



EUROPEAN UNION

NIGER

ACTION AND PROGRESS UNDER THE MIGRATION PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK JUNE-DECEMBER 2016



HIGH LEVEL ENGAGEMENT

- December** >> Visit of the President of Niger to Brussels.
 - >> Visit of the Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs.
 - >> Visit of Sherpas, with attendance of high level EU officials.
 - >> Meeting between President of Niger and Commissioner Mimica in the margins of the summit of the International Organisation of La Francophonie.
- November** >> Visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy.
 - >> Visit of the Minister of Interior to France.
- October** >> Visit of Chancellor of Germany.
- September** >> United Nations General Assembly bilateral meetings, several EU Member States, HR/VP Mogherini and Commissioner Avramopoulos Joint migration declaration and.
- August** >> Visit of Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany.
- July** >> Visit of Commissioner Stylianides.
- June** >> HR/VP Mogherini meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs at EU G5 Ministerial



KEY PROGRESS BY NIGERIEN AUTHORITIES

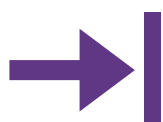
- >> Strong cooperation with EU on the implementation of the short term Action Plan against illegal migration.
- >> Flow of irregular migrants transiting the country reduced.
- >> Effective action against smuggling in Agadez region continued (seizure of equipment and arrest of smugglers).
- >> 4.430 migrants redirected to IOM for repatriation to their home countries.

- >> Establishment of a local coordination platform on migration (“Cadre de Concertation”), with participation of senior officials from EU Member States.
- >> Creation of dedicated agency to combat human trafficking.
- >> Finalisation of Action Plan to fight against smuggling, decrease irregular migration, and provide alternative economic opportunities.
- >> Significant action against migrant smuggling.
- >> Application of stricter measures to control irregular migrants going to Libya or Algeria. Awareness campaigns directed towards potential migrants.
- >> Several hundreds of irregular migrants returned to Agadez.
- >> Significant increase in voluntary returns.



EU SUPPORT

- >> Support for the implementation of the short term Action Plan against smuggling and trafficking in human beings.
- >> Deployment of capacity in the North. The EU CSDP Sahel Niger mission field office in Agadez is operating close to full capacity, which will be reached in early 2017.
- >> European Migration Liaison Officer to be deployed early in 2017.
- >> European Border and Coast Guard Agency liaison officer to be deployed in 2017.
- >> Projects under preparation under the EU Trust Fund focus on financial assistance for reintegration of returning migrants and for host communities; providing economic alternatives.
- >> The Commission has developed a short term impact project for the creation of alternative income to replace the “migration industry». For the longer term, the EU and Member States are working to tackle the root causes and to provide sustainable alternatives for the local economy with a package of budget support. Support to Niger is also provided through regional action on protection - access to status determination procedures, reception conditions and assistance to asylum seekers.
- >> Field office established in Agadez (under CSDP mission to Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger), providing training and advice.
- >> EU Trust Fund for Africa projects on Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism, capacity building, and support to the economy of Agadez.
- >> Member States’ provision of key equipment to assist the Niger authorities.



NEXT STEPS

- >> Continue the implementation of actions to fight smuggling and trafficking, building on results achieved.
- >> Elaborate a medium and long term Action Plan focused on root causes and creation of economic alternatives in the regions most affected by irregular migration.
- >> Monitor possible diversion of migration to other routes.
- >> Deployment of European Border and Coast Guard Agency liaison officer.
- >> Full deployment of EU staff and the EUCAP antenna in Agadez, including for training.