

Action fiche of the EU Emergency Trust Fund, Egypt 2016

T05.1.NOA

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title/Number	Enhancing the Response to Migration Challenges in Egypt (ERMCE)		
Total cost	Estimated total cost: 11.5 million EUR Total amount from Trust Fund: 11.5 million EUR		
Aid method/Implementation methods	Component 1: direct management with Member States' public administrations Component 2.1: indirect management with Member States Component 2.2: direct management with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)		
DAC code	150	Sector	

2. GROUNDS AND BACKGROUND

2.1. Summary of the action and its objectives

This Action Fiche captures the interventions in Egypt to be committed during 2016 under the *European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa* (i.e. “Trust Fund”). The overall objective is to address migration challenges in Egypt. The level of intervention is national. These interventions under the Trust Fund in Egypt are part of the EU’s broader migration cooperation with Egypt, which includes interventions funded at regional and global levels.

This action embeds the new approach put forward by the EU in the recently adopted Communication *Lives in dignity: from aid-dependency to self-reliance*¹ to change the way forcibly displaced persons are supported in external action policies, looking at ways to help them and their host communities become more self-reliant in the countries where they reside, while protecting those most vulnerable.

The proposed programme covers a two-pronged approach to tackle migration challenges in Egypt: 1) it proposes institutional support to the Government of Egypt to strengthen migration governance and management in Egypt, which is envisaged to be implemented through a peer-to-peer approach involving Member States' administrations. 2) The project envisages increasing socio-economic opportunities and protection² in areas particularly prone to

¹Communication COM (2016) 234 final: Lives in Dignity: from Aid-dependence to Self-reliance.

² According to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) protection is defined as “... all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant bodies of law (i.e. HR law, IHL, refugee law)”. Such activities can be responsive, i.e. aiming to prevent imminent or stop on-going violations, remedial, i.e. aiming to provide redress (e.g. access to justice, reparation or rehabilitation) for past violations, or environment-building, i.e. aiming at creating the necessary legal and institutional framework, capacity and awareness that is necessary to promote respect for human rights and prevent future violations. IASC,

migration and/or communities hosting large numbers of asylum seekers, refugees, vulnerable migrants or returnees. This element will be implemented partly by EU Member States' agencies and partly by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), as appropriate.

2.2. Background

2.2.1. National background

Irregular migration and the protection of the concerned populations remain issues of concern in Egypt due to the country's triple quality as a sending, transit and receiving country for migrants.

The number of Egyptians irregularly migrating to Europe is generally on the rise. In 2014, 4,095 Egyptians arrived irregularly in Italy as compared to 2,728 in 2013 and 1,223 in 2012. In 2015, 3,151 Egyptians arrived irregularly in Europe³. The most alarming trend within this phenomenon is the dramatic increase of Egyptian unaccompanied migrant children (UMC) arriving in Europe. In 2015, 66% of all Egyptian irregular migrants arriving in Italy by sea were unaccompanied minors, as compared to 27% in 2012. Boys make up the majority of UMC from Egypt, as families send them to Europe to work and send money back home.⁴

Also, fuelled by the instability in the region and a shift in labour demand in the Gulf countries, Egypt is struggling with the number of Egyptian returning from abroad. A lot of job opportunities abroad were lost due to political strife in Libya, Iraq, and Yemen, and in the Gulf countries due to the crowding out from other nationalities. This development puts additional pressure on the Egyptian labour market in the coming years, which and is likely to be a push factor for leaving to Europe. The demographic outlook of Egypt is likely to further contribute to increasing the migratory pressure.

Exact numbers of migrants transiting Egypt are not available due to the unofficial nature of these movements. However, both the estimated increase in numbers of irregular migrants in detention and of departures by boat directly from Egypt's shores indicate that the number of people transiting Egypt before engaging in secondary irregular movements to reach Europe is escalating. Indeed 9% of all irregular migrants (all nationalities included) who arrived by boat in Italy in 2014 came with boats departing from Egypt⁵, which translates in the quantitative figures of 15,283 individuals in 2014 compared to 1,401 in 2012.

In January 2016, UNHCR had registered 180,641 persons of concern from more than 63 different nationalities in Egypt. Of the total population of persons of concern, close to two-thirds are Syrians, with a majority of the remaining persons originating from Sudan, Somalia, Iraq, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Eritrea. Informally, the number of refugees and migrants currently living in Egypt is said to be considerably higher. The discrepancy between official and unofficial figures is partly due to the lengthy Refugee Status Determination (RSD) procedures. Women represent 46.1% of immigrants to Egypt, including refugees and asylum seekers (IOM 2015), and 49% of Syrians registered with UNHCR are female.

IDP Protection Policy 1999. The definition was originally adopted by a 1999 Workshop of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on Protection.

³ <http://migration.iom.int/europe/> (Summary of Arrivals to Europe - 2015 Overview)

⁴ http://www.altaiconsulting.com/docs/migration/Altai_Migration_trends_across_the_Mediterranean.pdf p. 76

⁵ <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-launches-study-migration-trends-across-mediterranean-connecting-dots>

The situation for migrants in Egypt, refugees or others, seems to be coming under increasing strain. Personal resources and assets have diminished due to the length of their stay. In 2015, UNHCR registered 7,818 new arrivals from Syria, and although these numbers have been decreasing, African refugees are entering Egypt in ever higher numbers.⁶

Meanwhile, UNHCR and other organizations have had to introduce cuts in support for refugees. For example, the World Food Program (WFP) reduced the amount of food vouchers to Syrians. As regards the labour market, refugees and migrants face difficulties obtaining work permits in Egypt. These conditions, together with the current delays in RSD for asylum seekers in the country, constitute important push factors.

2.2.2. Sectoral background: policies and challenges

The Trust Fund's activities in Egypt shall be informed by and implemented in line with the priorities identified in the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), the European Agenda on Migration, and the Valletta Action Plan, to which the Trust Fund contributes. The Khartoum Process and the Joint-Africa EU Strategy, to both of which Egypt is part, are agreed platforms for monitoring the progress of implementation of the Valletta Action Plan.

In Egypt, several institutions have a mandate in migration aspects and are active in policy coordination, development and implementation.

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** plays an instrumental coordinating role within the Government of Egypt in relation to Egypt's participation in the Khartoum Process and the Valletta Summit and Action Plan. In this role, the Ministry also coordinates the planning and implementation of all actions benefitting Egypt under the Trust Fund.

The **National Coordinating Committee on Preventing and Combating Illegal Migration (NCCPIM)** was established in 2014 by Prime Minister Ibrahim Mahlab and is hosted within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but is institutionally under the direct supervision of the Cabinet. The NCCPIM's mandate includes drafting legislation on irregular migration, documentation and data collection activities, raising awareness, promoting international cooperation and preparing a national action plan addressing the challenges of combating irregular migration. The members of the Committee, representing all authorities within the Government of Egypt with a stake in irregular migration questions, developed a draft law on irregular migration (still to be adopted) that foresees smugglers handed sentences and fines ranging on the gravity of the offences. The draft law also defines smuggled persons as victims, and thus does not criminalize them. The NCCPIM is also in the process of finalising its strategy.

The **Ministry of State for Migration Affairs and Egyptians Abroad** was newly created during the last government reshuffle in September 2015. The former *Ministry of Manpower and Immigration* was split into two Ministries, the above-mentioned and the **Ministry of Manpower**, which is in charge of labour market issues and thus potentially of labour migration. Furthermore, the Ministry of Manpower manages the pilot Immigrant Consultation and Returned Immigrants Assistance (ICRIA) offices. The mandate of the Ministry of State for Migration Affairs is pending approval by the new Parliament. It is expected that in the

⁶ UNHCR reports a 65% increase in Africans newly registering in 2015 as compared to 2014 (Inter-Agency Meeting 02/23/2016).

same way as the former *General Department of Employment Abroad at the Ministry of Manpower and Immigration*, it will provide services for Egyptians abroad such as labour attachés in embassies, and information systems to better serve Egyptian employees abroad.

The **National Coordinating Committee on Combating and Preventing Trafficking in Persons (NCCTIP)**, located in the **Ministry of Justice**, but also under the Cabinet in institutional terms, is in charge of coordinating policy in order to tackle human trafficking. IN particular, Egypt has adopted an anti-trafficking law in 2010 (law 64/2010), which is in line with international standards according to expert opinion. The NCCTIP is currently supported by the EU under the Financing Agreement "*Support to the Modernization of the Administration of Justice*" to develop and implement its action plan.

Additionally, the **Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics (CAPMAS)**, an independent agency affiliated to the Ministry of Planning and Local Development, can play an important role in gathering and analysing migration-related data for informed policy making. CAPMAS is the sole entity with the legal mandate for data collection, analysis, processing, dissemination of statistics as well as the execution of the population census, as well as other specialised baseline surveys.

Given that an increasing number of unaccompanied children are leaving Egypt in irregular ways, the **National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM)** is an important player in addressing potential minor or under-aged migrants as it is the key national entity mandated in child rights and child welfare. It is entrusted with proposing national policies, coordinating and monitoring in the areas of child rights and protection, and is mandated in motherhood rights and development issues.

Under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Egypt dating back to 1954, **UNHCR** carries out the functional responsibilities for all aspects of registration, documentation and RSD in Egypt. In addition, UNHCR has the role of coordination of the different actors supporting refugees and is so far the main provider of funding for related actions by its implementing partners. **International and national NGOs** are involved in the provision of many basic services for non-Egyptian migrants and/or refugees in Egypt due to the often limited access to public services for the concerned population.

Other Ministries may also have a mandate as regards migration aspects, such as the **Ministry of Interior**, which has the control over border posts, but no dedicated unit for irregular migration/immigration as such within the police. The **Ministry of Defence** has the competence for border control.

Beyond this the **National Council for Human Rights (NCHR)** is mandated to deal specifically with human rights issues in Egypt, including the position of women and children. The **National Council for Women (NCW)**, under the Cabinet, is empowered to offer assistance to Ministries in formulating policy that takes into account the position of women and girls.

2.3. Lessons learnt

The Trust Fund's activities in Egypt have been formulated in view of the specific challenges faced by Egypt, past and ongoing migration-related cooperation in Egypt, and the current nature of the EU-Egypt relationship as well as the cooperation perspectives between the EU and Egypt.

In the past, the EU has mainly addressed the issue of migration in its cooperation with Egypt through regional programmes with international organisations, as well as, to a limited extent, under its bilateral programmes with the Government of Egypt. With the establishment of the Trust Fund, a more strategic approach is called for, where country-based activities under the Trust Fund will complement others funded on a multi-country, regional or global basis.

The efforts of the Government of Egypt focus mainly on Egyptians migrating to other countries, and project ideas presented by the Government often target Egyptian citizens prone to migrate. This aspect has been duly considered in the elaboration of this action, while aiming at addressing migration issues in a holistic manner. Addressing the needs of women and girls migrating will particularly be considered.

2.4. Complementary actions

The complementarity of this intervention with other sectoral programmes and alignment to the various ongoing political dialogues on migration will be ensured. Bilaterally, the proposed actions would complement the on-going project supporting the NCCTIP (*Action to Support the National Coordinating Committee on Combating and Preventing Trafficking in Persons to create a safe and secure environment in Egypt*), which is funded under the Financing Agreement "*Support to the Modernization of the Administration of Justice*".

Furthermore, several multi-country or regional programmes under various EU funding mechanisms are providing support to Egypt on migration related issues or are possibly endorsed for funding throughout 2016. These include, but are not limited to the following:

- *Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) in the North of Africa, includes support to UNCHR in Egypt in the area of protection and IOM in the area of resilience of displaced populations and their host communities;*
- *Better Migration Management - Khartoum Process* (Africa Trust Fund, Horn of Africa Window);
- *Euromed Migration IV – Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue and Cooperation on Migration, Mobility and International Protection;*
- *Addressing Mixed Migration Flows in East Africa;*
- *Support to Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue;*
- *Global action to prevent and address trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants;*
- *EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian Crisis (Madad Fund) – includes project components benefitting Egypt.*

Additionally, DG ECHO has committed at least EUR 2.0 million for Egypt (and more funds are possible during the course of 2016) for the purpose of tackling protection and health aspects from humanitarian perspective, as well as education in emergency.

Finally, the action will build on the following ongoing bilateral cooperation programmes between EU and Egypt, *inter alia*:

- *Support to Technical and Vocational Education and Training Reform Programme - Phase II (TVET II);*
- *Expanding Access to Education and Protection for at Risk Children in Egypt;*
- *Enhancing Access to Education and fighting Child Labour;*
- *Upgrading Informal areas in the Greater Cairo region;*
- *Promoting Inclusive Economic Growth in Egypt;*
- *Health Sector Policy Support Programme (HSPSP II);*
- *EU Joint Rural Development Programme (JRDP).*

2.5. Donor coordination

On a country level, the Development Partner Group (DPG) functions as the established donors' working group and it includes a thematic sub-group for migration and protection. The sub-group is co-chaired by Switzerland and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and meets regularly. The group will be a crucial forum to coordinate the Trust Fund's activities with the interventions of other donors operating in Egypt.

Local EU Delegation-led coordination with Member States present in Egypt takes place within regular established EU coordination meetings (e.g. Development Counsellors Meeting, IHRG, etc.) and bilaterally.

At regional level two separate migration-related consultation and coordination fora are established, in which Egypt actively takes part:

- The EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative or the *Khartoum Process*, which is a regional dialogue among countries of origin, transit and destination along the East Africa migratory route, launched at a Ministerial Conference in Rome, in November 2014, with an initial focus on preventing and tackling human trafficking and smuggling of migrants.
- The *Migration and Mobility Dialogue*, which provides a framework for dialogue and cooperation on migration issues between the EU and all African states (except Morocco), with the African Union Commission as the main interlocutor.

In this regard, the Trust Fund's activities in Egypt will be closely coordinated with the projects financed by the RDPP North Africa and the Better Migration Management (BMM) project, financed by the Trust Fund's Horn of Africa Window. In particular, the articulation and outcomes of the activities linked to policy harmonisation and institutional capacity building in the field of migration, under the first component of this proposed programme, will be shared and discussed in the coordination mechanisms specifically established for this purpose under the BMM project and, more generally, in the framework of the Khartoum Process.

3. DETAILED DESCRIPTION

3.1. Objectives

The **overall objective** is to contribute to address migration challenges in Egypt.

The alignment of the objectives of the Trust Fund to the particular needs of the North of Africa Window entails that the initial activities in Egypt will mainly concentrate on the first thematic priority of the North of Africa Window ('improving migration governance and management') as well as priority 3 ('ensuring protection to those in need and strengthening the resilience of displaced populations together with their host communities').

The **specific objective** is to strengthen migration governance by the Government of Egypt (GoE) and to increase protection and socio-economic opportunities for current or potential migrants, returnees, asylum seekers and refugees in Egypt.

3.2. Expected results and main activities

This specific objective will be articulated around two components.

Component 1 will focus on strengthening Egypt's migration governance. Support is envisaged to be provided to Egyptian institutions and administrations in charge of migration management. It is indicatively proposed to support the following result areas, without prejudice to expanding or modifying them according to GoE needs:

- NCCPIM strengthened in its coordination role in order to develop best practices in irregular migration prevention and migration management.
- CAPMAS supported in providing relevant data related to migration and labour market information to ensure informed policy making.
- Ministry of Manpower and the Offices of Immigration Consultation and Returned Immigrants Assistance (ICRIA) supported in facilitating avenues for employment and regular migration.
- NCCPIM and NCCM supported to develop and implement information campaigns on the hazards and alternatives to irregular migration, including trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, with a focus on minors.

The following types of activities could be envisaged:

- Support to determining needs related to capacities, policies and conditions.
- Support to developing policy and institutional frameworks related to migration and, in particular, to trafficking in human beings.
- Capacity building on legislative and regulatory aspects related to migration and human trafficking.
- Develop capacities to enhance informed labour market systems, as well as migration policy making, by strengthening data availability and analysis.
- Promoting employment and mobility schemes in relevant sectors and mainstreaming migration dimensions into labour policies.
- Strengthen and expand the capacities of ICRIA.
- Promoting opportunities available in Egypt through the relevant agencies as an alternative especially to irregular immigration.
- Support to specialized education, training and certification to reduce incentives for irregular migration, in particular for minors.
- Improve the qualification of regular immigration seekers by pre-departure consultations.
- Support to improving conditions and possibilities for voluntary return and reintegration.
- Assist and facilitate the integration of returned migrants.
- Develop a synchronized national awareness approach; produce and disseminate information and awareness programmes reducing risk-prone migration choices.
- Support to awareness-raising campaigns and referral mechanisms to reduce irregular migration by Unaccompanied Migrant Children (UMCs).

Component 2 will focus on increasing protection and socio-economic opportunities for current or potential migrants, returnees and refugees in Egypt. Support is envisaged to be provided in form of special assistance and livelihoods support, specifically in communities particularly prone to migration⁷ and/or communities hosting large numbers of asylum seekers, refugees, migrants or returnees. Specific needs of vulnerable women and girls will be addressed. It is proposed to support the following result areas to influence migration choices:

⁷ Data can be obtained from IOM, UNHCR, NCCPIM and Egypt-HIMS, etc.

- *Economic opportunities (skills development and employment promotion) are increased and push factors of irregular migration are mitigated in areas particularly prone to migration, and hosting refugees and migrants.*

The following types of activities could be envisaged:

- Implement a labour-intensive infrastructure upgrading project(s) by offering the local labour force employment opportunities and skills development (e.g. roads, pedestrian paths, street-lighting, drains and sewerage, community facilities, solid waste facilities etc.).
- Whenever not already covered by other bilateral projects related to the subject, provide technical and vocational training opportunities including “on the job training” and develop the human potential of informal area residents.
- Provide skills and start-up assistance towards accessing local employment entrepreneurship and small business development.
- Create awareness and capacities with regard to labour-intensive upgrading methods at local government level.
- Ensure protection of those in need with outreach activities with regard to legal matters, nutrition, health and gender dimensions.
- *Special assistance and protection services are provided to vulnerable migrants, returnees, asylum seekers and refugees, including their host communities.*

The following types of activities could be envisaged:

- Provide medical care and health services, including awareness-raising, whenever possible through local health facilities.
- Provision of legal advice, psychosocial support and social protection for vulnerable groups, including women, unaccompanied minors and separated children (UASCs).
- Provision of education assistance/access for children and adolescents.
- Provision of tailor made trainings to enhance business, life and soft skills.
- Carry out behavioural change-oriented activities and facilitate integration, aiming at changing social practices in communities.
- Provision of cash assistance for the most vulnerable and micro-grant schemes for business start-ups.

Activities under this component will particularly focus on Governorates and communities prone to migration and hosting vulnerable migrants, returnees, asylum seekers and refugees, including minors at risk.

3.3. Risks and Assumptions

The programme is designed under the assumption that all concerned partners are committed to strengthening migration governance and management, in line with international standards, and to increasing socio-economic opportunities and protection in areas particularly prone to migration. A continuous political and policy dialogue between the EU and Egypt, using the existing political *fora* and bilateral consultations, is expected to facilitate this assumption.

3.4. Crosscutting issues

The Gender Country Profile for Egypt has been finalised in March 2015. Based on its recommendations, this programme will be consistent with the provisions related to gender equality and non-discrimination of the Egyptian Constitution. The action will actively promote the involvement of particularly vulnerable women among the target groups. The action will be in line with the new EU Gender Action Plan (GAP II), which provides the framework for the EU's promotion of gender equality through external action for the period 2016-2020. The GAP II is based on three thematic objectives: a) securing the physical and psychological protection of women and girls; b) promoting economic and social rights and the empowerment of women and girls; c) strengthening women's and girls' voice and participation. The fourth, and horizontal, component is to embed a gender perspective in the EU's institutional culture. The current action responds particularly to a) and b) and thereby contributes to the horizontal objective. The Delegation will carry out the Gender Analysis during 2016 and as part of this process will determine specific indicators, against which it will report on the GAP II implementation. This programme will factor in the selected indicators once this process is finalised.

Other Human Rights aspects are taken into account such as by tackling the drivers of Egyptian irregular migration, especially of UMCs, and the increasing protection needs of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in Egypt.

The action will specifically address some aspects of environmental sustainability, particularly under activities under Component 2 dealing with economic opportunities (e.g. labour-intensive infrastructure upgrading projects for roads, pedestrian paths, street-lighting, drains and sewerage, community facilities, solid waste facilities etc.), where environmental and climate change issues will be considered as relevant. An environmental impact assessment is not required.

3.5. Stakeholders

The main stakeholders of this action will be the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of International Cooperation, NCCPIM, CAPMAS, NCCM, Ministry of Manpower, Ministry of State for Migration Affairs & Egyptians Abroad, EU Member States, relevant CSOs, including international and local NGOs, and international organisations. Other selected stakeholders, line Ministries and local authorities, such as the Ministry of Housing, will be involved in the action, as appropriate. A Steering Committee for the action, bringing together all the main stakeholders, will be established. Organisations implementing other EU-funded migration-related programmes (RDPP, BMM, etc.) will be invited to participate in the steering committee, as appropriate.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Financing Agreement

It is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country.

4.2. Indicative period of operational implementation

The implementation period will be 54 months, whilst the overall execution period (including a closure phase of no more than 12 months) will not exceed 66 months from the date of approval of this Action Document by the Operational Committee of the EU Trust Fund.

4.3. Implementation components and modules

For the implementation of all activities under **Component 1**, a peer-to-peer approach with EU Member State administrations, ideally in consortium, is envisaged to be followed. This choice is justified by the very aim of the EU Trust Fund to harness the instruments and the know-how of the Commission and the EU Member States for a reinforced EU engagement with partner countries to address migration crises. EU Member States' public administrations will transfer knowledge and experience and the cooperation will allow for an EU-Egypt exchange of expertise. The GoE has reached out to some EU Member States for support in the area of migration management.

Awarding a direct grant under direct management for this purpose is being considered on the basis of the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness to be assessed on criteria that include relevant prior experience, implementing capacity, and interest. The EU Delegation has informed the Member States of the planned interventions in the EU Development Counsellors Group meetings in Cairo in 2015 and 2016, inviting them to put forward their proposals. Additionally, the EU Delegation has been following up in this regard with those EU Member States that have shown interest and could make available the required expertise of public administration.

Component 2 will be implemented in indirect management with one or more EU Member States' implementing agencies (one contract) and in direct management through the direct award of two to three grants with international/local NGOs.

A Delegation Agreement is currently envisaged to be signed with the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. The activities covered under the Delegation Agreement will focus on increasing economic opportunities to mitigate push factors of irregular migration, in areas particularly prone to migration and hosting refugees and migrants. This approach is justified as both agencies are proposing to build on existing cooperation programmes and as such will capitalise on existing relations and technical interventions to specifically address migration aspects. To that end, they are currently exploring avenues to target communities affected by high migratory flows. Activities will indicatively focus on the Greater Cairo Region, the Gharbia Governorate and Alexandria. The selection of areas is subject to approval of the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities (MoHUUC), as the prospective national partner. Additionally, the selection of areas will be coordinated with other main migration- and protection-related programmes in Egypt, such as the RDPP. This contract might include grant schemes with CSOs.

The directly awarded grants to international/local NGOs will be awarded to organisations, which are already registered and well established in Egypt. The activities covered under the grants will focus predominantly on special assistance and protection services to be provided to vulnerable migrants or returnees, asylum seekers and refugees, including their host communities. This approach is justified as it will allow specific organisations to expand their already ongoing support in terms of numbers of end beneficiaries and impact. The selection will be based on a negotiation process with those few organisations, which are already

implementing the required relevant activities in Egypt. In doing so, the EU Delegation will respect the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness to be assessed on criteria that include relevant prior experience, implementing capacity, and interest.

The Fund prioritises leveraging donor and partner country capacities for aid delivery. Implementation via European partners (national implementing and other agencies, NGOs, etc.) shall be the preferred option, wherever it will offer an appropriate response in terms of the cost, effectiveness and European visibility. Wherever possible, the partners' already ongoing cooperation and established relations and capacities shall be leveraged to maximise the effectiveness of the response.

4.4. Indicative budget

Component	Amount in EUR
Component 1	1,5 million
Component 2	9,8 million
Evaluation	0.1 million
Visibility and Communication	0.1 million
TOTAL	11,5 million

4.5. Monitoring, evaluation and audit

It is important to establish monitoring and evaluation arrangements that can measure progress towards the intended results in a consistent and regular manner. Efforts will be made to set up a single monitoring and evaluation framework for all EUTF-funded projects in the North of Africa.

If necessary, ad hoc monitoring could be contracted by the European Commission for this Action. A final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the European Commission. It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that a peer-to-peer approach with EU Member State public bodies is applied as an innovative approach.

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, ad hoc audits or expenditure verification assignments could be contracted by the European Commission. Audits and expenditure verification assignments will be carried out in conformity with the risk analysis in the frame of the yearly Audit Plan exercise conducted by the European Commission. Evaluation and audit assignments will be implemented through service contracts; making use of one of the Commission's dedicated framework contracts or alternatively through the competitive negotiated procedure or the single tender procedure.

4.6. Communication and visibility

All implementing partners in receipt of funds from the Trust Fund shall take all appropriate steps to publicise the fact that an action has received funding from the EU under the Trust Fund. These measures shall be based on a specific *Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action*, to be elaborated by each implementing partner at the start of implementation on the

basis of the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Action⁸. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the grant contracts, and/or delegation agreements.

In addition, making use of one of the European Commission's dedicated framework contracts or another applicable procurement procedure, the EU Delegation will contract and implement visibility and communication measures to promote the EU response to migration challenges in Egypt.

⁸ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/visibility/index_en.htm_en