of January 2025). The production of compelling videos to showcase the Dialogue's activities and regular updates on the Rabat Process website have ensured that its initiatives and outcomes are accessible and widely recognised.

Promoting knowledge sharing: In collaboration with partner countries, the RP Secretariat has initiated the review and update of country factsheets, which were last updated online in 2018. These factsheets compile key migration information from official and relevant sources, including key policy frameworks and institutional structures. The revised versions are set to be published on the Rabat Process website in the first quarter of 2025.

Fostering collaborative insights: Inclusivity has remained central to the Dialogue's approach. Feedback from partner countries and participants, gathered through feedback forms and **insights surveys**, has guided initiatives and ensured that activities reflect shared priorities. Insights from the 2024 Joint High-Level Meeting have laid the groundwork for future thematic discussions, reinforcing the collaborative spirit of both Dialogues.

Enhancing data collection: The importance of data collection has been a recurring theme, particularly highlighted during the 2024 TM on *Regular Migration and Mobility Schemes*. Participants emphasised the critical need for robust national data management systems to monitor migratory movements and inform policy development. Based on feedback from the meeting, there is strong interest in advancing collaboration and sharing good practices to enhance data-driven migration governance.

The *JVAP Follow-up* has enabled focal points from both the Rabat and Khartoum Processes to share valuable data through the *JVAP Database*. This knowledge management system supports evidence-based migration policy-making by facilitating the exchange of information about project implementation and policy efforts across countries. The Rabat Process has continued to offer a platform for the *JVAP Follow-up* team to update partner countries and present the findings from the 2024 evaluation.

Ways forward

Sustained collaboration and a positive narrative around migration are crucial for addressing the complexities of migration governance. The Rabat Process is committed to advancing inclusive, innovative, and impactful migration policies, ensuring that partner countries remain at the forefront of shaping actionable and sustainable strategies. As the Dialogue evolves to meet emerging challenges, the active participation of stakeholders, particularly through the network of **National Focal Points**, plays a vital role in maintaining continuity and supporting collective commitment.

With Nigeria assuming the chairmanship of the Dialogue in 2025, the third year of implementation of the Cadiz Action Plan presents an opportunity for a **mid-term review**. This assessment will evaluate the implementation of the CAP from 2023 to 2025, identifying achievements, gaps, and areas for improvement. It will capture lessons learned, encourage innovation, reinforce partner countries' commitment to the strategic framework, and promote deeper engagement in upcoming activities. The review will include consultations with key stakeholders with further details to be provided during the first semester of 2025.

