

## “GFMD Perspective on Empowering People and Ensuring Inclusiveness and Equality”

<b>Date, time and venue</b>	11 July 2019, 13h15 to 14h30 Conference Room 12, UN Plaza, New York
<b>Purpose</b>	Presentation of the GFMD contribution to the 2019 HLPF
<b>Organizer</b>	GFMD 2019 Chair Ecuador

### Brief description of the side event

On the margins of the 2019 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), which focuses on the theme “*Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality*”, the 2019 GFMD Chair Ecuador will organize a **side event** to share the findings and concrete recommendations contained in the GFMD’s report, “[Recommendations of the GFMD to the 2019 HLPF.](#)”

The report was prepared upon an invitation by the ECOSOC for the GFMD to provide substantive input to the 2019 HLPF and to showcase its contribution towards the 2030 Agenda in general, with particular emphasis on this year’s focus on Goal 10.7 on *facilitating orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies*. The vital connection between migration and development embodied in Goal 10.7 has been the focus of the GFMD since its inception in 2007.

In particular, the report highlights the manifold linkages between migration and the SDGs and explores the explicit and implicit references to migration in the 2030 Agenda. It uses the following broadly defined and non-exhaustive categories to examine these links:

1. *Explicit migration-related targets;*
2. *Targets that can and should address the specific vulnerability and protection gaps specific to all groups of migrants and thus offer corresponding mechanisms to address these;*
3. *Targets that could benefit from the potential of migration and migrants;*
4. *Targets that address drivers of migration including employment or employment creation and thus have a direct influence on poverty alleviation and lowering of migration pressure;*
5. *Targets that aim at developing adaptation strategies in order to reduce the consequences caused by climate change.*

The GFMD report to the 2019 HLPF examines how interventions in the context of migration in GFMD countries – ranging from small-targeted projects to wider programmes or reforms – have contributed to achieving SDG Goals 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17 featured in this year’s HLPF. In addition, the report seeks to highlight the gaps, risks and challenges in relation to the respective focus SDG, and offers an analysis from a migration-development perspective. In line with the 2019 HLPF theme to “empower people and ensure inclusiveness and equality”, the report provides insights into different migration-related issues, such as migrants’ equal

access to quality services (e.g. education), decent working environments for migrants, orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration, the reduction of remittances costs, migration in the context of climate change and disasters, and ending trafficking as well as exploitation of migrants. Furthermore, it points to emerging concerns in global migration and development policies, including the role of the GFMD in linking these areas, advancing the dialogue and promoting concrete partnerships following the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration in 2018.

The report is based on references of GFMD Summit meetings, workshops, sessions of the Platform for Partnership (PfP) and Common Space discussions. It contains relevant projects from the [GFMD Platform for Partnerships \(PfP\)](#) database supporting Goals 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17. Based on the analysis and the examination of project examples, the report formulates a range of concrete recommendations for policy makers in migration and development.

### **Format and Programme**

The side event will be led by **Ambassador Santiago Chávez Pareja**, GFMD 2019 Chair, Vice Minister for Human Mobility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility, Republic of Ecuador. It will feature high level interventions from relevant GFMD partner agencies and **Mr. Berry Vrbanovic**, Mayor of Kitchener, Canada and Treasurer of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). The event will be moderated by **Ms. Colleen Thouez**, Director, Welcoming and Inclusive Societies Division, Open Society Foundations.

*A light lunch will be served for all registered participants before the event.*

