Regional Support to Protection–Sensitive Migration Management in the Western Balkans and Turkey - Phase II

Since 2016 Frontex is engaged in a cooperation with the Western Balkans and Turkey as part of the Instrument of Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) programme. The project “Regional Support to Protection-Sensitive Migration Management in the Western Balkans and Turkey”, an EU-funded multi-country engagement, has mainstreamed protection into migration management practice, and supported the beneficiaries in developing a protection-sensitive response to mixed migration flows.

As of 1 July 2019 the project has entered its Phase II, which will last until 30 June 2021, and will build upon achievements from Phase I. Beneficiaries’ capacities with regard to early identification, registration and proper referral of irregular migrants and asylum-seekers, will be further built and strengthened through specialized courses, workshops and other tailored made activities.

Phase II will also support target countries in bringing identification and screening procedures into their national systems. The main aim behind Phase II is to further develop a comprehensive and holistic regional approach to mixed migration flows, complementing national efforts, focused on protection, resilience and human rights promotion.

There are three contracts under the Phase II of the programme:

- **Contract 1**, led by Frontex, focusing on identification, registration and referral.
- **Contract 2**, led by IOM, focusing on further enhancement of data collection and information sharing, strengthening the framework on AVVR and creating more resilient local communities.
- **Contract 3**, led by EASO, focusing on asylum related mechanisms.

Frontex plays a leading and coordinating role in the programme.

The following five main results are to be achieved under the three contracts:

1. Improved identification, registration and referral of mixed migration flows at first and second points of contact and within the territory, as well as pre-screening and screening on nationalities.
2. Improved asylum procedures that take vulnerabilities into consideration and are in line with the EU standards.

3. Enhanced information exchange mechanisms on non-personal information and data set up, and data gathering, analysis, coordination and transparency with regard to migration and asylum.

4. Return mechanisms (voluntary and non-voluntary) as well as operational cooperation established at regional level, and along with the selected countries of origin.

5. Resilience of local communities’ enhanced and social cohesion between dwellers and asylum seekers, refugees, migrants, people in need of international protection and persons with other protection needs improved.