

Introducing the GFMD Mayors Mechanism

GFMD Friends of the Forum

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Mayors Mechanism Mission

- Facilitate substantive engagement of local and regional governments in the activities and deliberations of the GFMD with a view to ensuring that the knowledge and experiences of local leaders – from different geographical contexts and administrative systems – inform the GFMD's outcomes and recommendations.

Context



Rapid urbanization puts cities at the forefront of solving global challenges locally.



Most migrants and displaced persons settle in urban areas.



Local reception and inclusion policies and practices are critical in determining outcomes for migrants and societies.



Increasingly, cities cooperate across borders to share experiences, represent their interests and practically support each other.



In December 2018, in Marrakesh, cities pledged support to realizing commitments made in the GCM and GCR.

The Mayoral Forum on Migration, Human Mobility and Development (MF)



Launched after 2nd HLD in 2013 with support from then SRSR Peter Sutherland



Annual gathering of municipal and regional leaders for policy dialogue, exchange of knowledge, and joint strategizing on how to govern migration, promote social inclusion and equitable local development



4th and 5th MF held in conjunction with the GFMD Summits in Berlin (2017) and Marrakesh (2018)



MF Outcomes – “Mayors Declaration” – presented at the GFMD



In 2019, the MF will take place for the 2nd time in Quito, Ecuador (tbc)

5th Mayoral Forum in Marrakesh, 2018

- Over 150 mayors and senior city executives, representatives of national governments, international organisations and civil society
- Theme: *City Leadership in Implementing the UN Global Compacts*
- Cities discussed:
 - a) what they are doing
 - b) what they further commit to
 - c) what support they need (resources, tools, partnerships)

Marrakesh Mayors' Declaration

- Spells out commitments towards realizing both, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR)
 - Calls for inclusion of local and regional governments in the implementation and follow up of the GCM and GCR.
 - Overarching commitments to:
 - Advance the principles and objectives of both Global Compacts in unison
 - Stand in solidarity and increase collaboration amongst cities
 - Take action and play a critical role in shaping a more positive narrative on migration, including by providing evidence of 'what works'
- In line with 2019 GFMD Chair priorities.

City priorities

For GCM implementation:

- Minimize adverse and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin (Objective 2)
- Address and reduce vulnerabilities (Objective 7)
- Provide migrants with safe access to essential services (Objective 15)
- Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion (Objective 16)
- Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration (Objective 17)

For GCR implementation:

- Support appropriate reception of refugees and asylum-seekers, as appropriate (paragraph 37)
- Meet refugees' needs and support communities (paragraph 66)
- Encourage initiatives that favour inclusion and refugee self-reliance (paragraphs 97-100)
- Engage in regional and global partnerships (paragraph 38)

Plans for 2019

Establish the GFMD Mayors' Mechanism:

- Incorporate the MF into the Mayors Mechanism as its main annual event, to be organized in conjunction with the GFMD Summit meeting;
- Increase the number and geographic representation of mayors and local officials participating in the MF;
- Create opportunities for local and regional governments to participate in GFMD events and discussions and contribute to its agenda.

Plans for 2019 (cont'd)

Develop Programme of Action for the MMD:

- City-led initiative to identify concrete actions and partnerships to implement the MMD
- PoA to be endorsed by MF participants in Quito in Nov. 2019 (tbc)

Contribute to the priorities of the Chair, as requested:

- Responses to mixed migration: social and economic inclusion (RT 1.2)
- Public narratives and communication with migrants (RT 2)
- Arrival cities & local development in rural areas (RT 3)