



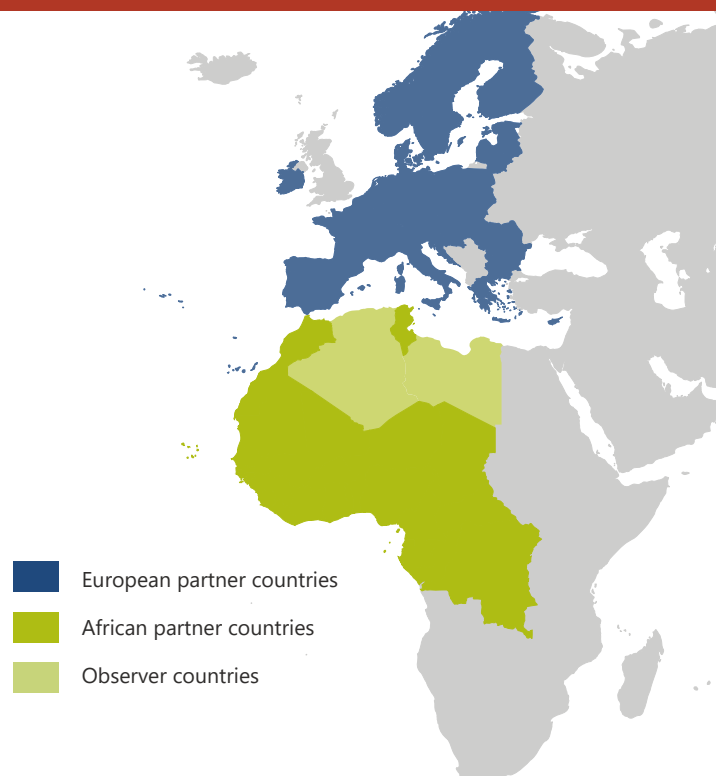
## Rabat Process

Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development

# Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development

## RABAT PROCESS

- A regional migration dialogue
- 57 countries in Central Africa, West Africa, North Africa and Europe
- Secretariat: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
- Donor: European Union



### What is the Rabat Process?

The **Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development** (Rabat Process) is a migration dialogue bringing together Central African, West African, North African and European countries and organisations.

The Rabat Process was founded in 2006 with the objective of strengthening cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination situated along the West African migration routes. It creates space for technical and political discussions on migration and development issues, guided by the principles of **solidarity, partnership, and shared responsibility**.

### What are its strategic priorities?

The Rabat Process addresses a wide range of thematic areas related to migration and development. It is guided by **multi-annual strategic programmes** that help to coordinate national efforts in the area of migration management and shape the focus of Dialogue activities. These non-binding cooperation frameworks are adopted at periodic Ministerial Conferences, attended by the ministers responsible for migration and development issues.

### Who is involved?

- 28** African countries
- 29** European countries
- 2** partner organisations (EU and ECOWAS)
- 4** international organisations as permanent observers (ICRC, IOM, UNHCR, UNODC)

The Rabat Process is a State-driven initiative that involves the administrations and political leaders of **57 partners countries**, the **European Union (EU)** and the **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)**. Additional international organisations participate as observers. The Dialogue follows a multi-stakeholder approach which involves the case-by-case participation of researchers, civil society organisations, and even the private sector.

### Thematic areas

- Development benefits of migration and root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement
- Regular migration and mobility
- Protection and asylum
- Irregular migration, migrant smuggling, and trafficking in human beings
- Return, readmission, and reintegration

Project funded by the European Union



In the framework of the Support Programme to the Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue (MMD)

Project implemented by ICMPD



This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of ICMPD and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

## How is the Rabat Process structured?

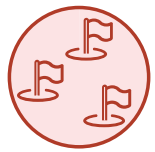
The Rabat Process relies on the active involvement of the following entities:



**The Steering Committee** is the decision-making body of the Dialogue. It stimulates cooperation, prepares decisions on the political orientation of the Dialogue and follows up on the implementation of the multi-annual cooperation programmes. It comprises five African countries (Burkina Faso, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Morocco and Senegal) and five European countries (Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal and Spain), as well as the EU and ECOWAS.



**The Chair of the Dialogue** holds a one-year mandate, alternating between African and European Steering Committee members. The Chair's role is to create momentum, moderate meetings and help to find consensus among diverging positions.



**The reference countries** have a special role in prioritising and operationalising actions that are in line with the multi-annual cooperation programmes. They contribute to the overall coordination of activities related to their respective thematic area, facilitate the sharing of expertise for future Dialogue activities, help to identify actions where needs are expressed, and ensure all priorities are adequately addressed.



**National Focal Points** are contact points within the administrations of each partner country who share their knowledge at Dialogue meetings or identify national thematic experts to do so. They disseminate the Dialogue's results at the national level and strengthen the sense of ownership of the Dialogue.



**The Secretariat** facilitates all Dialogue activities and ensures strategic liaison with partners. It provides expertise and knowledge, shares key documents and builds networks. The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (**ICMPD**), an international organisation, currently acts as Secretariat of the Rabat Process in the framework of the EU-funded project "Support Programme to the Africa-EU Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (**MMD**)".

## What activities are implemented by the Rabat Process?

The Rabat Process combines **political, technical** and **operational** dimensions. Activities in its framework are **State-driven** and supported by the **Secretariat**. The Dialogue also aims to provide the impetus for policies and initiatives pursued by partner countries at national, bilateral and regional levels, in line with the jointly agreed objectives.

- ▶ **Political meetings** to debate and define the strategic objectives guiding the Dialogue;
- ▶ **Thematic meetings and technical workshops**, bringing together subject matter experts of partner countries and organisations, to exchange about challenges and good practices related to migration and development;
- ▶ **Monitoring of the Joint Valletta Action Plan (JVAP)**, adopted together with Khartoum Process countries at the 2015 Valletta Summit on Migration;
- ▶ **Knowledge-sharing and building** activities led by the Secretariat, such as studies, reports, and networking;
- ▶ **Communication** in order to widely disseminate results, using tools such as the Rabat Process website, videos, infographics and social media.

## Connect with us

[www.rabat-process.org](http://www.rabat-process.org) | [rabatprocess@icmpd.org](mailto:rabatprocess@icmpd.org)

