

# Migration partnerships – as an instrument to facilitate international cooperation on migrant smuggling

## The Austrian Model

Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime  
Working Group on Smuggling of Migrants

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## Partnerships in action: MMPA India – Austria



1

Comprehensive Migration and  
Mobility Partnership Agreement

2

Working Holiday Programme



**01**

## Comprehensive approach

- a multidimensional response to migration



**02**

## Whole-of-government approach

- a multisectoral response ensuring coherence across all relevant sectors and levels of government



**03**

## Partnership approach

- Joint leadership and shared responsibility

Strategic dialogue

Joint policy efforts

Projects, Operational Partnerships, etc.

ASPIRATION

REALITY

BRIDGING THE GAP

## Partnerships in Action: Morocco – Austria

### Subgroup 1: Legal Migration

....strengthening mobility between Morocco and Austria (and vice versa)  
...access to information on legal pathways

### Subgroup 3: Consular affairs and identifications

....consular cooperation = the heart of bilateral cooperation (*incl. facilitation of safe and dignified return*)



### Subgroup 2: Security

....an operational partnership fighting organized crime - *from cybercrime, smuggling of migrants, human trafficking to drug trafficking*)

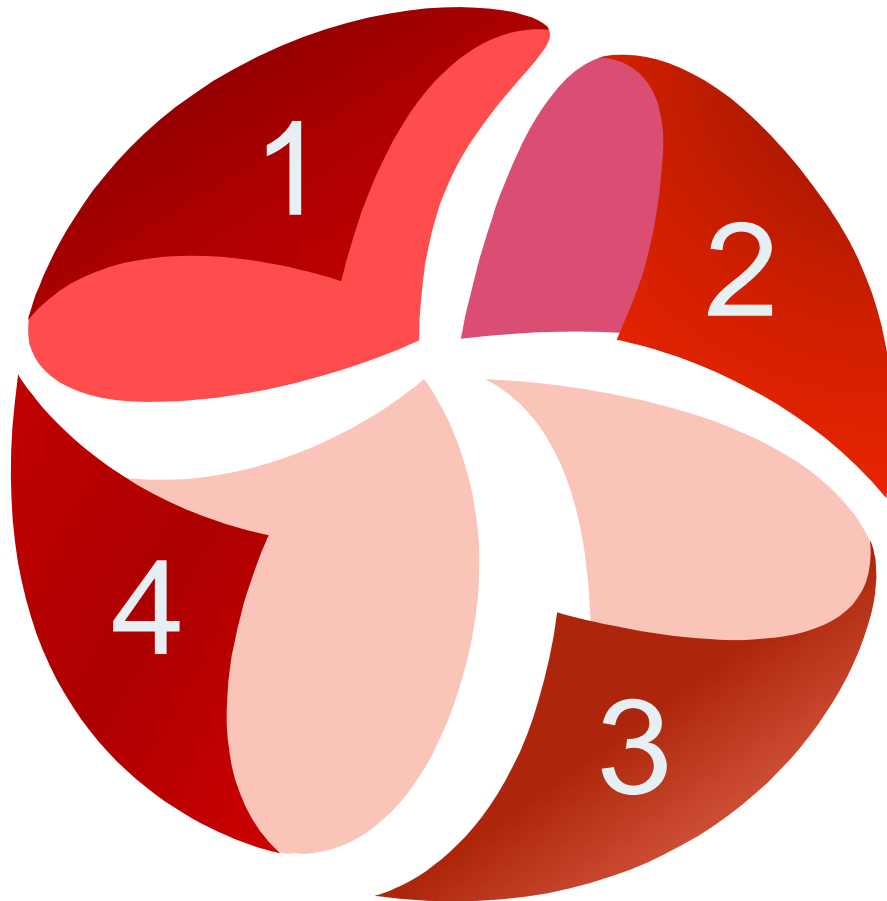
### Subgroup 4: Communication

.....enabling migrants to make informed choices

## Task Force Western Balkans: an operational anti-smuggling partnership

Art. 10 – 18 Protocol on Smuggling of migrants

“Prevention, cooperation and other measures”



**Goal:** Combat migrant smuggling efficiently through international networking

**Participants:** 23 countries (newest member: Turkiye, joined in February 2024)

**Acts as:** an Early Warning System and Information Hub

**Developments:** 24/7 intelligence and operational structure, including a rapid response mechanism

## The Austrian model: Lessons learned

### A whole-of-government approach to counter migrant-smuggling....

- ✓ addresses migrant smuggling through a holistic approach
- ✓ may stimulate an inclusive whole-of-society approach
- ✓ can lead to the establishment of sustainable, effective partnerships and long-term structural solutions

## Recommendations

### Recommendation 1



To commit to collaboratively address migrant smuggling through the establishment of migration partnerships (*bilateral, multilateral, regional*) that reflect migration as an inter-dependent, multifaceted phenomenon and integrate comprehensive, sustainable and human rights-compliant approaches.

### Recommendation 2



To encourage partnerships, which are not only tailored to specific countries but are guided by a whole-of-route-approach inclusive of all countries impacted by migratory movements along the route.