

**Focused Input**

**to the**

**2020 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)**

**31 March 2020**

**Coordinated by:**

**GFMD Working Group on Sustainable Development and International Migration**

**Table of Contents**

[**I. The distinctive role of the GFMD in the multilateral approach to migration: a pattern of continuous innovation 4**](#_Toc35866668)

[**II. The GFMD and UN Development Goals 9**](#_Toc35866669)

[**III. From the SDGs to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration 11**](#_Toc35866670)

[**IV. Policies and measures to ensure accelerated action and transformative pathways in the context of the GFMD 13**](#_Toc35866671)

[**V. Contributions of the GFMD to accelerated action and transformative pathways toward the SDGs 17**](#_Toc35866672)

[**VI. Recommendations from the GFMD for possible use in the HLPF Declaration 18**](#_Toc35866673)

[**Annex to the GFMD’s Focused Input to the 2020 HLPF 23**](#_Toc35866674)

# I. The distinctive role of the GFMD in the multilateral approach to migration: a pattern of continuous innovation

The Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) was created as a multilateral platform for discussion and collaboration outside of the UN system at a time (2006) when international migration was considered to be too controversial for constructive debate within the formal structures of the UN system. It was set up to be led by rotating states rather than a permanent structure, to be informal in its proceedings and to take no binding collective decisions. Since its first meeting in 2007, the GFMD has evolved in many ways. Most importantly, it has gradually created space for the voices of other stakeholders to be heard and to participate in deliberations, even as its three central modes of operation—state-led, informal and non-binding—have remained.

The inclusion of non-state stakeholders in the GFMD is one of the features most valued by government participants. A representative of the Government of Spain wrote,

*“The GFMD has very distinct features which make of it a unique and very useful forum….we especially appreciate the fact that it gathers the whole community dealing with different aspects of migration from different perspectives: government, international organizations, local authorities, entrepreneurs, civil society (including youth), researchers. Its annual summits are somehow a big “Migratory Fair,’ a perfect place to hear each other, to make public national migratory and development policies, to point out gaps to be filled and interchange ideas on future projects.”*

The non-state participants in the GFMD, organized into three “mechanisms” of Civil Society, the Business Mechanism and the Mayors’ Mechanism, also appreciate the way they are included in the GFMD. As the civil society coordinator for the GFMD said,

“ *Since 2011 and with some additional progress being made every year, the GFMD has become a real multi-stakeholder process, while most other meetings have a relatively rigid and formalized approach to involving non-government partners, including civil society.”*

The GFMD has consistently innovated—in structures, formats, participation and topics to remain at the cutting edge of migration debate. It has evolved from “government-led” to “government-led but not government only,” acknowledging that national governments alone cannot control migration, maximize its benefits or minimize its costs. Civil society, the private sector and local governments are ever more closely integrated into the GFMD proceedings and planning. For example, the Mayors’ Mechanism is co-chairing with the Government of Canada the GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on Narratives, which was approved by the GFMD Steering Committee in February 2020. The formats used in the GFMD have evolved continually, along with its subject matter and participation, as its organizers strive to meet the participants’ desire for greater, more meaningful interactivity.

The position of the GFMD outside of the UN system makes it easier to give non-state actors increasingly greater roles, and builds in a flexibility in relation to procedures, topics and participation that is hard for UN institutions to replicate. This is another of the characteristics of the GFMD most appreciated by governments and others.

The informal and non-binding nature of the GFMD has made it a safe space for government officials and other stakeholders to learn about the complex issues in their portfolios and to interact with their peers from other countries and institutions. In this way, the GFMD has helped to foster a global community of people inside and outside of government who work on migration and development, who can draw on a global pool of expertise through the GFMD. As a Swedish government official put it, the comparative advantage of the GFMD lies in:

*…the informal nature of the dialogue which ensures frank discussions not bogged down by formalities and conventions. This is especially relevant as international migration can sometimes be a sensitive topic.*

One of the distinctive features of the GFMD is its rotating chair structure, with each annual meeting under the voluntary leadership of a different state (except for 2017-18, when Germany and Morocco shared a two-year period as co-chairs). This arrangement expands the sense of ownership of the Forum among states. The previous year’s chair, the current chair and the next year’s chair provide some continuity, sitting together as a leadership “troika,” with a regionally balanced steering group of committed states and a broader group of participating states meeting as “Friends of the Forum.” A network of national focal points is designed to assure consistency in national participation in the GFMD. A “light” Support Unit performs a crucial role in assisting each chair to organize the meetings, from the preparatory phases through to the annual Summit and follow-up.

The informality of the GFMD has allowed successive chairs to innovate continually. Form, participation and topics have changed over the course of the Forum’s 14-year life span and 13 Summit meetings. The innovations have in some cases been spurred by internal assessments, particularly reviews of the GFMD at the five-and ten-year marks.

The following account of the GFMD’s evolution shows the Forum as an adaptable instrument that can respond to circumstances and the ever-changing needs of states, migrants and other major actors in migration.

*2007-2010: The start-up phase*

The government of Belgium volunteered, at the first UN High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development in 2006, to host the first GFMD in 2007. Working with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Migration (SRSG), Peter Sutherland, the Belgian team created a concept and format for the GFMD. It was to be inclusive of all UN Member States, non-binding and team-based, giving a wide variety of Member States the opportunity to participate. Belgium also sent out a survey to Member States to identify priority issues and themes that should be addressed at the Forum. The most salient issues became the topics of substantive roundtables, which would remain one of the central formats for sharing policy ideas and experiences at the Forum.

Belgium also insisted, in the face of skepticism from some states, on including a civil society day in advance of the Forum, recognizing that governments were not the only important actors in migration dynamics. The civil society meeting was organized by the King Baudouin Foundation with an international advisory committee and an agenda that followed that of the government meeting. Members of the advisory committee presented a report from the civil society day to the government conference.

The Philippines, host of the second GFMD, expanded the civil society forum to two days, and held a number of national preparatory meetings to involve a wide range of stakeholders, including several from the private sector. The Ayala Foundation and its international advisory committee organized the civil society days with an agenda parallel to the government conference. Representatives chosen by civil society delegates presented not only a report but a broader statement to the government meeting.

The third GFMD (2009), hosted by Greece, established two informal, ad hoc working groups to continue the work of the GFMD between Summits: one on policy coherence, data and research and one on protecting and empowering migrants. The Greek chair also organized a meeting of the Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) to highlight migration issues particular to different regions and bring these concerns into the global Summit.

At the fourth GFMD (2010), the Mexican chair created a half-day “Common Space,” in which government and civil society delegates could engage in dialogue on an equal basis. The BBVA Foundation organized the civil society days, again with an international advisory committee and a parallel agenda. The Mexican chair also presented the GFMD “Platform for Partnerships (PfP),” a mechanism that would allow—in person or online—states, international organizations and other actors to present examples of and opportunities for collaborative work on migration and development issues.

*2011-2015: A year-round process and new issues*

The pattern of innovation accelerated at the fifth GFMD, chaired by Switzerland. Going beyond the annual Summit meeting, Switzerland initiated a year-long process featuring 14 thematic meetings to deepen and broaden the policy exchanges that culminated at the Summit. In addition, rather than selecting a private foundation, the Swiss handed responsibility for organizing the civil society meeting to a civil society organization, the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC). Civil society established their own agenda rather than reproducing the government topics. The PfP was activated with the first two projects posted to it. The Swiss chair hosted a private-sector lunch on the sidelines of the Summit and initiated an assessment of the GFMD to be conducted over the next two years.

The sixth GFMD (2012), chaired by Mauritius, was the first to be hosted by a national development agency rather than a foreign ministry, bringing the development aspects of the GFMD center stage. It was also the first GFMD to be held in Africa and drew near-universal participation from both African Union Member States and members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States.

Sweden assumed the chair of the seventh GFMD for an exceptional period of 18 months, from January 2013 to June 2014, to allow states to concentrate on the second UN High-Level-Dialogue on Migration and Development (HLD) in October 2013. The longer period in the chair allowed Sweden to collaborate with other states to consolidate the governance of the GFMD, creating new terms of reference for the Troika, the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum. The substantive agenda of the seventh GFMD focused, for the first time, across all the roundtables, on the role of migration in the 2030 Agenda. It both contributed to and consolidated the deliberations of the 2013 HLD. Another innovation that emerged from the GFMD in Stockholm was the launch of the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) initiative, a partnership between the Philippines and the United States. Notably the Swedish chairmanship was helmed not by the Foreign Ministry but by the Ministry of Justice, which has primary responsibility for migration policy.

Turkey’s chairmanship of the eighth GFMD (2015) occurred as migration-and-refugee crises were unfolding in the Mediterranean, the Bay of Bengal and the Red Sea. For the first time, and in the face of resistance from some participants, the GFMD addressed issues of forced migration, including through an ad hoc thematic meeting on “The Mediterranean Crisis in a Global Context.” The Turkish chair also advanced engagement with the private sector, working with Switzerland to organize a meeting with businesses in Istanbul to establish a mechanism for interaction with the GFMD – which was realized at the Istanbul Summit. One of key recommendations coming out of a Roundtable discussion was to “set up an ad hoc working group on Migration and the 2030 Agenda to reflect on how the GFMD could be fit for the purpose of establishing a comprehensive, inclusive and efficient system of follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda.”

*2016-2019:* *Promoting global governance of international migration and the links between migration and sustainable development*

The ninth GFMD (2016), chaired by Bangladesh, focused on governance of international migration, emphasizing the connectivity between migration and the 2030 Agenda. The Ad Hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development (which led the preparation of this report to the HLPF and previous ones in 2017, 2018 and 2019) was established. The Dhaka Summit took place shortly after states committed themselves, at the UNGA High Level Summit to Address Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, to negotiating the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). The outcome document of the High-Level Summit, known as the New York Declaration, invited the GFMD to contribute to the negotiation of the GCM. In response, the Bangladesh chair convened the first GFMD dialogue on the GCM at the UN in New York. The mandate of the GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda was expanded to cover the GCM process. In addition, the GFMD Business Mechanism was formally initiated in Dhaka.

Germany and Morocco innovated a two-year co-chair arrangement for the 2017 and 2018 GFMDs, linking a major country of destination and a country that is at once destination, transit and origin country. It also bridged the two regions on either side of the Mediterranean, Europe and North Africa. The arrangement permitted a sustained focus on the major issue in the migration policy sphere in this period, namely the GCM, which was adopted at an intergovernmental UN conference immediately following the 2018 GFMD. The co-chairmanship also modeled one of the most prominent themes of the GFMD: partnership. In addition, the Mayoral Forum, a gathering of local authorities that came together at the second HLD in 2013, was incorporated into the GFMD in 2018 as the Mayors’ Mechanism, bringing to three the major stakeholder groups that participate in the GFMD alongside states. A Youth Forum also convened on the sidelines of the GFMD in Marrakech. The German co-chair sponsored a “Migration Lab” as an experiment in bringing together a varied group of stakeholders for sustained interaction to devise solutions for migration dilemmas. Also in 2018, the GFMD initiated a 10-year review of the GFMD, to make sure that it was still serving the needs of participating states and other stakeholders.

As chair of the twelfth GFMD (2019), Ecuador experimented with a “World Café” format to increase the interactivity of the thematic discussions following the set roundtables. The roundtables introduced new, important and particularly timely topics to the GFMD: joint responses to mixed migration flows (which were being actively experienced by Ecuador and other countries in the region at the time of the 2019 GFMD summit as a result of the Venezuela crisis); migration narraitves and communication; and addressing human mobility as part of rural, as well as urban, development strategies. The Ecuadorian chair also developed a GFMD publication which provided a collection of experiences, insights, visions and recommendations on the history and the future of the GFMD. The Quito Summit also included an innovation from the Business Mechanism, in the form of a competition for young entrepreneurs who presented their ideas in a “Tech Garden.” Attention to the GCM continued in Quito but, recognizing that not all GFMD participating states have endorsed the Compact, Ecuador convened a voluntary dialogue on the GCM after the GFMD had formally closed.

*2020 onwards: A focus on partnership*

The thirteenth GFMD (2020) is being hosted by the United Arab Emirates. In addition to the established governing structures, the UAE has assembled an advisory group consisting of former GFMD chairs as well as representatives of the civil society, business and mayors’ mechanisms. An innovative preparatory process will elicit input from stakeholders through six planned regional consultations, co-chaired by the GFMD and selected Regional Consultative Processes. Each regional consultation will take up as many as three of the six themes selected by the chair for the 2020 GFMD. An expert resource person has been assigned for each theme, to assist in organizing the discussions at the regional meetings and capturing their observations. These observations will constitute a central part of the background material for the Summit in Dubai. Both the preparatory meetings and the Summit will be open to all stakeholders. The Common Space will be repurposed as “Open Space,” where all can interact for the purpose of pursuing partnerships. The Summit will include time for consultations within stakeholder groups as well as networking across groups. Another Migration Lab will be appended to the Friends of the Form meetings in the interest of fostering active partnerships among states, civil society, the private sector and local authorities.

# II. The GFMD and UN Development Goals

The GFMD has long connected to the UN development goals. It met for the first time while the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in effect from 2001-2015, were still guiding global development policy. At its third meeting, in 2009, the theme of one of the three GFMD roundtables was “the Migration-Development Nexus and the MDGs.” In the debates on the content of the post-2015 development goals, GFMD chairs and participants worked with the SRSG to advocate strongly for the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda. They were successful on several fronts. The Declaration of the 2030 Agenda stated, “We recognize the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development.”

*Migration in the SDGs*

Several of the 189 targets under the 17 SDGs reference migration or cross-border movements. In the major migration target (10.7) under SDG Goal 10 (Reducing inequality within and between countries), states committed themselves to “Facilitate safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.” A further commitment, in Target 10.c, is “By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent.” Migration is also mentioned in a few other targets, making it a cross-cutting issue in the 2030 Agenda. Target 8.8, for example, explicitly includes migrant workers, especially women migrants, in the pledge to “protect labor rights and promote safe and secure working environments or all workers.”

Other targets call for the collection of high-quality data disaggregated by migratory status among other criteria (17.18), greater global availability of scholarships to developing countries for study in other countries (4.b), and the elimination of trafficking in person (5.3, 8.7, 16.2), which often takes place across national borders. All of the above issues were discussed in the GFMD prior to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. The GFMD provided input reports to the HLPF in 2017, 2018 and 2019. These reports provide in-depth analysis of the relationship between migration and the specific SDGs that were the focus of the HLPF in each of those years. The confidence built up during GFMD discussions, that countries with contrasting views could engage constructively to seek solutions, paved the way for migration issues to be included in the SDGs.

*Leave no one–including migrants– behind*

The most important aspect of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs for migrants, as for others, was the pledge to “leave no one behind.” Migrants, especially those living in the shadows without legal status, are among the most likely to be left behind, so the repeated refrain in the SDGs that their protections and benefits apply “to all” is crucial.

The GFMD has provided a setting for states and other stakeholders to collaborate in ensuring that migrants are not left behind. The most notable outcome is perhaps the Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative (MICIC), led by the United States and the Philippines. MICIC developed a series of principles, guidelines and good practices to assist migrants when the countries in which they are staying experience natural disasters or armed conflict—situations like the Asian tsunami or the violent aftermath of the collapse of the Qadhafi regime in Libya. In such situations, the needs of migrants are often overlooked, leaving them unable to access emergency services or legal protection. Special efforts like those recommended by the MICIC initiative are needed to ensure that they are not left behind when a crisis unfolds.

*Accelerated action and transformative pathways: the theme of the HLPF 2020*

With only ten years remaining in the agreed timetable for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) has selected as its theme for 2020 “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.” It seeks to elicit from intergovernmental bodies ideas for policies and measures to speed up progress toward the SDGs in their areas of competence as well as the identification of gaps in implementation and ways to fill them.

The co-ordinator of the South African SDG Hub writes, “One way of making these stretched targets [the SDGs] more than mere wish lists is using the goals to set up more networks that share good practices. Due to the severe time constraint, the formal reporting process might not be the ideal vehicle for such networks.”[[1]](#footnote-1) The GFMD constitutes just such a multi-stakeholder network for the migration-related SDGs (although it was set up before the SDGs were established). It has demonstrated the power of exchange of ideas and experience to stimulate action—for example by presenting examples of skills partnerships that serve the labor needs of both migrant-origin and destination countries, a model which is being pursued by other stakeholders as a result of exposure at the GFMD.

# III. From the SDGs to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

States grew accustomed to talking to each other and to civil society actors about migration issues in the GFMD and grew comfortable enough in this setting to expand representation to the private sector and local authorities in discussions. Even where their views differed, participants in the Forum came to trust that their statements and questions would be treated with respect. The GFMD experience created confidence that a goal or target about migration could be achieved within the 2030 Agenda as GFMD chairs, participants and the SRSG lobbied successfully for inclusion.

Even as the 2030 Agenda was being adopted in 2015, the world was gripped with a sense of crisis surrounding large movements of refugees and migrants. At the resulting New York Summit in 2016 the GFMD participants (and especially the 2016 Chair-in-Office) refused to accept an outcome that included only a Global Compact on Refugees building on the existing refugee regime. The idea of a Global Compact for Migration was much more radical, since UN Member States had never before negotiated a comprehensive agreement on international migration. The commitment to negotiate what became the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) was facilitated by the precedent of SDG target 10.7; in negotiating the 2030 Agenda, states had previously agreed on the language of “safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.” The GCM was thus closely linked to the SDGs and the elaboration of what it meant to have well-managed migration policies, as well as the content of such polices. Some states credit the GFMD explicitly with helping them to implement the SDGs through their national migration policies, as in this example from Georgia:

*The work with and in the GFMD greatly influenced the elaboration of the national Migration Strategy for 2016-2020…. all eight goals of the strategy are covering practically all aspects of SDG 10.7. Thus, it would be fair enough to say that the GFMD does have a big share in the implementation of the national strategy and, through it, the relevant SDGs.*

Another example, from Canada, can be found in Box 1.

*The role of the GFMD in implementation and follow-up to the GCM.*

The GCM invites the GFMD to provide a platform “to exchange experiences on the implementation of the Global Compact, share good practices on policies and cooperation, promote innovative approaches, and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships around specific policy issues.” The last three of these are the GFMD’s core activities. The Compact also recognized GFMD’s Platform for Partnerships as a building block of the knowledge platform that is envisioned as part of the capacity-building mechanism associated with the GCM.

The GCM chapter on follow-up and review invites the GFMD to provide space for review of GCM implementation every year and report the “findings, best practices and innovative approaches to the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF). Since the IMRF will meet only once every four years, the GFMD will provide valuable continuity and momentum in tracking GCM implementation.

# IV. Policies and measures to ensure accelerated action and transformative pathways in the context of the GFMD

The substantive roundtables, side-events and—perhaps most importantly—the informal exchanges at the GFMD help countries grasp the possibilities for accelerated action to realize the migration-related SDGs. The issues it has succeeded in bringing to prominence, whose relevance will continue up to and beyond 2030, include among others the importance of policy and institutional coherence (reflected in both the whole-of-government approach and the whole-of-society approach), mainstreaming migration into development planning, global partnerships on labor and skills mobility, and attention to migration narratives. The most important measures taken in the GFMD to accelerate action are multi-year thematic discussions, the willingness to take on difficult issues, and the exchanging and cataloguing of practical experiences and the lessons to be learned from them.

*Thematic discussions*

Discussions in the GFMD, both structured through roundtables and unstructured through side events or bilateral exchanges, have helped to build consensus around certain concepts and approaches that are critical to constructive dialogue. In many cases, the GFMD has returned to the same theme over and over again. For example, the first four GFMD summits placed a major emphasis on policy coherence in the context of migration and development. Participating states (and the discussion was mostly among states in the early GFMDs) came into those discussions with different ideas of the meaning of policy coherence. A consensus emerged, however, that resulted in the now widely accepted idea that a whole-of-government framework is the most likely to succeed in achieving both migration and development objectives. Different departments of government can avoid working at cross purposes and instead reinforce each other’s efforts by, for example, implementing migration policies that support (or at least do not undermine) development fundamentals, or by pursuing trade agreements that also facilitate labor mobility.

In a similar manner, the integration of migration into development policy and planning has evolved from a case that had to be made into conventional wisdom, even if it is not always put into practice. At least five of the GFMD summits have included roundtables on integrating migration into development agendas.

Labor mobility was a roundtable topic in the very first GFMD and in at least seven of the subsequent twelve Forums. Some innovative approaches have gained traction, such as circular migration and the previously mentioned skills partnerships.

As the Ten-year Review of the GFMD observed, “By bringing together the perspectives of countries with different migration realities, it [the GFMD] has advanced mutual understanding and led to a convergence of views on emerging migration priorities and dilemmas.” This process has also resulted in the emergence of new issues on the GFMD agenda as participants from different regions and GFMD mechanisms made similar recommendations about topics that needed attention. For example, as anti-immigrant sentiments came to be used as political weapons in multiple settings, a strong appreciation of the importance of communication and narrative motivated the Chair-in-office to organize a roundtable on this topic in 2019. The Government of Canada co-chaired this roundtable (See Box 1). The 2020 GFMD will, for the first time, add the impact of technology on migrants’ empowerment to the agenda.

**Box 1: A Pathway toward SDG 16 through the GFMD**

The Government of Canada explains that, “By engaging in the GFMD, Canada has gained awareness of various best practices and policies from across the globe. For example, through activities under Ecuador’s chairmanship of the GFMD in 2019-2020, Canada acquired insights into approaches that can contribute to countering misinformation and balancing the public narrative on migration and migrants. These insights have proven useful in Canada’s ongoing efforts to support a balanced and evidence-based narrative on migration both in a domestic context and on an international scale, most recently through Canada’s involvement in creating a new GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on Public Narratives on Migration. The Working Group aims to share, explore and champion best practices in communication about migration. As public attitudes towards migrants can have a strong influence on social cohesion, inclusion and integration, this initiative reflects a core component of Canada’s work towards achieving SDG 16 to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for all.”

*Tackling difficult issues*

The GFMD was created outside of the UN system because so many migration issues were difficult to discuss in a formal setting where regional blocs may purchase internal coherence at the price of flexibility. The GFMD has proven to be a setting in which controversial issues can be discussed, overlapping priorities explored and trust built up over years of interaction. The Government of the UAE explained that “the informality of the forum enables conversations on issues that would otherwise be liable to polemic to be discussed productively, and mutual understanding to be developed.” The GFMD includes both critics and supporters of the GCM and remains open to all.

Some of the difficult or contentious issues that have been on the agenda of various GFMDs include the human rights of migrants, access to services for unauthorized migrants, forced migration, rescue at sea, irregular migration and compulsory returns of unauthorized migrants. The key to successful dialogue on these issues has been a presumption that there is some area of common interest among stakeholders even if they approach the topic from very different starting points.

The informality of the GFMD allows it to respond to emerging challenges without requiring that participating states take official positions, thereby enabling constructive dialogue before these positions harden. Its flexible format has created space for innovation, unconventional partnerships and the possibility to vet new policy solutions.

*Exchanging experiences*

The GFMD exposes participants to a vast array of experiences and outcomes which are not only shared at meetings but catalogued through several tools. The primary tool is the Platform for Partnerships, which is now the richest existing repository of migration and development practices and allows users to filter content in accordance with the SDG targets. Platform for Partnership sessions at the GFMD summits feature selected state-of-the-art policies and practices drawn from the platform. The UAE says that it, “regularly makes use of the GFMD’s Platform for partnerships when evaluating migration policies and their coherence with the SDGs,” citing the Canadian Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program, the South Korean and Philippines Domestic Worker Recruitment Agreement, the Philippines’ Pre-Departure Orientation Seminars and various national remittance plans as potential models it has examined.

A second tool is the 2007-2017 “Thematic recollection” which reviews the topics taken up in the first ten GFMDs. This document was presented to the facilitators of the GCM process as an input to the zero draft of the Compact, in advance of the stock-taking meeting in Puerto Vallarta at the mid-point of the process. According to the Ten-year Review of the GFMD, the final version of the GCM included more than 70 policy and action options that were compiled in the thematic recollection.

The GFMD “Marketplace” gives participants a space to display the products—maps, publications, networks, etc.-- of projects and discuss them. The Marketplace was introduced at the first GFMD and revived at the 2019 Summit in Ecuador.

The experience of the GFMD itself through its first twelve years (2007-2019) is captured in the publication “Engine. Exchange and Action: the GFMD and the 2019 Pivot to Practice,” commissioned by the Ecuadorian chair and launched at the 2019 Summit in Quito. The volume compiles the reflections of all past GFMD chairs as well as the leadership of the Civil Society forum, Business Mechanism and Mayors’ Mechanism. The evolution of the GFMD, as shown in this publication, has both mirrored and influenced the transformation of the global governance of migration.

The most consequential sharing of experiences at the GFMD, however, are peer-to-peer exchanges. A UK government official identified one of the major sources of value of the GFMD for his government as “the opportunity to hear and share concrete examples of how states have handled different challenges and opportunities related to migration…” These exchanges, whether within or across stakeholder groups, sometimes become the basis for active partnerships. The head of the Spanish delegation in Quito delegation said that

*“GFMD events and especially summits are extraordinary opportunities for us…to meet new partners beyond the traditional ones with whom we work, new partners and above all new approaches to future projects. As an example, in the last, Quito summit we made contacts in the sector of young start-ups who participated in the Tech Garden.”*

In both structured and informal exchanges at the GFMD, participants have the opportunity to hear about the steps other stakeholders have taken to solve migration problems or promote migration benefits, and to share their own experiences. Many of these projects or policy initiatives initiatives are then added to the Platform for partnerships. Several of the newest additions to the Platform are described in the **Annex** to this report.

**Box 2: Partnership in Action: Germany’s Skilled Labor Migration Law**

One policy initiative, now shared on the GFMD Platform for Partnerships, is Germany’s innovative new (March 2020) “Skilled Labor Immigration Law,” which aims to facilitate needs-driven immigration of skilled workers from non-EU states to Germany. One concrete initiative how the German Federal Ministry of International Cooperation and Development contributes to the implementation of the law in a development-oriented manner is the regional programme "Towards a Holistic Approach to Labour Migration Governance and Labour Mobility in North Africa" (THAMM). The programme supports the development of migration governance in the region and pilots labor mobility schemes.

# V. Contributions of the GFMD to accelerated action and transformative pathways toward the SDGs

The GFMD has helped to advance progress toward achieving the SDGs in part by linking all of the SDG goals unambiguously to migration, not only the SDGs in which migrants or migration processes are explicitly mentioned. As previous reporting of this Working Group has pointed out, some of the SDG targets are explicitly related to migration. Others are relevant to the specific vulnerabilities and protection gaps that are specific to migrants. Most of the targets could be moved closer to realization by tapping into the development potential of migrants and migration. Nearly all targets address sources of migration pressures, including but not limited to poverty. The SDG goals cannot be achieved without including migrants as beneficiaries of the transformations that SDG fulfillment will bring about and including them as agents of development whose efforts can make important contributions to those transformations. If migrants are left behind, the 2030 Agenda cannot succeed in its ultimate ambition.

The overarching theme of the 2020 GFMD is “The future of human mobility: innovative partnerships for sustainable development.” It addresses two emerging issues that are certain to affect the implementation of the 2030 Agenda—human mobility and new kinds of partnerships that will have to underpin the drive for accelerated motion toward the achievement of the SDGs. Within this broad theme, the 2020 GFMD focuses on advancing human well-being and building human capacity, through six sub-themes chosen for the year-long GFMD process. Three of the sub-themes center on building the capacities of migrants by a) leveraging new technologies to empower migrants, b) enhancing their skills to facilitate employment and c) exploring the ways in which governance of labor migration will need to change as the nature of employment is transformed in the future. The well-being of migrants is the focus of one sub-theme on addressing gaps in the protection of migrants, and another that explores different approaches to addressing irregular migration. The sixth sub-theme is concerned with fostering partnerships to realize the migration-related objectives in the 2030 Agenda, since no state or sector can expect to accomplish them in isolation.

Reaching the SDG’s targets requires building strong and broad coalitions. The informal nature of the GFMD allows potential partners to explore their common interests without prior commitment and allows potential champions of a particular issue to test the appetite for partnerships in a low-risk environment. The GFMD’s role in coalition building is one way it contributes to accelerated action for the achievement of the SDGs.

The evolution of the GFMD’s way of working illustrates a transformative pathway by drawing not only on the insights and experiences of states but also on those of civil society, the private sector and local authorities. It also engages other critical stakeholders such as youth, the academic community, trade unions, faith communities and the media. The opportunity to engage with these critically important actors allows states to get closer to their constituents for dialogue, to listen and to explain their actions. The 2020 GFMD as a whole will be open to stakeholders of all three established mechanisms. In this way, the GFMD more nearly mirrors the real-world dynamics of migration, in which states are far from being the only actors. The 2020 Chair-in-office will also bring in regional perspectives in a more systematic way by holding preparatory meeting in association with RCPs.

# VI. Recommendations from the GFMD for possible use in the HLPF Declaration

*Pursue a whole-of -society approach*

A central lesson from 14 years of the GFMD is that realization of the migration-related targets in the 2030 Agenda requires a whole-of-society approach to achieving safe, orderly and regular migration. National governments make the laws and regulations that govern migration, but they do not control the positive and negative driving forces behind migration–such as demographic trends, the impacts of climate change, the powerful drive of families to reunify. Effective policies and programs are much more likely to emerge from processes that involve other elements of society not only in consultations but in active partnership. The civil society, private sector and local authority mechanisms that are part of the GFMD are not the only possible partners—faith-based organizations, youth organizations, parliamentarians, the media (both traditional and newer, social media), among others, are potential partners in action. For migration-related SDGs, coalitions must involve migrants themselves or risk being unresponsive to their actual needs and motivations. In a UN process it is natural and appropriate that states are in the lead, but the continually evolving GFMD practice of “state-led but not state-only” has proven to be productive.

*Emphasize the links between migration and development*

The GFMD began as the Global Forum on Migration *and Development* in part because a less controversial topic was needed to buffer the anxiety around multilateral discussion of migration. Some GFMD participants feel nonetheless that the migration-and-development connection is a major strength for the GFMD. A Portuguese official wrote, for example, *“its comparative advantage is undoubtedly the strong conviction of the importance of balancing and reconciling the two thematic areas of the Forum – migration and development.”* In recent years, however, development has taken second – or third or fourth – place at the GFMD in favor of migration management, governance and protection topics. All are important aspects of migration and are closely related to development, but some of the constituents find that the pendulum has swung too far away from development. Particularly in the context of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, the relationship between migration and development—and how to make it more beneficial to countries of origin, transit and destination—should perhaps claim a more central role. At a time when migrants are expected to solve development problems (through their remittances and other contributions to their homelands) and development agencies are expected to solve migration problems by addressing the sources of migration pressures, greater clarity about this relationship is important.

It is especially important to engage migrant and diaspora communities in the planning of policies and programs that link migration and development. They are likely to have a good understanding of the prospects for development in their countries of origin, as well as the obstacles. Recently, greater understanding is beginning to develop about the importance of working with the host communities, who have high stakes in the ways that their communities are changed by immigration. Their attitudes may become assets or roadblocks to development.

*Foster partnerships to make more rapid progress toward the SDGs*

The GFMD has proven its value as an incubator for partnerships. The Abu Dhabi Dialogue (ADD) was forged from the positive experience of the UAE in its interaction with other the participating states at the GFMD. The ADD fosters partnerships between the source and destination countries along the labor migration corridors connecting the Gulf Cooperation Council members with Asia. Several specific multi-country collaborations have come out of the ADD, on fair recruitment; better information provision to migrants before, during and after migrating; and measurement of the gains from skills recognition and harmonization. Some of these have been made available for replication to other countries through the GFMD Platform for Partnerships, so they are both output and input to the GFMD.

Partnerships seeded at the GFMD are not just between states, but also between states and businesses, and between states and representatives of local authorities. Specific collaborations have developed both within stakeholder groups as well as across them. For example, the Mayoral Forum, now part of the GFMD, has provided a space in which local authorities who have not interacted before can learn from each other’s successful practices.

*Promote a balanced, fact-based narrative about migrants and migration*

Countering harmful and inaccurate portrayals of how migrants and migration affect host and home communities requires a sustained effort from governments at all levels, in partnership with other key actors including the private sector, migrant organizations and civil society institutions. Understanding what drives positive and negative reactions to migration and what messages (and messengers) are credible to different audiences, is an undertaking that must use the full range of information technologies, traditional and new social media, marketing techniques and insights from social psychology. Effective communication can foster integration, leading to more productive outcomes for migrants and members of host communities. The GFMD’s Ad Hoc Working Group on Public Narratives on Migration will explore opportunities for the whole range of GFMD stakeholders to collaborate on projects to foster a more balanced narrative on migration.

*Empower migrants to make their full contribution to development.*

The 2030 Agenda recognizes migrants as productive agents of development. Further action is needed to allow them to realize their potential in this role. One key element is guaranteeing access to public services, in particular education and health services in order to preserve and augment migrants’ human capital. Mainstreaming migration into policy planning should be a cross-sectoral effort, involving health, education, employment, justice, urban planning and national security as well as development planning as such. Remittances may be the most visible contribution migrants make to their countries of origin–and it is vital to reduce the stubbornly high costs of remittances– but their non-monetary contributions may be equally, or more, important in opening transformative pathways to development.

*Recognize the opportunities that migration creates for rural development*

Migration creates opportunities as well as challenges for rural areas. Strengthening coherence between migration and sectoral policies related to agriculture and rural development can help to address the adverse drivers of migration from rural areas while promoting decent work in the rural economy. Other necessary ingredients of rural transformation include promoting a rights-based approach to temporary and seasonal migration and enhancing the resilience to climate variability and environmental degradation in rural communities. Migrants and members of the diaspora can contribute directly to rural development by deploying their human and financial resources to this end.

*Take into account South-South and regional mobility.*

Most migration is intra-regional, and regional mobility is a growing phenomenon with great potential to boost growth by balancing differential demand for labor and skills within a region. Stronger cooperation among regional governments, and the strengthening of regional institutions, can help to realize this potential.

*Prioritize the collection and analysis of high-quality migration data*

Without good data, policymakers are blindfolded. Efforts to expand capabilities in national-level data collection can and should be complemented by working with municipal authorities to make feasible changes to local-level data collection, including disaggregation by migratory status.

*Strengthen the governance of international migration*

The governance of international migration has not yet received adequate attention at the global level. The Sutherland Report and the GCM have put down guidelines for a mechanism for governance of safe, orderly and regular migration. It is time for states to activate this framework, working together within and across governments and other stakeholders within societies.

------------------------

At a time when migration has gone from being a policy niche to a top priority, the migration policy space is getting more crowded. Almost all international organizations that deal with social issues now feel called upon to address migration. There are new structures within the UN system, including the International Migration Review Forum, the regional migration reviews and the capacity-building mechanism associated with the GCM. The Secretary-General’s UN reforms include the creation in 2019 of the UN Migration Network to coordinate and stimulate the migration work of the various UN agencies, offices and programs. Most regional organizations have their own structures for migration work.

There is some risk of confusion and duplication of effort (a problem the UN Migration Network is meant to forestall for those structures within the UN system). A proliferation of meetings and conferences taxes the human resources of state and non-state actors alike. The heightened attention to a previously under-regarded topic is welcome, but it would be useful for the HLPF to help clarify and differentiate the roles of the UN entities and forums that deal with migration in the context of the SDGs and to promote their synergies with non-UN organizations and processes.

A major constraint on progress toward the achievement of the migration-related SDGs is the perennial problem that the resources allocated by national governments to intergovernmental organizations that work on migration, including the GFMD, is not adequate to the tasks they are being asked to do.

The GFMD paved the way for much of the progress we are seeing in tackling migration as a global issue requiring global cooperation. There is ample reason to expect that it will continue to do so throughout the period of the SDGs and even into the time of the next set of migration and development goals.

# Annex to the GFMD’s Focused Input to the 2020 HLPF

This Annex compiles relevant projects, programmes and activities selected from:

* Submissions sent by Member States and GFMD Observers following the GFMD 2020 Chair’s call for contributions to the GFMD’s Focused input to the 2020 High Level Political Forum; and
* Relevant policies and practices from the GFMD 2019 Roundtable Discussions, available on the [Platform for Partnerships](https://www.gfmd.org/pfp) (PfP) database

| SDG | Name and Link | Project Date | Country/Region/City | Aim | Key Partners |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Submissions to Chair’s call for inputs |
| 10.7, 8.8 | Skilled Workers Immigration [Law](https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/business/the-skilled-labour-immigration-act-working-in-germany)  | Current | Germany | The Skilled Immigration Act, is a new law which expands the possibilities for qualified professionals to come to work in Germany. Now, it is easier for skilled workers with vocational, non-academic training from non-EU countries to migrate to Germany in order to work. The current conditions for qualified professionals with university degrees will remain in place, with some relaxations of the rules. |  |
| 8.8  | Towards a Holistic Approach to Labour Migration Governance and Labour Mobility in North Africa [(THAMM)](https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/region/north-africa/regional/towards-holistic-approach-labour-migration-governance-and-labour_en) | 2018 - 2021 | Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt | Designed as a regional programme, THAMM supports national institutions to draft and implement policies and mechanisms for safe, orderly and regular migration, as well as fostering cooperation and regional exchange between relevant stakeholders. It will also develop and pilot mobility schemes, in particular for young women and men in Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt, who are interested in a dual vocational education training in Germany.  | Co-Financed by German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF). Jointly implemented by the implemented by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and GIZ |
| 10.7 | Migration Policy [Advice](https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/58037.html) | 2017 – 2020 | Niger | The programme in Niger offers advice to the government and other partners with the objective to reach a coordinated and holistic migration policy, well-networked actors and political entities working together in coordination to contribute towards addressing the effects of migration. | Commissioned by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)GIZ |
| 1.5, 10.7, 11.5, 13.1, 13.3 | [Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change](https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/67177.html) (Migration, Displacement and Planned Relocation in the Eastern Caribbean, the Pacific and the Philippines) | 2017 - 2020 | Eastern Caribbean, Pacific and Philippines | The programme on Sustainable Management of Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change (GP HMCCC) is working to support its partners in addressing and better understanding the complex, multi-causal interrelations between different forms of human mobility and climate change and their reciprocal effects, especially in small atoll and island states in the Pacific and Caribbean regions and in the Philippines. In collaboration with national and regional partners, non-governmental organizations and universities, GP HMCCC promotes exchange between all the actors involved. It aims at improving applied knowledge relating to the sustainable management of human mobility in the context of climate change in its partner regions. | Commissioned by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)GIZ |
| 10.7 | [Supporting host communities](https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/77030.html) for refugees and migrants from Venezuela in the border regions of Colombia and Ecuador | 2018 - 2021 | Colombia, Ecuador | This special initiative supports governmental and civil society stakeholders in the border regions of Colombia and Ecuador to better respond to the incoming flow of refugees and migrants from Venezuela and Colombia. In Colombia, the project supports the Colombian host communities with the integration of displaced persons from Venezuela, whereby no distinction is made about whether the supported persons are displaced Venezuelans, Colombians returning from Venezuela or people from the host communities in need of protection. In Ecuador, the project supports selected communities on the northern border at the local level. It aids the implementation of their legal mandate to protect the rights of displaced persons and other disadvantaged groups, on integration and on promotion of peaceful cohabitation in the host communities | Commissioned by: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) |
| 8.8 | Programme Migration & Diaspora | 2019 - 2022 | Global programme, currently operating in 22 partner countries: Albania, Cameroon, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kosovo, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Palestinian territories, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Tunisia, Ukraine, Viet Nam. | The global program supports key actors in up to 25 partner countries in making more effective use of regular migration and diaspora engagement to achieve their development goals. Guided by the Global Compact for Migration (GCM), the program implements its activities in the following three components:1. Regular labor migration and mobility (e.g. know-how transfer);
2. Diaspora cooperation (e.g. support migrants in starting a business in country of origin);
3. Migration governance (policy advice to design and implement development-oriented migration policies).
 | Commissioned by: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)International Placement Services (ZAV) of the German Federal Employment Agency, which works with GIZ under the umbrella of the Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM) |
| 10, 16 | GFMD [Ad Hoc Working Group](https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11966) on Public Narratives on Migration | Current | Global | At the beginning of 2020, at the proposal of Canada, the GFMD Steering Group endorsed the creation of a Hoc working Group on Public Narratives on Migration. Following increasing interest in this thematic area in 2019 - including the GFMD Thematic Workshop ‘Narratives on Migration: Toward an evidence-based communication’ held in Skhirat, Morocco, and the creation of a Guide to Promoting a Balanced Narrative on Migration in 2019 Roundtable 2.1 – it was felt that there should be a mechanism for interested parties in the GFMD to continue to engage with and follow up on this important topic.The a new GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on Public Narratives on Migration aims to share, explore and champion best practices in communication about migration. As public attitudes towards migrants can have a strong influence on social cohesion, inclusion and integration, this initiative reflects a core component of Canada’s work towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for all.Looking ahead, the Working Group will contribute to further partnership-building by exploring concrete opportunities for diverse stakeholders to pursue joint initiatives and collaborate on projects that contribute to balancing the narrative on migration. | Canada, Mayors Mechanism, representation from states, local authorities, businesses and civil society. |
| 10.7 | National [Migration Strategy](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11971) 2016-2020 | 2016 - 2020 | Georgia | The Migration Strategy 2016-2020 is the third strategic document for Georgia defining migration policyThe work with/in GFMD (during 2012-2015) had inter-alia greatly influenced on the elaboration of the national Migration Strategy for 2016-2020, which is based on the principle of Migration and Development. On the other hand the all 8 Goals of the Strategy are covering practically all aspects of SDG 10.7. Thus it would be fair enough to say that the GFMD does have a big share in the successful implementation of the national strategy and through its relevant SDGs. |  |
| 10, 11, 16 and 17 | [Municipal Council of Immigrants](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11556) | Current | City of Sao Paolo, Brazil | The City of Sao Paolo, Brazil has recently pledged to set up a municipal council of immigrants, which will act as an advisory body to the city government aimed at supporting policy development in migration. This council will develop a first municipal plan for migrant integration and will allocate funding for specific projects in this regard. |  |
| 4. 8, 10, 11, 16 and 17 | [Mannheim 2030](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11972) | Current | Mannheim, Germany | The City of Mannheim has developed the “Mannheim 2030” Mission Statement from the 17 UN sustainability goals through a large-scale public participation process. The Migration Advisory Board was part of this participatory process. The plan includes migrant specific indicators within multiple strategic goals that look at e.g. education, integration and employment. |  |
| 8 and 11 | [Migra Empresas](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11973) |  | La Pintana, Chile | The Municipality of La Pintana, Chile has kick-started a project working with local businesses called ‘Migra Empresas’, which seeks to bring job offers to migrants and where the city administration provides legal and technical assistance to companies. This has been implemented a few months ago, and the idea is to export this practice to other municipalities. |  |
| 10.7 | [Call to Local Action](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11974) |  | Global | Formally launched in the Word Urban Forum in 2019, the GFMD provided the opportunity to further discuss and follow-up on the Call to Local Action to implement the GCM and GCR. Following the Marrakesh Mayors Declaration, which was signed by over 60 LRAs in December 2018. The Call to Local Action, calls on LRAs to pledge specific actions that contribute to the implementation of the Migration and Refugee Compacts. It hereby looks to collect and showcase city agency, and will contribute to the follow-up and review process of Agenda 2030 (10.7), the GCM and the GCR. | Mayors Mechanism |
| 10.7 | [Humanitarian Service Points for vulnerable migrants](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11933) |  | Global | Red Cross and Red Crescent Humanitarian Service Points (HSPs) save lives and reduce suffering along migratory routes by helping ensure that all vulnerable migrants, irrespective of legal status, can access critical humanitarian assistance. Through coordination and cooperation – based on a mutual understanding of the auxiliary role of National Societies – HSPs support States in meeting their obligations under international law, and ultimately save lives and ensure dignity. The partnerships aims at brining HSPs to scale by combining the Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Foundation Center for Resilience’s technical and policy expertise with IFRC’s field experience working with migrants.The GFMD Platform for Partnerships at the Quito Summit offered an excellent opportunity to introduce a wider audience to a partnership between IFRC and the Adrienne-Arsht Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Centre on the RCRC initiative of Humanitarian Service Points for vulnerable migrants. | International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Foundation Center for Resilience |
| 17.18 | One International [Migration Data](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11975) | Current | Indonesia | On the importance of data provision - Following the enaction of Presidential Regulation No. 39 of 2019 on One Data Indonesia, the Indonesian Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) has initiated the One International Migration Data which data will be collected during the population census in 2020. In addition, BPS will also conduct a survey on Indonesian Migrant Workers´ cost structure/placement cost during the population census. |  |
| 8.7 & 8.8 | [Bilateral Cooperation](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11976) with Bahrain and the Philippines | Current | Indonesia | On the possibility of exploring bilateral cooperation on migrant workers with countries that have reformed their regulation on migrant workers so as to provide more protection for them, Indonesia launched cooperation between Bahrain and the Philippines. |  |
| 10.7 | [Productive Migrant Villages](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5874) | Current | Indonesia | On the importance of ensuring that migration is an option and not a necessity - Productive migrant villages have also been established across Indonesia (the target being 400 villages), which do not only provide information and documents for people who do intend to migrate, but also empower the migrants´ families, create a cooperative for migrants´ families and help migrants re-integrate into the society. |  |
| 8.7 & 8.8 | [Insurance/social safety net scheme](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11056) | Current | Indonesia | On the importance of migration policies to be coherent with policies of other sectors, especially those that relate to development such as education and health. Only then we can fully realize policy coherence to support development. Indonesia currently has an affordable insurance/social safety net scheme for Indonesian migrant workers. |  |
| 8.7 & 8.8, 10.7 | [GCM National Implementation Plan](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11977) | Current | Portugal | Portugal was (one of) the first countries in the world to approve its National Plan to implement the Global Compact on Migration. The National Implementation Plan is structured around the following 5 fundamental axes: * Promotion of safe, orderly and regular migrations;
* Improvement of migration flow organization and integrated border management processes;
* Promotion and qualification of immigrant reception and integration mechanisms;
* Supporting the connection of migrants to their country of origin and their return projects;
* Increasing development partnerships with countries of origin and transit, addressing the root causes of irregular migration

With 23 common objectives to cover all the relevant dimensions of migratory phenomena, the Pact defines the set of measures appropriate to the Portuguese national reality, seeking to improve flow management and reception and integration processes. This Plan was conceived as an operational document, thus assuming 97 measures that seek to address the adverse causes of migration and to enhance its benefits for demographic sustainability and the labor market. It was approved by Council of Ministers Resolution 141/2019 of 20 AugustThe implementation of the national plan is seen by the Portuguese Government as ‘a unique opportunity’ to systematize the country’s migration policy. |  |
| 8.7  | [Comprehensive Information and Orientation Programme](https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11968) (CIOP) | Current | United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Philippines, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka | Improving the cross-border coordination of pre-departure, post-arrival and post-return information provision to migrants: the Comprehensive Information and Orientation Programme (CIOP). Five countries (the UAE, KSA, Philippines, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka) are directly participating in this programme. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation’s involvement in the programme is a direct result of inter-governmental engagement through the GFMD. |  |
| 8.8 | [Using technology](https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11969) to improve recruitment practices |  | United Arab Emirates, India | This programme between the governments of India and the United Arab Emirates links the electronic emigration and immigration systems of the two respective governments, with the objective of reducing contract substitution and improving government oversight over recruitment practices. The process for implementation has been made available to other ADD Member States for replication, as well as to the wider GFMD community through the Platform for Partnerships. |  |
| 8.8 | [Measuring the gains](https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11970) from skills recognition and harmonisation |  | United Arab Emirates | This programme aims to understand the impact of enhanced skills recognition on migrant productivity, wage gains, and job satisfaction, with a view to eventually introducing a harmonised skills ecosystem in the GCC – Asia labour migration corridors. |  |
| Outcomes of GFMD 2019 Roundtables |
| 10.7 | [A Guide to Promoting a Balanced Dialogue](https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_communications_guide_on_shaping_public_narratives_on_migration_2020.pdf) |  |  | This Guide, which was developed throughout 2019 by the Global Forum on Migration and Development in close collaboration with state partners and international experts, was presented at a roundtable of the 12th Global Forum on Migration and Development Summit in Quito, Ecuador, in January 2020. It is intended to:• Equip governments and other stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, with a resource that can support the development of balanced, informative and effective communications initiatives relating to migration and migrants.• Promote collaboration between governments and key partners when communicating about migration and migrants.• Assist governments and key partners in reaching intended audiences with messaging that supports a balanced narrative about migration and migrants.• Create a compilation of existing initiatives that turn theory into practice to balance the narrative on migration. |  |
| 16 | [Norway Integration Strategy](http://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11719) | Current | Norway | The goal is to increase labour market participation by investing in formal education, skills and qualifications, and to foster participation in society in general. Formal skills and qualifications are key to acquiring and keeping a job.At the core of Norway’s Integration Policy are two programmes regulated by the Introduction Act: the Introduction Programme for Newly Arrived Refugees and the Norwegian Language Training and Social Studies Programme |  |
| 10.7, 8 | The 2030 National Development Strategy | 2010 - 2030 | Dominican Republic | The 2030 National Development Strategy of Dominican Republic, recognizes that migration, both in terms of migration flows and immigration flows, has important implications for the country. Although the national strategy paper recognizes the positive contribution that migration can make to development, it focuses primarily on the challenges posed by migration and especially immigration, such as the lack of education of Dominican migrants and unskilled labor. |  |
| 10.7, 11  | [Supporting Arrival Cities](http://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11558) – the case of Uruguay | Current | Uruguay | The Government of Uruguay has set up a multi-stakeholder and consultative approach to State migration policy, institutional responses and coordination in the care and protection of the rights of migrants arriving in cities. The National Migration Board, as an advisory and migration policy coordinating body chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, intensified dialogue and the definition of lines of action with departmental and municipal government authorities, as well as with local actors including representatives of civil society, academia, the business sector and authorities of national public bodies. The topics covered were the national and local migration context and dynamics, the main challenges and opportunities for the country and the departments, the Uruguayan State’s migration policy, and institutional responses and coordination in the care and protection of the rights of migrants arriving in cities |  |
| 11 | [Migrant Reception and Orientation Offices](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11543) | Current | Morocco | In Morocco, various municipalities in the region of Souss-Massa have established Migration Reception and Orientation Offices for returning Moroccans in order to support them with the administrative procedures related to their social rights acquired during their stays abroad, for example to gain access to their pensions.Established in 11 municipalities, BAOMs are a municipal service responsible for supporting Moroccans who have returned to their home territories, with the aim of informing and supporting them through administrative procedures related to their social rights acquired during their stays abroad, which are often complex and difficult to access. They also aim to support and direct the possible investments of returnees towards productive sectors, in order to enhance territorial development. |  |
| 8.7, 8.8, 10.7 | [Papyrus Project](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11539) | 2017 - current | Switzerland | The project aims to initiate a process of regularisation of undocumented migrants in Geneva and to address the economic sectors affected by undeclared work and unfair remuneration. Operation Papyrus was developed and implemented with the active participation of Geneva associations and trade unions, which advised and supported migrants in the preparation of their regularization file. The operation was guided by the public interest, which is reflected in its three components: 1. a process to regularise the residence conditions of well-integrated undocumented migrants,
2. a monitoring system (compliance with working conditions, compliance with wage obligations, payment of social security) and a system to address economic sectors particularly affected by undeclared work and unfair remuneration (in particular the domestic economy sector)
3. an integration system (domestic economy job exchange, information campaign for employers)
 | Canton of Geneva, Swiss Confederation |
| 10.7 | [Law on Refugees, Complementary Protection and Political Asylum](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11537) | 2011 – current | Mexico | The Law on Refugees, Complementary Protection and Political Asylum incorporates the figure of “complementary protection”. A person who does not comply with the criteria defined by such law to be recognized as a refugee, can be granted complementary protection to prevent their return to a country where their life could be in danger. Beneficiaries of complementary protection have a documented stay in the country, freedom of movement, access to gainful employment, as well as basic social rights.The visitor status under humanitarian grounds can also be granted to foreigners who do not meet the above criteria, when there is a humanitarian or public interest that requires their entry or regularization in Mexico. This status entails access to gainful employment. |  |
| 11 & 17.18 | [Collecting Data at the Local Level to Enhance Migration Management for Development](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11526) |  |  | In the region of Calabarzon, the regional government established a mixed-model approach to collecting migration data from across various sources and developed a guide to support local government units in applying the same |  |
| 11 & 17.18  | [Territorial Migration Data Profile](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11524) |  | Region of Sedhiou, Senegal | In the region of Sedhiou in Senegal, a method to develop territorial migration data profiles was established and carried out in order to enhance six municipalities’ understanding of the migratory dynamics in their territories and respond accordingly.The methodology used made it possible to involve and attract the interest of local actors, to initiate discussions on the migration-related challenges and opportunities in their municipalities and to start the implementation of local strategies that take migration into account. | UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI) |
| 17.18 | [ENIGMMA project](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11512) | 2017 – 2021 | Georgia | The overall objective of the ENIGMMA 2 project is to contribute to the sustainable enhancement of mobility and people-to-people contacts between the EU and Georgia. The proposed action will seek to achieve the overall objective by addressing identified and potential migration-related risks of visa liberalisation in Georgia and the EU MS, as well as maximising the visa liberalisation benefits in areas covered by the project. The project will continue providing support to the Government of Georgia in implementation as well as monitoring and evaluation of the impact of Migration Strategy. | International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) |
| 11 | [My Coop](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11476) |  | Jordan | My.Coop – Building capacity of cooperatives towards involving Syrian refugees and Jordanian farmers in agricultural value chains. The project promotes integration and participation of Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians in agricultural livelihood opportunities through enhancing capacities of eight ILO-network cooperatives in the governorates of Irbid and Mafraq in the northern Jordan. | Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Trade Center (ITC) |
| 10.c | [Scaling up remittances and financial inclusion in rural areas through post offices](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11475) | 2017 - 2020 | Uganda | PostBank Uganda, in partnership with Posta Uganda, is finalizing its remittances business plan and expanding financial inclusion through remittances in rural areas of Uganda, leveraging Posta Uganda’s broad network of rural post offices to expand access to financial services for the rural population. The post offices are being equipped with modern digital and mobile technologies for remittance delivery and financial service transactions, and postal staff is receive specialized training. By 2020, PostBank Uganda aims to serve 50,000 new remittance recipients, provide remittance delivery services to 20,000 refugees, and provide training in financial literacy to both. | International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Postbank of Uganda (PBU) and Posta Uganda |
| 10.c | [Remit Hydro](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11472) |  | Nepal | Remit Hydro, a subsidiary of the Hydro Electricity Investment and Development Company Limited (HIDCL) aims to promote collective remittances for development and encourage the productive use of remittance. Recently, Remit Hydro has been issued survey licenses for two run-off-the-river mid-sized hydro-power projects in Taplejung, in Eastern Nepal, at 19 Arab Rupees. It is expected that 24 per cent of this would be set aside for migrant workers. |  |
| 4 & 8 | [National Integration Plan](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11466) | 2018 – 2022 | Costa Rica | Costa Rica has designed a comprehensive National Integration Plan (2018–22) in 2017 that promotes equal opportunities and respect for human rights to improve inclusive social, economic and cultural spaces.It includes six strategic axes: 1) reinforcement of organisations, 2) recognition of diversity, 3) vulnerable communities, 4) migration and health, 5) migration and employment, and 6) migration and education. It was developed based on an analysis of migration, a documentary consultation as well as participatory work involving civil society, and non-governmental and international organisations. |  |
| 10.7 | [Immigration Matters Campaign](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11305) | 2018 – current | Canada | In 2018, the Canadian Federal Government lauched the 'Immigration Matters' initative to dispel common myths about immigrants and refugees, and promote positive engagement between Canadians and new migrants.The campaign uses both personal storytelling and facts to build a balanced view of immigrants in Canada and the benefits they bring to the country. It encourages other organizations and the public to use the #ImmigrationMatters hashtag on social media channels to share positive stories of migrant integration in their communities. The initiative is targeted to Canadians who are neither strongly in favour nor strongly against immigration - about 60% of the population. |  |
| 10.7, 5.2, 8.7 and 16.2 | [Migrants as Messengers](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11304) | 2017 - current | Global | Migrants as Messengers is a peer-to-peer messaging campaign by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) where returning migrants share with their communities and families the dangers, trauma, and abuse that many experienced while attempting irregular migration. From smartphones to social media platforms and social networks, returning migrants from Senegal, Guinea, and Nigeria share their stories to generate awareness and provide advice and information on misconceptions about living abroad. | International Organization for Migration (IOM) |
| 10.7 | [Migration Media Award](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11299) | 2017 – current | Global | The Migration Media Award (MMA) recognizes and rewards the journalistic excellence, relevance and newsworthiness of press pieces dealing with migration in the Euro-Mediterranean region in all its aspects. | International Center for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) |
| 8, 10.c | [Programme for Attracting Remittances into the Economy](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11290) |  | Republic of Moldova | The Programme for Attracting Remittances into the Economy offers funding to complement migrants’ financial resources and provides entrepreneurial training to migrants and their relatives for business development. The Programme also provides beneficiaries with information on the existing business opportunities and for this purpose, Diaspora networks act as important information dissemination channels thus raising awareness on available investment opportunities in Moldova. |  |
| 8 | [Jamaica Diaspora Agriculture Taskforce (JDAT) Investor Circle](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11288) |  | Jamaica | Jamaica Diaspora Agriculture Taskforce (JDAT) Investor Circle provides microfinance funding for local farmers. The Circle provides an opportunity for persons and organizations within diaspora and Jamaica, to pool their resources in an effort to assist the country’s agricultural sector. The JDAT has been engaging Jamaican farmers in a number of initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable organic farming. |  |
| 10.7 | [Seasonal agricultural workers scheme pilot](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11282) | 2018 - 2020 | Canada | The Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) allows for the orderly entry of agricultural workers from the Caribbean and Mexico to meet the temporary/seasonal needs for labour in the agriculture sector when Canadian workers are not available. |  |
| 8 | [Alternatives to migration through decent rural employment](https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/11273) | 2016 - 2017 | Uganda, Senegal, Guatemala | FAO efforts are aimed at providing rural youth with alternatives to migration through decent rural employment in agricultural value chains; and by fostering diaspora engagement in agri-business. | Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) |

1. Willem Fourie, “Sustainable Development Goals need a final push with just 10 years to go,” The Conversation, March 8, 2020, <https://theconversation.com/sustainable-development-goals>-need-a-final-push-with-just-10-years-to-go-132606?utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign [↑](#footnote-ref-1)