

# Protecting Those in Need and Supporting Host Countries

This section of the survey aimed to define which challenges countries encounter while dealing with migrants in vulnerable situations and forcibly displaced persons. It also shed light on the respondents' perception of the EU's action in supporting the host country's management of irregular migration.

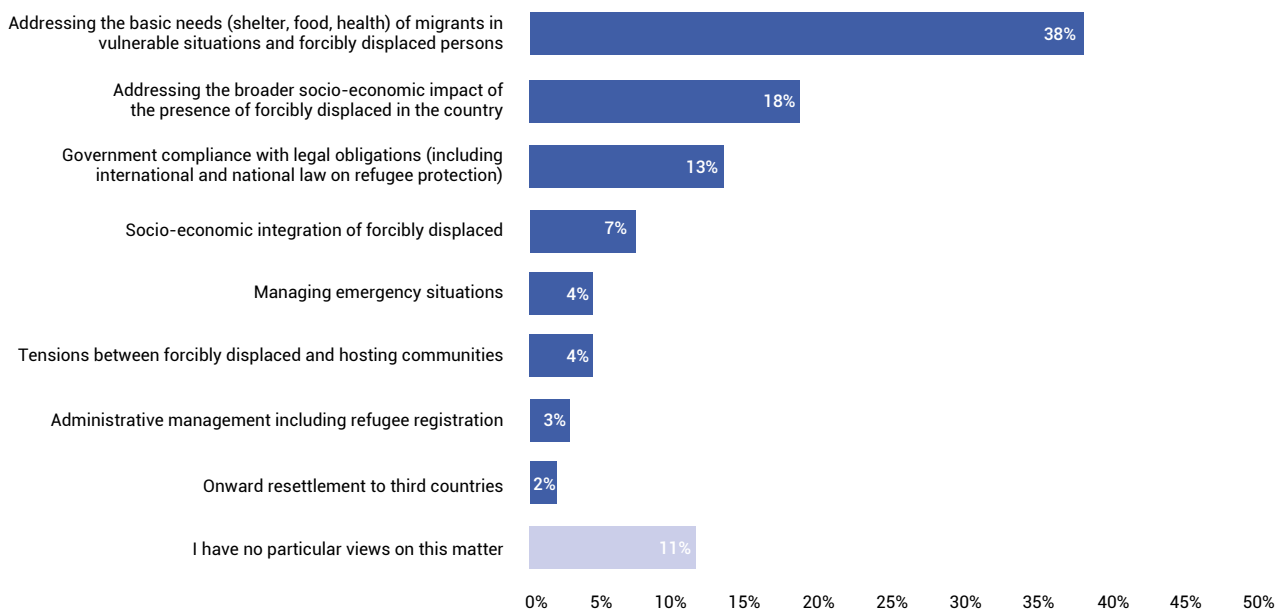
## Main findings:

- A clear majority of respondents consider that addressing vulnerable migrants' basic needs (i.e., shelter, food, and health) is the main migration challenge encountered in their country.
- Improving access to health services and education were among respondents' top suggestions concerning the implementation of strategies to deal with migrants in vulnerable situations and forcibly displaced persons.
- Overall, respondents evaluated the EU's contribution in helping countries deal with migrants in vulnerable situations or forced displaced persons as insufficient.
- The EU Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa and EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis (Madad Fund) instruments to support management of irregular migration and forced displaced people are perceived as ineffective. In contrast, the European Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection's effectiveness was positively evaluated.

**Question 3** turned to the main challenges a country may encounter while dealing with migrants in vulnerable situations and forcibly displaced persons. Out of nine options, respondents considered [addressing the basic needs of migrants in vulnerable situations (i.e., shelter, food, and health)] as the primary challenge, followed by “addressing the broader socio-economic impact of the presence of forcibly displaced people in the country.” The remaining options had a lower percentage of answers (Graph 4).

GRAPH 4

Q.3 What is the main challenge that your country encounters while dealing with migrants in vulnerable situations and forcibly displaced persons?

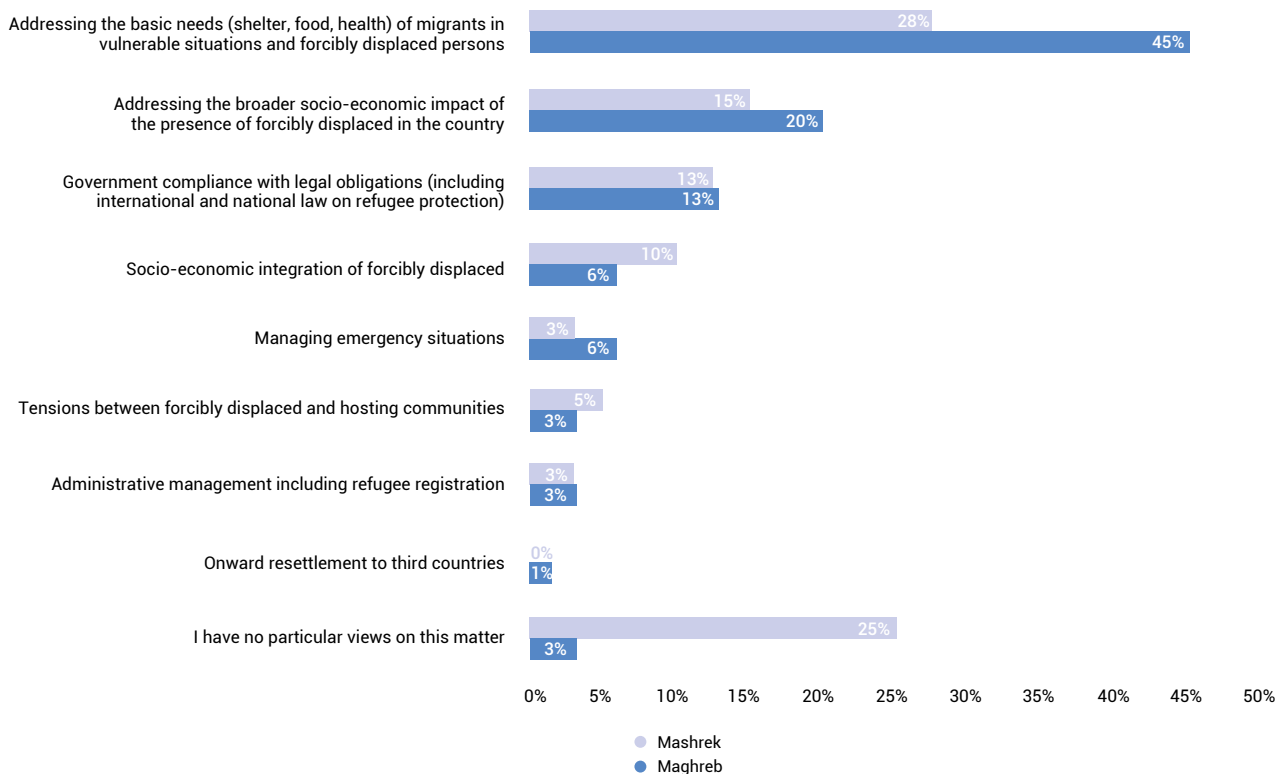


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the EMM5-EuroMeSCo Euromed Survey

A breakdown of answers by region indicates diverging views. Maghreb respondents prioritised the challenge of “addressing the broader socio-economic impact of migrants in vulnerable situations” to a much larger extent (45%) than Mashrek respondents (28%) (see Graph 5). In a similar way, 25% of Mashrek respondents had no particular view on the issue, while only 3% of Maghreb ones chose this option. Conversely, the remaining options presented only slight differences in percentage terms between the two sub-samples.

GRAPH 5

Q.3 What is the main challenge that your country encounters while dealing with migrants in vulnerable situations and forcibly displaced persons?

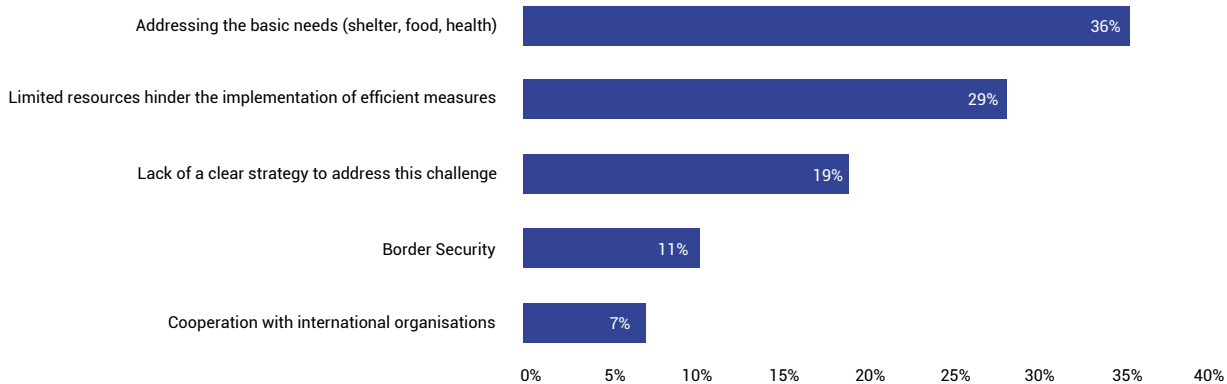


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the EMM5-EuroMeSCo Euromed Survey

**Question 4** invited respondents to identify the main measures in place in their country to deal with migrants in vulnerable situations and forcibly displaced persons. Consistently with the results of Question 3, more than one-third of all respondents (36%), including most respondents representing civil society, prioritized “Addressing basic needs (i.e., shelter, food, health)” as the primary measure. Regarding other categories, 29% of respondents believed that limited resources hinder efficient measures and another 19% said that their countries lack a clear strategy to address this challenge.

## GRAPH 6

Q.4 What are the main measures in place in your country to address migrant vulnerability and situations of forcibly displaced persons? (categories developed from the open-ended answers)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the EMM5-EuroMeSCo Euromed Survey

In their comments to the open-ended questions, some respondents highlighted persisting difficulties in dealing with this challenge:

*Security protection should be provided to migrants to prevent kidnapping, abduction, blackmail or rape. But currently the country is unable to provide this due to severe political divisions and also old processes and measures, there are no adequate facilities to provide work opportunities and economic integration of migrants.*

- Libyan respondent -

*Despite the UNHCR intervention in Tunisia, the treatment of irregular migrants, especially sub-Saharan, is below the minimum standards of international laws and conventions. The government does not seem to enhance its intervention to improve its treatment towards irregular migrants.*

- Tunisian respondent -

*In the Moroccan context, the observance of international convention is of immediate concern to ensure the protection of people on the move. At national level, the gap between migration policy outputs and policy outcomes can be attributed to the issue of non-compliance. Morocco's current geostrategic interests in the Euro-Mediterranean are bound to both its traditional and West African allies. As such, genuine cooperation between the two blocs is key to not only establish firm diplomatic ties but also to ensure the protection of vulnerable people on the move.*

- Moroccan respondent -

*Due to the deteriorated situation in our country and the total collapse on all levels, the tensions between the displaced and the hosting community are increasing daily, and the measures taken by the relevant authorities become insufficient.*

- Lebanese respondent -

*Lack of socioeconomic empowerment is an issue. Both asylum seekers and refugees have no rights to work according to national law. That means they are working in the informal sector with no security nor fair salary and are facing exploitation and abuse, particularly women.*

- Egyptian respondent -

Many respondents made suggestions regarding what kind of measures could be adopted to improve living conditions among migrants in vulnerable situations and forcibly displaced persons, underlining the importance of education and access to health:

*Essential services must be made more accessible (migrant children' education, guaranteed access to social housing, vocational training.*

- Moroccan respondent -

*Firstly, cooperation mechanisms with UN agencies and international NGOs need to be established, in particular in the case of (displaced from) the western Sahara. Second, crossborder cooperation with Sahel countries need to be strengthened. Third, particular measures must be adopted to protect the most vulnerable migrants.*

- Algerian respondent -

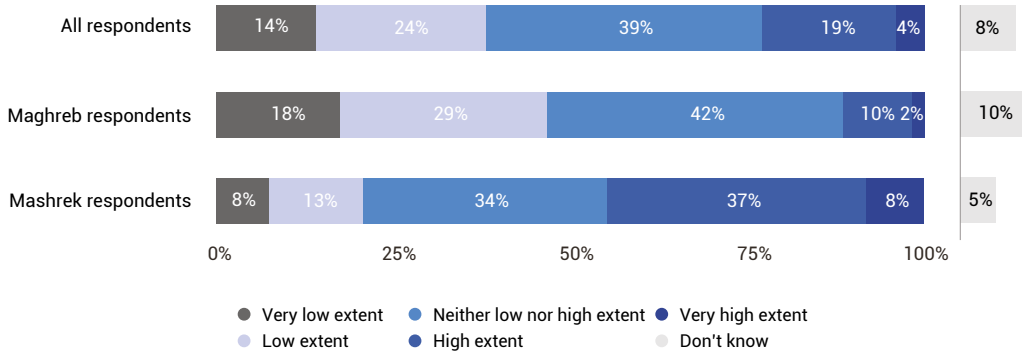
*Ensuring this population has equal access to the public health infrastructure, in the same terms as nationals, and promote children' inclusion in the education system.*

- Moroccan respondent -

**Question 5** aimed to assess to what extent the European Union (EU) helped the Mediterranean countries deal with migrants in vulnerable situations and forcibly displaced persons. Almost 40% of the respondents believe that the EU's contribution in helping countries face this challenge was neither low nor high. Respondents evaluating EU efforts as low or very low constitute more than one-third of the whole sample, while only 23% evaluate EU interventions positively.

GRAPH 7

Q.5 To what extent has the EU helped your country deal with this challenge so far?



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the EMM5-EuroMeSCo Euromed Survey

Considering the regional breakdown of answers, Graph 7 shows that, overall, the majority of Maghreb respondents negatively assessed EU help in dealing with this challenge, with unfavorable and very unfavorable opinions amounting to 47% of opinions expressed on this particular issue. Perceptions in the Mashrek differ significantly. 45% of this sub-sample indicated very favourable opinions of the EU contribution in helping their countries address migrants' vulnerability.

Open comments gave further insights about perceptions on the EU's support to deal with migrants in vulnerable situation:

*EU assistance must be targeted towards covering this population's essential needs, in particular health, education and jobs.*

- Moroccan respondent -

*The EU has been providing financial support that was very important, but more could be done at the level of supervising how the government is spending the resources.*

- Lebanese respondent -

*Funding may not solve this problem, but a follow-up on the implementation of integration mechanisms is of cardinal significance to ensure the compliance of Morocco with international law. Another way to ensure compliance is to foster the freedom of expression of dissent voices addressing violations of migrants' rights in the country.*

- Moroccan respondent -

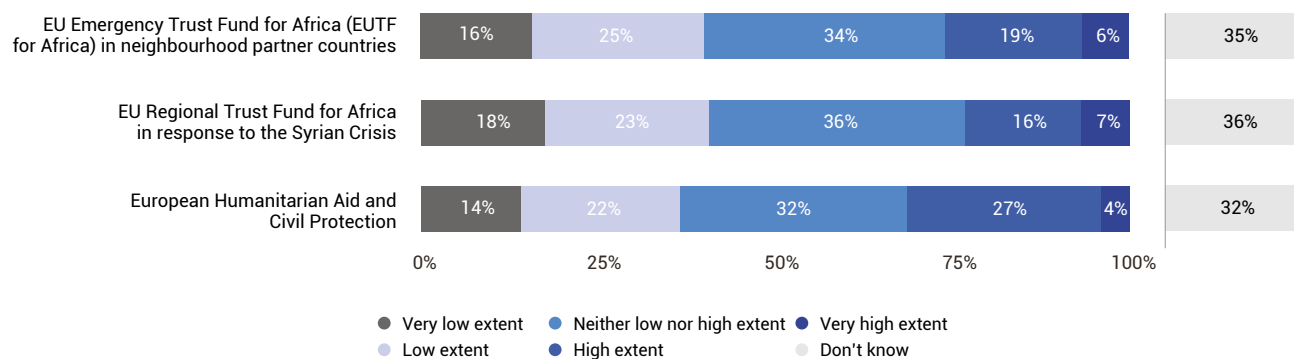
Building on Question 5, **Question 6** explored to what extent the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF for Africa) in neighbourhood partner countries, the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis (MADAD Fund), and the European Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection have been effective in supporting countries in managing irregular migration and forced displacement and in assisting those in need.

The majority of respondents considered the three instruments' effectiveness as "Neither low nor high." Nevertheless, the European Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection is better perceived than the other two instruments, as 31% of respondents evaluated it as highly effective (27% "High" and 4% "Very high").

Significantly, one third of respondents didn't have enough information to assess these instruments, see Graph 8.

GRAPH 8

Q.6 More specifically, to what extent have the following instruments been effective in supporting your country manage irregular migration and forced displacement and provide assistance to those in need?

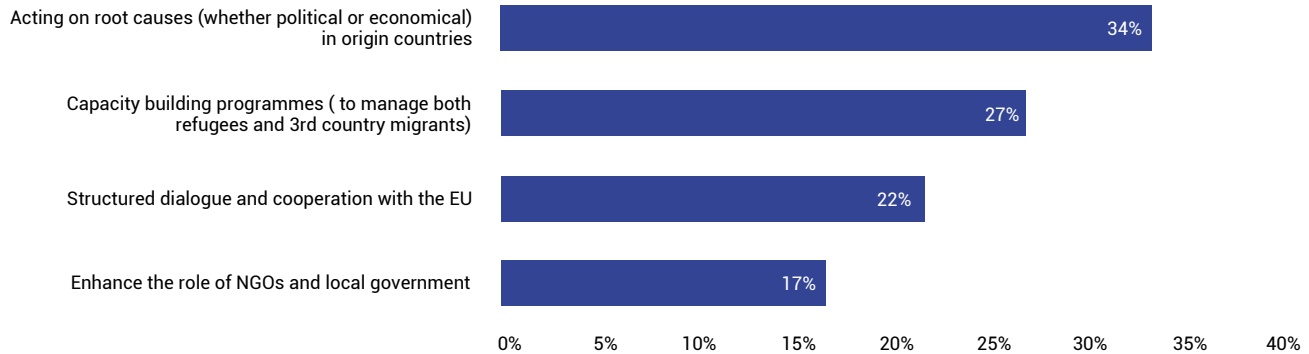


Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the EMM5-EuroMeSCo Euromed Survey

**Question 7** was an open-ended question on what is expected from the EU to help deal with forced displacement and better assist those in need. The most frequent answers recognized the importance of acting on root causes in origin countries, whether political or economic. In second place respondents highlighted "Capacity building programmes" (see Graph 9).

GRAPH 9

Q.7 What do you expect from the EU to do or to do differently in order to help your country deal with forced displacement and better assist those in need? (categories developed from the openended answers)



Source: Compiled by the IEMed based on the results of the EMM5-EuroMeSCo Euromed Survey

In the open comments, some respondents, mostly representing civil society, highlighted the necessity of the European Union to tackle push factors of migration:

*My country is at the receiving end of internal and regional problems. The best thing for the EU to do is firstly, tackle root causes of the problems driving people away from their countries by helping establish peace and security: in Palestine, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Yemen, Libya and elsewhere. The EU should be more proactive in the quest for peace, particularly with Israel. Secondly, it should help these countries establish proper rule of law mechanisms and democracy, along with good governance and oversight mechanisms. And thirdly, it should help these countries achieve economic prosperity and ensure a better future for generations to come.*

- Jordanian respondent -

*The EU has to concentrate its aid on the roots of irregular migration and establish at least a 10-year program to tackle all issues. Short-term projects or programmes with a narrower focus risk only addressing the symptoms and not the causes. The major cause is mismanagement of development aid and inefficient allocation of resources.*

- Tunisian respondent -

*It must insist on reforms in partner countries: promotion of democratic reforms, religious freedom, freedom of movement, of opinion, gender equality, recognition of minorities' rights and of sexual minorities, etc. Any other measure doesn't achieve much.*

- Moroccan respondent -



Comments also called on the EU to help countries deal with this challenge through financial and logistical support.

*I hope that the European Union can provide financial assistance as well as advice to help bear the humanitarian burden associated with irregular migration.*

- Egyptian respondent -

*Increasing financial resources and enhancing migration management capacities.*

- Moroccan respondent -

*The European Union must work to support both civil society and NGOs to provide real opportunities in the areas of economic development and entrepreneurship to limit the emigration of countrymen abroad.*

- Egyptian respondent -

*Increasing financial support towards responding to vulnerable populations' needs (women, children and sick). Supporting re-integration.*

- Tunisian respondent -