

PROJECT: ‘Improvement of the Procedures for Establishing Identity of Irregular Migrants in the MARRI Region’

By recognizing the need to improve the capacities for identification of irregular migrants, who in the past are increasingly opting to use the Balkan routes as a way to quickly arrive in one of the highly developed countries of the European Union, MARRI Regional Centre in Skopje, in close cooperation with the British Embassy Skopje, developed a project aiming to increase the capacities of the national authorities of the MARRI Member States that are responsible for processing cases connected with irregular migrants.

The overall objective of the project, titled ‘Improvement of the Procedures for Establishing Identity of Irregular Migrants in the MARRI Region’, is to increase the capacities of the MARRI Participants’ national authorities to effectively respond to the expansion of irregular migrants and speed up the identification process. The project aims to support the national institutions in building a sustainable and effective mechanism for joint multi-stakeholder action in the process of establishing identity of irregular migrants. This will be achieved through:

- Developing and adopting a regional legal framework for use of joint interpretation capacities for rare languages in the Western Balkans region;
- Establishing a joint database of interpreters for rare languages to be used by MARRI MS’s national immigration services.

The preparatory phase of the project began in May 2015, while the project implementation phase started during June 2015. The project is scheduled to end in March 2016, with a developed Guidelines for establishing identity of irregular migrants who have no identification documents. The most significant benefit from this project will be the establishment of a regional database of translators of rare languages and creating IT solution for mutual use of those translators.

Representatives from MARRI in the Regional Centre will be the driving force of the project, and thus also a major bargaining chip for successful implementation.