



Migration MPTF

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT TEMPLATE

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Joint Programme Title	Evidence-based migration policy planning and discourse in North Macedonia
Country(ies)/Region (or indicate if a global initiative):	North Macedonia
Project Identification Number:	00124541
Convening UN Organization:	International Organization for Migration – IOM
Participating UN Organization(s) (PUNOs):	United Nations Population Fund – UNFPA United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – UNHCR
Key Partners: (include Implementing Partner)	Ministry of Interior; State Statistical Office; Ministry of Labor and Social Policy; Ministry of Information Society and Public Administration, National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia; and Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Project Period (Start – End Dates):	28.10.2020-27.04.2023
Reporting Period:	28.10-31.12.2020
Total Approved Migration MPTF Budget: (breakdown by participating UN organization)	IOM: 653,628 USD UNHCR: 474,010 USD UNFPA: 372,362 USD Total: 1,500,000 USD
Total Funds Received to Date: (breakdown by participating UN organization)	IOM: 457,540 USD UNHCR: 331,807 USD UNFPA: 260,653 USD Total: 1,050,000 USD
Report Submission Date:	05.03.2020
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project “Evidence-based migration policy planning and discourse in North Macedonia” began implementation on 28th of October 2020 and will end on 27th of April 2023. It aims to support policy makers in North Macedonia to effectively manage demographic and migration dynamics through development of evidence-based migration policies based on improved systemic data collection and analysis and enhanced inter- institutional data exchange; and improve the perception of the general public and policy makers about immigrants and refugees.

Given the recent start of program, the key achievements in the reporting period relate to the official launch of the project, the establishment of coordination mechanisms and successful implementation of the project’s preparatory phase.

During the first internal coordination meeting held on 3rd of November 2020 the International Organization for Migration – IOM as the convening UN Organization, together with the United Nations Population Fund – UNFPA and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – UNHCR as Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs) as well as the UN Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) issued a joint Press release (Annex 4) that was used to announce the project start including the acknowledgement of the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) and the contributing countries; the development of the communication and visibility package and the establishment of the project management and coordination bodies. Two more internal coordination meetings were organized¹ first one about the planned organization of the Technical working group meeting with the key project partners, and second one for the developed project Monitoring Plan.

To enable a smooth coordination among the project team beyond the main focal points of the PUNOs and RCO, additional focal points on communication, finance, and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) were nominated. Also, a dedicated Microsoft Teams space for this project was developed, to enable better internal coordination and co-creation/collaboration within the UN team and is regularly populated with key information and documents on the project.

The general public, including the national stakeholders were informed about the project start through a Press Release that was covered by 12 media portals, 2 TV stations, 1 newspaper as well as IOM, UNFPA and UNHCR social media (Annex 5). The Joint Project (JP) Communication and Visibility Plan, Communication and Visibility Guidelines, Factsheets and the joint project memo for external communication were developed and shared with MPTF, while the Factsheet was shared with the Cabinet of the Prime Minister (Annexes 1, 2 and 3). In addition, on 1st of December, the Heads of PUNOs, RCO representative and the Joint Project Coordinator presented the project components and expected results to the Cabinet of the Prime Minister and informed the meeting participants on the project management and coordination structure.

¹ On 27th of November and 03rd of December 2020

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the country have impacted the work of the institutions (from lockdowns and working from home to flexible working arrangements, and rotations, and more) causing delays in the establishment of the project coordination bodies, i.e the Steering Committee (SC) and the Technical Working Group (TWG) that were successfully established in December 2020². The first meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) established within the project was organized on 22nd of December with 20 participants from the key project partners, PUNOs and RCO. The aim of the first TWG, among other, was to coordinate the process of the implementation of the foreseen activities, including the development and alignment of number of documents and assessments in migration management area that will be conducted by the international or national experts engaged under this joint project. The meeting was used to inform TWG members about, and receive their feedback on, the planned activities. The meeting participants received the meeting agenda, the PowerPoint presentation, as well as the extracts in Macedonian language of the Migration profile, Migration Governance index and the list of 94 indicators to be used for its development.

During the reporting period the joint project was presented to the MPTF Steering Committee members, the Fund contributors, UN entities, the Fund Management Unit (FMU), host governments and implementing partners on two occasions. On 16th of November UN Resident Coordinator and IOM Head of Office presented the joint project, planned actions and the expected results during the Migration MPTF Virtual Workshop on Risk Management Strategy; while on 16th of December, the Director of Multilateral Cooperation from the Macedonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs participated in the UN Network on Migration Annual Meeting where he presented the Government support of the joint project, the strong cooperation with the UN agencies, the foreseen activities, as well as overall Government efforts in the migration management area and the implementation of the goals set in the Global Compact on Migration.

ANNUAL PROJECT PROGRESS

This report provides a summary of the preparatory activities undertaken by the PUNOs during the first two months of the project implementation. According to the Joint project **Annex D3: Workplan**, the overall project implementation is on track as presented below in the status of the implementation of the planned activities, under the specific outputs and outcomes for the period 28th of October – 31st of December 2020:

Outcome 1: Policy makers and institutional stakeholders design and implement evidence-based and coordinated migration policies

Output 1.1 New comprehensive Migration Policy is developed and adopted

Activity 1.1.1. Expert support to the inter-ministerial body in development of the Resolution on Migration Policy 2021-2025

² The SC Membership of the inter-ministerial body responsible for development of the new migration policy is pending the completion of the process of establishment of the body that was still ongoing by the end of the reporting period. The estimated establishment of the body is the first quarter of 2021 that will allow timely project implementation.

PUNOs management has initiated the process of planning of the implementation of this activity. A consultative meeting with the Cabinet of the Prime Minister was conducted on 1st of December 2020 where the planned actions were presented to the designated Cabinet members. IOM initiated the drafting of the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for engagement of one of the two national consultants that will support the Government inter-institutional body in development of the migration policy. The ToRs for the second consultant will be developed by UNHCR. UNHCR conducted consultation meetings with experts on the anticipatory governance³ to explore anticipatory approaches⁴ to the new Migration Policy as well as migration management in general. Both agencies will agree on the specific roles and expertise of the consultants during the first quarter of 2021. The first TWG meeting was also used to present this activity and inform the TWG members about the upcoming actions in addition to the role of UN agencies and the Governmental multi-agency body that will be established to lead this process.

Activity 1.1.2. Support to government entities in coordination of the policy preparation process

Due to impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, by the end of December 2020, the nominations of the Head and Deputy Head of the Governmental multi-agency body were still pending and are expected to be completed during the first quarter of 2021 when this activity will start.

Activity 1.1.3. Support in presentation, translation, and publication of the Migration Policy 2021-2025

Activity planned to be implemented in 2021.

Output 1.2 By 2022, data collection mechanisms are strengthened as a key precondition for evidenced based policy making

Activity 1.2.1. Develop a country specific Migration Profile

According to the project document two local consultants need to be engaged for the development of the country specific Migration Profile. IOM has presented and shared the Guide for development of the Migration Profile as well as the template of the Profile containing the pre-defined structure with the TWG members during the first TWG meeting held on 22nd of December 2020. In January, IOM and UNHCR will proceed with development and finalization of the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the engagement of local consultants and publish them on their respective web pages and share the announcement link with the TWG members to initiate the application and the selection process.

Activity 1.2.2. Support the incorporation of the standard migration module in the labour force survey and pilot the survey

This activity is planned to be implemented at the end of 2021.

Activity 1.2.3. Support the further alignment with EU and international standards on migration statistics

³Anticipatory governance is a method of decision making that uses predictive measures to anticipate possible outcomes to then make decisions based on the data provided. It is characterised by four components. 1) systematic use of futures methods to generate data about potential outcomes 2) a networked system that integrates foresight into policy making and execution 3) feedback systems for recalibration of policies and knowledge gathering 4) the ability to make decisions based on that knowledge.

⁴ For a more detailed overview of strategic foresight and anticipatory governance refer to: <https://www.oecd.org/strategic-foresight/ourwork/Strategic%20Foresight%20for%20Better%20Policies.pdf>

The actions foreseen under this activity were presented in detail by the IOM Joint Project Coordinator to the TWG members during the first meeting held on 22nd of December 2020. The TWG members were informed about the goal of the activity and the expected results as well as on the planned coordination with other similar interventions to assure complementarity and avoid overlaps.

Activity 1.2.4. Implement the “Migration Governance Index” (MGI) with usage of the Migration Governance Indicators methodology

In order to initiate the process of implementation of the first national Migration Governance Index (MGI), IOM in North Macedonia has organized a coordination meeting with IOM’s Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) and IOM Regional Office (RO) in Vienna on 1st of December 2020. During the meeting IOM, the IOM Joint Project Coordinator presented the planned implementation of the MGI with usage of the Migration Governance Indicators methodology as foreseen in the project document. GMDAC⁵ informed that the new cycle for MGI development started on 01st of October 2020 and will end on 01st of October 2021 and North Macedonia will be included in it. GMDAC also explained the 4-step process for the MGI development and all present have agreed on the following:

1. Presentation and support from the Government

As the project is already endorsed by the Government there is no need for another Government letter specifically for the Ministry of Interior. IOM’s GMDAC has asked for the joint project document with the signatures and IOM has provided it. Also, GMDAC advised the team to use the first steering committee or TWG meeting to again inform the stakeholders about this activity and include this in the meeting minutes. Based on that IOM delivered a presentation on this activity to the TWG members on the 22nd of December, 2020.

2. Data collection process

MGI matrix with 94 indicators is already developed in excel format. The IOM joint project team will share version in Macedonian language with the relevant project coordination bodies. As part of IOM’s proven MGI methodology, expert(s) from the Economist Intelligence Unit will be engaged to conduct a desk review of the key documents, available data and statistics, and if needed interviews will be scheduled with the relevant governmental institutions. The IOM joint project team will support the field work and liaison with the relevant counterparts.

Based on the initially gathered data the draft MGI matrix is filled and based on the matrix a draft report with identified priority areas will be prepared and reviewed by IOM North Macedonia, GMDAC and IOM’s Regional Office in Vienna (RO Vienna) for quality assurance. A second draft report will be prepared based on the inputs provided by IOM North Macedonia, GMDAC and IOM RO Vienna.

3. Consultations and validation by the Government stakeholders

The second draft report will be presented before the national stakeholders to gather their inputs and recommendations, and validation of the report.

⁵ <https://gmdac.iom.int/>

During December 2020, IOM GMDAC prepared a Service contract for engagement of the Economist Intelligence Unit and initiated the process of selection of the lead expert to conduct this action from the pre-defined roster. The activity is expected to start by the end of January 2021.

4. Finalization of the report and publishing

The MGI development and finalization process will not exceed one year. After the Migration Governance Snapshots will be finalized and vetted by the government counterparts, following which it will be published on the IOM's Global Migration Data Portal.

Activity 1.2.5. Pilot the usage of “big-data” for government led migration population analysis

The piloting of the “big-data” usage for the government led migration population analysis will be initiated in the beginning of 2021, within the frameworks of the new UNFPA Country Programme Document (CPD) 2021-2025, due to be approved by the Executive Board in the beginning of February 2021. As UNFPA is currently wrapping up its 2016-2020 Programme Cycle, only preparatory work was initiated during the reporting period with the development of ToR for engagement of UNFPA project staff. The planned piloting of the usage of “big-data” for government led migration population analysis was explained in detail by the UNFPA representatives during the first TWG meeting.

Output 1.3 The national stakeholders have the capacity to develop and support the implementation migration policies that meet EU and international standards

Activity 1.3.1. Organize capacity building trainings on strengthening the data management (the collection, processing, analysis and utilization of migration data and statistics)

The actions foreseen under this activity were presented in detail before the TWG members during the first meeting held on 22nd of December 2020. The TWG members were informed about the goal of the activity and the expected results.

Activity 1.3.2. Build the capacities of the multi-agency coordination body

The establishment of the body was still on-going by the end of the reporting period due to the COVID-19 caused delays in the nominations for the body's Head and Deputy Head. The start of the activity is pending completion of this process, expected to be completed during the first quarter of 2021.

OUTCOME 2: Inter and intra institutional data exchange mechanisms and collaboration among key institutions with competences on migration management are enhanced

Output 2.1. The national institutions have the capacities to exchange migration related data in line with EU and international standards

Activity 2.1.1. Conduct an assessment of needs and preparation of recommendations on inter and intra institutional data collection and exchange mechanisms

This activity is planned to be implemented in 2021.

Activity 2.1.2. Provide advisory, capacity-building and technical support (experts equipment/training/ SoPs, procedures/ upgrading and/or enhancing existing system/databases) for enhancing of data collection, analyses and exchange

This activity is planned to be implemented in 2022.

OUTCOME 3: The general public and the policy makers view migrants and refugees as development actors

Output 3.1. The General public have positive narratives and perceptions towards migrants and refugees

Activity 3.1.1. Implement informative campaign

This activity is planned to be implemented at the end of 2021.

Output 3.2. The policy and opinion makers have the capacities to develop and support the implementation of policies based on positive and proactive view on migrants and refugees

Activity 3.2.1. Implementation of the Strategy for Social Change: Capacity building of national- level stakeholders on greater inclusion of migrants and refugees

Activity 3.2.2. Implementation of the Strategy for Social Change: Capacity building of national- level stakeholders on greater inclusion of migrants and refugees

Activity 3.2.3. Implementation of the Strategy for Social Change: Capacity building of national- level stakeholders on greater inclusion of migrants and refugees

The implementation of these activities is planned to start in 2021. However, during the reporting period, an internal UNHCR Communications Strategy for Social Change development support group has been established, to support the development of the Strategy. Preparations for the establishing of an Advisory Board, which will advise on the development and implementation of the Strategy, have also been initiated.

During the first TWG meeting the UNHCR representative presented in details the Component 3 of the Joint Project including the development and implementation of the Strategy for Social Change and planned actions for building of the capacities of the national stakeholders in the area of anticipatory policy development and management.

Results Reporting Framework						
INDICATORS	Baseline	Results achieved for the reporting period (only provide data for the specified year)			Cumulative Results <i>Note: For Y1 report, this will be the same; For Y2 report, it will be Y1+Y2; and for Y3 report, it will be Y1+Y2+Y3</i>	Notes
		Y1 2020	Y 2	Y 3		
Outcome 1: Policy makers and institutional stakeholders design and implement evidence-based and coordinated migration policies						
Indicator 1a - Extent to which stakeholders use the produced data, migration tools and methodologies in the policy development and implementation	2 - Limited extent (on a scale from 1 to 5)	/			/	
Indicator 1b - Level of alignment of the policies with the international and EU data management standards	Partially aligned with the international and EU standards	/			/	
Output 1.1 New comprehensive Migration Policy is developed and adopted						
Indicator 1.1.a – Comprehensive and systematic migration policy available	Migration Policy 2016-2020	/			/	The development of the new 2021-2025 Migration Policy will be conducted in 2021.
Output 1.2 By 2022, data collection mechanisms are strengthened as a key precondition for evidenced based policy making						
Indicator 1.2a - Number of data management tools and/or mechanisms applied by the institutions	0	0			0	The preparatory actions were initiated needed for the successful development of the data management tools and/or mechanisms.

Indicator 1.2b – Complementary data source of migration stocks and flows available	None	None			None	The preparatory actions were initiated needed for the successful development of the data management tools and/or mechanisms.
Output 1.3 The national stakeholders have the capacity to develop and support the implementation migration policies that meet EU and International standards						
Indicator 1.3a - Number of individuals trained on data management (gender disaggregated)/ Number of trainees whose knowledge/skills improved	0	0			0	The activity will be initiated in 2021.
Indicator 1.3b - Number of training sessions/meetings/ conferences	None	None			None	The activity will be initiated in 2021.
Outcome 2: Inter and intra institutional data exchange mechanisms and collaboration among key institutions with competences on Migration management are enhanced						
Indicator 2a - The frequency of inter and intra institutional data exchange, (measured through a frequency of communication and: A) Number of mechanisms established B) Number of protocols developed)	Low frequency of data exchange	/			/	
Output 2.1. The national institutions have the capacities to exchange migration related data in line with EU and international standards						
Indicator 2.1a – Number of needs assessments on inter and intra institutional data collection and exchange mechanisms	0	0			0	The activity will be implemented in 2021.
Indicator 2.1b – Number of individuals trained, disaggregated by	0	0			0	The activity is planned to be implemented in 2022.

sex and institutions / number of trainees whose knowledge/skills improved						
Indicator 2.1c – Number of developed/updated SOPs/procedures	0	0			0	The activity is planned to be implemented from 2022.
Indicator 2.1d – Number of developed or upgraded data management/exchange systems	0	0			0	The activity is planned to be implemented from 2022.
Outcome 3: The general public and the policy makers view migrants and refugees as development actors						
Indicator 3a - % of increase in policy and opinion makers' perception towards migrants and refugees as development actors	Baseline will be determined with the baseline study	/			/	
Output 3.1 The general public adopts positive narratives and perceptions of migrants and refugees						
Indicator 3.1a – Number of persons reached with the country wide and local level campaigns	0	0			0	The activity is planned to be implemented in 2021.
Indicator 3.1b – Availability of an informative campaign, developed and disseminated in traditional and social media	No	No			No	The activity is planned to be implemented in 2021.
Output 3.2: The policy and opinion makers have the capacities to develop and support the implementation of policies based on positive and proactive view on migrants and refugees						
Indicator 3.2a - Number of journalists trained, by sex and age/ Number of trainees whose knowledge/skills improved	20	0			0	The activity is planned to start from the end of 2021.

Indicator 3.2b - Number of articles/broadcasts from journalists with positive narratives and perceptions;	10 articles/broadcasts	0			0	The activity is planned to start from the end of 2021.
Indicator 3.2c - Number of individuals trained on the Communication Strategy for Social Change/ Number of trainees whose knowledge/skills improved	None	None			None	The activity is planned to start from the end of 2021.
Indicator 3.2d – Number of public events organized or supported in order for the public to adopt positive narratives and perceptions of migrants and refugees	2 events	0			0	The activity is planned to start from the end of 2021.



3. PARTNERSHIPS

During the reporting period the Joint Project team in coordination with RCO has developed a Letter with request for nomination from the partner institutions and civil society organizations' members and deputy members in the JP Steering Committee and Technical Working Group.

In November 2020 the letters were sent to 10 national institutions and CSOs (the Secretariat for European Affairs, Ministry of Interior, State Statistical Office, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Information Society and Public Administration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia, Macedonian Young Lawyers Association (MYLA), Macedonian Platform for Poverty Reduction (MPPR), and European Policy Institute (EPI) and follow up meetings were conducted by the PUNOs and RCO, resulting with receiving nominations from all of them by 04th of December 2020.

Regarding the development of the new country migration policy, during November 2020, all 3 PUNOs have received a request for nominations of their members in the inter-institutional body that will be established to lead this process. By the end of December 2020, the nominations of the body Head and Deputy Head were still pending due to COVID-19 situation. Once the process is completed, PUNOs will request the body nominations for SC membership.

In addition, PUNOs senior management and the UN Resident Coordinator conducted an internal coordination meeting to discuss and agree on the next steps regarding the development of the new country migration policy. The present have agreed to open a discussion about the planned activities and their timeline as per the JP with the Cabinet of the Prime Minister as well as with the SC members during the first SC meeting that was planned to be organized during the first quarter of 2021.

On 1st of December 2020 the meeting with the Cabinet of the Prime Minister was organized. Based on the discussion PUNOs and RCO have provided the Cabinet with the list of SC and TWG members, and the Cabinet will have to inform the RCO about the status with the establishment of the inter-ministerial body that will lead the process of development of the new Resolution on Migration Policy 2021-2025 once it is completed.

4. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

On 12th of November, the Press Release was shared with the media announcing the start of the joint UN support to the development of an evidence-based migration policy in North Macedonia focusing among other on the protection of the human rights of migrations, their ability to contribute to society both economically and socially and the need to inform and sensitize the general public, media



representatives and key national stakeholders, regarding migrants and refugees' contribution to national development, and to prevent stigmatization.

In addition, during the first TWG meeting the TWG members were informed by the project team that human rights, gender-responsive and child sensitive approaches are mainstreamed in the joint project proposal and will contribute to overall implementation of the joint programme.

In line with the Global Compact on Migration (GCM) vision and guiding principles, and international human rights law and standards the Joint Project has integrated the human rights marker in the project cycle following the MPTF Guidelines. The human rights marker aims to guide the development of an effective and coherent approach for tracking resources to support human rights-based results. The Self-Assessment Matrix that shows the JP compliance with the Human Rights marker is attached to this report as Annex 7.

5. INNOVATION, GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

As noted in the project document, the joint project will introduce several innovative tools and methodologies, which will provide new evidence for policy making.

The project will introduce the Migration Governance Index (MGI) as an innovative measurement tool for collection and analysis of data, based on ninety indicators grounded in the six dimensions of the Migration Governance Framework. During the reporting period IOM has established contacts with its RO in Vienna and other missions that had an experience in successful implementation of the country Migration Index as well as with the IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) established in Berlin in September 2015 to respond to calls for better international migration data and analysis. GMDAC will be responsible for provision of guidance to IOM in North Macedonia in initiation and implementation of the first country MGI exercise.

As noted, the proposed Joint Programme will use innovative tools for data collection as well as use existing data in innovative ways to produce a current snapshot of the country context related to migration data. It will explore the potential of using the foreign currency remittances flows to estimate real-time data on emigration. Furthermore, it will estimate emigration data using big data sets from satellite imagery and/or other alternative data sources such as cell phone records, electricity bills, taxi GPS data and/or new media. This will be the first-time big data would be used for migration statistics in the country. During the reported period, UNFPA has initiated the development of the Terms or Reference for the engagement of local personnel, related to the component on



piloting of innovative tools for data collection, as well as use of existing data in innovative ways, to produce a current snapshot of the country context related to migration data. As these positions are co-financed with UNFPA funds, their engagement will follow upon the approval of the UNFPA CPD 2021-2025 by the Executive Board, in early February 2021. In the meantime, UNFPA followed up with the national counterparts in separate meetings and during the first TWG meeting, to provide clear information on the innovative approaches to be piloted within this project.

Finally, global futures and foresight methodologies will be used to support the government in developing strategic governance capabilities that will aid the transition to long-term planning and policy making by providing technical assistance and capacity building for government stakeholders in anticipatory governance, a participatory, collaborative process that brings together government, public and private sector organizations, civil society and citizens - to collectively anticipate, future opportunities and challenges and shape future-fit policies. Also, a novel approach known as Communications for Social Change will be implemented to identify key messages and narratives needed to create a positive and proactive view on refugees and migrants among national stakeholders. The Communications for Social Change, also described as Public Interest Communications, draws on insights about how the mind works, systems thinking, human-centred design, strategic planning, and storytelling to drive lasting change.

During the reporting period, following consultation meetings with experts on anticipatory governance and in coordination with IOM, UNHCR has initiated the drafting of the ToR for engagement of a local consultant to develop anticipatory governance capabilities in the inter-ministerial body and support the development of the new Migration Policy.

6. CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED AND MEASURES TAKEN

The worsening of the COVID-19 situation in the country has affected the work of the institutions with introduced work from home, rotations, deteriorating health situation of some of the key officials, causing delays in the establishment of the SC and TWG until December 2020. It also affected the establishment of the Government inter-institutional body that will lead the process of the development of the new country migration policy. The estimated establishment of the body is the first quarter of 2021 that will allow timely project implementation.



CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

The preparatory phase of the project implementation has been successfully initiated. To enable smooth coordination among the UN team, beyond main focal points for the project per PUNO and RCO, additional thematic focal points on communication, finance, and M&E from each of the PUNOs and RCO were nominated.

Also, a dedicated Microsoft Teams space for this project, to enable better internal coordination and co-creation/collaboration withing the UN team was developed and is regularly populated with key information and documents on the project. The establishment of the JP coordination bodies i.e. the SC⁶ and TWG was finalized and first TWG meeting was successfully organized on 22nd of December 2020 with 20 participants from various national institutions and organizations. The TWG members were informed about the role of the TWG, the goal and the components of the joint project, the activities planned for 2021 with emphasis on the Component 1 activities needed for successful development of the new country migration policy.

The project communication and visibility package has been developed and shared with MPTF. The general public, including the national stakeholders were informed about the project start through a Press Release that was covered by 12 media portals, 2 TV stations and 1 newspaper and IOM, UNFPA and UNHCR social media.

The following actions are planned to be undertaken in 2021:

- Organization of the first SC meeting and regular quarterly organization of the TWG meetings to assure successful project implementation.
- Support the development of the new country migration policy and the work of the inter-ministerial body that will lead this process including building of its capacities.
- Support the development of the country Migration Profile.
- Support the development of the Migration Governance Index.
- Initiate the support of the further alignment with EU and international standards on migration statistics.

⁶ Only the nominations of the SC members from the inter-ministerial body that will lead the development of the migration policy are pending due to body Head and Deputy Head selection.



- Assess the needs and preparation of recommendations on inter and intra institutional data collection and exchange mechanisms.
- Start the process of the piloting of the “big data” data sources on migration.
- Organize capacity building trainings on strengthening the data management.
- Start the process of development and implementation of the actions foreseen under the Communications for Social Change.

ANNEX

- Annex 1 – Communication and Visibility Plan
 - Annex 2 – Communication and Visibility Guidelines
 - Annex 3 – Project Factsheet
 - Annex 4 – Press Release
 - Annex 5 – Press Clipping
 - Annex 6 – 1st TWG meeting minutes
 - Annex 7 – Human Rights marker: Self-Assessment Matrix
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