

FMM West Africa

Support Free Movement of Persons & Migration in West Africa

Public Information

Baseline Assessment



ICMPD
International Centre for
Migration Policy Development



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List of Acronyms

AU	African Union
ALCO	Abidjan Lagos Corridor Organization
CBC	Cross-Border Cooperation
CSO	Civil Society Organization
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
EVP	ECOWAS Volunteer Programme
FMP	Free Movement of Persons
FMPD	Free Movement of Persons Directorate
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
ILO	International Labour Organization
MRU	Mano River Union
MS	Member States
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PFM	Protocol on Free Movement
SKBO	Sikasso - Korogho - Bobo Dioulasso
SWAC/OECD	Sahel and West Africa Club / Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
TIP	Trafficking In Persons
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UN-Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union

Executive Summary and Key Recommendations

West Africa is one of the most mobile regions in the world. The ECOWAS regional organization has important regulatory framework of free movement of persons, services and goods in the ECOWAS space since 1993 when the ECOWAS Treaty was revised. Yet it is generally accepted that ECOWAS citizens are poorly informed and sensitized on their rights and obligations arising out of the ECOWAS legal instruments.

The Consortium of Partners - International Centre for Migration Policy and Development (ICMPD), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) - with the generous support of the European Union (EU) and in close collaboration with ECOWAS counterparts, is implementing a comprehensive initiative, Support to Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa (herein referred to as the 'Project').

The inception phase comprises several baseline surveys, including the present one dedicated to ECOWAS public information on Free Movement and Migration. The assessment examined the strategic framework, the institutional framework (including coordination mechanisms with several stakeholders), the communication tools, the best practices and the ITC environment. It also formulated the following main recommendations:

Developing an ECOWAS communication strategy on Free Movement and Migration: Although there are a great number of migration-related policies and strategies, ECOWAS currently has no comprehensive communication strategy on free movement and migration. It is recommended to develop a regional information and sensitization strategy on free movement and migration addressed to ECOWAS citizens as it will ease ECOWAS efforts to promote convergence among stakeholders on this subject. This strategy should be flexible, participatory, sustainable and evaluation-oriented. The recommended channels are mainly cross-border radio networks, Internet-based communication and dissemination through partnerships with civil society organizations. Some topics that could be focused on in the public information tools include: (i) free movement rights and corresponding obligations; (ii) rights of migrant workers' and their families; (iii) departure, return and employability information for migrants; and (iv) prevention of trafficking in persons and support services for victims of trafficking.

Developing a set of standardized and accessible communication tools: From lessons learnt from prior experience, it appears that what is needed by ECOWAS in general and the Free Movement Directorate in particular is a set of coherent, standardized and ready-to-use communication tools about free movement and migration. These tools would be the main factors to operationalize the communication strategy. As such, the fact that the project supports the development of these tools would be a major success. From a sustainability perspective, it is essential that the communication tools are permanently available to all the stakeholders. This can be done through an ECOWAS communication tools online databank. This would strengthen ECOWAS as a provider of expertise and quality technical tools in the field of free movement and migration.

This assessment was undertaken and the assessment report produced by an independent consultant - Ms. Pauline Leonard - on behalf of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Introduction

Background

With a fast-growing, young and increasingly urban population, West Africa is undergoing rapid changes in population dynamics which is impacting its migration patterns. The ECOWAS region is characterized by immigration, emigration and transit migration flows and may face population displacements at the same time. The large majority of immigrants in West Africa (83%) come from this same subregion, consisting predominantly of movements towards West African coastal areas. In 2005 almost 90 per cent of immigrants in Niger originated from other West African countries, 80 per cent of immigrants in Senegal were from the subregion and two thirds of immigrants in Mali originated from other West African countries (Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalization and Poverty -Migration DRC-, 2007).

ECOWAS and the Consortium of Partners - IOM, ILO and ICMPD - with generous funding from the EU (EDF) have launched a 5-year project seeking to maximize the development potential of free movement of persons and migration in West Africa by supporting the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons' Protocols and the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration. The focus of the intervention is centered on free movement in respect to the ECOWAS protocols and migration policy harmonization at both the regional and national levels. At the regional level, the project will enhance the planning, coordination and monitoring capacities of the ECOWAS Commission to lead intra-regional dialogue and act as a platform for development and harmonization. At the national level, the capacities of selected national institutions to manage migration in line with the regional strategic and policy framework will be strengthened.

Regarding public information and awareness-raising on free movement and migration, it is generally accepted by the stakeholders that the ECOWAS citizens are poorly informed and sensitized on their rights and obligations arising out of the ECOWAS legal instruments. According to the 2012 IOM study quoted hereinabove, "the problem of the lack of knowledge of the texts of ECOWAS arises for both administrations in charge of their application and for populations". The West-African civil society shares this analysis: Indeed, the Network for West African National NGO Platforms (REPAOC in French) highlights the "notorious weakness of information and communication inside the ECOWAS region with a corollary and the lack of citizens' participation from the Member States" as one of the main impediments of the free-movement of persons. A number of communication initiatives have aimed at training and sensitizing ECOWAS citizens, but these have faced several challenges such as illiteracy of a great part of ECOWAS citizens, limited use of new technologies, lack of regional media networks, scarce human and financial resources and difficulties to reach out to rural populations.

Objectives of the assessment and methodology

According to the terms of reference, the objectives of the assessment are to:

- Identify and analyze the effectiveness and impact of existing ECOWAS strategies and tools for public information on free movement and migration, including the current level of involvement of civil society organizations;
- Support the ECOWAS Commission in the development of a regional information and sensitization strategy on free movement and migration.

The methodology comprised three main components. First, the desk review examined the contents of available documents on free movement of persons, communication and efforts by ECOWAS to promote

it. After compiling questionnaires for structured and unstructured interviews, a field mission to ECOWAS Headquarters in Abuja took place (20-25 January 2014) during which interviews were conducted with ECOWAS counterparts and external stakeholders. Extensive consultations were held with the Free Movement of Persons Directorate (FMPD). In the case of interlocutors based outside Abuja, relevant information was sought via telephone and email. Finally, data gathered was synthesized and analyzed in order to provide a basic overview of ECOWAS' needs in the area of public information and communication about free movement and migration, and to formulate recommendations towards the development and implementation of a comprehensive ECOWAS information and sensitization strategy on free movement and migration.

It should be noted that this report is predominantly concerned with the current and recommended ECOWAS public information and awareness-raising needs, which are of direct relevance to the Project. Nevertheless, this report includes a set of general recommendations that exceed the Project's framework but could be taken into account by other stakeholders.

Assessment of public information strategies and tools

According to the terms of reference, this Section looks at: strategic framework; institutional framework and coordination mechanisms; public information tools and practices; and information technology.

Strategic framework

The ECOWAS strategic framework on public information for free movement and migration fits into the African Union framework, in particular the Migration Policy Framework for Africa (2006). Public information is referred to in every thematic part of the framework (regular migration, irregular migration, migration and development...), in particular in the following recommendations:

- Provide adequate information about the requirements, challenges and opportunities of migration for the population in general and particularly for potential labor migrants before they cross borders.
- Provide adequate information to prospective migrants on the opportunities and prospects of different destinations so they can make informed decisions.
- Pursue and develop preventive action through intensive information campaigns and other educational and informational efforts in both the country of origin and the receiving country;
- Increase local protection capacities through the involvement of civil society, for example by engaging NGOs in the provision of legal and social counseling to refugees, preliminary interviews and preparation of files for National Eligibility Committees, and public information campaigns to counter xenophobia.
- Engage in public information and awareness campaigns on the plight and rights of refugees including the contribution refugees can make to the development of host communities, in order to counter increasing xenophobic tendencies and foster tolerance and understanding.
- Promote informational/educational campaigns to raise awareness about gender dimension of migration among policy makers and personnel involved in managing migration.

The in-depth interviews with high-level officials within the ECOWAS Commission revealed that ECOWAS has no comprehensive communication strategy on free movement and migration (although there are numerous actions undertaken without a strategic framework) but many documents to link with. Below is a brief review of the ECOWAS policy affecting free movement and migration Communication Strategy.

ECOWAS Vision 2020

The first statement of this document confirms that ECOWAS aims to build a 'borderless, peaceful, prosperous and cohesive region, built on good governance'. The region is to move towards an "ECOWAS of people".

ECOWAS Commission 2011-15 Strategic Plan

In this document, free movement of persons and migration appear as cross-cutting aspects to regional integration (both in the peace/security pillar and in the economic integration pillar).

ECOWAS Protocols on Free Movement

According to ECOWAS Press Release number 065/2013 regarding a meeting at ECOWAS Commission held on 13 March 2013, important modifications could be introduced in the ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement, such as: (i) abolishing the 90-day limit for community citizens when visiting another ECOWAS member state, (ii) expunging the clause "in accordance with national legislation" and (iii)

replacing the ECOWAS travel certificate by a regional biometric national ID card. Besides, according to interviews with the Free Movement Directorate in the first semester of 2014, a Supplementary Act has been drafted and presented to the Heads of Immigration (October 2013) and Ministries of Security (February 2014), and could come into force by 2015. This policy development process could confirm these changes in the Protocols.

ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration

The 30th Ordinary Summit of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government, held in June 2006, mandated the ECOWAS Commission to define a common regional migration approach. The ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration (Common Approach) was adopted in January 2008. It is a non-binding framework document which emphasizes the FMP's relevance ("free movement of persons within the ECOWAS zone is one of the fundamental priorities of the integration policy of ECOWAS Member States"). It includes migration and development action plans in six priority areas: (i) promotion of free movement within the ECOWAS zone; (ii) promotion of the management of regular migration; (iii) policy harmonization; (iv) control of irregular migration and human trafficking, particularly of women and children; (v) protection of the rights of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees; and (vi) the gender dimension of migration.

Regarding public information and awareness-raising, the Common Approach promotes the following:

- Actions to promote free movement within the ECOWAS zone: "Organizing technical and administrative training programmes as well as awareness building and educational campaigns on the rights and obligations of the community's citizens among officials in charge of migration and populations";
- Actions to promote the management of regular migration: "Create pilot centres for information, orientation and support for potential migrants";
- Actions for controlling irregular migration and human trafficking, particularly of women and children: "Information and awareness campaigns for potential migrants on the dangers of irregular migration and smuggling networks";
- Actions to take into account the Gender and Migration dimension: "Include gender dimensions in migration policies".

An ECOWAS Migration Policy is currently in the process of being formulated. An ICMPD/FIIAPP study from 2013 entitled "MME on the Move: A Stocktaking of Migration, Mobility, Employment and Higher Education in Six African Regional Economic Communities" states that "the development of an ECOWAS Regional Migration Policy, elaborated through consultation with the Member States and serving as an effective strategic framework for migration policy development in the ECOWAS region, is therefore a key priority for the Free Movement Directorate.[...] Recent developments linked to the formulation of the ECOWAS Regional Migration Policy include a series of decentralized regional, technical working group meetings organized with the support of the Intra-ACP Migration Facility". Hence it is expected that these changes might occur during the implementation of the communication strategy.

ECOWAS Communication Policy

Following the 2000 Bamako Information and Communication Policy, a new Communication Policy has been formulated in 2011 focusing on the citizens of the community. This strategy is based on four main components including information of the population, action visibility, capacity building, as well as population participation in action and their feedback. It serves as guidelines for awareness-raising activities and mobilization of ECOWAS citizens.

ECOWAS Youth Policy and Strategic Plan of Action 2009/ECOWAS Youth Employment Action Plan for 2013-2018

For the purpose of the ECOWAS youth policy, 'youth' comprises of all young males and females aged from 15 to 35 years. The Youth Policy recognizes youth as a resource for the building of communities

and societies. The overall objective of the ECOWAS Youth Policy is to mobilize and empower youths to get involved in the regional integration and development process of ECOWAS.

The ECOWAS Youth Employment Action Plan for 2013-2018, adopted in December 2012, focuses on: Unemployed youths, young women, youth in rural areas, young people in countries just coming out of civil wars, highly skilled and educated young people, and creative, and gifted young men and women. The ECOWAS Youth Employment Action Plan states that: "Cross border trading is an important phenomenon in the region, especially by young and women traders. Until the full compliance of the Protocol is established, cross border traders will continue to operate in a precarious environment. The situation of young and female traders requires particular attention given their added vulnerability."

ECOWAS Gender and Migration Strategy

This strategy underlines the role of migrant women as vehicles of change and development. The remittances sent by migrant women are carefully studied ("Generally, men tend to earn more money than women; and even where the amounts involved are lower, the women, be they regular or irregular migrants, remit money to their home communities in a more regular and sustained manner"). In the Migration and Gender Action Plan, the second objective is mainly a public information and awareness-raising topic: "Enhance enlightenment and sensitization of the populations on migration issues to facilitate effective and efficacious mobility and migration of citizens, male and female alike, within ECOWAS and elsewhere".

ECOWAS Communication Strategy on Trafficking in Persons and Child Protection

This Communication Strategy is currently being formulated by the TIP Unit. A Regional Workshop on the Development of a Media and Communication Network and Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Child Protection was held at the ECOWAS Commission, Abuja from 28-30 October 2013. A specific TIP assessment is also currently being elaborated.

Institutional framework and coordination mechanisms

ECOWAS Institutional framework

The current ECOWAS institutional framework is undergoing an evolution with a significant increase in the number of Commissioners. These changes might affect the below presented directorates.

Included in the Trade, Customs, Industry and Free Movement Department, the Free Movement of Persons Directorate, created in 2008, has lead responsibility for the implementation of the Free Movement Protocols, as well as the Common Approach to Migration. As such, it is generally considered both internally and by external partners as the lead directorate for all migration matters within the Commission. At present, the Directorate consists of three permanent staff members; one Director and two Principal Program Officers, one of them being responsible for all cross-border cooperation (CBC) program-related issues.

Within its mandate, public information and awareness-raising about the free movement protocols in relation to the right of residence and establishment and the ECOWAS Common Approach to Migration are essential component.

According to the 2012 Annual Report (the 2013 report has not been issued yet), the sensitization activities of the FDMD have mainly been focused on the information centres: "For the year in question, the Commission with the support of technical and financial partners, opened at some borders, centres for information and observation of free movement, to serve in sensitising Community citizens, migrants and government officials on the need to implement all ECOWAS texts on free movement of persons, right of residence and establishment".

Other departments are also involved in public information and awareness-raising about free movement and migration. These are:

The Communication Department: Moving from Information Department to Communication Department in 2005, this structure's mandate is to plan, coordinate and supervise all activities relating to information and communication. Amongst other duties, it plays the role of chief publisher.

The Community Computer Centre: It has the mission of being a knowledge tool at the service of all users of the community in Member States and to pursue the community policy on Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Amongst other duties, it promotes a permanent exchange of information and documentation, establishing community data networks and databanks. It is the webmaster of the ECOWAS website.

The Gender, Youth, CSO, Employment and Drug Control Directorate: It is charged with migration issues related to gender equality, youth employment and civil society organizations.

The Humanitarian and Social Affairs Directorate has a key role regarding labour migration (especially migrant workers and their families' rights) and Trafficking in Persons.

ECOWAS Coordination mechanisms

According to interviews with various ECOWAS departments, there is a shared understanding of free movement as a key element towards regional integration. It appears that all interviewed officials attach vital importance to the free movement of persons. In addition, all recognize the FMPD legitimacy of coordinating all activities related to the subject. The other Departments would even consider it excellent news for the FMPD to organize regular coordination meetings.

So far, there are no formal and lateral coordination mechanisms and internal communication. Coordination in FMP and migration has taken place informally. This lack of internal communication can prove counterproductive because the FMPD finds it challenging to have a clear picture of all ECOWAS and its partners' communication actions on Free Movement and migration.

In consequence, the time might have come now to strengthen the Free Movement Directorate's role of "coordinator". Recommendations regarding public information and awareness-raising coordination are detailed later.

Sub-regional level: ECOWAS Cross-Border Cooperation zones

The CBC Concept was introduced and officially adapted into the Integration Agenda of ECOWAS in January 2006. The Cross-Border Cooperation Initiative has been developed by ECOWAS as a new pillar of sub-regional cooperation with the aim of bringing the regional integration process and local populations closer. One of its references is the European INTERREG program.

The CBC program has launched four operational pilot projects in the border areas of:

- Mali, Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast (the Sikasso-Korhogo-Bobo Dioulasso zone-SKBO) in September 2005;
- The Gambia, Senegal and Guinea Bissau (the Southern Sene-Gambia zone-SSG) in October 2005;
- Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Ivory Coast (Mano River Union); and
- Nigeria and Niger (the Kano-Katsina-Maradi zone-K2M) of which efforts are still on-going.

A fifth CBC zone is to be created along the Abidjan-Lagos corridor (involving five countries: Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria). All 15 ECOWAS countries are included in one of the five sub-regional zones.

A Network of ECOWAS Parliamentarians on Cross-Border Cooperation and Free Movement has already been established. There are currently National Plans and three zonal action plans already available (the K2M zonal action plan is supposed to be done in 2014, if the security situation in Northern Nigeria allows it). These plans include free movement of persons' sensitization actions but also trade, health,

education, culture, peace and security. So far, implementation of projects has been hampered by lack of funding.

Regarding specific public information, the CBC program has already identified cross-border community radios in 9 countries. Zonal, national and regional ECOWAS Cross-Border Cooperation and Free Movement Media Networks have been set. The agreement between the CBC program and the zonal media practitioners is to encourage them to perform as ECOWAS ambassadors and watchdogs reporting on free movement abuses (without any financial compensation) and to support them in improving their journalism labours (capacity-building, hardware, software...). in terms of equipment and media trainings.

The CBC program is currently undertaking the formulation of a zonal communication strategy in the SKBO zone through a participatory process. This is done in partnership with an Ivorian consulting firm. Once this communication strategy is approved, this process and first document could be used and replicated in the other three or four zones.

Apart from ECOWAS, the CBC program looks for synergies with the African Union Border Program (AUBP), the SWAC/OECD and the WABI Network or the Local Cross Border Initiatives project (LOBI/UNCDF).

The CBC initiatives are seen as a practical way to make regional integration real through local sub-regional schemes.

Member States

The coordination mechanisms with the Member States are established through National Focal Points that are usually hosted in Regional Integration or Foreign Affairs Ministries. It is a way for ECOWAS to ensure that the External Relations Department is fully aware of the entire set of initiatives undertaken by the other ECOWAS Departments. It appears that ECOWAS Departments also use thematic focal points directly in their counterparts' sector-specific ministries. A Head of State of one of the ECOWAS countries is especially in charge of free movement issues.

At national level, in 2007, 8 pilot units to monitor free movement were created in Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Burkina-Faso, Mali and Guinea. Nevertheless, at the time of the assessment, it was not clear whether these units were effectively created or their creation is still not effective.

Regarding public information on free movement and migration, although ECOWAS (especially the FMP Directorate) is aware of some national initiatives undertaken by its Member States, there are no formal coordination mechanisms. Being a cross-cutting issue, the FMP Directorate has no sector-specific focal points within the Member States' administrations. All communications should go through the ECOWAS National Focal Points.

Civil society organizations

At a regional level, two main West African NGO networks seem relevant in terms of public information: The West African Civil Society Forum (WACSOFF), created in 2003 and based in Abuja, has put in place national platforms that clustered in thematic networks. There are no current thematic groups regarding free movement or migration. Currently, the ECOWAS Gender, Youth, CSO, Employment and Drug Control Directorate is funding WACSOFF to reactivate six national platforms. The Directorate is also promoting specialization in the civil society organizations on thematic areas.

The Network for West African National NGO Platforms (REPAOC in French) is an active EU-funded network composed of 10 national NGO networks. It is promoting the civil society commitment to foster regional integration.

In addition, two CSO-oriented initiatives hosted by the FMP Directorate have strong ties with the CSO regarding free movement and migration. These are:

The EU-funded Intra-ACP Migration Facility that aims at strengthening national-level institutional capacity to mainstream migration and development issues and to support civil society capacity to engage in dialogue on migration issues.

The ECOWAS-Spain Fund on Migration and Development, whose goals are to support the Commission and Member States in the implementation of the Common Approach to migration and to finance civil society projects for migration and development.

Other NGOs, such as OSIWA with their West African Democracy Radio, the Senegalese NGO RADDHO and the regional project Loujna-Tounkaranké, funded by the French Cooperation Agency, are also recognized stakeholders in the field of communication about free movement and migration.

Technical and financial partners and projects

The coordination mechanisms with external partners are managed by the External Relations Directorate. Clear mechanisms have been set through the creation of Thematic Groups, as:

Thematic Group	Departments Involved	ECOWAS Leader
Capacity Building	All Departments	Office of the Vice President ¹
Peace and Security	Political Affairs, Peacekeeping and Security & Gender and Human Development	Political Affairs, Peacekeeping and Security ²
Infrastructure, Industry and Private Sector	Infrastructure and Macro-Economic Policy	Infrastructure ³
Economic Integration and Regional Trade	Macro-Economic Policy	Macro-Economic Policy
Gender and Human Development	Gender and Human Development	Gender and Human Development
Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources	Agriculture and Rural Development	Agriculture ⁴

The Thematic Group on Regional Integration to be organized by Trade, Customs, Industry and Free Movement Department has not yet been created.

Media

Currently, there are several ECOWAS-related media networks that are working on free movement and migration:

- CBC media zonal networks, especially, the Kurumba radio network in the Sikasso-Korogho-Bobo Dioulasso region, the RETRARC GUISEGAM radio network in the Senegambia region and Mano River Peace Community Radio in the Mano River region; Regional Free Movement Media and Journalists Network (created in 2010);
- the Media Network for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Child Protection.

As it has been done with the CBC program, it is essential to establish a sustainable basis with the media. The media practitioners should be empowered with their mandate as ECOWAS ambassadors and watchdogs so that they cover free movement and migration issues for free and ECOWAS support them in improving their journalism tasks (capacity-building, hardware, software...).

1 From amongst the development partners, this Group is led by the Government of Germany / GIZ

2 Led by the Embassy of Switzerland

3 Led by the African Development Bank

4 Led by the Embassy of Spain

Best practices and tools

ECOWAS tools

At the time of this assessment, there were no specific FMP Directorate communication tools on free movement and migration in West Africa. The existing FMP Directorate communication tools were all the results of partnerships with CSOs, thanks to the ECOWAS-Spanish Fund.

One of the communication tools created by other Directorates that could be seen as a good practice is the documentary on women in cross-border trade in West Africa called “Risky Borders”. It is the result from a partnership between ECOWAS and UN Women. The documentary is very effective and well-done because it gives voice to women cross-border traders, in particular those from Liberia. However, the impact on ECOWAS citizens is quite limited because it is more an investigation document targeted to decision-makers and literate audiences than an awareness-raising document.

Regarding another ECOWAS tool, the ECOWAS website is in a process of visual updating. The “old” ECOWAS website presents no information regarding the FMP Directorate, its function or mandates. The new ECOWAS website will use exactly the same contents as the old one. So it is recommended for the FMPD to submit a document presenting its functions and mandates to the Communication Department. Once this document is approved, it can be forwarded to the Community Computer Centre for uploading to the website.

Besides, it would be important for the ECOWAS website to make free movement issues more visible in the website's architecture and design.

Regarding the effectiveness and impact of the ECOWAS website, it does not present reader-friendly information regarding free movement or migration. Moreover, it is hard to find legal documents on the subject. So currently, the website cannot be considered as it is not used as a communication tool for public information about free movement and migration in West Africa.

National tools on free movement and migration

Numerous communication tools exist on free movement and migration in West Africa, mainly created by national governments and civil society organizations. However, there is no ECOWAS database or list of the communication tools created at national levels. There are no assessments or studies available to assess the impact of these tools.

Nevertheless, some countries and United Nations agencies have been able to create and monitor communication tools in West Africa, such as:

Niger/IOM:

The Niger Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in partnership with the IOM/AMEDIP project, created a communication strategy towards its diaspora. This strategy included the creation of a website (that allows diaspora questionnaires) and an investment and return guide targeted to the Niger diaspora (worldwide but mainly for West Africa-based Niger diaspora).

Nigeria/UNODC:

The Nigerian National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), in partnership with UNODC, organized a national sensitization campaign. The communication tools advised for the FMP communication strategy were: (i) good-will ambassadors, that reach out to all generations (an actress and a rap singer), (ii) radio jingles and radio dramas, (iii) social media, (iv) plays in cross-border languages such as Yoruba, (v) images/posters national contest, (vi) toll-free lines to report child trafficking, and (vii) fabric with logos and slogans.

It is also very important to work with coalitions of NGOs and religious authorities to disseminate the tools.

Senegal/ILO:

In Senegal, the Public Employment Services and the Ministry of Senegalese Abroad, in partnership with ILO, created two main tools targeting Senegalese migrants: first, a set of guides (written and audio tools on migrant workers and their families' rights and on investment and return information), and a set of training tools on financial literacy for migrant workers and their families. Thanks to these tools, more than 5,000 Senegalese migrant workers in Europe (France, Italy and Spain) and in Senegal were reached.

Even if it is no more a Member State of the ECOWAS, it is useful to highlight a good practice in Mauritania. Based on guides for employability for youth and migrant workers, a participatory process in 2012 created rap songs with key-messages. These rap songs were then disseminated through partnerships with local radios. A rap concert was organized in disadvantaged neighborhoods, targeting more than 4,000 young people.

Civil society organizations tools

The ECOWAS-Spanish Fund has funded West African CSOs to implement 24 projects in its first phase, among which 10 dealt with public information and free movement. All the projects were supervised by the FMP Directorate. The best initiatives were the ones disseminated through information centres along the Burkina Faso/Ivory Coast border, the Mali/Ghana border and in Guinea. Rural radios were also very useful disseminating media. Here, three main tools funded by the first funding of the ECOWAS-Spanish Fund are presented:

The Trainer's Manual on Free Movement and Migration created by the NGO Alliance pour la Migration, le Leadership et le Développement (AMLD). This document aims at providing practical advice to the CSOs that organize sensitization trainings to the populations.

The sensitization tools of the AFAO (West African Women Organization) that created a coherent set of leaflets and posters with the same visual identity, with a gender approach.

The regular TV programs organized in local languages and French in Burkina Faso.

Here are some recommendations the ECOWAS-Spanish Fund has decided to implement in its second phase:

- better identify compulsory key-messages to be adapted and translated in each country;
- give clearer guidelines to CSOs;
- favour cross-border coordination between multiple CSO communication actions; and
- deny funding to low-impact communication actions, such as information tours or printed tee-shirts.

There was no impact evaluation studies carried out to measure the CSO communication tools. So at the time of the assessment, there was no data available to assess the impact of these actions.

International best practices

Although communication tools must always be context-specific to be effective, some experiences from other regions of the world can be useful. Below is a brief selection of best practices that could inspire the ECOWAS communication strategy on free movement and migration.

In Europe

From the very numerous communication tools created by the EU, the guides (How to find a job in Europe/How to recruit in Europe/Ready to make the move?: What you need to know about living and working abroad) are very comprehensive guides to foster regional labour migration, especially with youth. They are mainly disseminated through the internet on websites and in all the EU official

languages. Moreover, national and European websites, such as the “How to enforce your rights” website, could inspire an ECOWAS website on this topic.

Regarding the protection of migrant workers' rights, the European trade unions, such as the British, Spanish or Swede have useful experience in this field, with information centres, training manuals and leaflets.

Regarding remittances, the French website www.envoidargent.fr is a key instrument to help migrants compare remittances rates and ease their contribution to the development of their origin countries. This tool could inspire a similar website for ECOWAS intra-regional remittances.

In Asia

Apart from numerous IOM and ILO migrant workers' guides (Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand...), UNESCO has undertaken a very interesting project on Minority Language Radio Drama Against HIV/AIDS, Trafficking and Drugs. It targets youth migrants. There is a full methodology to replicate this experience in other contexts.

Grassroots comics can also be strong development communication tools. They have been successfully implemented in India by projects funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from Finland. The methodology has several advantages (it is cheap to replicate or adapt to illiterate audiences) and could be useful to disseminate key-messages on free movement and migration.

Information and Communication Technologies

The Community Computer Centre (CCC) stated that they have at their disposal six 12 year-old servers. The IT set of skills are available, although some trainings could be very useful (for instance, Microsoft trainings). The CCC has been working with the UNCTAD for the last two years in order to create a Centre of Excellence based in Lomé (Togo). This centre is a cross-cutting structure that brings together six Directorates (Trade, Customs, Transport, Statistics, Private Sector and Free Movement).

Currently, the main project undertaken by the Centre of Excellence is the one called Alisa project, which aims at easing regional trade and interconnecting national customs' IT systems. The Centre will host a regional database on customs that will allow tracking of all transit good movements from production areas to sales countries.

From the interview with the ECOWAS webmaster, it appears that all the contents of the ECOWAS website have been edited by external consultants. The technical Directorates usually do not suggest contents; in coordination with the Communication Department, as a chief publisher, they proof-read the contents submitted by other stakeholders.

Developing a regional communication strategy

Two main sets of recommendations are analyzed herein below: (i) developing an ECOWAS communication strategy on free movement and migration; and (ii) developing standardized, coherent and ready-to-use communication tools on free movement and migration.

Key elements

From an operational point of view, it is safe to say that ECOWAS, its Member States and civil society organizations have undertaken communication actions for several years. Nevertheless, although ECOWAS has tried to promote convergence among stakeholders on this subject, significantly, up till now, there is no comprehensive ECOWAS communication strategy on free-movement and migration. During the assessment, the Director of the Free Movement of Persons Directorate clearly stated the dire need of enhancing communication coordination and its interest in formulating a Free Movement and Migration Communication Strategy. It is thus recommended to develop a regional information and sensitization strategy on free movement and migration addressed to ECOWAS citizens.

Communication strategy's main principles

The following traditional five effectiveness principles shall be kept in mind when communication is developed, delivered and managed by ECOWAS regarding free movement and migration:

- Two-Way: Contributions and/or discussions between the provider and receiver of information;
- Accessibility: Communication messages must be provided physically, mentally and stylistically to the right audiences;
- Timeliness: Messages should be delivered at the right time for the right audiences;
- Accuracy: The correct and approved information must be provided;
- Planned: The communication activities must be planned to permit reinforcement of messages, testing of processes and evaluation of success.

More specifically, regarding ECOWAS, this communication strategy is incorporated in the framework of the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration, in particular in the Action Plan to promote free movement within the ECOWAS region (“Organising technical and administrative training programs as well as awareness building and educational campaigns on the rights and obligations of the community’s citizens among officials in charge of migration and populations”).

A flexible communication strategy

First, this would-be communication strategy should be flexible. Indeed, the key instruments establishing free-movement in the ECOWAS region might be modified in 2014, which would impact the communication strategy. The Section presents the details of these probable changes, which are mainly related to modifications introduced in the ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement and the formulation of an ECOWAS Migration Policy.

Since it is not clear when these changes will be introduced and implemented, it is essential that the communication strategy anticipates these changes. Two main recommendations can be made regarding flexibility:

- Favour a different approach for two kinds of communication tools: On the one hand, communication tools with general key-messages that won't be affected by the changes in the Protocols (covering cross-border trade, remittances, trafficking in persons...) and on the other

hand, communication tools with specific key-messages (such as the ones related to free movement or migrant workers' rights) that could be easily modified when the Protocols change;

- Anticipate and take advantage of the momentum that will be created when the Protocols are modified and when an ECOWAS Migration Policy is formulated. This can be done at different levels, in particular, with Member-States, media or civil society organizations. Indeed, even if it is already the case, ECOWAS citizens will be in dire need to be informed and sensitized about their new rights. So it is to be expected that media and civil society will ask for information. At that point, ECOWAS communications could have all the materials regarding the changes in the Protocols ready to be disseminated.

A participatory communication strategy

ECOWAS is technically responsible for coordinating the socio-economic and political integration of the member states and the region. It is particularly true regarding free movement and migration. ECOWAS, bearing in mind its powers and limitations as an egalitarian multilateral organization made up of sovereign states, has played the role of “bridge builder” and “coordinator,” within and among Member States.

ECOWAS therefore counts on its Member-States and its citizens' organizations to help in raising awareness and inform on free-movement and migration. That is why, among other essential reasons, the communication strategy should be created through a participatory process. This would ensure the ownership of the communication strategy by all stakeholders.

It is also a way to ensure two-way communication, which is a key element to effective communication. This participatory process could include not only the drafting of the communication strategy but also the communication tools.

Moreover, operationally, the mere drafting of the Communication Strategy should be considered as part of the Communication Strategy. The participatory process steps are detailed in paragraph 3.2.1 Communication strategy drafting.

A sustainable and evaluation-oriented communication strategy

Although sustainability should be an essential component of every development project, it is particularly important when it comes to communication. Indeed, and as mentioned earlier, effective communication should be timely and should continuously put messages across to stakeholders and the general public. In the specific case of free movement and migration, not only do the citizens need to know their rights and obligations when moving inside the ECOWAS region, but also they should be updated on the latest regulation changes and initiatives.

Feedback and impact evaluation are key elements in all behaviour change communication. Evaluating, at determined points, that messages are well delivered and understood and asking for feedback and involvement allow for improving the reach and the communication tools. Monitoring tools are suggested in paragraph 3.2.2.

Communication strategy's objectives

The overall goal of the ECOWAS Free Movement Public Information Strategy could be an efficient system which ensures that information on all aspects of free movement and migration in West Africa are effectively accessed, formulated, packaged and disseminated to partners and the general public.

More specifically, the communication strategy could aim at:

- Raising awareness and the information level of ECOWAS citizens on free movement and migration;

- Improving visibility and clarity of the ECOWAS actions about free movement and migration (in particular regarding current regulations);
- Enhancing the involvement and strengthening the capacity of ECOWAS partners (Member-States, local authorities, NGOs, Civil Society Organizations...) to achieve ECOWAS communication strategy objectives;
- Promoting sub-regional collaboration through linkages and partnerships inside the cross-border zonal networks, in particular radio networks;
- Disseminating communication tools and advocacy instruments to the targets and partners;
- Building, developing and propagating an ECOWAS image as lead institution regarding regional integration and migration;
- Increasing the impact of communication through proper utilization of the tools and the deployment of an effective feedback system.

Communication strategy's targeted audiences and clients

The communication strategy should not focus on internal audiences (ECOWAS staff) but mainly on external audiences.

Consistent with the overarching objective and vision of ECOWAS to transform from an ECOWAS of States to an ECOWAS of peoples by the year 2020, one of the core objectives of the Free Movement and Migration Communication Strategy is to promote strategic partnerships with civil society organizations and the mass media.

The clients or constituencies for free movement and migration could include the following, with different and unique information and communication needs:

- Migrant workers and their families;
- Civil society organizations (including migrant/youth/women associations, NGOs, and trade unions);
- Policy makers in government and in regional and sub-regional agencies;
- Journalists and media practitioners, especially regional and local radio practitioners;
- Public employment and trade services;
- Remittances operators (such as banks or microfinance institutions);
- TIP services;
- Opinion leaders and the general public.

It is recommended to follow ECOWAS' general targeted audiences and include a special focus on women, youth and migrant workers.

Women

According to the statistics released by the ECOWAS Commission in 2007 during the Meeting of Ministers, women represent 47% of the 17 million immigrants in Africa, most of who hail from West Africa (Gender and Migration Action Plan, ECOWAS, to be formally approved).

According to "Risky Borders", a documentary on women in cross-border trade in West Africa (ECOWAS/UN-Women), women face more obstacles than men when migrating. They tend to be more vulnerable regarding violations of their rights (especially sexual harassment) or they don't get the same access to information. For instance, 90% of cross-border women traders are illiterate, let alone the fact that human trafficking strikes mainly women and children.

In addition, the ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration Framework (2008) takes into account gender and migration dynamics and specifically recommends "including gender dimensions in migration policies."

The communication strategy's gender approach might be integrated in the following ways:

- All strategic lines of communication might be gender-sensitive;
- The communication tools might be tailored according to the characteristics of women (including channels and topics that are relevant to women);
- The monitoring and evaluation system might include specific gender indicators, such as number of women beneficiaries of the communication actions or number of women associations disseminating communication tools.

Finally, as shown in Annex 4.3, the communication part of the Regional Action Plan on Gender and Migration could be part of the communication strategy on free movement and migration.

Youth

Young women and men (15-35 years) constitute 33% of the population of the region. However, many young people continue to suffer from poverty, discrimination, inequality and lack of access to proper education and health services. Some fall prey to early pregnancy or become involved in drug abuse and delinquency, while civil conflict has disrupted the transition to adulthood of many young people in the region. Incorporating youth as a main targeted audience would lead to specific communication tools and channels. It is also a way to invest in the future, as the impact of sensitizing youth is much higher.

Inside the general youth group, the communication strategy could emphasize on two sub-groups: first, and following the Common Approach on Migration, students and young professionals and second, cross-border traders. The ECOWAS Youth Employment Action Plan states: “Cross border trading is an important phenomenon in the region, especially by young and women traders. Until the full compliance of the Protocol is established, cross border traders will continue to operate in a precarious environment. The situation of young and female traders requires particular attention given their added vulnerability.”

This communication strategy could especially build synergies with the “Intervention Area 5: Mobility of young female and male workers and cross border traders” of the ECOWAS Youth Employment Action Plan, in particular regarding activity 5.2.2 Establish pilot migrant information centers in two Member States to provide orientation for migrant workers on employment rights, job search and enterprise set up. These centres could be a vehicle of choice to convey employability information

Synergies can also be built with the ECOWAS Volunteer Program (EVP) that has been extended to all the ECOWAS countries since 2012. Another option is to build on the current Pan-African Youth Leaders Program, supported by the UNFPA among other partners.

Engaging with youth could also be done directly through youth associations. Individuals or sub-groups of selected active youth groups could be identified to serve as “Migration Youth Ambassadors” and as feedback mechanisms from respective target groups. These young persons would be selected at consultations or meetings with the support of their respective organizations. Their functions could include delivery of ECOWAS messages and dissemination of promotional materials at the national/regional level and providing feedback to the Free Movement Directorate.

Migrant workers and their families; diaspora members

Although it is mentioned in the Common Approach on Migration, the rights of migrant workers and their families are still the poor relation of ECOWAS migration policies. The statement outlined above is derived from triangulated sources of data including the repeated lack of this topic in several interviews with ECOWAS officials, coupled with qualitative information provided by the ILO office.

This is why special effort should be taken to target this audience within the communication strategy. This effort would be two-fold for the Free Movement Directorate: on the one hand, to persuade ECOWAS’ other structures of the validity to include this audience in the communication strategy and on the other hand, to create new partnerships to disseminate public information tools towards this

audience. So far, no other ECOWAS programs have dealt with this issue, for there is no specific institutional network or arrangements regarding migrant workers.

Diasporas are also mentioned in the Common Approach on Migration (paragraph 2.2.3). However, this document seems to focus more on the West African diaspora living outside the ECOWAS region than the national diasporas living inside the ECOWAS region. Yet, this last group can contribute to the development of their origin countries too. Indeed, in the “Overview on South South Migration and Development in West Africa” (International Organization for Migration / ACP Observatory on Migration, 2010), it is stated “As concerns outflows, USD 808 million were sent from countries of the ECOWAS region to elsewhere (World Bank, 2009). As this concerns most likely migrants from the sub region or Africa more generally, it would be interesting to explore further where migrants residing in ECOWAS countries transfer money to and how the development impact of these transfers can be enhanced through enabling institutional and legal frameworks”. So targeting diaspora members living inside the ECOWAS region in the communication strategy could genuinely be innovative.

Traders

Finally, the traders group appears to be a cross-cutting group (women, youth and migrant workers). Inside this group, and in order to be more precise, the informal traders would be a target of choice. Indeed, according to the ECOWAS Director of Trade, Mr Gbenga OBIDEYI, “informal trade represents 70%, if not more, of the trade in West Africa”. As most of the cross-border traders are informal, it is essential to use CSOs to convey key-messages. According to the technical expert of the ACP-Migration project, some informal traders associations exist, such as the Liberian Women Cross-Border Traders Organization.

In this communication strategy on free movement of persons and migration, it is recommended not to address the specific issues regarding free movement of goods and services as a separate theme. However, it is recommended to cover these issues from a free movement of persons’ perspective and in close association with the Trade Directorate. This one is part of the same Department than the Free Movement of Persons Directorate, which might ease collaboration.

Communication strategy's key messages

In developing messages, it must be recognized that some of the audiences are not familiar with the legal issues of border-crossing and migration. Thus, messages must be simple, clear and short. The principle of KISS (Keep It Short and Simple) could be adopted.

Consistent with the overarching objective and vision of ECOWAS to transform from an ECOWAS of States to an ECOWAS of peoples by the year 2020, the overall key message to convey is part of the ECOWAS vision statement: “To create a borderless and prosperous region”.

Some CSO-related persons interviewed underlined that communicating only on bribery and free movement restrictions would not be a suitable entry point: the communication strategy must be much broader. The topics that could be focused on in the public information tools include amongst others: (i) free movement rights and corresponding obligations; (ii) rights of migrant workers’ and their families; (iii) departure, return and employability information for migrants; and (iv) prevention of trafficking in persons and support services for victims of trafficking.

Key-messages about free movement and migration have been developed in numerous previous sensitization documents and leaflets.

Theme 1: Free movement rights and corresponding obligations

General key-messages about the Protocols	Targeted audience
General information regarding the three Protocols (Free movement, residency and establishment) The border is an opportunity of cooperation, not an obstacle!	The general public and all targeted audiences (minimum content that should be included in each communication action)

Theme 2: Rights of migrant workers' and their families

General key-messages	Targeted audience
Migrant workers have rights We are all migrants. Think of yourself, of your parents, grandparents, your friends, your neighbours... Knowledge is the best way to fight discrimination against migrants.	The general public and all targeted audiences (minimum content that should be included in each communication action) Local host communities
Specific key-messages	
Detailed migrant workers' rights (by category: seasonal, permanent migrant workers, cross-border traders...)	Migrant workers and their families Diaspora members Public employment and trade services

Theme 3: Departure, return and employability information for migrants

General key-messages	Targeted audience
It is possible to (find) work in another ECOWAS country. If it's hard to find work in your own country, keep in mind that you have the right to work in another ECOWAS country. Thanks to the ECOWAS principle of free movement of workers, you can get a job or live or study in any country of the ECOWAS zone. Get ready when you want to come back and work in your origin country.	The general public and all targeted audiences (minimum content that should be included in each communication action)
Specific key-messages	
How to study / find work / create a business in another ECOWAS country How to get prepared to come back to your origin country (for informal and formal workers)	Migrant workers and their families Diaspora members Public employment and trade services

Theme 4: Prevention of trafficking in persons and support services for victims of trafficking

General key-messages	Targeted audience
Trafficking in persons is a crime. I am not a good. I cannot be sold to anyone. I'm priceless (UNODC slogan).	The general public and all targeted audiences (minimum content that should be included in each communication action)
Specific key-messages	
What is trafficking in persons? What does "freedom deprivation" mean? What is it like? What does labour or sexual exploitation mean? What can I do?	Vulnerable groups Children Women associations

As the TIP Unit is undergoing a communication strategy process, it is recommended to incorporate the TIP key-messages in the general public information strategy on free movement and migration.

Other topics to be considered

According to the technical expert of the ACP-Migration project, other topics could also be considered in this communication strategy, such as diaspora involvement and remittances or women migrants' rights.

General key-messages	Targeted audience
Choose formal remittances channels.	The general public and all targeted audiences (minimum content that should be included in each communication action)
Specific key-messages	
Financial literacy for migrant workers How to invest and contribute to your origin country social and economic development?	Migrant workers and their families Diaspora members
General key-messages	Targeted audience
Rights of women migrant workers and traders, and mechanisms to protect their rights	Women migrant workers and traders

Communication strategy's channels

Because of the characteristics of the targeted audiences, coupled with the project framework, the following communication channels are particularly recommended:

Radio

Considering radio as the panacea to all free movement and migration communication issues in West Africa would be a mistake because radio, as any channel, has advantages and disadvantages that have to be weighed and tailored to the communication strategy. Nevertheless, it is no surprise that the radio medium is the one acclaimed by numerous civil society organizations and cooperation projects (such as the FAO/DIMITRA, in which the targeted population is the one that is creating radio content and promoting public debates after broadcasting the programs). As reflected in the ECOWAS Regional Workshop on the Development of a Media and Communication Network and Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Persons and Child Protection (Abuja, 28-30 October 2013), radio is a medium of choice. Radio is sometimes the only one communication channel available to convey messages to remote rural populations. In traditional West-African cultures, where oral communication is at the core of all information transmission, radio is especially recommended to disseminate materials targeted to illiterate and low-literate audiences (which is a cross-cutting characteristic of our previously defined audiences i.e. women or migrant workers). Moreover, it targets numerous populations for a relatively low cost.

Using radio in West Africa allows taking advantage of significant cross-border languages defined by the OCDE as Akan, Gbe, Halpulaar/Fulani, Hausa, Mandinka, Songhai, Wolof and Yoruba. Broadcasting in those languages in several countries is a symbol of free movement of information and concrete regional integration.

Besides, radio broadcasting can also be used in significant regional events, such as religious gatherings or weekly cross-border markets.

Finally, another reason to advocate for the use of radio is the great institutional work undertaken by the Free Movement Directorate (in particular the Cross-Border Cooperation Program) in several zones. The cross-border radio networks, such as the ones developed in the Sikasso-Korogho-Bobo Dioulasso

region (the Kurumba radio network), in the Senegambia region (the RETRARC GUISEGAM radio network) and in the Mano River Region (the Mano River Peace Community Radio/MARWOPNET) are all in place to disseminate free movement and migration information.

Internet-based communication

Even if this medium is not used by the majority of targeted audiences, it is still recommended to dedicate some resources to have ECOWAS free movement and migration communication visible and present on the web. Apart from anticipating trends that confirm Internet will be a major source of information for the African population in the coming years, Internet is already frequently used today by opinion leaders, policy-makers and part of the youth. Hence, dedicating a relative part of the communication strategy to Internet-based communication would be a wise decision.

Civil society organizations dissemination

The dissemination of information regarding free movement and migration through civil society organizations (CSO) is highly recommended. According to the West African Network of National NGO Platforms (REPAOC in French), a federation of 10 national NGO platforms, in its EU-funded study called "Understanding and participating in the West African integration process", it is a core mission of West African CSOs to promote regional integration, especially by sensitizing and raising the general public's awareness. As REPAOC declares it, regional integration is first the peoples' business, all the more now, with the ECOWAS Vision 2020 evolving towards an ECOWAS of the peoples. The literature review and specific CSO publications emphasize that these organizations have valuable and precious experience in this field.

Nevertheless, from lessons learnt, it appears that so far, communication actions disseminated or undertaken by West African CSOs have been punctual, scattered and without any strong lateral coordination between them or vertical by ECOWAS. Moreover, the lack of monitoring and evaluation of previous communication actions cause an ill decision-making process for it is not properly documented or data-driven.

It is recommended for the ECOWAS Commission to strengthen its partnership with the CSOs. Here are some corrective measures:

- creating a communication strategy, including the CSOs, so that there is clarity about the key elements of the communication promoting free movement and migration;
- creating a set of coherent tools for the CSOs to adapt and disseminate;
- ensuring quality in dissemination, training CSOs regarding key messages on free movement and migration (especially if the Protocols and Policy change);
- promoting migrants' organizations and fostering migrants commitments in associations;
- implementing a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system of the CSOs communication actions.

Promotion of ECOWAS Information Centres

Regarding ECOWAS Information Centres, there were recommendations established during a meeting at the ECOWAS Commission held on 13 March 2013 to "ensure that citizens are aware of their rights, ensure compliance with the protocol and thereby reduce cases of harassment." These information centres target mainly borders communities, migrants and travelers. According to interviews with the technical expert of the ACP-Migration project, these information centres have been physically created (they depend on the Infrastructure Department, as an ECOWAS infrastructure) but are not yet operational. Currently, these information centres are built at the Benin-Togo, Benin-Burkina-Faso, Burkina-Faso-Mali and Mali-Guinea borders. They are neither equipped nor functional. Besides, there is neither staff nor any procedures manual to guide the centres' future work of sensitization.

Precisely, the FMP Directorate has requested the ECOWAS-Spanish Fund to support these information centres in three areas: training, information and assistance to ECOWAS citizens. There are also current negotiations with national governments, such as the one from Benin, to make the information centres operational.

Thus, in a sustainability perspective, it is recommended:

- to promote the operationalization of one or two pilot information centres;
- to promote information centres' coordination mechanisms;
- in partnership with local CSOs, to use the physical infrastructures already available to organize sensitization events, trainings and other actions that are part of the free movement and migration communication strategy.

Communication strategy formulation and promotion

As mentioned above, the process of formulating the communication strategy should be participatory. The participatory process would have two main targets: internal ones (ECOWAS Departments) and external ones, such as Member States (through the ECOWAS units), civil society organizations (including migrants' associations, trade unions and private sector), experts and technical/financial partners.

Due to time and budget constraints, the suggested steps that could be undertaken by the Free Movement Directorate are as follows:

- based on this initial assessment, draft a communication strategy;
- share the first draft with related Directorates and hold an ECOWAS internal meeting to gather comments;
- share the second draft with external stakeholders;
- finalize the communication strategy;
- translate it into the other two official languages, edit and publish it, and disseminate it to all stakeholders.

The communication strategy should guide the activities undertaken by the Member States and the civil society organizations in the following years of the project. Each strategic line could be granted a specific funding. From the lessons learnt from prior ECOWAS experience, especially the ECOWAS-Spanish fund, relying entirely on civil society organizations can lead to a lack of control in the information given to the citizens. That is why, for instance, disseminating the strategy to civil society organizations could also be a way to train the civil society organizations on the key-messages the ECOWAS Commission expects them to disseminate. In this way, ECOWAS and the Free Movement Directorate can play its role of coordinating coherent communication from the main stakeholders towards the citizens.

Specific zonal institutional arrangements in the Abidjan-Lagos corridor

According to the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor Organization (ALCO), up to 70% of the ECOWAS mobility of persons and goods is concentrated between Abidjan and Lagos. The ECOWAS Director of Trade, Mr. Gbenga OBIDEYI, reckons that around 3 million people take this corridor each year. It is not only a coastal corridor; it is also a business belt that feeds the inland countries. Hence, this corridor is essential to regional integration.

So far, ECOWAS Cross-Border Cooperation zones, the only cross-border cooperation zone that has not implemented an institutional framework is precisely the Abidjan-Lagos corridor.

Following the CBC methodology, institutional work leading to a zonal stakeholders' network would be an asset for the Free Movement Directorate and for implementing the communication strategy. It would also be certainly useful for other activities of the project. However, working in this area is quite

a challenge due to the number of countries (5) and stakeholders involved. To mitigate those risks, working with the ALCO and with the ECOWAS Alisa project could be considered.

Communication strategy's impact measures, and monitoring and evaluation system

As mentioned before, apart from being flexible and sustainable, the strategy should be monitoring and evaluation-oriented. It is compulsory to establish an M&E system and to measure two different levels. Each level requires specific tools.

A more detailed and specific results framework should be developed as part of the Annual Operational Plan (OP). For each year, specific prioritized targets are to be outlined. Implementation progress reports and impact reports should be generated at the end of each year to assess the gains and challenges, and ultimately use such information to refine the implementation strategies in order to enhance performance.

Measuring the implementation of the communication strategy

Information is a key element for the ECOWAS Commission to be the core regional coordinating body of awareness-raising about free movement and migration. Regarding the monitoring of the communication strategy implementation, an ECOWAS online database could be created to monitor who is doing what, with what tools and in which areas. It is suggested that the database include the following fields:

- communication partners information (i.e. name, nature, country, contacts);
- undertaken communication actions information (i.e. nature, place, date, presented migration thematic, tools...)
- targeted audiences' characteristics, with quantitative and qualitative indicators (number, age, gender, profession, literacy level).

The communication disseminating partners of the project could be trained in using this database during the training on free movement and migration tools. To ensure data inputs by the stakeholders funded by the project, the financial procedures could include these inputs in the database as a requirement.

The online nature of the database would define it as a genuine regional monitoring tool. Access to this database could be granted not only to ECOWAS officials but also to all stakeholders who are part of the communication strategy (even if the privileges for each category of stakeholders would be different and gradual). This would allow ECOWAS-stakeholders coordination and intra-stakeholders (especially intra-CSOs) coordination.

Measuring the knowledge acquired by the targeted audiences and the behaviour changes

For the stakeholders to monitor and evaluate their own communication actions according to standardized indicators, the ECOWAS Free Movement Directorate could: (i) collect M&E tools the civil society organizations have already designed and used, and (ii) provide the stakeholders with standardized monitoring and evaluation tools, such as baseline and impact questionnaires (included in the communication tools).

This cross-cutting aspect should be included as a strategic line. This would allow proper funding to monitor the communication strategy's impact during the project life span. Monitoring the impact of the communication strategy could be done by civil society organizations, which have the skills to do so.

Communication tools

During the assessment, ECOWAS officials clearly stated their interest in creating a communication strategy. However, they also empathized strongly on finding hands-on ways to implement it. That is why developing communication tools would make communication operational.

Developing a set of coherent, standardized and ready-to-use tools

From lessons learnt from prior experience, it appears that what is needed by ECOWAS in general and the Free Movement Directorate in particular is a set of coherent, standardized and ready-to-use communication tools about free movement and migration. These tools would be the main factors to operationalize the communication strategy. As such, the fact that the project supports the development of these tools would be a major success.

Apart from applying the communication strategy general principles (flexibility, sustainability and participation), the general characteristics of the recommended tools are the following:

- **General content:** Each tool might offer variations on the general key-messages above mentioned.
- **Specific content:** When targeting a specific audience, the key-messages should be specifically tailored.
- **Multi-linguism:** The tools should be available in their written version in the three ECOWAS official languages and in their oral version in the OECD-defined cross-border languages .
- **Identity and coherence:** It is recommended to adopt the same visual and audio identities in all the communication tools.
- **Continuity:** It is important that the communication tools are maintained over time and that the targeted audiences get familiar with them. To achieve this, one suggestion would be to have a common thread. For instance, as for sports events, the same characters (i.e. a strong traditional rural woman which is, by contrast, very empowered and free movement-literate, a young urban man) could appear in several communication tools (comics, radio jingles, leaflets) to be symbols of free movement and migration communication.

From the great variety of communication tools available and used in the past by ECOWAS and its partners, from publicity materials to awareness-raising tours, here are tools recommended:

Written and visual tools

According to the targeted audiences, the written tools shall also include visual communication, such as meaningful image boxes (to be used in trainings) or comics.

Guides written in easy English/French/Portuguese and translated in some local languages could be very useful to disseminate rights of migrant workers and their families, information about investments/labour migration, and departure, return and employability information for migrants.

Audio tools: Radio jingles, dramas and programmes

As radio would be a key medium, the Free Movement and Migration Communication Strategy could provide radio practitioners with radio jingles, question and answer programmes or radio inputs (interviews with ECOWAS officials, reports). It is recommended to develop and record standardized audio messages (translated in different local languages) to be disseminated through radio. Based on the UNESCO experience in Asia, standardized radio dramas, with the same characters or stories, could also be a strong regional integration communication tool.

Direct communication: Training manuals and trainings of trainers

According to the technical assistant of the ACP-Migration project, who has wide experience in CSO and free movement, one successful practice in communicating with migrants and with the general public is the direct communication, especially in-situ trainings disseminated by grassroots organizations. To facilitate this work, the Free Movement and Migration Communication Strategy could provide the CSOs with trainer manuals and trainings of trainers. It is advised to build on the previous experience of the ECOWAS-Spanish Fund and the Alliance pour la Migration, le Leadership et le Développement (AML), which elaborated in an advocacy manual on free movement and migration .

Allowing wide access to an ECOWAS communication tools online databank

Each communication tool could be designed according to the free software mechanisms: each stakeholder can adapt the tools, improve them and share them with all the stakeholders' communities. This mechanism reinforces ownership and flexibility.

Now, the Free Movement Directorate would face two apparently contradictory challenges: on one side, allowing the stakeholders to adapt the tools and strengthening their ownership and autonomy; and on the other side, keeping control of the messages that are conveyed on its behalf and ensuring quality in the dissemination of the communication strategy. To overcome these challenges, procedures for a manual for adaptation or guidelines could be created. It would also ease the adaptation work of the stakeholders.

The tools can be adapted in three ways:

- in geographical and cultural context, where the tools have to fit in sub-regional & cross-border, national or local realities;
- in the local languages;
- for the targeted audiences: migrant workers, youth, women, traders.

From a sustainability perspective, it is essential that the communication tools are permanently available for all the stakeholders. This can be done through an ECOWAS communication tools online databank. As for the M&E database mentioned in paragraph 3.1.6.1, this databank could be online. Access to this databank could be granted to everyone. This would strengthen ECOWAS as a provider of expertise and quality technical tools in the field of free movement and migration.

The dissemination of the communication tools could be done in partnership with zonal institutions from the CBC Program, CSOs and Member-States. It is recommended to use the ECOWAS information centres the more frequently possible.

Internet-based tools: The ECOWAS Free Movement and Migration webpage

According to the assessment, in regards to human resources in the Communication Department or the Free Movement Directorate, or regarding update mechanisms, it is recommended to create a static website. For the same reasons, the use of social media is even less recommended. Indeed, it is counter-productive to have static social media pages.

A static website has the advantage of being very simple to implement and requires very little updating. It is also easy to move from a static website to a dynamic one when the conditions change. Here, let us remember that this website would be different from the website of the Free Movement Directorate, whose features are already established by the Communication Department and the Community Computer Centre and whose goal is only to explain the mandate of the Directorate and the profile of the Director.

Extracting lessons learnt from the ECOWAS Commission's previous experience, it is suggested that the contents of the ECOWAS Free Movement and Migration webpage be very user-friendly and merely

informative. Creating content would not require additional work, as it could be extracted from other communication tools (visual identity, leaflets, guides, podcasts). Not to be outdated, the webpage would not have a news section or current Free Movement Directorate activity reports, for instance.

The sustainability of this webpage would be assured by the fact that this website would be hosted inside the ECOWAS website. This website could also host links to the M&E database and the communication tools databank.

Finally, the recommendation regarding the creation of an interactive map, using free software from Ushahidi, could also be freely hosted on this webpage.

ECOWAS citizens as watchdogs: A network of information reporting border-crossing problems and free-movement restrictions

Facing an impunity issue

As explained previously in the needs assessment, several ECOWAS officials highlighted the fact that the main issue regarding the effective implementation of the Protocols was more an issue of impunity than a lack of awareness of the population or the security forces. Now, how can a communication strategy bring an answer to this problem?

In the framework of this project, the requirements would be as follows:

- A bottom-up and democratic solution: in this case, it would be a tangible way to fulfill the two-way communication criteria established at the beginning of this report. That is, it would allow ECOWAS citizens to be real active parts of the communication process, not only passive receptors.
- An available solution: The ECOWAS citizens should be able to participate in this solution, in all the ECOWAS countries and with no impediments.
- A feasible solution in terms of budget, timeline, effectiveness and easy management.
- A sustainable solution.

African experiences

Democratic Republic of Congo

In war-affected Eastern Congo, the Spanish NGO Caritas has set up an informants' network that reports three times a day on human rights' violations. Thanks to satellite mobile phones, these informants text confidential codes, that are decrypted by an operator and entered into a dedicated database. A daily, updated report is sent to the Mission of the United Nations in the Congo (MONUC) and all other stakeholders. Thanks to these reports, around 90% of victims of sexual violence have been taken care of in less than 72 hours.

Even if the context and the goals are very distant, the Congolese experience shows an interesting case of interactive report of abuses in real time. Some elements could be useful to ECOWAS concerns.

Kenya

"Ushahidi", which means "testimony" in Swahili, is a website that was initially developed to map reports of violence in Kenya after the post-election fallout at the beginning of 2008. It is now self-described as "a non-profit tech company that specializes in developing free and open source software for information collection, visualization and interactive mapping". Ushahidi offers products that enable local observers to submit reports using their mobile phones (SMS or MMS) or the Internet, while simultaneously creating a temporal and geospatial archive of events. This video explains Ushahidi.

Apart from crises or conflict contexts, Ushahidi has also been used to tackle abnormal practices, such as corruption cases in Macedonia (Transparency Watch) or in India.

This tool seems to respond to the needs of both ECOWAS citizens and the ECOWAS Commission.

How could the Ushahidi software be used in the case of the ECOWAS public information strategy on free movement and migration?

Ushahidi software can be used in two ways: either by hiring a developer to customize the free and open source Ushahidi platform to fit the needs of the Free Movement and Migration communication strategy or by directly hiring the Ushahidi creators.

Here are some advantages of using Ushahidi technology:

- It fits the main purpose of ECOWAS to address impunity through an effective tool for grass-root communication
- It is a non-smartphone mobile application (through short-message texting). Over the past five years, mobile penetration in each of the countries has grown from an approximate 30% of the population to well over the half population mark. In particular, by the end of 2011, Nigeria reported a 61% penetration rate, Ghana 87%, while Ivory Coast's mobile penetration rate stood, at 71% . This technology is clearly an inclusive mean to reach a huge majority of ECOWAS citizens.
- As this software is open and free, this solution would be feasible (no need to develop a new software) and sustainable (once the software is set, there is no need of a permanent manager).
- The data generated by the software is reliable. Nevertheless, it is also possible to crosscheck the data with semestral/annual NGO reports or reports from journalists on this issue.
- The data provided is automatically updated to an interactive map, which could be accessible through the Free Movement and Migration webpage.

Finally, this information network on free movement restrictions could also be used by the ECOWAS Courts to encourage more litigation. It could also be used to issue an annual or twice yearly report of free movement restrictions to the ECOWAS Heads of States.

A territorial approach: Using the Sikasso-Khorogo-Bobo Dioulasso zone as a pilot implementation zone

The Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC) Program, that is the Free Movement Directorate, plans to formulate a communication strategy in 2014 in the SKBO zone (Ivory Coast, Burkina-Faso and Mali). This strategy will be built upon the current zonal stakeholders' network (especially the zonal media network) and be formulated by an Ivorian consulting firm called BNET. This communication strategy will then be replicated in the other three cross-border cooperation zones. Important work with the media has been undertaken with ECOWAS on a sustainable basis, media practitioners cover free movement and migration issues for free and ECOWAS supports them in improving their journalism labour (capacity-building, hardware, software).

One option to support these actions would be to allow CSO zonal actions on free movement to be eligible for funding, for instance with the inclusion of the possibility of funding to sub-regional initiatives (not only national scale initiatives).

Annexes

Annex 1: List of persons interviewed

Name	Institution	Position
Sunny UGOH (Mr)	ECOWAS	Acting Director, Communication Department
Paul EJIME (Mr)	ECOWAS	Programme Officer, Communication Department
N'Faly SANOH (Mr)	ECOWAS	Director, Free Movement Department
Tony ELUMELU (Mr)	ECOWAS	Principal Programme Officer, Free Movement
Kinza JAWARA N' JAI (Ms)	ECOWAS	Principal Programme Officer, Cross Border Cooperation (Free Movement Department)
Badara NDIAYE (Mr)	Intra-ACP Migration Facility	Technical Assistant
Ismaila DANGOUE (Mr)	ECOWAS	Programme Manager of ECOWAS/Spain Fund on Migration and Development
Mahamadou YAHAYA (Mr)	ECOWAS	Director, Department of Research and Statistics
Oseitutu AGYEMAN-DUAH (Mr)	ECOWAS	Director, Community Computer Centre
Paul D. KPOGNON (Mr)	ECOWAS	Internet Service Manager, Community Computer Centre
Olatunde Olayemi (Mr)	ECOWAS	Regional Adviser, Directorate of Humanitarian and Social Affairs
Aminat Tope Abdulrahman (Mrs)	UNODC	Smuggling of Migrants and Training Officer
Benetta JOKO TARR (Mrs)	ECOWAS	Principal Programme Officer, External Relations Directorate
Jérôme BOA (Mr)	ECOWAS	Principal Programme Officer, External Relations Directorate
Abdoulaye DIALLO (Mr)	WACSOFF	General Secretary
Sinitiki Tarfa UGBE (Mrs/Dr)	ECOWAS	Director, Department of Gender Development, Youth/Sports, Civil Society, Employment and Drug Control
Kenza DIMECHKIE (Ms)	Independent consultant (ILO)	Responsible for Baseline Assessment on Labour Migration
Geertrui LANNEAU (Ms)	IOM	Programme Manager, Support to Free Movement and Migration in West Africa
Mouktar ADAMU (Mr)	Independent consultant	Responsible for TIP Communication Strategy
Ignacio ARROYO (Mr)	Caritas Spain (Democratic Republic of Congo)	Country Director

Annex 2: Communication part of the Regional Action Plan on Gender and Migration

<p>Enlighten, raise awareness of and communicate with the populations</p>	<p>Enhance enlightenment and sensitization of the populations on migration issues to facilitate effective and efficacious mobility and migration of citizens, male and female alike, within ECOWAS and elsewhere</p>	<p>Development and design of information, enlightenment, communication and awareness building tools, aids and programmes on the stakes of gender perspective in migration policies, and the right of everyone to unimpeded and beneficial migration; benefits and prospects</p> <p>Information and training workshop for 45 substitute facilitators (3 per member country) on the use of appropriate tools and aids on migration, gender and migration and their stakes in the West African context</p> <p>National and regional enlightenment and communication campaigns</p>	<p>(1) Relevant tools, aids and programmes are designed and developed for men, women, youth, community leaders, sports associations, grassroots women’s associations, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substitute facilitators – disseminators are trained Staff training manuals produced <p>The populations are better educated and informed</p>	<p>Number of tools, aids and programmes designed and developed by target group</p> <p>Availability of the tools, aids and programmes</p> <p>Number of substitutes trained</p> <p>Number of manuals available</p> <p>Number of citizens enlightened and sensitized</p> <p>Number of tools, aids and programmes disseminated</p>	<p>Gender and Development Department of ECOWAS Commission Department of Free Movement of Persons in ECOWAS</p> <p>ECOWAS Gender Development Centre</p> <p>Sociologists</p> <p>Economists</p> <p>Migration, Gender and Migration Experts</p> <p>West African Civil Society Organizations in the 15 ECOWAS member countries</p> <p>Media professionals including community media</p>
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Governments	<p>Educate the populations on gender and migration: significance for migrating men and women</p>	<p>migrant man Their respective living conditions and specific needs throughout the migration process (in the official languages of member countries of the sub-region)</p> <p>Organization of a regional information and awareness raising caravan on the processes of regular and irregular migration and the challenges they pose for men and women:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 days per country • Installation of information stands to be monitored by the 45 substitutes for 3 months • etc <p>Information and awareness building workshop for officials on the stakes involved in incorporating a gender perspective in their migration programmes, policies and strategies - Review of existing texts using gender approach</p> <p>Information and</p>	<p>The tools, aids and programmes are disseminated</p> <p>A documentary film on a woman migrant and on a man migrant is produced and made available: the lessons clearly identifiable by and comprehensible to the populations</p> <p>The caravan is prepared, involving all the concerned players including the media, male and female students and pupils</p> <p>Officials understand better the stakes involved in the gender</p>	<p>Documentary films</p> <p>Availability of the films</p> <p>Frequency of projection of the films Number of television channels desirous of showing the films Number of radio stations relaying this issue; the languages used, etc.</p> <p>Number of persons, academicians and students involved</p> <p>Number of regions and countries traversed</p> <p>Number of public events organized</p> <p>Number of participants</p> <p>Report of workshop</p> <p>Workshop assessment sheet</p>	<p>Media professionals</p> <p>Men and women migrants and their families</p> <p>Women, men, youth, academicians and students are enlightened and sensitized to gender and migration issues</p>
	<p>Sensitize the governments of member countries on the need to</p>	<p>Information and</p>	<p>Officials understand better the stakes involved in the gender</p>	<p>Number of participants</p> <p>Report of workshop</p> <p>Workshop assessment sheet</p>	<p>Women, men, youth, academicians and students are enlightened and sensitized to gender and migration issues</p>

<p>ECOWAS Commission</p>	<p>integrate gender perspective in migration programmes and policies</p>	<p>awareness building workshop for staff of the various ECOWAS commissions on the stakes involved in incorporating a gender perspective in their migration programmes, policies and strategies</p>	<p>and migration perspective</p>	<p>Government officials of the 15 member countries of ECOWAS Bilateral and multi-lateral development partners</p>
	<p>More effectively sensitize the different Commissions of ECOWAS, in particular the Department of Free Movement of Persons, Social Affairs, Gender Department, and Development Department</p>	<p>A review of the texts of the departments that cooperate with Gender Department as appropriate</p> <p>Inter- sectorial coordination meeting initiated by the Gender Department to follow up on the recommendations</p> <p>Periodic evaluation organized by Gender Department</p> <p>Reports to Member States and Governments</p> <p>Reports to Heads of State</p>	<p>The capacities of officials are enhanced and upgraded</p> <p>The capacities of staff are enhanced and upgraded</p> <p>The staff understand better the stakes involved in gender and migration perspective in their programmes</p> <p>The texts are reviewed and a meeting held to mainstream gender balance in the internal management of ECOWAS organs and programmes</p> <p>Circular letters for sustained information issued from the Departments of Gender and Free Movement</p>	<p>Number of participants</p> <p>Report of workshop</p> <p>Workshop assessment sheet</p> <p>Indications on monitoring of the recommendations of the workshops</p> <p>Periodicity of the letters and monitoring of the content</p>

			Meetings held with States Inclusion of the issue on the agenda of Heads of State		
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Annex 3: Intervention 5 (Youth Employment Action Plan)

Intervention Area 5: Mobility of young female and male workers and cross border traders
Sub-theme: Support the implementation of ECOWAS protocol on free movement.
Goal: Promote free movement of young workers and traders across Member States
Objective: To facilitate free movement and exchange of young expertise across MS borders
Outcome: Improved mobility for young migrant workers, traders and students across Member States
Outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study on the situation and patterns of young female and male cross border traders • Study of the trends in young labour migration in the ECOWAS region • Extension of ECOWAS Volunteer Programme to all Member States • Pilot certificate equivalence established across the three member states

Strategies	Activities	Verifiable Indicators	Key Actors	Source of Funding
Support ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement Monitoring Units to facilitate free and safe movement of cross border traders	<p>1.1 Carry out a study on the situation and patterns of young female and male cross border traders</p> <p>1.2 Share the study with MS and ECOWAS Pfree movement Monitoring Units</p> <p>1.3 Support Monitoring Units to improve cross border movement in two pilot border areas.</p>	<p>Study available for dissemination</p> <p>Study shared with MS, ECOWAS PFM Monitoring Units and other key actors</p> <p>2 pilot projects for improved free movement established</p> <p>Number of cross border traders benefitting from improved border crossing annually in pilot project areas</p>	<p>ECOWAS Directorate of Human and Social Affairs</p> <p>Ministries of Employment and Labour</p> <p>Ministries of Youth</p> <p>Ministries of Economic Development/Finance/Planning</p> <p>Hosting Ministries</p> <p>Multilateral and bilateral partners.</p>	<p>ECOWAS core budget</p> <p>ECOWAS institutions</p> <p>Member States</p> <p>Technical Partners</p> <p>Private Sector</p> <p>Financial Donors</p>
2. Support migrant workers to integrate into the socio-economic fabric of their host country	<p>2.1 Carry out a study of the overview of trends in young labour migration in the ECOWAS region, including case study analysis of the situation in two Member States.</p> <p>2.2 Establish pilot migrant information centres in two Member States to provide orientation for migrant workers on employment rights, job search and enterprise set up.</p>	<p>Study on labour migration trends shared with Member States</p> <p>Number of migrant workers (male and female) attending pilot migrant information centres annually</p> <p>Number of Member States committed to replicating Migrant Information Centre</p>		

	2.3 Analyze pilot information centre model for replication in all Member States	model		
3. Extend the ECOWAS Volunteer Programme (EVP) beyond its current focus on post conflict countries to include other Member States	2.1 Evaluate EVP at the end of the current phase (2012). 2.2 Investigate options for extending to other MS states. 2.3 Establish new EVP phase with increased number of MS engaged.	Analysis available on options to expand EVP Number of new Member States engaged in EVP Number of male and female graduates engaged in expanded EVP		
4. Launch the development of certification equivalence framework across three pilot Member States	4.1 Map the certification framework in three Member States. 4.2 Establish certificate equivalence across the three pilot member states according to African/international guidelines. 4.3 Track the progress of 50 certified graduates in having their certificates recognized in one of the other two countries.	Mapping of 3 MS certification frameworks available Certificate equivalence across the 3 MS available Number of certified graduates who successfully have their certificates recognized in another MS		

FMM West Africa

Support Free Movement of Persons & Migration in West Africa



Funded by the EU



ICMPD

International Centre for
Migration Policy Development

