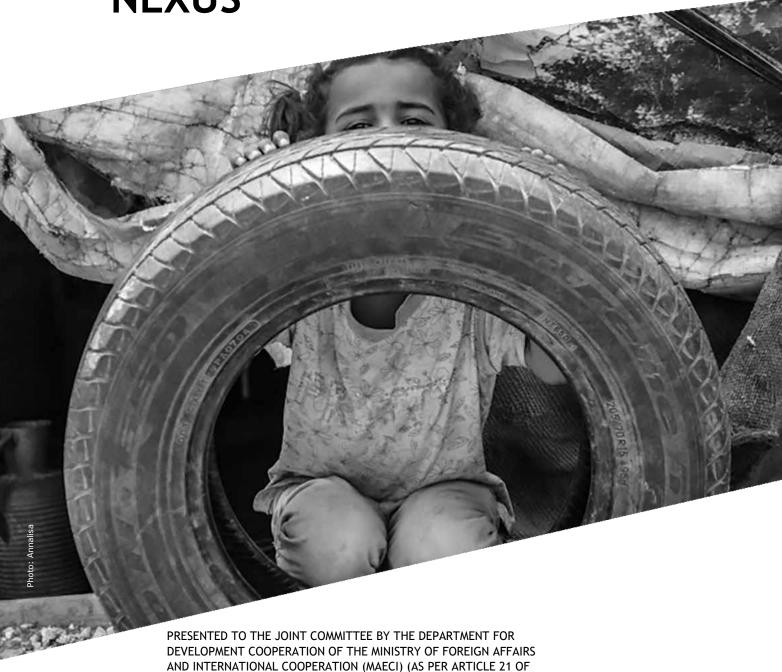




GUIDELINES ON THE MIGRATION-DEVELOPMENT NEXUS



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#### GUIDELINES ON THE MIGRATION-DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of adopting strategic guidelines on the "migration-development" nexus is to achieve the objective set out in Article 2(6) of Law No 125/2014: "by promoting local development, where necessary through the role of immigrant communities and their relationships with their countries of origin, the policy of the Italian Cooperation system contributes to migration policies shared with partner countries, driven by the protection of human rights and respect for European and international legislation".

These guidelines on the "migration-development" nexus establish the strategic objectives towards which the resources and capacities of Italian cooperation efforts should be directed and the priorities for action in a coherent, coordinated and synergic manner in order to:

- 1. improve migration governance with partner countries;
- 2. maximise the contribution of legal migration to the development of partner countries;
- 3. integrate migration as a cross-cutting issue in development cooperation policies and activities;
- 4. ensure assistance and protection are provided for people in vulnerable situations;
- 5. promote responsible and informed narratives on migration.

These Guidelines have been produced and released by the Department for Development Cooperation within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, with contributions from central government administrations and entities and stakeholders involved in the Italian development cooperation system, and is intended to represent the reference framework document for all development cooperation activities related to migration.

# 1 THE INTERNATIONAL, EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

#### 1.1 THE INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in point 29 of the "Declaration", recognises the contribution of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development and emphasises that international migration is a multidimensional reality of great significance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination. It also calls on States to cooperate to ensure safe, regular and orderly migration flows, ensuring full respect for human rights and humane treatment of migrants, regardless of their status as migrants, refugees or displaced persons. It emphasises the need to support communities hosting refugees, particularly in developing countries. Finally, it reiterates the right of migrants to return to their countries and recalls the obligation of States to ensure that returned citizens are duly received and readmitted.

The **UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals** and sub-goals contain direct references to the topic of migration, in particular Goal 10 "reduce inequalities":

- 10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies;
- 10.c. By 2030, reduce to less than 3% the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5%.

Further references to migrants and refugees can be found in the goals relating to combating violence, exploitation, abuse and social marginalisation, eradicating poverty, improving access to basic services, and protecting the right to work and quality education.

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted in 2016 by the UN General Assembly, emphasises the need for a global approach to migration and human mobility and reaffirms the centrality of the international protection regime (1951 Geneva Convention and 1967 New York Protocol) and respect for the human rights of refugees and migrants.

In late 2018, the "Global Compact on Refugees" and the "Global Compact on Migration" were adopted, although Italy has not yet signed up to the latter. These two covenants, with the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, from which they derive, lay the foundations for a transition from a predominantly emergency-driven approach to a more structured cooperation policy aimed at achieving greater sharing of responsibility in refugee protection and assistance, combating human trafficking by providing assistance to victims, and fostering safe, regular and responsible migration.

According to data from the UNHCR¹, in 2021 89.3 million people were forcibly displaced and the number of refugees exceeded 27 million, 83% of whom were taken in by low- or middle-income countries, while 72% live in countries bordering their countries of origin. The largest migration flows were along the South-South route, namely low- or middle-income countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The UNHCR has estimated an acceleration by 2022 in the growth of the number of displaced persons, which could exceed 100 million, due to the war in Ukraine and the escalation of other conflicts and global emergencies such as food shortages, inflation and the climate crisis. The report for 2022 has not yet been published.

In 2021, there were some 59 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), due to natural disasters but also, and especially, to conflicts<sup>2</sup>. Syria, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Yemen, Ethiopia and Afghanistan are the countries taking in the largest number of displaced persons.

#### 1.2 THE EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK

#### 1.2. 1 THE NEW EUROPEAN PACT ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

In September 2020 the European Commission presented the **New European Pact on Migration and Asylum**, a package of proposals intended to steer the European agenda in the coming years. Addressing the root causes of irregular migration, combating migrant smuggling, helping refugees in third countries and supporting an orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration pathway are goals to be pursued through targeted partnerships.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: Global trends Report - 2022 - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: Global Report on Internal Displacement - Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC).

Italy is making an important contribution to the negotiations for the adoption of the New Pact, in terms of both its internal - in particular regarding the sharing of the burden of reception - and external dimensions. In this regard, Italy advocates a relaunch of partnerships with third countries, in particular with African countries, as a central element for shared management of a complex phenomenon that requires countries of origin, transit and destination to assume their share of responsibility. The European Council has on several occasions, most recently at its extraordinary meeting on 9 February, taken up these positions regarding the importance of the external dimension with regard to all migration routes.

Italy has proposed the following priority areas for action: political dialogue, border management, assistance for refugees and migrants, economic development, information campaigns, readmissions, assisted voluntary returns, regular migration, protection and asylum, and the promotion of human rights.

These areas of action represented the strategic and operational reference framework for the drafting of these guidelines on the "migration-development" nexus, with a view to relaunching partnerships with partner countries and in the broader context of relationships between Italy and these countries.

## 1.2.2 THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION INSTRUMENT - GLOBAL EUROPE (NDICI-GE)

The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe (NDICI-GE) is part of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 and the EU's instrument to address the external dimension of migration issues and the "migration-development" nexus. Migration is included among the priorities for intervention: 10% of the NDICI budget is allocated to supporting migration management and activities aimed at addressing the causes of irregular migration.

In order to provide a collective European response to multiple challenges in an increasingly changing international geopolitical context, to work in a coordinated manner and to make action more effective, Italy is adopting the **Team Europe** approach, along with the other EU Member States. This approach is embodied in the *Team Europe Initiatives*, which are being implemented at regional, national and eventually - global level and are linked to the priorities set in the EU's multiannual indicative programmes, including security, human rights, migration, climate, finance, trade and investment<sup>3</sup>.

For several years, the EU has been supporting so-called Regional Protection and Development Programmes (RPPs), which aim to provide better protection for refugees and to foster the socio-economic development of countries of origin and/or transit on the African continent: in particular, the regional programme in North Africa is led by the Italian Ministry of the Interior.

#### 1,2,3 THE RABAT PROCESS AND THE KHARTOUM PROCESS

In order to promote dialogue between countries of origin, transit and destination, "regional dialogues" between EU Member States and African states are particularly important: this relates to the Rabat Process and the Khartoum Process.

Established at the Rabat Conference in July 2006, the Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (the **Rabat Process**) brings together countries of origin, transit and destination for discussion on the topic of migration along the routes connecting Central, West and North Africa to Europe. The dialogue involves 57 partner states and other bodies, such as the European Union and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

The Declaration and Plan of Action 2023-2027 were approved on 14 December 2022 at the 6th Euro-African

EU Member States and associated states (Italy, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Czech Republic, Spain and Switzerland) and 12 African countries (Algeria, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal).

Italy, along with France, proposed in 2021 a Team Europe Initiative dedicated to the Central Mediterranean migration route involving 11 EU Member States and associated states (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Malta, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Spain and Switzerland, as well as Italy and France) and 13 African partner countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Guinea, Libya, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan and Tunisia). Italy is also involved in the Team Europe initiative dedicated to the Atlantic/Western Mediterranean migration route, which involves nine

Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development held in Cadiz, Spain. In the 2022 Declaration, the partners reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cooperation on migration, to recognising the positive impact of regular migration on the development of countries of origin, to prioritising work, especially for young people, to strengthening the institutional capacities of partner countries in migration management, to promoting regular and safe channels and countering trafficking and smuggling of human beings, to cooperating in the prevention of irregular migration and in border management, as well as in return, readmission and reintegration, and to strengthening protection measures for refugees, displaced persons, migrants and victims of trafficking.

The EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (the **Khartoum Process**), launched in Rome in November 2014, is the preferred forum for dialogue and cooperation on migration issues between the EU and Mediterranean, East and Horn of Africa countries.

With the Declaration adopted at the Rome Conference in 2014, African and European partners agreed on a series of actions to prevent and counter trafficking and smuggling of migrants between the Horn of Africa and Europe.

#### 1.3 THE NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

#### 1,3,1 THE CONTEXT OF ITALIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Article 2 of Law No 125/2014 states as follows: "by promoting local development, where necessary through the role of immigrant communities and their relationships with their countries of origin, the policy of the Italian Cooperation system **contributes to migration policies shared with partner countries**, driven by the protection of human rights and respect for European and international legislation".

The entities within the Italian development cooperation system under Article 26 of that law include organisations and associations of immigrant communities

The stakeholders involved in the development cooperation system are represented in the National Council for Development Cooperation (CNCS), which operates through theme-driven working groups that are a forum for dialogue, in-depth analysis and sharing of experiences and proposals. The CNCS working groups actively participate in the development of the three-year planning and policy document, as well as other strategy documents and guidelines. These include the "Migration and Development" working group.

Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), the Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP), the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Ministry of the Interior, the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI), civil society organisations, diaspora associations and universities are involved in the Migration and Development working group.

The group is divided into three sub-groups: i) policy coherence with particular reference to the European framework; ii) integration of the migration issue into development cooperation policies and activities; and iii) involvement of diasporas in the Italian Cooperation system.

The theme of "migration-development" has been confirmed as a priority in the **Three-Year Planning and Policy Document** 2021-2023, as part of a strategic vision based on the 2030 Agenda and its five pillars - People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnerships.

#### 1.3.2 THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The **National Strategy for Sustainable Development** is also based on the principles and pillars of the 2030 Agenda, both in internal actions within Italy and in external actions relating to the priorities for action for development cooperation established in the Three-Year Planning and Policy Document.

The alignment of vision and approach between the National Strategy and the Three-Year Document helps to strengthen coherence, synergies and complementarity between the internal and external dimensions, between sector-based policies and development cooperation interventions.

An integral part of the new National Strategy for Sustainable Development, currently awaiting approval by the Interministerial Committee for Ecological Transition, is the **National Action Plan for Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development**. The Plan determines the mechanisms for coordination and discussion with institutional actors and civil society and provides the tools for assessing policy coherence, in the area of

migration<sup>4</sup> and in other fields, following up on some of the recommendations expressed by civil society in the Monitoring Report from Italian Civil Society on the Sustainable Development Goals related to Migration<sup>5</sup>.

#### 11.3.3 THE MATTEI PLAN FOR AFRICA

Against the backdrop of the crisis triggered by the war in Ukraine, the Italian Government has begun work on launching the Mattei Plan for Africa, a new virtuous model of cooperation aimed at consolidating an egalitarian and mutually beneficial partnership for both the countries of the African continent and Italy based on frank political dialogue and consistent lines of action capable of working together on common interests. With the adoption of the Plan, the intention is to optimise an all-encompassing interaction based on sharing, sustainable growth and mutual development. A cross-cutting issue in the development of the Plan is the theme of migration, a priority for Italy and for African countries, whether they are countries of transit or of origin for migratory flows.

# 2 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

The "migration-development" nexus strategy aims to highlight those aspects of migration that, if well managed, can have a positive impact on development and represent an opportunity for economic growth and social development for both migrants themselves and for communities in countries of origin, transit and destination.

The Italian Cooperation system has identified five strategic goals and related priorities for action. These goals and actions will be analysed through the mechanisms envisaged in the National Action Plan for Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development in order to assess their impact in partner countries and ensure the implementation of national policies - in the fields of migration, defence, economic international development, trade, agriculture and energy - that are consistent with the purposes of development cooperation (Article 15 of Law No 125/2014). For example, policies that would support supply chains that deplete natural resources and the local social fabric over time would increase inequalities, forcing the most vulnerable population to migrate, in clear contradiction to development cooperation and migration policy<sup>6</sup>.

#### **GOAL 1. IMPROVE MIGRATION GOVERNANCE WITH PARTNER COUNTRIES**

States have a central role in migration governance, to ensure safe, orderly and well-managed migration and mobility processes. This must be multi-level (local, regional, national and international) and multi-actor (governments, institutions, civil society and private sector).

Migration governance is linked to the security and protection of people, particularly the most vulnerable, and respect for human rights, which is fundamental to ensuring the economic and social development of local areas and the well-being of the population. Strengthening institutional capacities in the management of migration flows contributes to combating trafficking-related crime and fosters local development.

This policy will look carefully at the **Mattei Plan for Africa** and the supranational dimension of migration governance, particularly at regional level (G5 Sahel, Horn of Africa, North Africa), fostering the coordinated action of the various international actors in a manner that is fully consistent with the *Team Europe* approach and the initiatives promoted as part of that framework.

Italy has also promoted a Position Paper to relaunch EU relations with the Southern Neighbourhood, signed by Cyprus, Croatia, France, Greece, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain. This document contains several proposals on the topic of migration and aims to strengthen EU action towards the Southern Neighbourhood

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Consolidated Law on Immigration updated through the amendments made, most recently, by Law No 238 of 23 December 2021 and Law No 328 of 8 November 2000 (the Framework law for the implementation of the integrated system of interventions and social services). Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, 2005 (the Warsaw Convention). Law No 47/2017 on Provisions in relation to protection measures for unaccompanied foreign minors (the so-called Zampa Law).

<sup>5 &</sup>lt;u>Migrations-and-sustainable-development-2021.pdf FOCSIV - April 2021</u>

<sup>6</sup> I padroni della terra (the Masters of the Earth) - FOCSIV

countries by promoting the establishment of a Southern Partnership.

#### Priorities for action

- a. strengthen dialogue with authorities in partner countries to support shared migration policies and promote regular and safe channels, particularly for the most vulnerable migrants, women, minors and persons with disabilities;
- b. **encourage multilateral and bilateral cooperation in migration management,** including border management and prevention of crime, trafficking and smuggling, through a human rights-based approach;
- c. **strengthen the institutional capacities of partner countries,** including through the training of security sector professionals, where possible in cooperation with local civil society organisations;
- d. support partner countries in the management of internal, intra-regional and inter-regional mobility, with the aim of promoting the economic and social development of local areas, involving local authorities, local communities, civil society organisations and diaspora associations;
- e. **strengthen the capacities of training and labour institutions in partner countries** (ministries, schools, universities, employment centres, recruitment agencies, trade unions) to identify professional profiles and adapt the training offer to local labour market demands, with a view to fostering more employment locally;
- f. **strengthen digital cooperation** to foster more equitable and inclusive development, promote innovation and facilitate access to public services.

## GOAL 2. MAXIMISE THE CONTRIBUTION OF LEGAL MIGRATION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF PARTNER COUNTRIES;

**In Italy** a heterogeneous and multi-stranded presence of diaspora associations has become consolidated over the years, increasingly integrated in the third sector and active in promoting and organising solidarity and development cooperation initiatives. The diaspora is an active partner in international cooperation.

The "migration-development" nexus is supported in particular by diaspora associations working in social and intercultural cooperation for the development of communities of origin. Immigrant remittances, diaspora entrepreneurship and the transfer of skills through training and experience also contribute to the development of countries of origin.

Commitments to reduce the cost of sending remittances should be maintained by enhancing transparency and competition among operators and promoting the use of formal transfer channels, particularly using digital systems. Priority will be given to monetary transfers that provide access to savings and credit products through local financial and micro-finance institutions. It will be important to promote migrant remittances in the form of investments, particularly in sectors related to the social and solidarity economy, and to support forms of involvement in the financing of their country's budgetary needs.

In countries of origin, the Italian Cooperation system will support pilot programmes relating to social, intercultural and labour mobility and circular migration that meet development objectives with the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, such as diaspora associations, trade unions, civil society organisations, the private sector and local authorities, both in Italy and in the partner countries. Such programmes may also have indirect positive effects in the receiving countries.

Activities to support return and reintegration should be designed to capitalise - in terms of development - on the skills acquired by migrants and their experiences, aiming to reintegrate the migrant into society and the local labour market.

Italy also supports the European Union's efforts to promote legal forms of migration for employment and training, which it considers an essential part of a comprehensive and mutually beneficial approach to managing migration flows. To this end, it participates in initiatives such as Talent Partnerships, and has even proposed bringing in national initiatives so as to benefit from EU funding.

#### Priorities for action

- a. **strengthen the capacities of diaspora associations,** promoting their full integration into the third sector and involving them in development cooperation activities;
- b. support the diaspora's social, political and intercultural networks and interactions with civil society organisations, from the countries of origin and Italy, to promote democracy, human rights, the

- empowerment of the most vulnerable groups, and environmental sustainability;
- c. **support the investment and entrepreneurship potential of diaspora associations,** where necessary through innovative financial instruments that benefit communities of origin;
- d. optimise remittances and promote the financial inclusion of migrants and transfer recipients in their countries of origin, fostering mechanisms for secure transactions, savings, investments and access to financial services;
- e. support circular migration initiatives that benefit both countries of origin and destination countries and test "accompanied" pathways of regular labour mobility with a view to the development of countries of origin;
- f. support return and reintegration programmes in countries of origin with a view to development and sustainability, including forms of support to local communities in the reception and reintegration of migrants.

## GOAL 3. INTEGRATE MIGRATION AS A CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES;

The National Diaspora Summit and the National Diaspora Forum

The National Diaspora Summit was created in 2017 from an initiative financed by the Italian Cooperation system with the aim of: i) strengthening the knowledge and skills of diaspora associations on development cooperation issues; ii) promoting representation by diaspora associations in the Italian cooperation system to foster their involvement in activities; and iii) contributing to a new narrative on migration that highlights its positive impact on development, including in receiving countries.

This initiative led to the idea to create a National Diaspora Forum in 2021, through the project "Draft the future!. Building a National Diaspora Forum", funded by the AICS and implemented in cooperation with the International Organisation for Migration (OIM). The initiative aims to strengthen the role of diasporas as a bridge in the economic, social and cultural exchange between Italy and their countries of origin.

The Italian Cooperation system will work towards full integration of the theme of migration into the policies and activities associated with development cooperation, in particular in countries subject to high migratory pressure and in transit countries, through specific actions in the various sectors.

The Italian Cooperation system will focus on those geographical areas where the vulnerability of communities, the fragility of local ecosystems and the weakness of political, economic and social systems are very high. Special attention will be paid to prevention of soil degradation, sustainable soil management and restoration of degraded soils, combating deforestation, prevention and mitigation of the effects of natural disasters, and water resource management. Activities in this area can also be supported by the Climate Fund, through close inter-institutional cooperation - MAECI, MASE, AICS and CDP - and by civil society associations and diaspora associations.

#### Priorities for action

- a. **integrate migration issues into development cooperation policies and activities:** education, health, water and sanitation, renewable energy, vocational training, labour, small and medium-sized enterprises, agriculture, environment and climate change;
- b. support partner countries in integrating migration into local development plans, involving communities, the diaspora and civil society organisations;
- c. **promote vocational training and qualification pathways** aimed at the labour integration of migrants in their areas of origin;
- d. contribute to the creation of decent work in migrants' communities of origin, especially for young people, women, people with disabilities and the most vulnerable, including by facilitating access to credit:
- e. **promote local partnerships**, strengthening the relationships that Italian local authorities maintain with counterpart bodies in partner countries, where necessary through immigrant communities and diaspora associations, and maximising their competences in areas such as: urban planning, land management, provision of services for citizens, vocational training, female and youth entrepreneurship, social and intercultural development, and family hosting;
- f. **promote public-private partnerships** to foster local economic development initiatives, involving civil society organisations, universities and the private sector.

#### GOAL 4. ENSURE ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION ARE PROVIDED FOR PEOPLE IN

#### **VULNERABLE SITUATIONS**

The international community has recognised the close interconnection between development, peace, stability and forced migration and the need to take action to prevent conflict and violence. Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and displaced persons are often exposed to the risk that their rights will be violated (smuggling, human trafficking, violence and exploitation, deprivation of individual liberty), especially women, minors and persons with disabilities.

It is necessary, in situations of fragility, instability and protracted crisis, to respond to the needs of the population and, at the same time, address the structural causes of crises through coordinated initiatives of humanitarian aid, development and peace promotion, both multilaterally and bilaterally.

Support will continue to be given to humanitarian corridors and resettlement programmes for migrants in particularly vulnerable situations: single women with children, victims of human trafficking, the elderly, and people with disabilities or illnesses. The Italian model of humanitarian corridors is based on positive cooperation between the MAECI, the Ministry of the Interior, civil society organisations and international bodies (UNHCR and IOM). It is a successful model that should be supported for adoption by other EU Member States.

#### Priorities for action

- a. **strengthen the availability of and access to basic services** for host communities and for migrants, refugees, displaced persons and returning migrants in partner countries;
- b. promote initiatives to protect minors, women and victims of smuggling and human trafficking, aimed at combating discrimination, exploitation, sexual and gender-based violence and educational poverty, applying the Italian Guidelines on Gender Equality, Childhood and Adolescence, and Persons with Disabilities<sup>7</sup>;
- c. support humanitarian corridors for particularly vulnerable people and refugee resettlement initiatives;
- d. **support humanitarian aid, development and peace-building initiatives** in crisis situations involving forced population displacement under high-risk conditions;
- e. strengthen judicial systems in partner countries, including access to justice.

### GOAL 5. PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE AND INFORMED NARRATIVES ON MIGRATION AND THE "MIGRATION-DEVELOPMENT" NEXUS

The aim is to raise public awareness, deepen knowledge of the phenomenon of migration and increase understanding of the socio-economic and cultural impact of migration in countries of origin and destination. With this in mind, it is important to improve the ability to research and analyse data and to contribute to the debate using reliable information and sources.

The new narrative, which may include the participation of people who have actually experienced migration, will make use of a range of different tools and communication channels and will focus on aspects such as social cohesion, combating intolerance, hate phenomena, xenophobia and racism, focusing on the values of inclusion and integration.

#### Priorities for action

- a. develop reporting aimed at raising awareness of the positive impact of regular migration on the social, economic and cultural development of countries of origin and destination, including through global citizenship education initiatives<sup>8</sup>;
- b. promote information campaigns among communities of origin on the risks of irregular migration and the opportunities to open regular and safe channels<sup>9</sup>, based on analysis and impact assessment;
- c. Support research initiatives in cooperation with universities and the third sector on migration,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Guidelines on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, Young Women and Girls (2022-2024) - December 2021. Guidelines on Childhood and Adolescence (2021) - December 2021. Guidelines for Disability and Social Inclusion in Cooperation Interventions (2018) - December 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Strategi<u>a-italiana-per-Educazione-alla-Cittadinanza-Globale.pdf (aics.gov.it)</u>

<sup>9</sup> CinemArena: An Information Campaign on the Risks of Irregular Migration in West African Villages. Since 2018, activities have been carried out in cooperation with the IOM and the Italian Ministry of the Interior, with the aim of addressing irregular migration along the main routes from East/West Africa through the desert and the Mediterranean Sea (<u>"Aware Migrants"</u>).

# 3.3 MONITORING AND EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH MIGRATION-RELATED DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The monitoring of the initiatives will be carried out through an ongoing analysis of the results taking into account, in particular, the Country Planning Documents, EU Joint Programming and Team Europe Initiatives and, as far as possible, the results indicated in the Development Plans of the partner countries.

For the evaluation of development cooperation initiatives in the field of migration, we will apply the **Principles and criteria developed by the OECD Development Assistance Committee** (OECD-DAC), in particular<sup>10</sup>:

- in the area of migration, as in all development cooperation activities, initiatives must pursue the socio-economic development and welfare of developing countries;
- activities that are exclusively and mandatorily conditional on the containment or blocking of flows, repatriation and readmission, even if legitimate, are not considered official development assistance (ODA) by the OECD.

The criteria provide a valuable basis for assessing migration-related activities that can be reported as ODA in the different fields of intervention<sup>11</sup>:

- I. capacity-building in mobility planning and management to facilitate safe and regular migration and counteract irregular migration;
- II. labour mobility and diaspora involvement;
- III. measures to improve job searching and employment systems for legal migrants;
- IV. capacity-building in the development of legal and judicial strategies and policies in developing countries (including border management) and support provided to strengthen the transnational response to trafficking and combat human trafficking;
- V. support for effective strategies to guarantee international protection and the right to asylum, access to justice and assistance to displaced persons;
- VI. assistance for migrants in safe, dignified, informed and voluntary return and reintegration in their country of origin.

 $<sup>^{10}</sup>$  In 2022, the DAC approved the principles and criteria for assessing how initiatives in the field of migration were to be attributed to official development assistance. All information is accessible at the link: <u>Migration-related activities</u> in official development assistance (ODA) - OECD

<sup>11</sup> DAC and CRS code lists - OECD Description of sector code 15190