This final edition of the GFMD newsletter comes on the heels of the GFMD 2017-2018 Co-Chairmanship that culminated in the Eleventh GFMD Summit in Marrakesh (5 to 7 December) led by Mr. El Habib Nadir and Amb. Götz Schmidt-Bremme, Co-Chairs Morocco and Germany. It presents highlights of the activities and initiatives from October to December 2018 that capped off the two-year German-Moroccan GFMD Co-Chairmanship. During this period, the Co-Chairs finalized the substantive preparations for the Summit, working closely with government Roundtable (RT) Co-Chairs and technical experts to complete the background papers that set the tone of the RT discussions in Marrakesh. The Co-Chairs also oversaw the elaboration of two key references namely, the GFMD Ten-Year Review and the GFMD Communications Strategy: Both documents, developed through a multi-step consultation process involving vital GFMD stakeholders and partners, are envisioned to guide the future and ensure the sustainability of the Forum in the era of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) implementation.

In December, a number of major GFMD-related events also formed part of the Migration Week in Marrakesh, which concluded with the adoption of the GCM by around 180 UN Member States.

### Marrakesh Migration Week

The 2018 GFMD Civil Society Days kicked off the Marrakesh Migration Week with the theme "Goals, Compacts, Action: Human mobility that works for migrants and societies." The event brought together 280 representatives of civil society from over 75 countries, as well as over 40 non-civil society observers including government delegates, foundations and international organizations. For more information about the summary of the proceedings, download the GFMD Civil Society Chair Report 2018 [EN] [FR] [ES] and their Joint Message at the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the GCM.

The Eleventh GFMD Summit Meeting was organized under the theme "Honoring International Commitments to Unlock the Potential of All Migrants for Development." The Summit saw the participation of over 2,000 participants from 135 United Nations Member States, 45 international organizations, civil society, private sector, academia, and other migration stakeholders. For the highlights of the summit, download the GFMD Summit Digest [EN] [FR]. The full report will follow shortly.

The GFMD Business Meeting took place on the second day of the GFMD Summit which saw a broad and diverse representation of the private sector in the GFMD. Focusing on the Implementation of the GCM: how business will judge success in the 21st century world of work?, the meeting was organized for the private sector and governments to share experiences, learn about new trends and developments on linking the business agenda with migration and development policies.

The 5th Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development focused on the central theme: "City Leadership in Implementing the UN Global Compacts." The event gathered over 150 mayors and local and regional authorities with a view to sharing practical solutions to govern migration, protect migrants' rights and promote inclusive urban economic growth. The Forum officially launched the GFMD Mayors' Mechanism to formalize the links between local authorities and governments in the GFMD framework. It also resulted in the signing of the Marrakech Mayors' Declaration which signals local and regional authorities commitment to contribute to the achievement of the GCM and the Global Compact on Refugees.

### Report on the GFMD Ten-Year Review

The 2018 GFMD review exercise was conducted to assess the Forum's decade-long outputs and contributions to the global dialogue on migration and development based on the feedback and recommendations of Member States, international organizations, the civil society and the private sector. Prepared by an independent Expert Team, the review report reaffirms Member States' appreciation of GFMDs added value in providing an informal space for sharing knowledge, networking and partnerships. It presents a future vision for the GFMD, with concrete recommendations and suggested next steps for Member States to consider. Download the full report of the review [EN] [FR] [ES].

### GFMD Communications Strategy

The development of a GFMD Communications Strategy is one of the Co-Chairship's major objectives with a view to increasing the visibility, awareness and delivery power of the GFMD, and to better communicate its activities with its partners and global audience. The strategy covers a period of four years to accompany the discussion of the quadrennial International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), in view of the GFMD's accorded role in the GCM.

Going forward, a GFMD Communications Plan will be developed under the GFMD 2019 Chair Ecuador, led by Mr. Santiago Javier Chavez Pareja, Vice Minister for Human Mobility of Ecuador, to concretize the elements set out in the strategy paper. Download the GFMD communication strategy here.

### Did you know that?

The Migration Laboratory was launched by the German and Moroccan GFMD Chairs in 2017 as an innovative way to implement global policy frameworks, in particular the GCM and 2030 Agenda, using professional dialogue approach. Designed on the basis of the Social Lab methodology, it brought together some 33 international thought leaders from governments, civil society and the private sector, representing 18 different countries in Africa, Europa, Asia and America.

Over the course of one year, the Migration Lab has convened three face-to-face meetings (Berlin, Rabat and Quito) which led to eight tangible project proposals aimed at enriching GFMD efforts in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the GCM. These proposals were showcased at a GFMD side event in Marrakesh on December 6.

Read previous editions of the GFMD newsletters on the GFMD Web Portal