



Shaping Migration

Advisory Service

The challenge

Migration is a global reality with many opportunities as well as challenges. At present, around 3 per cent of the world's population – approximately 250 million people – are living outside their countries of origin.

Migration may be voluntary, involuntary, regular (e.g. through freedom of movement agreements) or irregular. In many cases, the countries involved find it difficult to manage the diverse challenges of migration appropriately. In target 10.7 of Agenda 2030, the United Nations call on the international community to 'facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people'.

The risks associated with migration include human rights violations such as human trafficking or exploitation of labour migrants. Moreover, any form of migration poses gender-specific risks and challenges, but it also creates opportunities. Viewing a migration context through a gender lens means always considering the families who have stayed at home.

For migrants and their families, migration is an opportunity for a better life. The countries of origin also benefit: the cash (known as remittances) that migrants send back home from employment in the host country boosts their local economies.

Our approach

Our context-specific advisory services cover topics such as protection and rights of labour migrants, integration, knowledge transfer, and remittances. Since international migrants cross borders, we support cooperation between home and host countries.

Our services

Migration policy advice/migration governance: GIZ supports partner governments and regional organisations in developing and implementing, at all levels, legal, political and social framework conditions that facilitate the management of migration. Our focus is on policy coherence, creating safe and regulated migration routes, and building capacities for cooperation on countering human trafficking and smuggling. As civil society generally has the most direct contact with migrants and host communities, we support the development of institutional frameworks that are conducive to civil society involvement. Civil society organisations are able to advocate for the target groups in their dealings with public authorities and can improve access to justice and law enforcement.

Development-oriented labour mobility: GIZ supports labour migration at each stage in the migration cycle from the country of origin to the destination country and assists with return and reintegration where appropriate. Its services include providing advice to prospective migrants, e.g. at migration advice centres in partner countries. Preparatory courses, which focus on language and technical skills, but also liaison between worker and employer as well as integration support are offered in partnership with the German Federal Employment Agency and in accordance with the principle of fair public-private cost-sharing. Advisory services and local institutional capacity building may also include targeted investment in home countries' training infrastructure in order to address skills shortages in both countries.

Remittances: Remittances are an important source of income for countries of origin. We advise our partners



on making use of these funds for national development. Here, our services include capacity building for financial institutions, as well as advice for migrants on financial issues and access to savings, credit and insurance products. We also run the remittances price comparison website, which provides information about remittance transaction costs and services (www.geldtransfair.de).

Private sector development through migration: Private sector engagement by migrants – whose experience enables them to act as bridge-builders – has great potential to stimulate development. We advise on ways of promoting and providing appropriate services for business start-ups by migrants – both diaspora and returnees – and support trade links established by migrants.

Diaspora cooperation in the non-profit sector: Non-profit engagement by migrants also offers benefits for the countries of origin. Our Migration for Development programme supports migrant associations in Germany in implementing development projects in their countries of origin. This involves building local partners' capacities and creating synergies with German development organisations.

Knowledge transfer through return: Returning migrants bring with them the knowledge and experience that they have gained abroad – the most important resource, besides saved capital, that they can contribute to development in their countries of origin. So that migrants are able to make profitable use of their knowledge in the local context, we provide support services to skilled returnees in order to facilitate their reintegration into the labour market.

Integration, reintegration, return: (Re)integration is an adaptation process between migrants and host communities. Sustainable (re)integration means social, economic

and political participation by all stakeholder groups. This requires effort not only by refugees and migrants themselves but also by host communities and their governments. We assist governments to develop structures and processes which facilitate successful integration. We also support civil society organisations that run integration programmes, and we encourage refugees, migrants and host communities to make use of these offers.

The benefits

In accordance with Agenda 2030, GIZ's human rights-based and gender-sensitive approach focuses on strengthening the positive effects of migration and mitigating its risks. GIZ is engaged during every phase of migration: before departure, throughout the stay in the host country, and until a possible return and reintegration in the home country. GIZ aims to ensure that migrants, host and home countries all benefit from migration – a triple win.

An example from the field

Within the framework of the Strengthening Selected Municipalities in the Management of Migration programme (RECOSA), GIZ is assisting the Ministry of Moroccan Expatriates and Migration Affairs in implementing the National Strategy on Immigration and Asylum, which includes the introduction of a new rights-based migration and displacement policy. Among other things, the project promotes the development of services and structures that facilitate economic, social and cultural (re)integration. To that end, it provides targeted support, in the form of vocational training, language and literacy courses, to local communities, migrants, refugees and Moroccan returnees.

Imprint

Published by:
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

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Eschborn 2018