

Annex 1: Practices on multi-level governance of migration

Examples of multi-level governance of migration:

The **GFMD** itself represents a multi-level governance platform bringing together various actors at global, national and local level to share and exchange good practices and help shape the global debate on migration and development. The four advisory mechanisms representing civil society, business, mayors and youth are a valuable and indispensable source of information and advice necessary to the formulation of effective migration policies. Since its inception and concretely since the release in 2010 of the guidance on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Planning¹ - which outlines steps to take to ensure multi-level governance of migration across levels and sectors of governance for enhanced impact on sustainable development outcomes -, concrete efforts and programmes have been rolled out worldwide by various actors to support multi-level governance of migration with a view to helping bolster development efforts.

The GFMD has accompanied these efforts, representing an important platform to discuss the different facets of *multi-level governance* of migration as a success factor for ensuring sustainable development. For example, in the 2009 edition of the GFMD hosted by Greece, discussions revolved around international and national governance strategies and cooperation and the need to ensure coordination mechanisms across government sectors.² In the 2018 edition hosted by Germany and Morocco, a discussion around the drivers of migration and integrated approaches to responding across all levels of government were held. Discussions, papers and debates culminated in the inclusion of the Mayors Mechanism as a formal part of the GFMD during the 2019 edition hosted by Ecuador. A focus on policy coherence and multi-stakeholder partnerships at the city level was discussed, including recommendations for international actors and national governments to support their empowerment as crucial migration governance actors in the face of the urbanization of migration.

Regional processes and dialogues such as the [Budapest Process](#), [EUROMED Migration](#), [the Khartoum Process](#), [the Prague Process](#), and [the Rabat Process](#) (funded by the European Union and facilitated by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development) bring together States from Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East, and the EU to deepen their collaboration on and understanding of various topics related to migration governance, spanning from migration and development to asylum or fight against irregular migration.

For example, the '[Budapest Process](#)' is an interregional dialogue and cooperation on migration stretching from Europe to the Silk Routes region - also covering Europe's Eastern neighbours, the Western Balkans and Central Asia, which increasingly form a frame of reference for practical collaboration. States agreed to take concerted action to endorse and implement the five-year plan "a Call for Action" which lists 41 actions following the six priority goals of the 2013 Istanbul Ministerial Declaration to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration that;

- prevent and counteract irregular migration, facilitating return and readmission of irregular migrants
- Better organize and improve conditions for legal migration and mobility
- Support the integration of migrants and counteract phenomena of discrimination, racism and xenophobia

¹ Commissioned by the then Global Migration Group that was formed of various actors [gmg2010 \(2\).pdf](#)

² Session 1.1 Mainstreaming Migration in development planning – key actors, key strategies, key actions under the Roundtable 1 on How to make the migration-development nexus work for the Millennium Development Goals

- Strengthen the positive impact of migration on development
- Prevent and combat trafficking in persons
- Promote international protection

The **United Nations Network on Migration** can be considered a good example of multi-level governance efforts across stakeholders and at all levels. With a set of global, regional and national networks bringing heads of UN agencies, civil society, private sector, heads of state, regional entities and country and local level actors together, the UNNM represents a unique opportunity to leverage good migration governance in support of the 2030 Agenda. Furthermore, the Migration Multi Partner Trust Fund is an example of multi-level governance and coordination in between different governments, UN agencies, local authorities, private sector and CSOs as part of its steering committee. Votes count equally for all these stakeholders and decisions tend to be unanimous. An independent evaluation of the MPTF highlighted the way its multi stakeholder governance works as a good practice.

In France, the **Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale** issues des Migrations (FORIM), a national platform that brings together international solidarity organizations with a migrant background, includes in its governance 8 local collectives (COSIM) based in the French regions, which represent the voice of the territories at national level and develop international solidarity actions in partnership and close dialogue with the French authorities.

Vertical coordination and sharing of roles of competencies and decision making at different levels:

In [Ecuador](#), the Organic Law on Human Mobility (*LOMH*) (2017) ensures the rights of people in situations of human mobility in Ecuador and of the diaspora, with clarified definitions, improved institutional coherence including between sub-national and national levels of governance and increased protection people in vulnerable situations. It also builds the competencies of provinces and cities to create more inclusive cities where the rights of all people on the move are protected. Since 2018, the Consortium of Provincial Governments of Ecuador (*Consortio de Gobiernos Autónomos Provinciales del Ecuador, CONGOPE*) has supported the dissemination of the LOMH at the local level.³ Through the regional coordination offices in the provinces, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility coordinates specific actions with the cantonal GADs to assist people on the move.

The Philippines has demonstrated a strong commitment to multilevel governance by conducting Migration Governance Indicators assessments at both the national and provincial level (Albay). This initiative has created a valuable platform for dialogue and collaboration across different levels of governance, allowing for the discussion of common challenges such as the impact of climate change and disasters on human mobility.

Whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches:

Azerbaijan applies whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches in its migration management. Alongside with all relevant government authorities, representatives of civil society via the Public Council, business sector via the Advisory Board, migrants themselves via the [Migrant Council](#) established under the State Migration Service, are involved in decision-making process in the

³ To the Provincial Decentralized Autonomous Governments (*Gobiernos Autónomos Descentralizados (GADs) Provinciales*). In cooperation with IOM and five priority GADs in border areas, the Association of Ecuadorian Municipalities (*Asociación de Municipalidades Ecuatorianas, AME*) developed a methodological tool for mainstreaming human mobility in development and land management planning, and informed Ecuador's 221 cantonal GADs ([IOM, 2021](#)).

migration field. The youth are also motivated to contribute to the migration management of the country through the "[Migration Volunteer](#)" initiative and "[Migration School](#)" projects."

Kenya has applied whole of government, whole of society, whole of community and a whole of UN system Multilevel Governance Approaches to better its migration governance towards implementation of the GCM. Many Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government with migration functions like Directorate of Immigration and Citizen Services, National Counter terrorism Centre, Border Control and Operations Coordination Committee (BCOCC), Trafficking in Persons Committee (CTIP), Border Management Secretariat (BMS) and National Employment Authority all provide services based on the multiagency arrangements and decision-making process. The National Coordination Mechanism on Migration (NCM) engages both state and non-state actors including the private sector, academia, civil society, regional and international organizations, rights-based organizations to contribute to national migration governance and policy dialogues to create consensus on national, regional and global migration agenda.

For example, Government of Kenya has utilized multistakeholder workshops in formulation of the following policies and plans:

- National Action Plan on implementation of GCM
- County Outreach Program
- Draft National Migration Policy
- Migration Conference
- Review of Diaspora Policy
- Marsha I (Shirika) Plan co-existence of refugees and host communities
- Review of National Migration Profile for Kenya
- Development of Labour Migration Policy
- Mainstreaming migration into national development and county integrated development plans

In mainstreaming migration at the County Governments, NCM has also designed a County Outreach Program to create migration awareness in devolved governance units in the context of cooperation and consultation with the local communities

In [Serbia](#), the country faces high youth unemployment and subsequent migration; as a consequence, many smaller towns and rural municipalities are losing a large population and local development is stagnating. To address these issues, the national and local governments are working together and across several policy areas including youth, migration, employment and education sectors. The National Employment Strategy, Economic Migration Strategy, National Youth Strategy and National Youth Law all include mobility considerations and aim to provide opportunities for youth at home and abroad. Municipalities then establish Local Migration Action Plans, Local Youth Action Plans and Local Employment Action Plans which recognize young people as a group of potential changemakers and plan active measures towards their employment. Local Migration Councils also work closely with Municipal Youth Offices, proposing plans to create new opportunities for young people. To implement these plans, local self-governments (LSGs) partner with local education and youth centers, businesses and CSOs to upskill young people, providing direct training to employment pathways to fill local vacancies.

In the **Republic of Moldova**, national and local government partners have a strong model of consultation and engagement with their diaspora abroad to support national and local development planning. For example, the online platform for diaspora interaction, expertise sharing and involvement called "[eMoldovaTa.gov.md](#)" ("It's Your Moldova") facilitates the engagement of Moldovan diaspora in joint development initiatives at central and local levels. Local governments successfully piloted a [Hometown Associations model](#) with [more than 160 registered associations](#) that systematically engage the diaspora in local development projects and initiatives.

In [Santo Domingo, Ecuador](#), the Cantonal Human Mobility Consultative Council was created to ensure that migrants, refugees and returnees can exercise their rights and have a voice in policymaking. The Council provides information, giving advice to people on the move to help them navigate administrative processes, access local services, etc., and gathers data about migrant and displaced people's needs. The Council is composed of migrants, refugees and returnees in Santo Domingo, which enhances trust with the community and allows for ownership.

A structure akin to the GFMD and UNNM is operational in Georgia, bringing together both the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches since 2010. A corporation-type governing mechanism unifies all relevant actors (state, non-governmental and international organisations, academia, migrants) dealing with migration. Specialised working groups have been created to roll out actions on the basis of shared responsibilities and aligned with a 'migration and development' policy. The latter in the Georgian context implies the presence of all thematic directions, unified vision and goal, as well as coordinated inter-agency cooperation to reach these goals.

Whole-of-community approach:

In [Morocco](#), the National Health and Immigration Strategic Plan mandates that all migrants (documented or undocumented) have the right to access free or low-cost essential health care. This national framework is localized through regional policies like the Oriental Regional Health Strategy, which jointly provide the legal foundations for community well-being. A local CSO called Maroc Solidarité Medico-Sociales (MS2) has created Cellules d'Ecoutes (listening centres) to assist members of the Oriental community – including migrants regardless of migratory status, women and survivors of violence – to access local public health services and fully realize these policies in practice.

Coordination mechanisms:

The Kingdom of Morocco has Regional Multi-Stakeholder Working Groups on Migration and Development which bring together different regional bodies to implement roadmaps in three regions (Oriental, Souss-Massa, and Tangiers-Tetouan-Al Hoceima).

Bangladesh's Labour Migration Forum includes 60+ ministries and stakeholders including national NGOs, returned migrant associations, migrant women's associations and recruitment agencies.

No one size fits all:

While learning from local and national experience, international dialogues and actors can serve to ensure exchange and consolidate learning into broader consensus, guidance and support. Yet bringing this back down to support other national and local realities remains a challenge, particularly with regards to localizing global frameworks such as the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement or the Global Compact on Migration. Integrating migration or GCM planning into national and local development planning can help solve this. For example, [São Paulo's Municipal Plan of Policies for the Immigrant Population 2021-2024](#) committed to take 80 actions from 2021-2024 to achieve the GCM and GCR in unison. In the Municipal Plan, there are goals directly associated with enhancing access to public services and programmes related to health care, education, social and labour programmes, childcare and child protection, and human rights. These goals also comprise training municipal staff and service deliverers for the provision of intercultural, humanized assistance to all migrants, including LGBTI+ migrants.

Other inspiring practices from civil society that can inspire inclusive approaches:

Young Cities is a civil society organisation working closely with local governments and other civil society organisations and young people to engage in society and achieve tangible, positive impact in their communities. In nine cities across four countries, they have rolled out tailored Youth Innovation Labs using new methods of engagement to help them best meet the challenges they face in their communities. Read more [here](#).