

#### **LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY**



**☑** Project completed

## **About the Project**

This Technical Assistance project aimed to help address the shortage of professional drivers in the European Union (EU) by analysing viable pathways for the mobility of qualified drivers from non-EU countries. Through targeted research and extensive stakeholder consultations, it produced a feasibility assessment mapping the legal, institutional, and operational conditions for such mobility.

Building on this evidence base, the project developed a practical framework for cooperation between EU Member States and partner countries. It defined potential collaboration modalities, proposed a structured mobility methodology, and identified institutional and industry partners interested in contributing to future initiatives in this area.



This project was implemented by the International Road Transport Union (IRU) under the Technical Assistance and Services Component of the MPF.



EU Member States: France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Greece, Portugal, Belgium and Poland

Partner countries: Egypt, Bangladesh, Morocco, Pakistan and Tunisia





**June 2024 – April 2025** (10 months)

**EUR 99,500.00** (100% from AMIF)

#### **Activities and Results**



#### Comprehensive mapping and stakeholder engagement

The project conducted an in-depth mapping of favourable conditions and challenges for the mobility of professional drivers from non-EU countries to the EU, analysing legal and administrative procedures, qualification and licensing systems, and working conditions in participating Member States. It also examined the training ecosystems (notably professional qualification requirements) and institutional capacity in selected partner countries.

The mapping aimed to identify practical and regulatory factors that could facilitate or hinder the establishment of structured mobility schemes. It provided the analytical foundation for assessing feasibility, prioritising potential partner countries, and framing future cooperation models between public authorities, training institutions, and industry actors. Complemented by stakeholder consultations in Europe and partner countries, the exercise helped consolidate interest, build mutual understanding, and establish a shared evidence base for future mobility initiatives.



IRU visit to the Institute for Training in Transport and Logistics Professions, Nouaceur (Morocco), 13 February 2025

Consultation between IRU and Romanian transport companies in Bucharest (Romania), 11 March 2025



#### **Practical methodology development**

Building on the findings of the feasibility assessment, the project developed a practical methodology to guide the design of future international driver mobility schemes. The methodology draws on comparative research and stakeholder insights to outline how recruitment, training, certification, and deployment processes could be organised in a transparent and scalable way. It also analyses recognition of qualifications and cost implications, providing a structured reference to inform evidence-based cooperation between the EU and partner countries.



### **Blueprint for the SDM4EU project**

The project produced a blueprint that translates analytical findings into an operational framework. It outlines the organisational structure, sequencing, and coordination mechanisms required for implementing driver mobility schemes, along with indicative governance and resource parameters. The blueprint draws on case analyses involving several Member States and partner countries, with Italy, Romania, Morocco, and Egypt emerging as illustrative examples for future collaboration.

While these pairings remain tentative, the blueprint provides a tested reference for policymakers, social partners, and the private sector exploring structured mobility in the road transport sector. The potential to translate this framework into a dedicated project is currently under exploration.

Implemented by:



# The Migration Partnership Facility



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









