



Cooperation and Dialogue on Migration
and Mobility (CDMM) Phase- II
India-EU Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility



Capacity Building Workshop with Educational Consultants



November 7, 2025



New Delhi, India



International
Labour
Organization



ICMPD
International Centre for
Migration Policy Development



Indian Council
of World Affairs

INVITATION

The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), and the International Labour Organization (ILO) are jointly implementing the *Cooperation and Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (CDMM) – Phase II* project, with the support of the European Union (EU) and in close coordination with the Government of India. The project builds upon the objectives outlined in the *Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM)* signed between India and the EU in 2016.

A key common objective under the CAMM declaration is the exploration of “possibilities for enhancing mobility and exchange of students and researchers in a safe and secure environment.” In pursuit of this goal, the CDMM project, under its Student Mobility Pillar, aims to strengthen legal pathways for academic exchange and foster informed student mobility between India and the European Union.

As part of this ongoing effort, a Student Mobility Workshop was held in New Delhi on 10 September 2024, bringing together representatives from the Government of India, EU Member States, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and educational consultants.

Building on the recommendations and priorities identified during that workshop, the CDMM Phase II project is pleased to invite you to participate in the follow up **Capacity Building Workshop with Educational Consultants**, to be held on **7 November 2025 in New Delhi**. This workshop - organised under the **Student Mobility Pillar** - aims to deepen engagement with educational consultants, strengthen ethical standards, and encourage collaboration with European higher education stakeholders.

The key objectives of the workshop are to:

- Raise awareness among Indian educational consultants about ethical student mobility practices, with a focus on transparency, fairness, and student well-being.
- Share good practices and regulatory models from EU Member States (Germany, Austria, Ireland, France) and other countries (e.g. Australia and the UK) to help consultants develop internal codes of conduct, establish advertising norms, implement fee guidelines, and other relevant points.

- Foster exchange among educational consultants, EU Higher Education Institutions, study abroad agencies, and government bodies to strengthen the student mobility ecosystem, while also sharing the available mechanisms for student integration and well-being in Europe and raising awareness in India about trusted educational consultants and mobility pathways.

Please find attached the Concept Note with a tentative agenda for your kind reference. The final agenda will be shared with registered speakers and participants in due course.

Kindly register for the event using the link below:

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/e/6Pjbu8favV>

Venue: The Claridges Hotel, New Delhi

Date: 7 November 2025

Time: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm (IST) / 9:30 am – 12:30 pm (CET)

In case of any questions or queries, please do reach out to us at euindia@icmpd.org.

We look forward to your acceptance of our invitation and to your participation in this important dialogue.

Thank you.

Kind regards

India-EU CDMM team



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Concept Note: Capacity Building Workshop with Educational Consultants

7 November 2025

Time: 14:00–17:00 IST

Venue: The Claridges, New Delhi

Address: 12, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Rd, Tees January Road Area, Motilal Nehru Marg Area, New Delhi

Introduction

To facilitate safe, legal, and orderly migration and mobility and to address challenges related to irregular migration within the EU-India migration and mobility corridor, the European Union (EU) and the Government of India (GoI) signed the Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (Camm) in 2016. In its support, Phase I of the EU-India Cooperation and Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (CDMM) project was carried out from 2017 to 2022. To further deepen and pursue EU-India cooperation on migration and mobility, Phase II is being implemented from October 2023 to October 2025 with the intention of achieving two key outcomes:

- Strengthening legal migration and mobility pathways along the EU India corridor; and
- Reinforcing institutional capacity and improving awareness of irregular migration and its risks.

The project intends to develop a shared understanding of regular worker and student mobility pathways as well as forms of irregular migration in the EU-India corridor; facilitate dialogue and consultations among relevant stakeholders within the EU-India corridor; conduct research and analysis and contribute to evidence-based migration and mobility policymaking; and disseminate information and raise awareness

Background

Around 1.3 million Indians are studying abroad in institutions of higher and tertiary education as on 1 Jan 2024, as per the latest figure quoted by the Ministry of External Affairs.¹ Out of these 94,335 were studying in EU Member States such as Germany, France, Ireland and Italy as of January 2024.² The European Union (EU) is an emerging destination for student mobility from India. Moreover, Indian students and researchers are among the top recipients of prestigious pan-European scholarships such as Horizon 2020, Erasmus+, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, and European Research Council grants. Simultaneously, the Government of India has launched several

¹ [QUESTION No-#894 INDIAN STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD](#)

² [LU 894.docx - Google Docs](#)



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initiatives to promote internationalization of education, including the 'Study in India' portal, the New Education Policy 2020, inviting foreign universities to establish campuses in India, and inviting foreign faculty to teach in India.

To strengthen this growing corridor of academic and research mobility, the EU-India Cooperation and Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (CDMM) project (Phase II)—implemented by ICMPD, ILO and ICWA—has focused on enhancing legal pathways and promoting informed student mobility. In this context, a Student Mobility Workshop was held on 10 September 2024 in New Delhi. Co-organised with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), the workshop brought together Indian and European government officials, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and educational consultants to examine current challenges and opportunities in the student mobility ecosystem.

The Indian side took on board EU's concerns that emerged during the workshop such as - lack of awareness among students about application processes, eligibility criteria, and rules and requirements regarding visa application rules and requirements; challenges with document verification and visa processing, and the prevalence of unregulated educational consultancy services in India. Notably, the need for transparent, ethical recruitment practices for student mobility, building synergy and working with European counterparts to formulate complementary initiatives, including the need for EU institutions to proactively share and spread awareness among the educational consultants in India, that they were working with, and a mechanism to support EU institutions in engaging credible consultants in India emerged as a priority. The Indian side showcased the educational consultancy services sector of India and underscored the need for greater engagement from EU institutions to understand the issues faced by this growing sector. Tools such as the University Reference Tool and the Student Mobility Checklist—developed under Phase I of the CDMM project—were identified as valuable but underutilised resources, particularly in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities and it was indicated that awareness building may happen if there is greater dissemination of these resources. **Both sides evinced an interest in a follow up capacity building workshop with selected educational consultants in India.**

Building on these insights, the CDMM project now proposes a dedicated **capacity building workshop** in 2025, targeting selected educational consultants in India. The workshop aims to deepen engagement on the ethical dimensions of international student recruitment, enhance educational consultants' understanding of EU education systems, and promote responsible practices learning from international codes of conduct (e.g. the London Statement³). Drawing

³ The London Statement is a set of seven ethical principles (based on professionalism, transparency and integrity) agreed upon in 2012 by education agents and representatives from the UK, Australia, Ireland, and New Zealand. It promotes best practice among education agents and consultants supporting international students and provides a unifying framework for the recruitment of, and related services offered to, students in international education.



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inspiration from successful student mobility models between India and other countries, the workshop will aim to share the specific good practices such as exploring establishing standards for advertising, caps on consultancy fees (charged to institutions, not students), and the importance of establishing self-regulatory codes of conduct on ethical student mobility.

These efforts are essential to encouraging the private sector and educational consultancies to meet, discuss and exchange ideas and information on maintaining a good standard of service, share up-to-date knowledge on educational offerings and visa procedures and foster a student-centred, transparent mobility ecosystem. Ultimately, by capturing one of the key takeaways from the 2024 Student Mobility Workshop which identified the need for a capacity building with select educational consultants, this proposed workshop represents a crucial continuation of the EU-India partnership in advancing informed student mobility and enhancing legal pathways and in enhancing mutual understanding between the EU and Indian sides on this issue.

Objectives

The proposed **Capacity Building Workshop** in 2025 is a follow-up to the 2024 Student Mobility Workshop and aims to address key recommendations arising from that dialogue. The primary objectives are to:

- **Raise awareness among Indian educational consultants** about ethical student mobility practices, with a focus on transparency, fairness, and student well-being.
- **Share good practices and regulatory models** from EU Member States (Germany, Austria, Ireland, France) and other countries (e.g. Australia and the UK) to help consultants develop internal codes of conduct, establish advertising norms, and implement fee guidelines.
- **Foster exchange** among educational consultants, EU Higher Education Institutions, study abroad agencies, and government bodies to strengthen the student mobility ecosystem, while also sharing the available mechanisms for student integration and well-being in Europe and raising awareness in India about trusted educational consultants and mobility pathways.

Key Stakeholders

The workshop will bring together a diverse group of actors across the student mobility ecosystem, including:



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- **Select Indian educational consultants** (An indicative list of consultants identified by ICMPD through inputs from Member States shall be collated and reviewed by the Government of India).
- **EU Member States and their national education agencies** (e.g. DAAD, Campus France, Uni-Italia, Nordic Centre in India (NCI) and others).
- **Non-EU education stakeholders** to share experiences and best practices from other corridors such as:
 - Association of Australian Education Representatives in India (AAERI)
 - Education USA or USIEF (as relevant)
 - IDP Education⁴
 - Other recognised international student mobility networks

Tentative Agenda

Time (IST)	Agenda Item	Speaker/Facilitator
14:00 – 14:30	Welcome & Opening Remarks • Project Implementing Partners • Government of India • EU	ICMPD Head of Region/Country Coordinator Representative of Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) Representative from Ministry of External Affairs Representative from Delegation of European Union to India
14:30 – 14:45	Group Photo	
14:45 – 14:55	Setting the Scene: Student Mobility related trends and resources in the India-EU corridor	ICMPD
14:55 – 15:55	Session I: Sharing of International Best Practices on Student Mobility Presentation and moderated discussion on frameworks for self-regulation, codes of conduct, and consultant accreditation	Moderator: TBC Panelists (TBC): • DAAD (Germany) • Campus France (France) • Scientific Attache (Italy) • AAERI Representative

⁴ IDP Education Limited is an international education organisation offering student placement in Australia, New Zealand, United States, United Kingdom, Ireland and Canada. It currently has over 70 offices across India offering study abroad guidance to students.



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		Business Finland
15:55 – 16:55	Session II: Strengthening Ethical Practices on Student Mobility in the India-EU Corridor Speakers will be invited to reflect on key questions. - How can educational consultants build trust with HEIs while maintaining student interests? - What standards or self-regulation practices could improve transparency and accountability in student mobility in India-EU corridor? - How can dissemination of accurate university related application procedure, document requirements and scholarship information be improved (including among educational consultants in India)? - What role can EU Member States/their national agencies play in cooperation with GoI and its agencies in promoting ethical practices and supporting ethical student mobility ecosystem and pathways?	Moderator-TBC Panelists (TBC) - Ministry of Education and/or UGC Representative - Nordic Centre in India - EU MS University Representative - Reputed Indian Educational Consultant (1 or 2) - Research and Innovation Counsellor, Delegation of European Union to India and Bhutan
16:55 – 17:00	Summary of Discussions and Closing Remarks	ICMPD/ILO/ICWA Representative
17:00 onwards	<i>High-tea and networking</i>	

Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced capacity** among Indian educational consultants, aligned with global ethical standards for catering to India-EU corridor.
- Improving the linkages** between EU HEIs and Indian HEIs as well as educational consultancies through sharing of information and dialogue.



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- Creating awareness amongst the Indian educational consultants and through them to complement the existing efforts by EU and India at information dissemination among the prospective student community in India, of the steps being taken by the EU HEI/Study Abroad Programs to facilitate proper integration of Indian students and ensure well-being of Indian students during the period of their respective courses at the HEI.
- An event **report** summarizing key discussion points and actionable recommendations emerging from the discussion shall be shared with both sides EU and India for joint reference and follow up.