Migration Partnership Facility

LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

Strengthening the Partnership between Belgium and Georgia through Temporary Mobility of Entrepreneurs (EMLINK)

Project completed

About the Project

By designing a pilot temporary mobility scheme for leading entrepreneurs, this initiative strengthened bilateral cooperation between Belgium and Georgia. This mobility scheme contributed to increased access to new markets and opportunities by encouraging regulated mobility of businessmen and women, all while improving the competitiveness of the private sector, motivating job creation, and attracting foreign investment. Eventually, the initiative created an avenue for improved cooperation between the two countries, as well as a better migration management framework. In addition, this initiative promoted a safe environment for institutional dialogue around professional mobility between Georgia and Belgium, paving the way for exploring more avenues for cooperation modalities between the countries in focus.

Partners

This MPF project was implemented by ICMPD on behalf of Belgium.

Countries

Belgium and Georgia

Time frame

September 2023 – July 2025 (23 months)

Budget

EUR 463,645.23 (from AMIF)

Activities

Cooperation and Exchange

The project successfully established a stakeholder platform by actively mapping relevant actors in Belgium and Georgia, producing analytical reports such as key stakeholders mapping and the roadmap for entrepreneurial mobility, and organising targeted events in the forms of networking events, an exchange mission, and a study tour to Belgium. These events included representatives from the public and private sectors, to foster trust and understanding of entrepreneurial mobility as a safe channel for temporary migration, with a particular focus on start-ups and entrepreneurs in both countries. Additionally, by formalising guidelines and procedures on the temporary mobility model for skilled entrepreneurs, this initiative contributed to create a more organised and transparent migration management framework between the two countries.



EMLINK Startup Study Tour to Belgium, October 2024

Knowledge Products

The project successfully developed two key resources: Roadmap for entrepreneurial mobility and compact acceleration course (CAC). The **roadmap for entrepreneurial mobility** now serves as a structured framework for future entrepreneurial mobility programmes. By accurately documenting the project's methodologies, challenges, and results, the roadmap provides a blueprint for policymakers and organisations seeking to replicate similar initiatives. The **CAC Curriculum**, on the other hand, effectively equips start-ups with essential strategies for expanding in Belgium and the wider European Union. It strongly emphasises strategic networking, investment readiness, and negotiation skills, ensuring start-ups are well-prepared to thrive in international markets.

Capacity Building

The project increased the capacity of Georgian start-ups to grow and retain talent through the implementation of the CAC. The project team implemented the "Georgian Chapter" during July and August 2024. This chapter featured intensive training, orientation, and in-depth consultations with Georgian and international experts, with the aim of refining business models and preparing companies for market expansion. The "Belgian Chapter", held in Brussels in October 2024, successfully connected Georgian start-ups with Belgium's business ecosystem, accelerators, and investors. Tailored meetings and participation in the European Angel Investment Summit enhanced knowledge on investor relations and EU market access, which opened avenues for the start-ups to consider Belgium as a base for expansion.



EMLINK Compact Acceleration Course Session on Introduction to the Belgian Entrepreneurial Ecosystem, July 2024

More online resources on EMLINK:

- Key Stakeholders Mapping
- Roadmap for Entrepreneurial Mobility
- Compact Acceleration Course (CAC)
- ICMPD EMLINK Project Page

The Migration Partnership Facility

MPF
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This project was awarded and contracted in the framework of the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), an EU-funded initiative implemented by ICMPD to support 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

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International Centre for Migration Policy Development