

5th International Border Management Conference

Pre-conference session on modernisation in Border management

23 November 2022, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Amman

Concept Note

Date: 23 November 2022, 1-2pm

Location: Amman, Hotel TBC

Chair: Mr. Julien Simon, Head of Mediterranean Region, ICMPD

Over the last decades, countries have dramatically increased investment in infrastructure and redeployment of capacities in the field of migration, particularly in the field of Border Management. Concomitantly, procurement has become progressively significant as a central tenet of international cooperation on migration with Border Management and Security sector being the greatest beneficiary of this change in capacity paradigm. In this evolution in the landscape of cooperation, capacity is seen no longer exclusively as knowledge, skills, competences, legal and institutional or “software” but equally incorporate technological means, infrastructures and equipment or “hardware” of migration governance.

Despite this rising importance, the role of procurement as a potential tool to strengthen and advance cooperation on migration governance remains largely unexplored. Furthermore, the potential of procurement to promote wider objectives of digital and environmental agendas also remains untapped.

This new and comprehensive approach to the concept of capacity will be required to help deliver a renewed partnership between Europe and its neighbourhood. With the new *EU Pact on Migration and Asylum*¹ highlighting the need for strengthened cooperation to ensure sustainable responses to migration, the *Digital Agenda for Europe*² calling for better access to digital goods and services and the *European Green Deal*³ stressing the importance of reducing negative impact to the environment, **the use of public procurement to help achieve these overarching, complementary goals in migration cooperation, including through green and digital transition and connections, warrants closer scrutiny.**

Aiming towards joint leadership and shared responsibility, the Migration Capacity Partnerships framework sets out four drivers, including modernisation of migration stakeholders’ capacities.

Capitalising on the 5th International Border Management Conference, this informal brainstorming session will deliberate on the role of modernisation in the field of migration cooperation.

The session will set out to discern:

¹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:85ff8b4f-ff13-11ea-b44f-01aa75ed71a1.0002.02/DOC_3&format=PDF

² <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/64/digital-agenda-for-europe>

³ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

- What information and knowledge gaps should be addressed in order to have a comprehensive understanding of the potential of procurement as a leverage for modernisation in the field of Border Management?
- How can public procurement be used as a driver to help achieve overarching, complementary goals in migration cooperation, sustainability and digital agendas?

Format:

The session will engage 20 select invitees to informally and openly deliberate on the questions posed in the concept note.

The discussion will be held in English and will operate under Chatham House rules.

The feedback collected during the discussion will be used to shape an actionable blueprint to advance on the modernisation objective of MCP Med framework.