



EXIT AND SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY



This Exit and Sustainability Strategy aims to ensure that the results of the project implemented in the framework of GLO.ACT are sustainable in the longer-term. The project operates in a highly challenging environment to improve approaches to trafficking in persons (TIP) and smuggling of migrants (SOM) in the face of complex security, political, economic, and social considerations, as well as competing demands on often very limited resources.

Many of the solutions to the problems addressed by the project are thus inevitably long-term and unlikely to be fully sustainable within the project timeframe. GLO.ACT interprets sustainability in this context as:

1. Contributing to progressive achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly 16 – the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

2. Pursuing approaches that promote institutional change and can eventually be taken forward locally with available technical and financial resources.

3. Genuine engagement with key government and, as appropriate civil society key stakeholders, culminating in a clear plan for close-out or continuation of key activities at project exit.

UNODC is also committed to ensuring that sustainability is not interpreted in a way that limits long-term effectiveness in the response to TIP and SOM.

The project's approach is grounded in **7 inter-related principles** as described in the following table.

If possible, an assessment will take place 6-12 months following project completion to review the effectiveness of this strategy and identify opportunities for future improvement.

PRINCIPLE 1 – PLACING BRICKS IN THE WALL, NOT DROPS IN A BUCKET

GLO.ACT supports “bricks in a wall” – actions contributing to a bigger framework, rather than “drops in a bucket”, more ad-hoc interventions whose effects are not as strategic. Regional and country theories of change provide clarity and consistency on how activities contribute to intended outcomes at the end of the project.

PRINCIPLE 2 – PLANNING FOR EXIT FROM THE OUTSET

This strategy has been designed at project inception and is being integrated into all aspects of programming, including planning, monitoring, assessment and reporting. The project’s Outcome Monitoring Tool (OMT) includes key issues to be considered for each activity, with a particular focus on sustainable programming (next principle).

PRINCIPLE 3 – PROMOTING RIGOROUSLY SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMING

GLO.ACT avoids activities and approaches likely to require substantial financial support after project conclusion and minimizes possible substitution or displacement tasks. Operational support essential to ensure successful outcomes will be provided only in the context of a clear, written exit strategy agreed with government counterparts.

PRINCIPLE 4 – SUPPORTING RESOURCE DIVERSIFICATION

To realise their full potential, many activities supported by GLO.ACT require complementary and ongoing external support. Host governments benefit from a diversification of funding sources through reduced dependence on any one provider and access to different skills and technical inputs. GLO.ACT supports this through close dialogue with other external entities providing support on TIP and SOM issues.

PRINCIPLE 5 – BUILDING POLITICAL SUPPORT

Political support is crucial to sustainability. GLO.ACT engages key decision-makers at national level to contribute to improved policy and legislative frameworks, and to create a positive spill-over to cross-cutting issues such as gender, human rights and good governance. At regional level, GLO.ACT supports mutually reinforcing progress through the sharing of experience and joint work on developing and implementing standards and policies informed by evidence, good practice and international legal frameworks.

PRINCIPLE 6 – FACILITATING LOCAL ENGAGEMENT

GLO.ACT recognizes that key counterparts play the most important role in this exit and sustainability strategy. The project team works with these key counterparts to document promising practices and lessons learned from each project activity. Post-project planning will be supported through the inclusion of the strategy as a specific agenda item at six-monthly project steering committee meetings.

PRINCIPLE 7 – CLOSING WELL

The final step towards exit involves closure and handover of activities. This will include a project completion meeting at which key counterparts will assess project benefits and structures and the likelihood that these will be sustained, identify which activities can be taken forward by government and where additional external support is needed.