

LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

Skilled Driver Mobility for Europe (SDM4EU) project

About the Project

This Technical Assistance project aims to conduct field research and stakeholder consultation to develop a diagnostic assessment that will lay the groundwork for a Skilled Driver Mobility for Europe (SDM4EU) project. The SDM4EU project will seek to address the acute shortage of professional drivers in the European Union (EU) by facilitating the mobility of skilled drivers from non-EU countries. As a preliminary phase of the SDM4EU project, the Technical Assistance primarily focuses on research, planning, and framework development. It will identify, engage, and define the collaborative approach as well as establish partnership agreements with key stakeholders essential to roll out the SDM4EU project.



Partners

This project is implemented by the International Road Transport Union (IRU) under the Technical Assistance and Services Component of MPF.



Countries

EU Member States: France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Greece, Portugal, Belgium and Poland

Partner countries: Egypt, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan and Tunisia



Time frame

June 2024 – December 2024 (6 months)



Budget

EUR 99,500.00 (100% from AMIF)

Activities



Comprehensive mapping and stakeholder engagement

A detailed mapping of the current situation in the EU participating Member States will be conducted, including legal constraints, mobility facilitation, qualification requirements and general working conditions. The ultimate goal is to identify the most favourable options for implementing driver mobility schemes. The mapping exercise will also cover partner countries to identify those with high potential for project implementation based on factors such as driver availability, training capacity, and institutional and industry support.

The overall exercise requires identifying, establishing, and securing institutional and industry support by all stakeholders to be associated with the future SDM4EU project. This will also involve securing the endorsement of at least one EU Member State and a partner country to lead the implementation of the SDM4EU project grant, relying on an impactful combination of strengths to maximise positive impact for participants, targeted groups, and final beneficiaries.



Practical methodology development

The project will create a practical methodology to facilitate the identification, training, mobility, and employment of skilled drivers from selected partner countries. This process will include a comprehensive review and documentation of visa pathways, ensuring all legal and administrative procedures are clearly outlined and addressed. The methodology will specify how drivers will receive high-quality training aligned with EU and top-level standards in their countries of origin. It will establish methods for assessing drivers' skills, competencies, and capacities in both their home countries and their destination countries, addressing any performance gaps identified in the EU.



A blueprint for the SDM4EU project

A business plan outlining the mobility framework, including a skills and qualification scheme, and a training and deployment programme, will be developed to serve as the foundation for the SDM4EU project concept. It will provide a detailed methodology to ensure successful mobility and employment of at least 120+ drivers in participating EU country(ies). This will entail a well-defined list of stakeholders to be involved, with detailed roles and responsibilities, timing of key actions and resources required to ensure a successful blueprint for the mobility scheme for drivers and scale up to more significant numbers of mobilities.

Implemented by



The Migration Partnership Facility



Migration Partnership Facility

This project is implemented in the framework of the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), an EU-funded initiative implemented by ICMPD in support of the external dimension of the EU migration policy. Through its grants and initiatives under the technical assistance and services component, the MPF facilitates the execution of projects to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

Funded by the European Union



Contracted by ICMPD

