MPF
Migration Partnership Facility

LEGAL MIGRATION AND LABOUR MOBILITY

Skilled Driver Mobility for Europe II (SDM4EU II)

About the Project

The overall objective of the Skilled Driver Mobility for Europe II (SDM4EU II) initiative is to establish a mutually beneficial pathway for the legal mobility of skilled professional drivers between the EU and countries of origin, addressing labour shortages in Romania and Italy while supporting skills development and employability in Egypt and Morocco. The project brings together public authorities, employers, and training institutions to facilitate the recruitment and placement of qualified commercial drivers, contributing to the mitigation of driver shortages in Europe and North Africa. The project will support the development and implementation of EU-aligned training and qualification programmes for 600 drivers in Egypt and Morocco, including a selected group of 200 candidates who will undertake mobility to the EU. This will be complemented by the piloting of online recruitment and screening systems, employer-led selection missions, and pre-departure training. These activities are intended to strengthen cooperation between countries of origin and destination and support the continuity and future expansion of legal mobility pathways.

Partners

This MPF project is implemented by GOPA Pro S.A. in collaboration with the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport (AASTMT), Fondazione Soleterre ETS and ICAR Foundation.

Countries

Italy, Romania, Morocco, Egypt

Time frame

June 2026 – December 2028 (30 months)

Budget

EUR 5,994,500.83 (95% from AMIF)

Activities

Pre-Departure

A thorough assessment of existing driver training systems and skills gaps in Morocco and Egypt will inform the development of an updated curriculum aligned with EU requirements. The project will also implement Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions in Egypt and Morocco, helping to build a sustainable pool of qualified trainers and strengthen local training capacity. Following dedicated outreach campaigns, a screening system will be developed in cooperation with private companies and recruitment agencies to establish a qualified pool of candidates. A total of 600 selected candidates will then undertake a comprehensive training programme, including practical driving instruction. Employer-led missions to Egypt and Morocco will allow recruiting companies to assess trained drivers directly, with 200 candidates selected for mobility to the EU who will receive additional driving training tailored to EU road and working conditions. These candidates will also receive additional targeted language and soft skills training to support their preparation for the mobility phase.

Mobility

The project will support participants in obtaining the documentation required to legally operate in the EU, including additional Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC) training building on the preparation received in Egypt and Morocco. Upon successful completion of the CPC process, drivers will be issued EU Driver Qualification Cards, enabling them to access employment opportunities in the European road transport sector. Host companies will organise a structured onboarding phase to support the transition from arrival to full operational duties. Post-arrival orientation measures, including mentoring, administrative and legal support, and continued language training, will further support participants' successful integration during the initial period in the EU.

Cross-Cutting Activities

To support evidence-based learning and enable future replication, a policy learning and knowledge platform hosted by the International Road Transport Union (IRU) will be established to document, showcase and disseminate the tested model for Talent Partnerships in the road transport sector. The project strengthens a public-private partnership approach across EU Member States and partner countries, ensuring shared responsibility for recruitment, training, mobility and integration measures in a structured and transparent manner. The resulting blueprint will document the full process and present it as a practical framework that can be adapted and implemented by other countries.

Implemented by

GOPA Pro

Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport

Fundația ICAR

soleterre

The Migration Partnership Facility

MPF Migration Partnership Facility

This project is awarded and contracted in the framework of the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), an EU-funded initiative implemented by ICMPD in support of the external dimension of the EU migration policy. Through its grants, the MPF facilitates the execution of projects to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

Funded by the European Union

Implemented by ICMPD

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ICMPD International Centre for Migration Policy Development