



GFMD Thematic Survey: Preliminary Highlights

3rd Meeting of the Friends of the Forum
10 September 2013, Geneva

Introduction to the Survey

A more development-focused, dynamic and durable Forum

- encourage more **active** and **geographically balanced** participation
- achieve more **concrete, evidence-based** and **broadly relevant** outcomes
- improve **outreach** to more stakeholders and **share** the accumulated GFMD knowledge with the broader international community

Introduction to the Survey

- **Objective:** To map the existing experiences of member states in the thematic areas of the GFMD Roundtables.
- **Uses:** The survey will inform GFMD work in two priority issue areas:
 - Information/data will serve as a source for the **Background Papers and Annexes** in each Government Team for the **GFMD Roundtables**.
 - Information/data will be used to populate the **GFMD Policy and Practice Database**.

Completing the Survey

- The Swedish GFMD Chair distributed the **Survey Questionnaire** to all Friends of the Forum Government Focal Points on **24 June 2013**.
- The survey included **questions on each of the six Roundtable themes** from the GFMD Concept Paper, along with additional questions on **policy coherence and coordination** among different government authorities and with **civil society** and the **private sector**.

Governments of 39 Member States have so far responded to the Survey.



Completing the Survey

- We would like to offer an **opportunity for more governments to participate** in the Survey and highlight good practices/challenges from their countries.
- Therefore, the **deadline for responding has been extended to 15 October 2013.**

Preliminary Survey Highlights

- A draft Survey Report has been prepared on the basis of the **39 responses** received so far.
- A full report of the survey results will be completed by the **November Friends of the Forum** meeting.
- The following highlights illustrate the benefits of collecting information from capitals and government experts.

Mainstreaming migration into development planning

- Several countries—including **Belgium, Burundi, Ecuador, France, Moldova, Korea, Nepal and Zimbabwe**—have established **inter-ministerial or inter-departmental committees** or mainstreamed **migration into development planning** to jointly deliberate and coordinate on aspects of migration/diaspora and development.
- Still very few countries mention they systematically **monitor the impact of migration on development**
 - One exception is **Turkey**, as of its new migration law of April 2013

Framing migration for the MDGs and the post-2015 UN development agenda

- Several governments point to areas where migration could or has already contributed to Millennium Development Goals:
 - **Nepal** reports that remittances have played a vital role in reducing the poverty level from 30% to 25%
 - **Zimbabwe** reports that migration has contributed to MDGs 4, 5, and 6.
 - In **Ghana**, migrants and diaspora have drawn attention to sanitation problems; and partnerships have improved school enrolment
 - **Moldova** has a checklist for all future legislative acts for including the development impact of migration from a gender perspective

Labor Migration and Circular Migration

- Several countries have mechanisms in place to facilitate **labor migration**, especially in key shortage sectors or occupations. Examples include:
 - **Korea** fills job vacancies with foreign labor through its Employment Permit System (EPS) and has set up 27 foreign worker support centers
 - The **Ghanaian** Diaspora Support Unit has created a website to match employers with migrant applications
 - **Moldova** has set up a Local Coordination Office and provides training (vocational and linguistic) with a view of the Italian labour market needs
- **Bilateral or multilateral cooperation/MOUs** are common tools for source/receiving countries to govern the migration process.

Preliminary Survey Highlights 2.2

Diaspora Engagement

- Several countries **create incentives/ease barriers for diaspora investments**, and set up programs to **facilitate entrepreneurship** and job creation in the country of ancestry—including through **mentorship, traineeship programs, and networks**
 - Several countries (such as **Croatia, Ecuador**, and **Ghana**) facilitate the acquisition of citizenship or dual citizenship by members of the diaspora
 - **Ecuador**'s “REDIEM” entrepreneurship network targeting emigration areas
 - The **Ghana** Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC) encourages SMEs and Ghana also offers financial bonds targeting the diaspora
 - Nationals returning to **Barbados** and **Nepal** are exempt from duties on items they ship upon return, and Burundi is also easing restrictions on imports of raw material and equipment

Preliminary Survey Highlights 3.1

Empowering and informing migrants, households, and communities

- Several source and receiving countries have **empowerment, integration and training programs** to assist and inform migrants (before/after departure).
 - **Albania**'s educative brochures on “circular migration” related to Germany, France, Sweden, Poland and Slovenia
 - **Nepal**'s Migrant Resource Centers and mandatory migrant insurance
 - **Portugal**'s One-Stop-Shop approach to the provision of immigrant services
 - **Ecuador**'s agreements with partner countries on the portability and securitization of social security for migrants

Preliminary Survey Highlights 3.2

Improving Health and Education Outcomes

- Several countries are active in working with migrants and diaspora in the area of health and education.
- **Examples** include:
 - **Ghana** facilitates circular migration for health professionals, and also twinning activities between government and other countries in the educational and health sectors.
 - **Burundi** notes that some diaspora contributed with building health clinics.
 - **Zimbabwe** deals with shortages of medical personnel by organizing short-term return of diaspora to work and teach medicine.
 - **Barbados** provides some scholarships for studies abroad that require return and work in the area of studies.

Implementing Lessons from Previous Global Forums

- The Survey establishes **continuity from past Forums**: prompting countries to evaluate progress made so far, while also storing good practices for the future.
- Some examples of **lessons learned**:
 - **Belgium** evaluated its MIDA-project
 - **Nepal** has expanded its Migrant Resource Centers and started mainstreaming migration into local development efforts
 - **Zimbabwe** has integrated migration and development into the country's National Development Plan
 - The **Ghana** Immigration Service is now participating in a project on South-South collaboration in human trafficking with Nigeria and Burkina Faso.

Summary and next steps

- We hope to receive many more Survey **replies by 15 October.**
- Many of the examples provided by governments will be fed into the work of the **Government Teams/Roundtables** and the **GFMD Database.**
- In addition, an **Online Survey** will be launched in October.
 - To be found on the GFMD website (date by email alerts to FoF)
 - Based on the government Survey Questionnaire
 - Open to all (observers, Civil Society, private sector, academia)
- **Final Reports** to be completed by the November FoF meeting