

# Regional Consultative Processes and Data Exchange

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# What are regional consultative processes on migration?

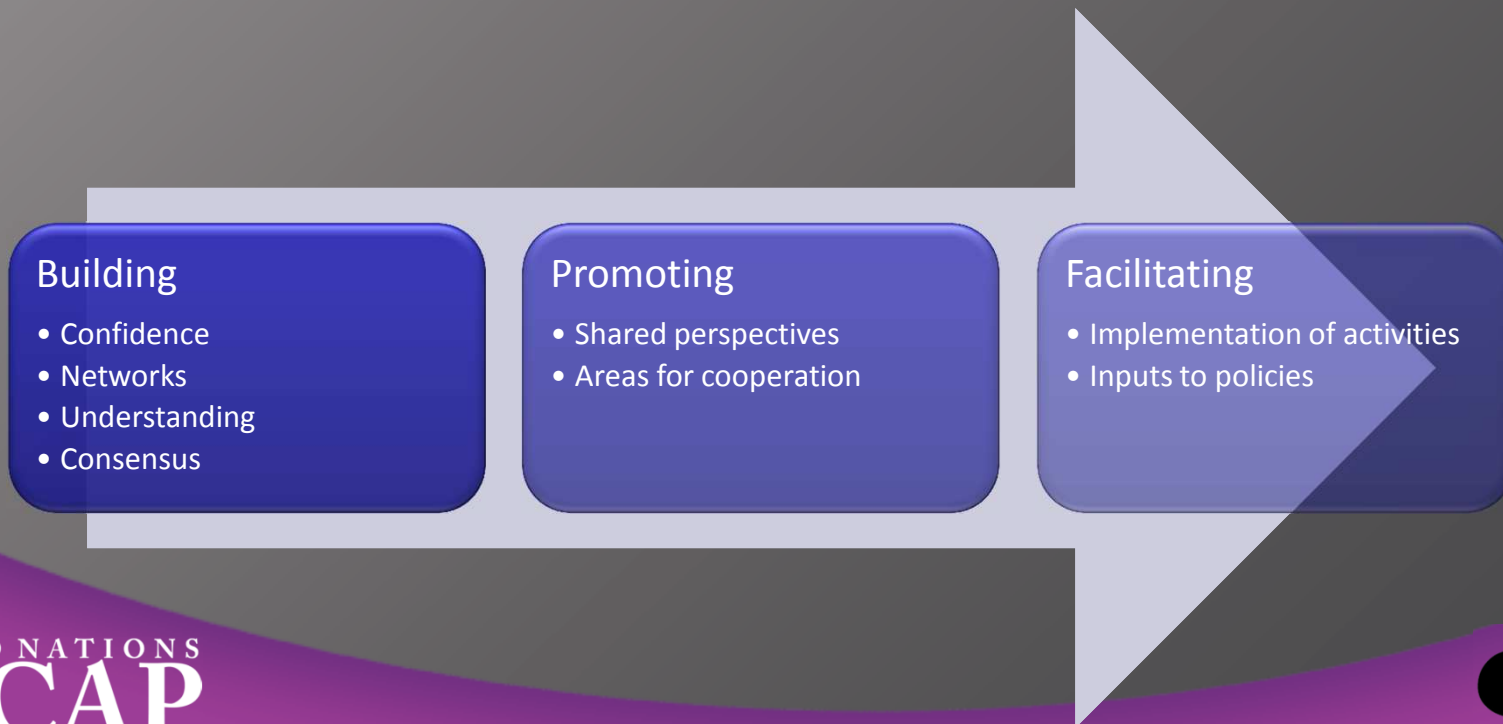
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- ⇒ Regional consultative processes (RCPs) are “repeated, regional meetings of states dedicated to discussing migration.” (Hansen, 2010)
- ⇒ They share the common key features:
  - State-led and -owned
  - Informal
  - Flexible
  - Periodic meetings
  - Focus on areas of common interest and concern

# What is the purpose of RCPs?

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- ⇒ They are *not* negotiations
- ⇒ They are a platform for non-binding dialogue and information exchange on migration issues



# RCPs in the Asia-Pacific region

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- ⇒ Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process)
- ⇒ Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia (Abu Dhabi Dialogue)
- ⇒ Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime

# RCPs and data

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- ⇒ Cooperation and exchange of data is key for migration policy-making...
- ⇒ ...However, exchange of data may be sensitive for countries
- ⇒ The RCP methodology can therefore be helpful in paving the way for data exchange
  - Builds trust between actors
  - Shared understanding on data needs
  - Members retain control of data release
  - Mechanism to organise capacity-building activities

# Examples of RCPs addressing data issues

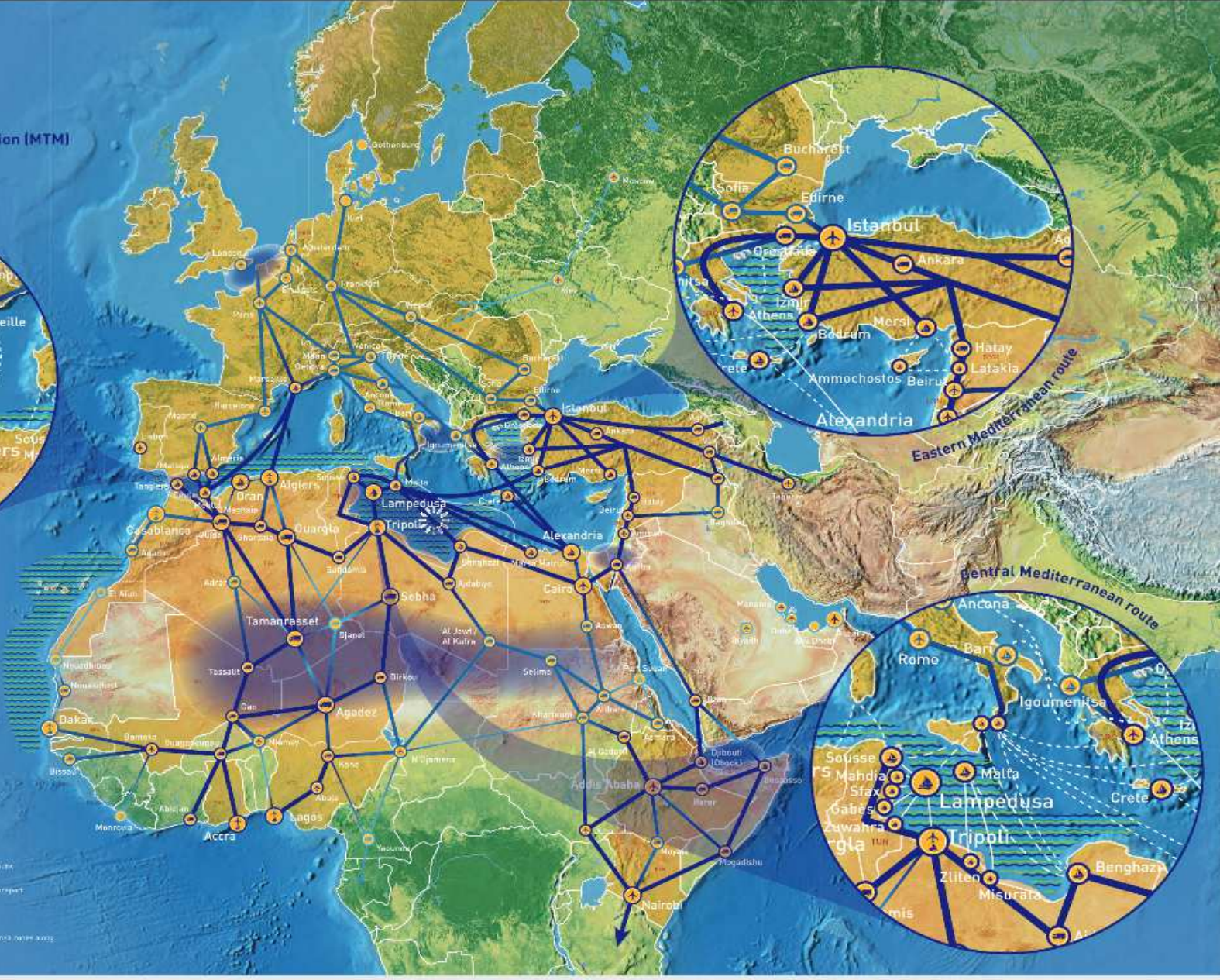
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- ⇒ Mediterranean Transit Migration Process i-Map
  - Member-State owned process
  - Consolidates data on wide range of migration topics
  - Specific portal for member States to share data on sensitive/confidential matters
  - Feeding into processes of dialogue and cooperation





### Dialogue on Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM) 2014 Map on Mixed Migration Routes



#### The 2014 MTM Map

A model series of human migration routes in 2014, illustrating the complex network of mixed migration routes across the Mediterranean region. The map shows the flow of people from various origins in North Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe towards Europe. The routes are categorized into major connecting routes, major transit routes, and major arrival routes. The map also shows the locations of major transit hubs, major arrival hubs, and major departure hubs. The map is based on data collected from various sources, including border control agencies, NGOs, and media reports. The map is a simplified representation of the actual migration routes and does not show all individual journeys.

Major transit hubs are identified as locations where a large number of migrants are held in transit before being transported to their final destination. These hubs are often located in major cities or transit points along the migration routes. The map shows the locations of major transit hubs in North Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. The map also shows the locations of major arrival hubs, which are often located in major cities in Europe. The map shows the locations of major departure hubs, which are often located in major cities in North Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. The map is based on data collected from various sources, including border control agencies, NGOs, and media reports. The map is a simplified representation of the actual migration routes and does not show all individual journeys.

#### Legend

- MTM Point: State
- Major connecting routes
- Major transit routes
- Major arrival routes
- Major departure routes
- Country code
- IBC 2, IBC 3, IBC 4
- Major 2/3/4-way migration hubs
- Major 2/3/4-way transit hubs
- Major 2/3/4-way arrival hubs
- Major 2/3/4-way departure hubs
- Working/one-way arrival hubs
- Working/one-way departure hubs
- Interactive representation of regional nodes used in the map



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⇒ Intergovernmental Consultation on Migration, Asylum and Refugees

- Addresses migration data
- Confidential portal to share data



# Possibilities for RCPs to data exchange in Asia

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## ⇒ Colombo Process:

- Set up a Thematic Area Working Group on migration data

## ⇒ Abu Dhabi Dialogue

- Introduce data-sharing as a potential area of dialogue

# Conclusions

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- ⇒ RCPs present a promising means of opening possibilities for building confidence towards data exchange between countries in migration corridors
- ⇒ More could be done through existing processes to begin dialogue on these issues



**Thank you!**