Thematic Recollection 2007 – 2017

prepared by the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)

for the Global Compact for

Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Geneva, 22 November 2017

CONTENT

I. Introduction

Taking up the invitation from the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants[1] of 19 September 2016 to contribute to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and based on paragraph 22(b) of the GCM Modalities Resolution[2], the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) has prepared this document.

Following the Dhaka Summit in December 2016, the GFMD participating states mandated the GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact on Migration to coordinate the drafting process of GFMD's contribution to the GCM. **This document constitutes a thematic recollection that reflects the diversity of discussions held in the GFMD context over the last decade, and thereby serves to inform the GCM process. It does not, however, intend to constitute a consensus view of GFMD participating states or anticipate their national positions in the negotiation phase of the GCM.** The GFMD Steering Group and the GFMD Friends of the Forum, the latter comprised of participating UN member states and GFMD Observers, have given advice on this thematic recollection and, except for one delegation[3], welcomed its submission to the GCM process.

The GFMD Co-Chairs subsequently handed the document over to the co-facilitators of the GCM process, Ambassador Juan José Gómez Camacho, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the UN in New York and Ambassador Jürg Lauber, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the UN in New York as well as to the United Nations Secretary General's Special Representative for International Migration, Ms. Louise Arbour, in her capacity as Secretary General to the International Conference, in time for the GCM stocktaking conference in Mexico in December 2017.

The unique characteristics of the GFMD as a voluntary, informal and non-binding government-led multi-stakeholder platform for dialogue in the field of migration and development, and hence, of its contribution to the GCM, can be described by *three "S":*

o **Substance:** Since its inception in 2007, the GFMD has helped shape the global debate on migration and development by offering a space to discuss the multi-dimensional aspects, opportunities and challenges related to migration and its inter-linkages with development. Through the years, the GFMD has also evolved into a process that allows to openly analyze and to discuss sensitive and sometimes controversial issues, to listen to different positions and to explore synergies and joint solutions through partnerships. In the process, it has contributed to deepening the understanding of the complex relationship between migration and development, and infused the global debate on this critical issue with more clarity, objectivity and coherence. Reflecting GFMD's policy and practice

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[1] UNGA, New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (*New York Declaration*), A/71/L.1, 2016, http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/71/L.1.
[2] UNGA, Modalities for the Intergovernmental Negotiations of the GCM (*GCM Modalities Resolution*), A/RES/71/280, 2017, http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/280, para. 22(b).
[3] In a statement delivered during the meetings of the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum on 22 November 2017 in Geneva, the United States of America indicated their reservation against the document.

orientation, the present document provides a thematic recollection of policy options and options for practical action, complemented by policy and practice examples.

o **Space:** GFMD is commonly recognized as an informal space, where member states and other stakeholders can openly discuss and bring forward issues relating to migration in an effort to find mutual understanding on all aspects of migration and development. With regard to preparing a meaningful contribution to the Global Compact on Migration, the GFMD community carried out a copious internal consultation process of GFMD Dialogues and a Thematic Workshop which helped to develop a common vision of this document. Furthermore, the traditional GFMD exchange formats, such as Roundtable discussions, Business Mechanism, Common Space and the Civil Society Days were oriented towards creating outcomes for the GCM in 2016 and 2017.

o **Stakeholders:** GFMD connects a vast network of stakeholders and facilitates a truly multi-stakeholder engagement in its consultation process. Civil Society participation has continuously evolved, in particular since the format of the Common Space was first launched at the 2010 GFMD summit in Mexico, followed by civil society taking responsibility for self-organizing the civil society involvement in the GFMD during and since the 2011 GFMD in Switzerland. The systemic incorporation of the private sector since the 2015 Turkish Chairmanship has ensured that the voice of businesses is heard in the Forum. Both civil society and private sector representatives have given advice to this document.

In line with this, the present thematic recollection is based on:

o **Main recommendations from previous GFMD Summits** with a particular emphasis on the policy directions contained in the 2016 Dhaka Chair's Summary[4] and the outcomes of the 2017 Berlin Summit[5] which was particularly geared towards defining recommendations for the GCM, **Roundtable Recommendations of past GFMD Summits** as well as **other outcomes of past GFMD Summits** including the Common Space and Business Mechanism Sessions. When in convergence with GFMD recommendations from the member states, recommendations from the Civil Society Days and the GFMD Business Mechanism are taken up as important reference points.

o **A selection of over 1,000 policy and practice examples from GFMD's** Platform for Partnerships[6] **database,** illustrating the mentioned policy options and options for practical action.

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[4] GFMD, Summit Meeting Dhaka, Chair's Summary, 2016,
http://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/9th_gfmd_chairs_summary_12_dec_2016.pdf.
[5] GFMD, Summit Meeting Berlin, Co-Chairs' Conclusions, 2017, https://gfmd.org/files/documents/2017-06-30_co-chairs_conclusions_of_the_10th_gfmd_summit_0.pdf.
[6] GFMD, Platform for Partnerships, https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd.

o Three Dialogues and a Thematic Workshop[7] **on the Global Compact on Migration** organized by the GFMD Chair 2016 on 14 November 2016 in New York, and the Co-Chairs 2017-2018 on 2 February 2017 and 6 April 2017 in Geneva, and 6 September, 2017 in Vienna.

The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development[8] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA)[9] are important reference frameworks for this document. As a leading inter-governmental format dedicated to the migration-development nexus, the GFMD submitted a report[10] to the 2017 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), and is conscious about the manifold thematic links between migration and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in its contribution to the GCM. Furthermore, the Report of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration ("Sutherland Report")[11] is a key reference for this document, taking into consideration his role as the founding father of the GFMD and as the main link between the United Nations and the GFMD throughout its first decade of existence.

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[7] See: GFMD Documents Library, https://gfmd.org/docs/germany-morocco-2017-2018.
[8] UNGA, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (*2030 Agenda*), A/RES/70/1, 2015, http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E.
[9] UNGA, Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development (*Addis Ababa Action Agenda; AAAA*), A/RES/69/313, 2015, https://undocs.org/A/RES/69/313.
[10] GFMD, Recommendations to the 2017 High-Level Political Forum, 2017, https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14327GFMD.pdf.
[11] UNGA, Report of the SRSG on Migration (*Sutherland Report*), A/71/728, 2017, http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/71/728&=E.

II. Contribution to the six GCM Thematic Clusters

The thematic recollction uses the same cluster structure as the consultative process for the GCM outlined in the Modalities Resolution[12], without preempting the structure of the Compact itself. Rather than aiming at covering all elements of the GCM, it concentrates on those aspects of the Compact where the GFMD has acquired substantive expertise over the last decade. The document highlights selected issues in the nexus between migration and development that have been discussed in the GFMD context.

1. HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL MIGRANTS, SOCIAL INCLUSION, COHESION AND ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION, INCLUDING RACISM, XENOPHOBIA AND INTOLERANCE

Beginning with the 2008 GFMD Summit in the Philippines, the Forum included discussions on human rights in the context of migration and development. Human rights have figured on the migration and development agenda ever since, becoming an integral part of discussions on migration and development. Over the years, the debate has moved beyond a rather abstract discussion on the applicability of human rights in specific contexts to a discussion on how human rights are to be upheld concretely.

The New York Declaration reaffirms and commits to fully protect the safety, dignity and human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migratory status, as rights holders, and in full respect for international human rights laws and other relevant standards.[13] Similarly, and in conformity with the International Bill of Human Rights – comprised by the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[14] –, the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child[15], the 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[16], the 2008 UN Resolution on the Human Rights of Migrants "requests states to effectively promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants […] regardless of their immigration status"[17]. The 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda uses an almost identical language.[18]

By adopting the New York Declaration, UN member states strongly condemned acts and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants, and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief

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[12] *GCM Modalities Resolution*, 2017.
[13] *New York Declaration*, 2016, para. 5 and 41.
[14] UNGA, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (*UDHR*), A/RES/217A, 1948, http://undocs.org/A/RES/217(III), Preamble and Art. 2; International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (*ICCPR*), 1966, Preamble; International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (*ICESCR*), 1966, A/RES/21/2200(XXI), 1966, Preamble; https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/005/03/IMG/NR000503.pdf?OpenElement.
[15] UNGA, Convention on the Rights of the Child (*UNCRC*), A/RES/44/25, 1989, Preamble and Art. 2; http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/44/a44r025.htm.
[16] UNGA, International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, A/RES/45/158, 1990, Art. 7; http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/45/a45r158.htm.
[17] Human Rights Council, Human Rights of Migrants, A/HRC/RES/9/5, 2008, para. 1(b), http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/resolutions/A_HRC_RES_9_5.pdf.
[18] *Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA)*, 2015, para. 111.

and pledged to address the special needs of all people in vulnerable situations in accordance with obligations under international law.[19] On the same note, the Sutherland Report calls for facilitating regular and safe migration, and for avoiding policies undermining the respect for human rights.[20] In particular, the report recommends developing global guiding principles on migrants in vulnerable situations, including migrant children[21] and to expand access to consular protection and assistance in transit.[22]

Sutherland further flags that each state needs to allow migrants to form workers' associations and join trade unions[23], to articulate clearly on what terms it allows migrants to enter, stay and work[24], and how it will facilitate their departure or return as well as states needing to abstain from returning people to places that are unsafe or preventing them to leave these.[25]

Also, the Sutherland Report underlines that SDG 16.9 obliges states to foster inclusion by equipping migrants with a proof of legal identity, including birth registration, by 2030. More concretely, Sutherland calls for a multi-stakeholder cooperation to support states in introducing universal civil registration and identification systems, and to help nascent efforts explore the feasibility of a truly universal digital ID system.[26]

The Issue Brief[27] and the Co-Facilitators' Summary[28] of the Thematic Consultations that took place on 8-9 May 2017 at the UN Office in Geneva outline the content covered by this cluster. Past GFMD discussions have come up with a significant number of policy options and options for practical action as well as policy and practice examples around the relevant topics. Most importantly, these include the following focus areas:

(1) Guaranteeing migrants' human rights regardless of their immigration status;

(2) Empowerment of migrants;

(3) Social inclusion and participation.

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[19] *New York Declaration*, 2016, para. 23.
[20] *Sutherland Report*, 2017, para. 31.
[21] Ibid., Recommendation 1.
[22] Ibid., Recommendation 2.
[23] Ibid., Recommendation 5.
[24] Ibid., para. 23 and Recommendation 6.
[25] Ibid., para. 31.
[26] Ibid., Recommendation 10.
[27] GCM Thematic Sessions, Issue Brief #1, 2017, http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/issue_brief_for_first_thematic_session.pdf.
[28] GCM Thematic Sessions, Co-Facilitators' Summary #1, 2017, http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/summary_0.pdf.

(1) Guaranteeing migrants' human rights regardless of their immigration status

Policy Options:

- Respect and protect the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status or nationality. With a view to "leave no one behind", pay particular attention to those migrants who may be vulnerable and require specific protection (e.g. women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, families left behind, groups facing violence and discrimination).
- Foster implementation of existing international human rights standards and frameworks. Ensure that human rights are mainstreamed in all migration-related policy areas, including national and local development strategies. A gender and age perspective needs to be mainstreamed into all measures and commitments. Complement these frameworks by policies, concrete actions and programs at all levels.
- Recognize the importance of international cooperation and partnership, including coordination of efforts among origin, transit and destination countries, while recognizing their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding the human rights of migrants in transit.
- Safeguard the right to gather and organize in a structured fashion in order to encourage migrants' agency and foster their integration. Provide appropriate support to these groups as a means of recognizing their needs and rights as equal to those of others in the community.

Options for practical action:

- Adopt concrete measures to prevent the violation of migrants' human rights in the countries of origin, transit and destination. Put in place appropriate systems and procedures at the national, bilateral or regional level in order to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of migrants in transit (e.g. ports, airports, borders) and build the capacities of relevant public officials in accordance with international human rights law.
- Develop effective pre- and post-departure information measures and support structures for migrants in countries of origin, destination and transit to increase awareness among migrants of their rights and obligations. Strengthen their capacities to avoid exploitation.
- Ensure migrants have access to basic services and emergency treatment irrespective of their legal status. Allow all migrants, including those in vulnerable situations (e.g. domestic workers), to access speedy justice and complaint mechanisms to effectively address grievance. Improve migrants' information around access to basic services, emergency treatment and justice. Avert criminalization of humanitarian assistance towards migrants in vulnerable situations.
- As part of immigration detention frameworks, work towards the development of alternatives to detention, in particular alternatives to detention of migrant children because of their migration status.

> ### *Policy and Practice Example*
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> In its **Five-year Development Plan**[29] *(2014-2019), the government of **El Salvador** focuses on different priorities such as promoting an inclusive economic model and advancing universal social services as well as social protection. The plan also places human rights issues at the center of policy making, including human rights of migrants and their families. One point of action calls to support migrants abroad and link them to political, social and economic events in the country.*

(2) Empowerment of migrants

Policy Options:

- Design and implement measures to strengthen the political empowerment and participation of migrants. Grant regular migrants political, legal and civic rights (e.g. voting, representation and citizenship rights, social security entitlements, and portability of earned social benefits) appropriate to their length of stay in countries of origin, transit and destination, while considering specific situations where, subject to national legislation, the rights of nationals may be differentiated from the rights of migrants.
- Support the economic empowerment of migrants through promoting access to decent work, and employment as well as access to affordable and efficient financial services. Award specific attention to groups prone to labor exploitation (e.g. migrants with lower qualifications, domestic workers).

Options for practical action:

- Strengthen civil society support for migrants and support civil society actors, including migrant associations, which promote the political participation of migrants and link them to work opportunities (e.g. through organizational and financial support of favorable tax regimes).
- Promote monitoring of migrant health e.g. through standardization and comparability of data on migrant health and through mapping good practices in monitoring migrants' health. Promote partnerships, networks and multi-country frameworks (origin, destination and transit countries) on migrants' health e.g. through establishing migrant health dialogues.
- Facilitate access to banking services and financial instruments as this is a prerequisite to the exercise of a number of rights beyond just economic rights. Design projects to increase financial autonomy and literacy of migrants and their families.

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[29] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2334.

> ### *Policy and Practice Examples*
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> *The Guatemalan Government, in cooperation with IOM, offers a workable **health care scheme for migrant families**[30] as part of its broader Policy for the Protection, Assistance and Care of Guatemalans Abroad. A mechanism has been created with reasonable prices via a strategic alliance with a reputable private health care provider.*
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> *The program **Citoyenneté: mitreden, mitgestalten, mitentscheiden**[31], established by the **Swiss Federal Commission on Migration**, promotes the political participation of migrants as a key to integration and an important indicator of a vital democracy. The program supports locally adapted initiatives that consider migrants as partners and aim to widen the possibilities for political participation by discussing new possibilities to shape political decision-shaping and -making processes.*

(3) Social inclusion and participation

Policy Options:

- Design and implement integration and social inclusion policies promoting the equitable participation of migrants and their descendants in the host country and society. Ensure meaningful participation of migrants themselves in drafting these policies in order to reflect their needs and cultural identities.
- Design and implement migration policies that are timely and flexible to accommodate new and longstanding business models, but also predictable and transparent so that employers can effectively manage compliance. Lower information barriers that businesses face in accessing qualified migrant talent.
- Promote integration and social cohesion as equal priorities and as a part and parcel of the effective management of migration, by accompanying investments in facilitating regular migration, and by robust access for regular migrants to social protection, rights and services. Facilitate labor market integration by ensuring equal treatment and opportunities between national and migrant workers.
- As part of efforts to tackle xenophobia, adopt and implement legislation, procedures and agreements to combat racial discrimination and related intolerance. Ensure protection, promote social inclusion and non-discriminatory treatment of migrants and reduce segregation and inequalities between migrants and the native population.

Options for practical action:

- Pursue more active integration policies which foster social cohesion and economic dynamism. Envision integration as a long-term process and adopt well-balanced policies

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[30] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1890
[31] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2631.

to foster tolerance, integration and social cohesion. Promote education that respects other civilizations and cultures.

- Develop agreed and common standards for integration and measuring integration.
- Improve and shape public perceptions of migrants and migration through conducting communication and awareness campaigns and show how migrants contribute to the societies of destination and origin. Effectively engage with and through the media (e.g. using social media tools). It is important to give migrants a voice to allow them to share their experience.
- Form partnerships with all relevant stakeholders from civil society, private sector, representative employer and worker organizations, local governments and host communities to promote the inclusion and participation of migrants. Acknowledge and enhance the role of educational institutions in this regard, especially in shaping children and young people's outlook in life. Businesses can contribute to shifting the negative narrative on migration by employing migrants, while governments and civil society can help train migrants to better meet the hiring needs of employers.

Policy and Practice Examples

*Starting in 2008, the government of **Ecuador** launched the campaign **Todos Somos Migrantes**[32] (We are all migrants) which aimed at raising awareness on the importance of migrants, as well as promoting the principle of universal citizenship, the right of all human beings to migrate and harmonious coexistence. In 2010, the campaign refocused its objective on fighting discrimination, racism and xenophobia.*

*Recognizing the important role that the perception of migrants plays in the integration process, **IOM** also implements awareness raising programs to promote the positive contributions of migrants and combat xenophobia and discrimination. IOM, in partnership with the **United Nations Alliance of Civilizations**, has supported the **Plural+Video Festival**[33], a youth-produced video festival that encourages young people to explore themes of migration, diversity and social inclusion, and to share their creative vision with the world.*

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[32] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2631.
[33] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2623.

2. IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND REGULAR PATHWAYS, INCLUDING DECENT WORK, LABOR MOBILITY, DEVELOPMENT AND RECOGNITION OF SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS AND OTHER RELEVANT MEASURES

Since the 2006 High Level Dialogue[34] and the 2007 Belgian GFMD Chairmanship, the Forum enabled a shift of the migration and development paradigm by promoting migration as an opportunity rather than as a potential impediment for countries of origin, transit and destination. Advancing the debate on decent work and labor mobility has therefore been a reoccurring objective since the initiation of the GFMD. With the launch of the Business Mechanism at the ninth GFMD Summit in Bangladesh, this issue has been firmly anchored in the GFMD process. Also, the issue of circular migration gained increased attention in the most recent discussions.

With the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda, states have committed to increased international cooperation on access to and portability of earned benefits, enhanced recognition of foreign qualifications, education and skills, lowering the costs of recruitment for migrants, and combating unscrupulous recruiters[35]. Contemporaneously with the process leading towards the AAAA, the development of the 2030 Agenda[36] mainly advanced the international debate around labor mobility. The Sustainable Development Goals provide a set of targets on labor rights and safe and secure working environments (SDG 8.8), substantially increasing health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries (SDG 3.c), and substantially expanding globally, by 2020, the number of scholarships available to developing countries for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training, information and communications technology (SDG 4.b). Concerning irregular migration and regular pathways, SDG 10.7 calls for facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration. Specific ILO conventions, recommendations and guidance to protect migrant workers can help support states in implementing their SDG commitments.

The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants calls upon states to consider ratification of relevant ILO conventions.[37] ILO standards and guidelines constitute an overarching framework on labor migration governance to assist member states, employers' and workers' organizations and other concerned actors to address also policy areas that pose particular challenges, such as recruitment, skills recognition, and social protection.

These specific standards include:

- ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work[38]

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[34] UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, 2006, http://www.un.org/esa/population/migration/hld/.
[35] *Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA)*, 2015, § 111.
[36] *2030 Agenda*, 2015.
[37] *New York Declaration*, 2016.
[38] ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, 1998, http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_467653.pdf.

- ILO Migration for Employment Convention No. 97 and accompanying Migration for Employment Recommendation No. 86[39], as well as ILO Convention on Private Employment Agencies No. 181[40]
- ILO Multilateral Framework on Labor Migration[41]
- ILO Conclusions Concerning Fair and Effective Labor Migration Governance[42]
- ILO Operational Principles and Guidelines on Fair Recruitment[43].

The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[44] provides additional fundamental protections to the labor rights of migrants. As part of the International Bill of Human Rights (together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[45] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[46]), it provides a key normative framework for these recommendations.

In order to build opportunities for labor and skills mobility, the Sutherland Report recommends strengthening the architecture to govern labor mobility. This includes ensuring coherence at the national level; forming a global alliance of labor sending states; developing model employment contracts and bilateral and regional labor migration agreements as well as a multi-agency support function to facilitate such agreements; and establishing a multi-stakeholder platform on skills mobility.[47] Acknowledging the high recruitment fees, related migration costs and fraudulent practices especially in low-skilled labor recruitment, the Sutherland Report recommends the following measures:

a) help prospective migrants finance at non-exploitative rates;

b) align national laws, policies and regulations with ILO's Principles and Guidelines for Fair Recruitment;

c) monitor and enforce compliance with recruitment regulations;

d) promote consolidation and professionalization in the recruitment industry.[48]

The Issue Brief[49] and the Co-Facilitators' Summary[50] of the Thematic Consultations that took place on 12-13 October 2017 at the UN Office in Geneva outline the content covered by this

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[39] ILO Migration for Employment Convention No. 97, C097, 1949,
https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312242;
Migration for Employment Recommendation No. 86, R086, 1949,
http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:12100:::NO:12100:P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312424.
[40] ILO Convention on Private Employment Agencies, C181, 1997,
http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312326.
[41] ILO Multilateral Framework on Labor Migration, 2006, http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/labour-migration/publications/WCMS_178672/lang--en/index.htm;
[42] ILO Conclusions Concerning Fair and Effective Labor Migration Governance, 2017,
http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---relconf/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_561871.pdf.
[43] ILO General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment, 2016,
http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_536755.pdf.
[44] *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)*, 1966.
[45] *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (*UDHR*), 1948.
[46] International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (*ICCPR*), 1966.
[47] *Sutherland Report*, 2017, Recommendation 5.
[48] Ibid., Recommendation 4.
[49] GCM Thematic Sessions, Issue Brief #6, 2017,
http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/ts6_issues_brief_0.pdf.
[50] GCM Thematic Sessions, Co-Facilitators' Summary #6, 2017,
http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/its6_summary_final_171102.pdf.

cluster. Past GFMD discussions have come up with a significant number of policy options and options for practical action as well as policy and practice examples around the relevant topics. Most importantly, these include the following focus areas:

(1) Labor mobility, including temporary or circular migration;

(2) Fair and ethical recruitment of migrant workers;

(3) Skills recognition and development;

(4) Non-exploitative financing for migration.

(1) Labor mobility, including temporary or circular migration

Policy Options:

- Adopt rights-based circular or temporary labor migration schemes and remove limitations on circular migration that ensure decent work and respond to genuine short-term labor and skills gaps.
- Ensure that national laws and regulations concerning labor protection and employment relationships cover all sectors of the economy, in particular in certain occupations and sectors that are outside the usual avenue of regulation and protection, such as domestic work, agriculture and mining.
- Encourage destination countries with large numbers of unemployed migrant workers to cooperate with countries of origin to provide decent work, productive employment opportunities and support for integrating returning workers into the labor market.
- Promote immigration policies informed by skill gaps identified by the private sector.
- Promote regular immigration as a part of a broader solution to demographic challenges.
- Leverage technology to link migrant talent to work opportunities.
- Strengthen regional and inter-regional processes and platforms to ensure effective sharing of information for a collaborative approach among countries of origin and between countries of origin and destination.

Options for practical action:

- Reduce worker-paid recruitment fees and related costs, in line with SDG indicator 10.7.1. Set concrete standards, such as establishing a ceiling of the share of migrants' remuneration that can be charged to cover recruitment fees.
- Promote programs to provide potential migrants with relevant information to make well-informed decisions to prevent negative migration experiences.
- Improve sex and age disaggregated statistics and data collection, analysis and sharing in the fields of labor migration, development and remittances. Ensure that labor migration data is a part of national and regional data collection plans.

- Promote one-stop-shops in countries of origin and destination for information on the migration cycle in order to minimize the "information asymmetry" and promote temporary/circular-migration schemes for migrants that ensure decent work and fill genuine short-term labor and skills gaps.
- Adopt migration policies that are timely and flexible to accommodate new and longstanding business models, but also predictable and transparent so that employers can effectively manage compliance.

Policy and Practice Examples

*The objectives of the **Permanent Migratory Statutes**[51] with **Peru**, **Colombia** and **Venezuela** are: ensure the respect for human rights of immigrants and their families in an irregular situation; non-criminalization of irregular migration; establishment of minimum requirements that do not go against the constitutional principle of freedom of movement; the prevention of violation of rights of groups with special needs for protection; the application of the principles of consistency and co-responsibility.*

*The **Joint Information and Services Bureaus (JISBs)**[52] have been introduced in rural areas of **Moldova** to offer women, as well as potential or returned migrants, better access to quality information and services. The JISBs operates like a "one-stop-shop" for any information or service that women and migrants may need.*

***Guatemala** has been able to negotiate, through the **Quebec Farmers Association "Ferme"**[53] large seasonal movements of agricultural workers under Canada's universal temporary foreign worker visa category. The program has been evaluated as highly successful in terms of almost 100% assured returns, high remittances, 20% female intake and improved family welfare back home.*

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(2) Fair and ethical recruitment of migrant workers

Policy Options:

- Protect women and men migrants through: the adoption of recruitment regulations, gender-sensitive labor migration policies and practices that ensure decent working conditions for all migrants, with emphasis on protecting migrants in vulnerable employment situations, particularly in informal and undeclared work; access to social security and portability of acquired benefits; participative decision-making and effective enforcement of migrants' workers fundamental rights at work; access to justice, irrespective of migration status, to protect migrants and optimize the development effects of migration.
- Ensure equality of treatment and opportunities between national and migrant workers with regard to occupational safety and health, wages and working hours; right to freedom of association and collective bargaining as well as prevention of passport, other identity document and contract retention. Facilitate, where appropriate, the possibility for migrant workers to change jobs. Strong labor rights legislative framework in the country of destination is key for the prevention of abuses during employment.

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[51] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2227.
[52] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1572.
[53] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/215.

- Further promote fair recruitment initiatives – bringing together government, civil society, trade unions, business and employers' organizations, etc. – in order to document good practices and design common guidelines.

Options for practical action:

- Develop codes of fair and ethical recruitment, particularly in the health sector, and further the dissemination of lessons learned from existing codes of conduct. Enhance efforts to develop certification mechanisms for recruitment agencies.
- Facilitate portability of work authorizations, allowing migrants to change employers with minimal administrative processes. Facilitate modifications of work authorizations, allowing migrants to change conditions or length of stay to meet changing business needs with minimal administrative processes.
- Promote monitoring, licensing and certification systems for recruiters and other intermediaries.

Policy and Practice Examples

*The **UK Code of Practice for the Ethical Recruitment of International Healthcare Professionals**[54] sets high standards of practice in the field of international recruitment and employment. Any international recruitment of healthcare professionals should not prejudice the healthcare systems of developing countries. Healthcare professionals should also not be actively recruited from developing countries, unless there is a Government-to-Government agreement to support recruitment activities. Furthermore, all employers are strongly advised to adhere to the code in all matters concerning the international recruitment of healthcare professionals.*

*The **General principles and operational guidelines for fair recruitment**[55], developed by **ILO**, seek to inform the current and future work of ILO and of other organizations, national legislatures and the social partners on promoting and ensuring fair recruitment. These principles and guidelines are derived from a number of sources, including international labor standards and ILO instruments among others.*

*The **International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS)**[56], developed by **IOM** is a voluntary multi-stakeholder certification system for labor recruiters developed to support ethical recruitment of migrant workers. It is comprised of an international standard, a certification scheme and a compliance and monitoring mechanism. For businesses and migrant workers, IRIS serves as a due diligence tool for the assessment of labor recruiters.*

*The **World Employment Confederation** adopted a **Code of conduct**[57], which defines the common principles and values shared by all Members. The Code of Conduct is an excellent illustration of the high-quality standards Members of the World Employment Confederation are committed to achieve when offering their services to companies and job-seekers.*

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[54] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/470.
[55] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5424.
[56] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2347.
[57] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2674.

(3) Skills recognition and development

Policy Options:

- Promote capacity building on and cooperation mechanisms between countries of origin and destination for better job matching and mutual recognition of skills acquired formally or non-formally, such as efforts to harmonize certification processes as seen in "skills passports."
- Close the gap between skills assessment and recognition in the country of origin for returning migrants in order to support preparedness for return.
- Leverage the significant role in job creation, skills matching, entrepreneurship and investment played by diaspora and migrants associations.
- Leverage technologies for educational and competency assessments, and for skills-based training.
- Promote cooperation between civil society and governments to increase skills-based trainings informed by the private sector to fill skill gaps.
- Align skills development programs to meet labor market demands with participation of workers' and employers' organizations.

Options for practical action:

- Offer information to migrants on how to assess their qualifications and have them recognized. Evaluate the educational and professional qualifications of migrants at an early stage of the procedure in order to adapt integration processes according to the migrants' qualifications and the host countries' labor market needs.
- Match the skills migrants have to the skills countries need by identifying national skill requirements and labor market needs, including low-skilled migration, informed by skill gaps identified by public and private employment agencies, employers' and workers' organizations and the private sector.
- Foster global and regional skill partnerships between countries of origin and destination that encourage skill creation and skill mobility among potential migrants.
- Ensure reintegration of returnee migrants in the job market in their countries of origin based on their past work experience, skills enhancement, and recognition of prior learning.

Policy and Practice Examples

*The **South African National Skills Development Framework**[58] refers to education, training and development activities to help employees and future employees improve their performance and future career prospects. It is designed to address the problem of a fragmented, uncoordinated and haphazard approach to skill development interventions. As well as focusing on addressing the South African skills (and poverty) gaps, each sector will need to take into account how South Africa as an importer and exporter of migrant labor can address its own human development needs.*

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[58] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1850.

> *In November 2009, the **Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications**[59] was launched as a joint commitment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to work together to improve FQR systems both in Canada and abroad. The Framework articulates a pan-Canadian vision for governments to take concerted action to improve the integration of immigrants and other internationally-trained workers (ITWs) into the Canadian labor market. The scope of the Framework spans the steps and processes that ITWs face as they move through the FQR system – from pre-arrival information support to workforce participation – and aims to make improvements within each step.*

(4) Non-exploitative financing for migration

Policy Options:

- Foster gender-responsive legal, social and financial protection measures for migrants through bilateral and multilateral dialogue and other platforms.
- Engage the private sector (e.g. banks and financial institutions) in lowering the labor migration costs for migrants.

Options for practical action:

- Help promote a race to the top among recruiters by working with private-sector employers and recruiters towards having employers pay the cost of recruitment rather than migrants (as it is usually the case with highly skilled professionals).
- Promote financial literacy and inclusion for migrant workers and members of their families to ensure that their migration process does not spiral into further indebtedness.

> ### *Policy and Practice Examples*
>
> *IFAD is currently involved in a process of **identification of investment opportunities in rural areas**[60] for Senegalese migrants with a broad range of actors in Senegal and abroad. Main topics of discussions are the institutional framework and potential for investments, possible models of interventions, and financial intermediaries for potential resource mobilization. The objective is to facilitate financial intermediation for micro and small enterprises and enhance opportunities of intervention for rural investments for migrants.*
>
> *The **Philippines seafarers**[61] are not required to pay placement fees. In the case of performing artists and entertainers bound for Japan, fees are paid by the employer.*
>
> *In the **New Zealand Recognized Seasonal Employers Scheme**[62], providing up to 9,000 places per year, with Pacific Island countries, recruitment fees are paid for by employers. The same is true of the **Australian seasonal worker program**[63].*

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[59] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1754.
[60] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2276.
[61] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2671.
[62] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1930.
[63] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2210.

3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND GOVERNANCE OF MIGRATION IN ALL ITS DIMENSIONS, INCLUDING AT BORDERS, ON TRANSIT, ENTRY, RETURN, READMISSION, INTEGRATION AND REINTEGRATION.

The issue of international cooperation and governance of migration has figured prominently throughout all GFMD Summits. The GFMD has repeatedly underlined the need for vertical and horizontal policy coherence as well as mainstreaming migration into development plans. There is growing recognition of the fact that the international community will be able to manage migration to the benefit of all only through common principles, institutions and processes.

Likewise, the Sutherland Report puts particular attention to the issue of international cooperation and governance of migration. In relation to the GFMD, the report recommends to repurpose the Forum in view of recent developments in the area of international cooperation on migration.[64] The report recommends investing in State capacities to manage migration[65]; foster inclusive national debate and policy coherence on migration[66]; empower cities and local governments[67]; and strengthen United Nations leadership and capacities on migration.[68]

The need to collect and analyze data for improved, evidence-based migration policies and accountability has figured prominently in the GFMD debates in the last years and constitutes another convergent issue between GFMD discussions and the Sutherland report. Sutherland makes detailed proposals for improving our knowledge of migration, clarifying the potential and capitalizing on 'big data', developing tools and capacities to monitor migration-related SDGs and state performance as regards rights for people on the move through the creation of a global independent database.[69]

On the issues of return, readmission and reintegration, the Sutherland Report points out that states have no obligation to open their borders to all migrants, but they do have an interest for migration to occur legally and safely, respecting the human rights of migrants. Sutherland underlines that to achieve this, each government needs to work out, and articulate clearly, on what terms it will allow migrants to enter, stay and work or facilitate their departure and return[70] and urges states to develop global principles on return, readmission and reintegration. Acknowledging the GFMD's capacity to provide a space for facilitating mutual understanding on controversial issues, Sutherland calls upon the states to utilize existing fora such as the GFMD to start a dialogue among countries of origin, transit and destination on return policies and standards, ultimately aimed at establishing shared principles to govern cooperation on return and reintegration globally.[71] GFMD discussions at the 2017 Berlin Summit also started to address this issue.

As for the 2030 Agenda, it explicitly strives for international migration governance by including a specific target for facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration (SDG 10.7). Additionally, SDG 17 focuses on partnerships to foster policy coherence (17.14), multi-stakeholder partnerships that contribute to sustainable development (17.16) and public-private and civil

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[64] *Sutherland Report*, 2017, Recommendation 15.
[65] Ibid., Recommendation 11.
[66] Ibid., Recommendation 13.
[67] Ibid., Recommendation 14.
[68] Ibid., Recommendation 16.
[69] Ibid., Recommendation 12.
[70] Ibid., para. 23 and Recommendation 6.
[71] Ibid., Recommendation 7.

society partnerships in the field of migration (17.17), as well as high-quality timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts (17.18).

The 2015 GFMD Summit in Turkey introduced the subject of forced migration, with explicit reference to refugees for the first time in GFMD history. As a fundamental principle of international law in this field, the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees protects persons from being expelled to a country where their life or freedom would be threatened on account of race, religion, nationality, or membership of a particular social group or political opinion.[72] Recognizing non-refoulement as a subsidiary of prohibitions on torture, the 1984 UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment prohibits expelling, returning or extraditing a person to another state where there are substantial grounds for believing that he or she would be in danger of being subjected to torture.[73]

The Issue Brief[74] and the Co-Facilitators' Summary[75] of the Thematic Consultations that took place on 19-20 June 2017 at the UN Office in Geneva outline the content covered by this cluster. Past GFMD discussions have come up with a significant number of policy options and options for practical action as well as policy and practice examples around the relevant topics. Most importantly, these include the following focus areas:

(1) Policy and institutional coherence, and synergies; regional partnerships;

(2) Fact-based governance, impact orientation and monitoring;

(3) Multi-stakeholder involvement;

(4) Return and Reintegration.

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[72] UNGA, Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (*Refugee Convention*), A/RES/429(V), 1951, http://www.unhcr.org/3b66c2aa10, Art. 33.
[73] UNGA, Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (*Convention against Torture; CAT*), A/RES/40/128, 1985, Art. 3, https://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/40/a40r128.htm.
[74] GCM Thematic Sessions, Issue Brief #3, 2017, http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/ts3_issuesbrief.pdf.
[75] GCM Thematic Sessions, Co-Facilitators' Summary #3, 2017, http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/ts3_co-fascilitators_summary.pdf.

(1) Policy and institutional coherence, and synergies; regional partnerships

Policy Options:

- Include immigration policies among strategies to address demographic challenges and skill gaps in national and local development plans, as well as using Poverty Reduction Strategies, disaster risk reduction strategies, national climate change adaption policies and sectoral development planning and activities to achieve the migration-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Complement these frameworks by a combination of policies, concrete actions and programs at all governance levels.
- Promote the mutual reinforcement between the commitments of the GCM and those of the 2030 Agenda / SDGs and other development and humanitarian-related frameworks to ensure consistent and complementary action at all levels.
- Strengthen regional partnerships, such as the Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs) in the design and implementation of migration policies, and exchange of data and best practices. Encourage information sharing on joint alliances or joint standards that promote similar and consistent guidelines. Include civil society, workers' and employers' organizations and the private sector in these partnerships.

Options for practical action:

- Establish inter-ministerial working groups to ensure policy coherence between relevant ministries and agencies at the national level and facilitate intra-governmental information sharing through appropriate dissemination strategies.
- Establish formal and informal mechanisms for communication and consultation between government officials responsible for migration and development policies at all levels of government, while taking into account the interlinkages of different policy areas. Ensure the consultation and involvement of representatives from local governments, Civil Society Organizations, including diaspora organizations, and representative employers' and workers' associations when planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating national and local policy frameworks or programs.
- Establish review mechanisms for policy coherence to ensure consistency within the actions taken.
- Draw on actions implemented at the local level for the conceptualization of national development plans, thus complementing national policies with a "bottom-up approach" and promoting vertical policy coherence. Similarly, link the work from the national to the regional to the global levels.
- Provide capacity building measures to local authorities for planning, implementing and evaluating activities at local level.

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Policy and Practice Examples

*The **UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI)** issued a **study**[76] that looks at how to foster vertical coherence in migration management for development from the local to the national levels through the establishment of a regional committee on migration and development (CMD) in the Philippines. A CMD can serve to link up local, regional and national actors working in migration management and build synergies and collaboration between and among the various projects, activities and services provided. This can serve to optimize the benefits of migration for national and local development and reduce its negative effects.*

***Mexico**'s new **Migration Law**[77] specifically incorporates past GFMD recommendations in order to strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation to manage the flows of international migration and to incorporate migration in development policies and poverty-reduction strategies. The main tenet of the Migratory Act is the protection of human rights of migrants, especially women and children. Mexico recognizes the important contributions made by migrants to the host countries, as well as to their country of origin.*

*At the bilateral level, the **Swiss authorities** have engaged in **migration partnerships**[78] with African and Western Balkan countries. Usually formalized by means of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), they identify common issues and challenges with regard to readmission, return assistance, visa policy, prevention of human trafficking, migrants' human rights and other aspects.*

*The **UK** has established a **Migration Impacts Forum**[79] to allow for a national debate and dialogue with key service providers on the wider impacts associated with migration experienced by local areas, and to identify and share good practices in managing these impacts. The forum recognizes that immigration could benefit the UK, but it has to be properly managed, fair, effective and planned in all its implications.*

*In the **Republic of Moldova**, the **Prime-Minister adopted a disposition on the implementation of the-whole-of-Government approach**[80] on Migration and Diaspora. According to the document, in all national authorities there is a focal point responsible for implementation, and a key person responsible for promotion of the Diaspora Policies. The novelty of the Moldovan Mainstreaming is based on an empiric-based approach to policy design and policy coherence issues. In this regard, every policy designing unit will calculate the Migration impact when elaborating new policies (ex-ante) and when assessing policy implementation (ex-post).*

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[76] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5188.
[77] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/25.
[78] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5035.
[79] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1928.
[80] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1693.

(2) Fact-based governance, impact orientation and monitoring

Policy Options:

- Improve the collection, analysis and sharing of data on migration (including gender and age disaggregated data), consistent with privacy and data protection principles. To ensure comprehensive and reliable data, all relevant government agencies should provide and share their available data.
- Encourage monitoring and the evaluation of local, national and regional migration policies, mainstreaming initiatives and policy coherence frameworks.

Options for practical action:

- Implement the existing recommendation of the Sutherland Report, referring to the recommendations of the Commission on International Migration Data for Development Research and Policy[81] to:

  1) Ask basic census questions and make the data publicly available;
  2) Compile and release existing administrative data;
  3) Centralize Labor Force Surveys;
  4) Provide access to microdata, not just tabulations;
  5) Include migration modules in more existing household surveys.[82]

- Set up a fund and build institutional capacities in developing countries to collect, store, analyze and disseminate migration data.
- Establish evidence-based indicators, gather and analyze data, especially on the local level to support national and cross-sectoral planning and policy, particularly in the framework of achieving the 2030 sustainable development goals.
- Develop migration profiles for local, national and regional contexts and include gender and age disaggregated data, in order to have a clearer picture of the profile and needs of migrants and host communities as well as to better tailor programs and match them to job opportunities.
- Establish an observatory to collect data and experiences of reintegration and undertake longitudinal or one-time studies on the impact of reintegration on the local labor market in the country of origin, as well as analyzing social impacts including on returned children.
- Establish migration and work authorization processes that are clearly outlined, forms that are accessible, processing fees that are transparent and reasonably related to the application, and processing timeframes that are reported and accurate.

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[81] Center for Global Development, Improving Migration Data (05 / 2008 – 05 / 2009), http://www.cgdev.org/working-group/improving-migration-data.
[82] *Sutherland Report*, 2017, Recommendation 12(a).

> ### *Policy and Practice Examples*
>
> *The **Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF)**[83], developed by **IOM**, represents an internationally agreed definition of SDG target 10.7 on implementing well-managed migration policies. This tool builds on existing international instruments, norms and research to ensure that migration is governed in an integrated and holistic way. IOM is using MiGOF to advise governments on both policy and programmatic priorities that lead to the development of targeted, impactful and strategic programs.*
>
> *The **ILO Multilateral Framework on Labor Migration (2006)**[84] represents a considered response to widespread demands for practical guidance and action with a view to maximizing the benefits of labor migration for all parties. It is guided by international labor standards, in particular the fundamental principles and rights at work and the relevant ILO Conventions and Recommendations.*
>
> *The **Integrated Migration Information System Project (IMIS)**[85] is a technical tool and a capacity building mechanism that supports the Emigration Sector of the Ministry of Manpower and Emigration in the management of regular migration flows from **Egypt**, improving Egyptian migrants' social status in receiving countries and channeling human and financial resources resulting from the phenomenon of migration.*
>
> *The Government of **Nigeria**, with support from IOM and the European Union, adopted a **National Policy on Migration**[86] in 2015. The policy and its implementation plan provide an appropriate legal framework for monitoring and regulating internal and international migration, and proper collection and dissemination of migration data. It also addresses issues related to diaspora mobilization, border management, decent treatment of migrants, internally displaced persons, asylum seekers and the role of civil society in migration management.*

(3) Multi-stakeholder involvement

Policy Options:

- Promote enhanced cooperation between governments, international organizations, civil society and diaspora organizations, academia, trade unions, employer organizations and the private sector and include these multiple stakeholders in mainstreaming migration into development planning and processes.
- Form coalitions between groups of different stakeholders to take forward specific issues with countries, civil society, workers' and employers' organizations and the private sector. Be clear on interests; different actors have different priorities.
- Develop national strategies to operationalize the guiding principles and guidelines and set up a multi-stakeholder and a "whole-of-government" approach to migration governance,

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[83] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5694.
[84] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/123.
[85] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1910.
[86] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2325.

covering all policy dimensions of migration and ensuring that "no migrant is left outside" of the framework.

- Ensure that national and local authorities, CSOs, trade unions and employers have clear, distinctive, and coordinated tasks and roles to support migrants' integration efforts and to contribute to the implementation of successful integration policies and practices.

Options for practical action:

- Encourage the meaningful involvement of government departments and agencies at all levels (and where appropriate non-governmental actors), including the private sector, trade unions and CSOs in regional consultation processes (RCPs).
- Foster exchanges of information, best practices, and cooperation between all stakeholders involved to ensure coordination, complementarity and coherence across all activities.
- Encourage the establishment of coordination mechanisms at the local, national and the international levels to ensure a cohesive and cross-sectoral approach to migration policy development.

Policy and Practice Examples

*Official representatives from 38 member countries and associate members of the **United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)** adopted the **Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development**[87] to strengthen the implementation of population and development issues. In terms of international migration and the protection of the human rights of all migrants, delegates agreed to ensure the full inclusion of all related matters in global, regional and national post-2015 development agendas and strategies; provide assistance and protection for migrants; fully respect their rights; and promote the signing of bilateral and multilateral social security conventions that include migrant workers.*

*The **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)** is a regional group of fifteen countries, founded in 1975. Its mission is to promote economic integration in all fields of economic activity, particularly industry, transport, telecommunications, energy, agriculture, natural resources, commerce, monetary and financial questions, social and cultural matters. ECOWAS has introduced the **ECOWAS Passport**[88] and has put in place a visa for certain categories of people to facilitate their movement in these grouping's member states.*

*Canada has industry associations that coordinate with the government, private sector, and civil society to inform immigration policies and capacity building programs. For example, the **Information and Communication Technology Council (ICTC) of Canada**[89] coordinates with governments, associations, schools, employers, and immigrant and community organizations to ensure that employers meet their hiring needs. ICTC works to inform immigration policies governing the admission of tech and IT talent based on employer feedback. ICTC also provides a matching role between migrants and employment opportunities and cooperates with civil society to ensure migrants smoothly transition into the workplace. They have achieved a 2.84 percent unemployment rate among immigrants with ICT skillsets in Canada.*

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[87] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2387.
[88] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1901.
[89] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5763.

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(4) Return and Reintegration

Policy Options:

- Reinforce the effectiveness of cooperation and partnership on border management and return migration between countries of origin, transit and destination through rights-based bilateral agreements and regional initiatives. States have the sovereign right to determine which non-nationals may enter their territories and under what conditions. This must be done consistent with international law. Encourage countries of origin, transit and destination to jointly develop holistic global principles on safe and sustainable return, readmission and reintegration and ensure comprehensive rights-based policy and programs for returning migrants both in voluntary and enforcement-related cases.
- Foster the inclusion of re-integration into migration policy development to effectively link return and re-integration policies between host countries and countries of origin and to enable returning migrants to become the catalyst of socio-economic development in their home communities. Ensure policy coherence and coordination by addressing host communities and returnees together.

Options for practical action:

- Support the provision of pre-departure language and vocational training and preparation for return.
- Identify key rights-based indicators for successful return and reintegration, monitor the long-term impacts and strengthen the evaluation capacity at all levels to make return and reintegration more sustainable.
- Develop specific approaches for migrants in vulnerable situations, voluntary and enforcement-related return as well as for temporary and circular migration schemes. Systematically review reintegration experiences from civil society.

Policy and Practice Examples

*The returnee program **Returning to New Opportunities**[90], commissioned by **Germany**, supports people to re-integrate when returning to their countries of origin along three phases. While in Germany, a telephone hotline and a website provide an overview of voluntary return and reintegration options in migrants' home countries. Reintegration scouts based at counseling centers for return inform about the services of migration counseling centers and reintegration projects in the countries of origin. In the targeted eleven countries of origin, migration counseling centers serve as an initial point of contact for returnees and form a link between pre-departure counseling in Germany and reintegration programs. These Centers for Jobs, Migration and Reintegration also offer advice to the local population regarding job opportunities, regular migration channels and the dangers of irregular migration. Migration counseling centers are already in place in Kosovo, Albania, Serbia, Tunisia and Morocco. More centers are planned in Nigeria, Senegal, Ghana, Iraq and Afghanistan. Furthermore, Germany strengthens and expands existing development projects to assist returnees with finding a job and starting their own businesses and to facilitate social re-integration.*

*The **National Reintegration Centre for Overseas Filipino Workers**[91] supports enterprise development among migrants and their families, primarily through the creation of awareness on the value of saving, and empowerment to plan for investment, business, or local employment upon their return.*

*The **Happy Return Program**[92] by the **Korean government** offers vocational training, pre-return recruitment services and administrative support for migrants that plan to return to their home country.*

*Similarly, **Nepal** established **public-private partnerships**[93] to provide skills training and financial literacy programs for returning migrants.*

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[90] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5714.
[91] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2167.
[92] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1689.
[93] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/52.

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4. CONTRIBUTIONS OF MIGRANTS AND DIASPORAS TO ALL DIMENSIONS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING REMITTANCES AND PORTABILITY OF EARNED BENEFITS

Based on the pledge to harness the contribution of diasporas and migrants for sustainable development – an element included in Annex II of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants[94] – these topics deal on a large scale with the day-to-day lives of migrants, especially with regard to remittances, capacity development, and the recognition of migrants and diaspora as agents for development.

Recognizing the positive impacts migrants' contributions can have on the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, GFMD discussions have focused on elevating those contributions by a range of different measures, such as: reducing migration-related costs, increasing the impact of remittances through lowering transfer costs and easier access to financial services, and fostering diaspora partnerships. From the very first GFMD in Brussels, its Roundtables have highlighted the need to facilitate the transfer of remittances and maximize their impact for development. Furthermore, the 2013-2014 Swedish Chairmanship put the topic of ensuring portability of earned benefits on GFMD's agenda. The 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) equally stresses this topic.[95]

The potential of migrants as development agents as well as the corresponding need to enhance their contributions has also been recognized in the AAAA[96] as well as the Agenda 2030. Here, SDG target 10.c on the reduction of transaction costs for remittances of migrants to below 3% until 2030 plays a crucial role. In this context, the Sutherland report calls for a more concerted effort (for instance through a coordinated campaign led by the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Bank) to bring together government policymakers and regulators, financial industry representatives and technology entrepreneurs in order to:

a) facilitate access to financial services;
b) foster competition in remittance markets;
c) stop equating remittances with money-laundering.[97]

Based on a genuinely positive causality between migration and development, the Sutherland Report captures the portability of earned social benefits as a matter of fairness for migrants, countries of origin and effective migration policy in destination countries. Therefore, Sutherland urges International Organizations such as ILO and the World Bank to intensify their coordination and step up their efforts in assisting states in this regard.[98] The World Bank's global knowledge and policy hub on migration, KNOMAD, has been involved in important research in this area.

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[94] *New York Declaration*, 2016, Annex II, para. 8(d).
[95] *Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA)*, 2015, para. 111.
[96] *Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA)*, 2015, para. 40.
[97] *Sutherland Report*, 2017, Recommendation 9.
[98] Ibid., Recommendation 8.

The Issue Brief[99] and the Co-Facilitators' Summary[100] of the Thematic Consultations that took place on 24-25 July 2017 at the UN Headquarters in New York outline the content covered by this cluster. Past GFMD discussions have come up with a significant number of policy options and options for practical action as well as policy and practice examples around the relevant topics. Most importantly, these include the following focus areas:

(1) Migrants' role as development actors;

(2) Reducing costs of migration and increasing impact of remittances;

(3) Establishing diaspora partnerships;

(4) Recognizing contributions and fostering capacity development of migrant organizations;

(5) Portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits.

(1) Migrants' role as development actors

Policy Options:

- Mainstream migration into development by including migration in national and local development plans and establishing a multi-stakeholder dialogue (including diaspora and migrant organizations, and the private sector in origin countries, host countries and transit countries) that recognize the role of migrants as agents for development and as part of the solutions to demographic challenges and skill gaps.
- Factor the contribution of migration to development outcomes into development strategies, considering the inter-linkages between international and internal migration processes.

Options for practical action:

- Ensure appropriate frameworks for the involvement of migrant organizations and diaspora on key subjects that affect them and the communities where they live and work in order to enhance the impact of migration at the local, national and regional levels and recognize the multiple contributions to the development of local communities.
- Facilitate the positive financial contributions of migrants, e.g. by issuing diaspora bonds to fund development projects.

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[99] GCM Thematic Sessions, Issue Brief #4, 2017,
http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/ts4_issuebrief.pdf.
[100] GCM Thematic Sessions, Co-Facilitators' Summary #4, 2017,
http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/ts4_co-facilitators_summary.pdf.

Policy and Practice Examples

*IOM and the **UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI)**[101] issued a **white paper**[102] with the objective to develop and articulate an understanding of what mechanisms, actors and parameters are mobilized when migration is integrated into local policy making. The paper finds that a systematic approach to mainstreaming needs to facilitate the socioeconomic integration of migrants, build on the opportunities brought by diaspora activities, encourage decentralized cooperation, and comprehensively address important migration flows and adopt a rights-based approach. It also contains policy recommendations for a broad range of actors.*

*Since migrant organizations serve as a bridge between immigrants and the host society, the **German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)** has supported selected migrant organizations in building capacities. This structural support aims at **establishing migrant organizations**[103], which work in all parts of Germany as a steady and reliable point of contact for federal authorities. BAMF provides funding to help the organizations set up a secretariat and make their work more professional.*

(2) Reducing costs of migration and increasing impact of remittances

Policy Options:

- Encourage innovations, for instance development of new technologies, in money transfer mechanisms, enhance competition and transparency in the remittances market and ensure the full use of services already existing to bring down remittance costs to targeted levels in accordance with the commitments in the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.
- Support knowledge-based decision-making by all actors (senders and recipients) and ensure transparent dissemination of information on the issue.
- Promote financial inclusion and literacy, as well as portability of earned benefits for migrant workers.
- Improve remittances data to foster effective policies and private-sector investment.
- Bring together public, private and civil society at the national, regional and international levels to agree on realistic policies and actions.

Options for practical action:

- Set up online portals to compare remittances costs and increase transparency, improve security, support partnerships between commercial banks, money transfer operators and other actors in sending and receiving countries.
- Implement financial literacy programs. Provide and distribute high-quality information on financial services for senders and recipients of remittances.

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[101] http://www.migration4development.org/en/about/about-jmdi.
[102] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2385.
[103] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5234.

- Create operational partnerships among policymakers and regulators, financial industry representatives and technology entrepreneurs, in order to bring down high remittance costs in specific corridors, such as between African countries.
- Develop targeted investment instruments and structures for migrant households, including those with relatively low-income and savings, and promote financial products contributing to the economic development of the countries of origin.
- Develop a methodology to distinguish remittances from illicit flows, in order to improve regulations in this field which have forced smaller money transfer operators to close down.
- Strengthen the capacities of public authorities to implement standardized measurement and reporting protocols for remittance flows and related data, beginning with existing datasets on flows, costs and access points.
- Develop strategic national remittance plans in recipient countries, using maps that identify access points, financial services and apply related metrics to highlight priority areas for the improvement of remittance formalization and financial inclusion.

Policy and Practice Examples

*The website **envoidargent.fr**[104] offers to compare remittances costs on 26 corridors in **France** and also has editorial space for diaspora to communicate on their activities and exchange ideas on the blog. It has contributed to fostering competition between remittance operators through increased transparency and information. It is also widely used by diaspora members as a platform to share information. Similar initiatives can be found in the **UK**[105] or **Mexico**[106].*

*The **Global Forum on Remittances, Investment and Development (GFRID)**[107], organized by **IFAD**[108] together with the **World Bank** and **UNDESA** at the UN headquarters in New York on 15-16 June 2017 brought together over 340 practitioners from the public and private sectors to discuss challenges and opportunities in the remittance market, and present innovative approaches and successful business models, framing the discussions around the role of migrants' remittances and investment towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.*

*The **International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR)**[109], celebrated every year on 16 June, is aimed at recognizing the significant financial contribution migrant workers make to the wellbeing of their families back home and to the sustainable development of their countries of origin. Organized by **IFAD**, it is also aimed at encouraging the public and private sectors, as well as the civil society, to collaborate to maximize the impact of these funds in the developing world. In 2017 the Day received an unprecedented support from the private sector, with over 100 Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) through IAMTN, 800 mobile companies through GSMA (including Vodafone), 6,000 savings banks across 80 countries through WSBI, and over 100 emerging payments entities through EPA.*

(3) Establishing diaspora partnerships

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[104] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1682.
[105] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/468.
[106] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/76.
[107] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5817.
[108] http://www.ifad.org/remittances.
[109] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5040.

Policy Options:

- Establish diaspora partnerships at all levels to strengthen the cultural and economic ties between countries and increase coordination among different actors.
- Include diaspora actors in policy development initiatives. Establish policies and practices that enhance the links between diaspora and countries of origin, and encourage the diaspora to actively participate in the development strategies of their countries of origin.

Options for practical action:

- Enhance research for collecting, analyzing and sharing evidence-based data on diaspora (numbers, location, skills, needs), in order to include diaspora organizations in the development planning of home and host countries.
- Create an enabling environment for diaspora activities, for instance by providing multiple re-entry visas, dual citizenship, recognition of skills and portability of earned social benefits. Achieving policy coherence and cross-sectoral synergies often does not require significant financial investments, but makes a big difference, such as through cooperation between financial institutions and institutions responsible for diaspora engagement.
- Invest in evaluations to better assess outcomes of diaspora engagement, investment promotion and government spending on migration-related initiatives.

> ### *Policy and Practice Examples*
>
> *The Ecuadorian Government established an initiative called "Prometeo"[110] that seeks to strengthen research, academy, and knowledge transfer in cooperation with the country's Diaspora. It aims at identifying and mapping skilled migrants living outside of Ecuador in order to use their skills to carry out development projects that are based on the needs of the country. Through this project, migrants are attracted back temporarily or permanently to contribute in areas such as life sciences, natural resources or innovation. A similar initiative was established in Argentina[111].*
>
> *Through its bridge-building character, the African-Europe Diaspora Development Platform (ADEPT)[112] aims at improving and enhancing the capacity and impact of African diaspora organizations involved in development activities in Africa. It sets the ground for comprehensive platform-building activities, which are led and managed by African diaspora organizations based in Europe. Also, it seeks to strengthen independent, effectively functioning diaspora organizations and fosters their cooperation through capacity building, and provides for relevant and appropriate coordination between diaspora organizations, countries of residence and countries of origin.*

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[110] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5074.
[111] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5073.
[112] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2639.

(4) Recognizing contributions and fostering capacity development of migrant organizations

Policy Options:

- Expand the capacities and roles of migrant and diaspora associations and Civil Society Organizations, e.g. through enhanced capacity building and decentralized cooperation.

Options for practical action:

- Facilitate local integration by offering language courses, trainings or recognition of professional qualifications, as informed by the private sector to enhance uptake of migrant skills into the job market.
- Facilitate the engagement of migrants in local businesses or as entrepreneurs, e.g. by supporting migrant associations.

Policy and Practice Examples

UNWomen *established migration as a focus area within their economic empowerment work and created a regional **Empowering Women Migrant Workers in Asia program**[113]. It aims to protect the rights of women migrant workers and help women migrant workers to protect themselves from exploitation. It also promotes safe migration of women migrant workers and has a special focus on domestic workers. In 2010, UNWomen helped the Government of Bangladesh to establish its first Resource Center so women who wished to migrate could easily obtain correct information. Workshops and radio broadcasts have made women more aware of their rights.*

*In Mexico, the **UN Trust Fund for Human Security** supports **the strengthening of government institutions and civil society capacities to improve the protection of migrants in transit.**[114] The primary goal of the project is to improve the human security of migrants in transit through southern Mexico. It has three main aims: (1) strengthening the capacities of federal and state government institutions to enhance the effectiveness of their assistance to migrants in transit; (2) improving the capacities of civil society organizations, specifically shelters, to provide improved assistance to migrants in transit, especially migrants who may be vulnerable and potential refugees; and (3) promoting and strengthening protection networks for migrants in host communities.*

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[113] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1893.
[114] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2327.

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(5) Portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits

Policy Options:

- Facilitate access to social protection for regular migrant workers and their families to ensure the fulfillment of their right to social security and support fair labor migration.
- Enhance cooperation in order to make social security schemes between countries with different social benefit systems compatible for migrants.

Options for practical action:

- Build constituents' capacities to reinforce existing, as well as develop and implement new bilateral and/or multilateral social security agreements to facilitate the portability of migrant workers' rights and social security benefits;
- Extend access of migrant workers and their families, where appropriate, to national social protection systems, including through social protection floors;
- Include social security provisions in temporary labor migration programs or bilateral labor agreements. Alternatively, require employers to pay contributions for work, including work performed by temporary residents.

Policy and Practice Examples

Ghana operates a three-tier social security system.[115] The first two tiers are mandatory, and the third is voluntary. Social security contributions are portable, that is they can be transferred from one social security scheme to that in another country, and are to be paid in respect to both local and expatriate staff. The guidelines issued by the Social Security and National Insurance Trust exempt the following categories of expatriates from contributing to Tier 1: expatriate workers engaged on a short-term assignment, and expatriate workers who contribute to a pension scheme in their own home country, with evidence to be provided in the form of pay checks showing deductions made to this scheme.

Sweden has entered into social security agreements[116] with 11 countries that mainly cover retirement, disability and survivors' pensions. They also contain coordination and aggregation rules in addition to regulating the portability of benefits.

The ILO Migration for Employment Recommendation (Revised), 1949 (No. 86)[117] supplements the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised 1949), No.97 by including provisions for migrants who are refugees and displaced persons. It contains guidance on, among other matters, the organization of the free service provided to assist migrants and the types of assistance that it should provide, as well as the information that states should make available to the ILO. It provides for the regulation of intermediaries undertaking the recruitment, introduction or placing of migrants for employment.

The ILO Maintenance of Social Security Rights Recommendation, 1983 (No. 167)[118] contains provisions with regard to the maintenance of rights in social security. It supplements the Equality of Treatment Convention No.118 (1962) and the Maintenance of Social Security Rights Convention No.157 (1982). It expresses the necessity to promote the conclusion of bilateral or multilateral social security instruments between States.

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[115] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/65.
[116] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1571.
[117] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5814.
[118] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5815.

5. ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF MIGRATION, INCLUDING ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, NATURAL DISASTERS AND HUMAN-MADE CRISES, THROUGH PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, POVERTY ERADICATION, CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESOLUTION.

Since the 2010 Summit in Mexico, the GFMD has discussed ways to address drivers of irregular and forced migration, be it conflict, human rights violations, lack of opportunities, economic, demographic or environmental factors, by enhancing human development and human security through cooperation and responsibility sharing. This also covered social and political dynamics across international borders in the context of crises. The debates included effective practices and principles in terms of regular pathways, humanitarian visa and temporary protection for migrants in situations of conflict, climate change and disasters caused by natural hazards. Most recently, a Thematic Workshop in Rabat in May 2017 looked exclusively at the question of the impact of climate change on human mobility.

While underlining that the overwhelming majority of migrants move via regular pathways, the discussions at the GFMD recognized that there are some instances where persons are displaced across borders in the context of disaster and climate change, but do not fall under the protection of the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees[119]. These persons may nonetheless be in need of protection and assistance. Particular concern arises from the situation of people whose livelihoods and human settlements have or might become unsustainable as a consequence of the adverse effects of climate change and deteriorating environmental conditions. Similarly, the so-called "trapped populations" – those not able to migrate due to a lack of resources – are particularly vulnerable in these contexts.

In recent years, various international frameworks adopted in the areas of climate change, disaster risk reduction, migration and development have recognized the importance of the roles played by crises, disasters and other climate-related impacts as drivers of migration and have provided entry points to take concrete action:

- The 2010 Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Cancun invited States to enhance their action on adaptation including by: "Measures to enhance understanding, coordination and cooperation with regard to climate change induced displacement, migration and planned relocation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels"[120];
- The 2015 Paris Climate Change Agreement explicitly references the rights of migrants in its preamble, and its associated Conference of the Parties (COP) Decision calls for the establishment of a task force on displacement "to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change"[121];

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[119] *Refugee Convention*, 1951.
[120] UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Decision 1/CP.16 (*UNFCCC; Cancun Agreements*), FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1, 2011, para. 14(f), http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cop16/eng/07a01.pdf.
[121] UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Decision 1/CP.21 (*UNFCCC; Paris Agreement*), FCCC/CP/2015/L.9/Rev.1, 2015, para. 49, http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/l09r01.pdf.

- The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR)[122] acknowledges in its preamble that displacement is one of the devastating effects of disasters and that migrants are relevant stakeholders;
- The 2015 Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda[123] conceptualizes a comprehensive approach to disaster-related cross-border displacement and its prevention;
- In 2016, the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Initiative published a set of Guidelines[124] seeking to improve the ability of states and other stakeholders to prepare for and respond to the needs of migrants in countries dealing with crises.

The SDGs as a whole have been discussed by the GFMD as an overriding framework on root causes and drivers of migration. Although the SDGs do not explicitly connect climate change, environmental degradation and migration, migration will likely impact the implementation of SDG 13 on climate action and of SDG 15 on sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems. This requires governments to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, as well as to combat desertification and land degradation. Measures to build resilience in climate vulnerable countries are needed to contribute to achieving food security and sustainable agriculture (SDG 2), thus minimizing climate-induced forced and irregular mobility. Additionally, SDG 17 calls for revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development.

Situations of armed conflict and violence are today the major causes of refugee movements. However migrants may also be affected by crisis, particularly in the context of migrants living, working, studying, traveling, or transiting in the country experiencing the crisis. The Sutherland Report calls on states to expand the use of humanitarian admissions, regular pathways and migration opportunities for study, work and family reunion, to help people fleeing countries in crisis move safely to places where they can be protected.[125] Sutherland underscores that states must agree on how to address large crisis-related movements to save people on the move from death and suffering, but also to avoid the corrosive effect of ad hoc responses on the political institutions and the public's trust in them.[126]

The Issue Brief[127] and the Co-Facilitators' Summary[128] of the Thematic Consultations that took place on 22-23 May at the UN Headquarters in New York outline the content covered by this cluster. Past GFMD discussions have come up with a significant number of policy options and options for practical action as well as policy and practice examples around the relevant topics. Most importantly, these include the following focus areas:

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[122] UNGA, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (*Sendai Framework; SFDRR*), A/RES/69/283, 2015, http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/69/283&Lang=E.
[123] Nansen Initiative Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change (*Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda*), 2015, https://nanseninitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/PROTECTION-AGENDA-VOLUME-1.pdf.
[124] Migrants in Countries in Crises, Guidelines to Protect Migrants in Countries Experiencing Conflict or Natural Disaster (*MICIC Guidelines*), 2016, https://micicinitiative.iom.int/sites/default/files/document/micic_guidelines_english_web_13_09_2016.pdf.
[125] *Sutherland Report*, 2017, Recommendation 3.
[126] Ibid, para. 30.
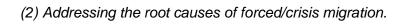[127] GCM Thematic Sessions, Issue Brief #2, 2017, http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/issue_brief_ts2_final.pdf.
[128] GCM Thematic Sessions, Co-Facilitators' Summary #2, 2017, http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/ts2_cofacilitators_summary.pdf.

(1) Addressing vulnerability and long-term needs of migrants throughout crises and in the face of climate change and environmental degradation;

(2) Addressing the root causes of forced/crisis migration.

(1) Addressing vulnerability and long-term needs of migrants throughout crises and in the face of climate change and environmental degradation

Policy Options:

- Promote greater cross-sector and multidisciplinary coherence at local, national, regional and international levels of policies and decisions regarding the interconnections of climate change, disaster risk reduction, migration and development. Synthesize trade, labor migration and other policies and take into account their effects on development. Mainstream the needs of migrants in prevention, preparedness, emergency and recovery response frameworks, including contingency and evacuation plans.
- Involve development actors in conflict sensitive interventions, based on the principles of do-no-harm and leave no-one behind, at the very beginning of large movements of people, and establish wide partnerships between all actors, including between humanitarian and development actors, and also including the private sector.
- Encourage whole-of-government approaches and promote multi-stakeholder and multi-level cooperation, including the private sector, at all times to ensure migrants' well-being in their host countries as well as in their countries of origin and to support their, and their communities` recovery from crises. Stress the importance of inclusion of the host society in all measures applied.
- Strengthen emergency assistance to migrants and facilitate migrants' access to safety, regardless of their status, in times of crisis.
- Adopt preparatory measures to prevent and mitigate the impacts of displacement, leverage the agency of people at risk and address vulnerabilities with a focus on local level.
- Enhance interstate cooperation in order to respond to the specific long-term needs of migrants in the post-crisis phase so they can return and be reintegrated in their country of origin or be redeployed abroad.
- Explore policies that facilitate the connection of migrants affected by crises to skill gaps around the globe.
- Conduct skills mapping of migrant populations in situations of crises. Migrants in situations of crises can be resources to fill skill gaps globally through legal labor mobility pathways.
- Create and expand safe regular pathways to temporary, humanitarian, circular, or permanent migration, based on domestic immigration law, i.e. humanitarian visa, family reunification, labor mobility schemes, student visa or regional agreements on free movement of persons, in order to allow affected persons to adapt to climate change, cope with disasters or flee conflicts.

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Options for practical action:

- Feature human mobility in national adaptation plans, disaster risk reduction strategies and development strategies, as well as national and local disaster risk management plans.
- Encourage States and other stakeholders to refer to existing frameworks, including the MICIC Guidelines and the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda.
- Promote training of emergency responders and consular officers about the needs, vulnerability and agency of migrants in times of crisis.
- Build multi-stakeholder partnerships to protect and assist migrants in times of crisis, including private sector actors and the civil society.
- Promote migrants' resilience and agency, including by promoting ethical recruitment processes, migrants' access to services and social cohesion, and positively communicating about migrants.
- Tailor measures to address the different needs of migrants, including the most vulnerable, such as children, at all phases of their migration experience.
- Strengthen regional and international multi-stakeholder dialogue on an appropriate legal and institutional framework to address realities, benefits and challenges around climate change, environmental degradation, disaster risk reduction, migration and development, including in the context of the UNFCCC and SFDRR.
- Prioritize people from countries or areas facing natural hazards, high levels of disaster risks or climate change impacts when it comes to resettlement seasonal worker programs.

Policy and Practice Examples

*The **European Union**-funded project **Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC): Supporting an Evidence-based Approach for Effective and Cooperative State Action**[129] is a four-year project launched in January 2015 and implemented by ICMPD. The project aims to improve the capacity of states, international organizations, the private sector and civil society to assist and provide protection to migrants who find themselves in countries in crisis and address the long-term implications of such situations. MICIC developed **detailed practical Guidelines** and identified a series of effective practices on the protection of migrants in countries experiencing conflicts or natural disasters with regard to crises preparedness, emergency response and post-crisis action.[130]*

*As part of the project **The Other Migrants: Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Sustainable Development**[131] in the Republic of Mauritius', the International Organization for Migration **(IOM)** carried out a sensitization campaign between December 2010 and July 2011 to inform the general population of Mauritius about the consequences of climate change on human mobility and employment opportunities in the environmental sector. A variety of tools were used to target institutional stakeholders, youth, and the general public, including a short 19-minute video, 600 posters, a tree-planting activity, and a regional photo competition on the theme of adaptation to climate change.*

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[129] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2257.
[130] *MICIC Guidelines*, 2016.
[131] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2193.

*Established in 2016 by **Germany** (Chair) and **Bangladesh** (Vice-Chair), the **Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD)**[132] aims at following up on the work started by the **Nansen Initiative**[133] and implementing the recommendations of the Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda, endorsed by 109 governmental delegations during a Global Consultation in October 2015. The Protection Agenda offers States a toolbox to better prevent and prepare for displacement before a disaster strikes, as well as to better respond to situations when people are forced to find refuge, either within their own country or across an international border. The Agenda emphasizes the need for inclusive and sustainable development as an integral part of efforts to reduce and manage disaster displacement risks, before, during and following disasters.*

__Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB)__[134] directly connects employers in countries with a shortage of local talent to skilled migrants who have been forced to flee their countries. In July 2016, TBB launched an online "Talent Catalog" that allows migrants in crises to document their skills, work experiences, educational backgrounds, language abilities, and certifications. Over 10,000 migrants who fled conflict have registered on the Talent Catalog in TBB's two pilot countries, Lebanon and Jordan. TBB uses the database to link employers to candidates who meet their hiring needs. TBB then assists the candidates to move legally through skilled migration pathways for work opportunities. TBB works in cooperation with the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and destination country governments to address the challenges that people fleeing conflict face in accessing skilled work opportunities. Allowing educated and skilled men and women to fill jobs and rebuild their lives benefits the private sector and contributes the economic and social development of destination countries.

(2) Addressing the root causes of forced/crises migration

Policy Options:

- Undertake further scientific research on the root causes of irregular and forced migration and the types of migratory flows caused, as well as qualitative research including the voices of migrants. Collect and share quality, accessible, timely and reliable data, disaggregated by sex, age and disability, and measure the impact of drivers of forced/crises migration.
- Recognize man-made crises as one of the main drivers of forced migration, and enhance efforts to resolve conflicts. Prioritize conflict prevention, environmental degradation and peace building efforts.

Options for practical action:

- Leverage investments in governance, security, poverty eradication, education, healthcare systems, livelihood, inclusive economic development and social services in fragile regions.

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[132] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2705.
[133] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2076.
[134] https://www.gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/5897.

- Initiate preventive and preparatory measures that can mitigate the scope and scale of emergency response and minimize risks and vulnerabilities, involving migrants at all stages in the planning process.

Policy and Practice Examples

*In the year 2000, a report on the joint **Eurostat-NIDI** project aimed at studying the **push and pull factors**[135] determining international migration flows. The objective of the project is to improve understanding of the direct and indirect causes and mechanisms of international migration to the European Union, from an internationally comparative perspective. The results are intended to serve as a basis for the development of policy instruments and to provide tools for estimating future migration.*

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[135] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1906.

6. SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS, TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY, INCLUDING APPROPRIATE IDENTIFICATION, PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS AND TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

Smuggling of migrants and consequently the assistance to migrants in vulnerable situations and migrant victims of trafficking have been addressed in a number of GFMD discussions, mostly in relation to human rights.

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[136], together with its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons[137] as well as its Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air[138] form important base elements of the political framework in this area. Other international standards include the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[139], the Convention on the Rights of the Child[140] and its Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography[141], the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[142] as well as the ILO Conventions on Forced Labor[143] and the additional Protocol[144] and Recommendation[145] thereto.

The Sutherland Report proposes to expand the scope of this framework by commissioning an Independent Expert Panel to: a) develop a working definition of "migrants in vulnerable situations"; and b) provide an overview of the applicable international legal frameworks and non-binding instruments, and identify where protection gaps currently arise in law and in practice.[146] In addition, Sutherland urges states to cooperate to undercut the criminal networks that thrive on their smuggling, abduction and exploitation.[147]

The Sustainable Development Goals include a number of relevant targets, aimed at eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation (SDG 5.2), eradicating forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking and securing the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labor

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[136] UNGA, Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (*Palermo Convention; UNTOC*), A/RES/55/25, 2000, https://treaties.un.org/doc/source/docs/A_RES_55_25-E.pdf.
[137] *Palermo Convention (UNTOC)*, 2000, Annex II, p. 31.
[138] *Palermo Convention (UNTOC)*, 2000, Annex III, p. 40.
[139] UNGA, United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, A/RES/64/293, 2010, http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/293.
[140] *Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)*, 1989.
[141] UNGA, Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, A/RES/54/263, 2000, https://treaties.un.org/doc/source/docs/A_Res_54_263-E.pdf.
[142] Bejing Declaration and Platform for Action, 1995, http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/.
[143] ILO, Forced Labor Convention, C029, 1930, http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C029; ILO, Abolition of Forced Labor Convention, C105, 1957, https://web.archive.org/web/20131029200949/http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB%3A12100%3A0%3A%3ANO%3A12100%3AP12100_ILO_CODE%3AC105.
[144] ILO, Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labor Convention, P029, 2014, http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:P029.
[145] ILO, Forced Labor (Supplementary Measures) Recommendation, R203, 2014, http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:3174688.
[146] *Sutherland Report*, 2017, Recommendation 1.
[147] Ibid., Recommendation 3.

in all its forms (SDG 8.7), and ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children (SDG 16.2).

With a view to strengthening cooperation for more regular and protected migration and joint strategies to address irregular migration, also SDG 17 and its different sub-targets on partnerships are crucial elements when it comes to preventing trafficking activities.

The Issue Brief[148] and the Co-Facilitators' Summary[149] of the Thematic Consultations that took place on 4-5 September 2017 at the UN Office in Vienna outline the content covered by this cluster. Past GFMD discussions have come up with a significant number of policy options and options for practical action as well as policy and practice examples around the relevant topics. Most importantly, these include the following focus areas:

(1) Protecting migrants in vulnerable situations;

(2) Fighting human trafficking, smuggling of migrants and contemporary forms of slavery;

(3) Improving identification.

(1) Protecting migrants in vulnerable situations

Policy Options:

- Ensure that appropriate legal frameworks and policies are in place to protect all migrants from violence, abuse and exploitation irrespective of their status and at all stages of the migration process. Grant specific attention and protection to the most vulnerable groups including victims of trafficking.
- Enhance regional and international cooperation and harmonize legal instruments to prevent abusive practices circumventing regulated work migration policies. Job seekers might enter third or fourth country on a tourist or visit visa, while abusive recruiters in countries of destination take advantage of legal gaps to put them in an exploitative situation. Improve information of potential migrants in countries of origin in order to prevent them from entering into a vulnerable situation.
- Ensure all measures and procedures are guided by international and regional human rights laws, international and regional migration laws and national legislation, using a rights-based-approach. Adopt a gender and age sensitive approach to migration, in order to take into account the specific concerns and needs of those who may be vulnerable.
- Ensure migrants in vulnerable situations, including migrant victims of trafficking, have access to basic services (health care, shelter etc.) and, where needed, are provided with specific support such as psychological treatment.

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[148] GCM Thematic Sessions, Issue Brief #5, 2017,
https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/ts5_issue_brief.pdf.
[149] GCM Thematic Sessions, Co-Facilitators' Summary #5, 2017,
https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/ts5_co-facilitators_summary.pdf.

Options for practical action:

- Develop voluntary guiding principles and non-binding guidelines on migrants in vulnerable situations in countries of origin, transit and destination. Develop national strategies to operationalize these and set up a multi-stakeholder and a "whole-of-government" approach to migration governance, covering all policy dimensions of migration and ensuring that "no migrant is left outside" of the framework.
- Form and strengthen existing partnerships and coalitions for more regular and protected migration and develop joint strategies to address irregular migration (e.g. circular or temporary migration schemes, coherent migration and development strategies, opportunities for families to migrate together and maintain family unity).

Policy and Practice Examples

In order to address in a consistent and comprehensive way the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings (THB), ***Cyprus*** *has established by law a* ***Multidisciplinary Coordinating Group (MCG)***[150]. *The MCG, which is chaired by the Minister of Interior, has been assigned with the task to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the measures that are taken against THB. It has as main duties the prevention, control and suppression of THB, early identification of possible victims, the promotion of international cooperation, the monitoring of the National Action Plan, the collection of data and the submission of legislative proposals.*

The ***Manila Declaration to Enhance International Cooperation in Combating Human Trafficking***[151] *is an initiative between the* ***Philippines*** *and* ***Netherlands***. *The Declaration strengthened cooperation and joint responsibility of each stakeholder to prevent, detect and prosecute human trafficking as well as provide victim protection. It also calls for the urgent need for a comprehensive approach to stop new forms of modern-day slavery.*

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[150] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2226.
[151] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2242.

(2) Fighting human trafficking, smuggling of migrants and contemporary forms of slavery

Policy Options:

- Recognize the increasingly mixed character of irregular movements, which may include persons in need of special assistance and protection. Establish joint mechanisms for international cooperation at the multilateral, regional and bilateral levels to prevent, investigate and prosecute offences of smuggling and trafficking according to existing protocols.
- Strengthen capacities to implement the existing and to a great extent ratified international legal frameworks on trafficking. Research shows that while migrant groups prone to vulnerable situations are known, concrete cases of abuse in the context of migration and asylum are rarely identified and prosecuted. Provide evidence-based guidance in order to match assistance to the person in need. Share information in law enforcement between countries of origin, transit and destination, in order to prevent abuse and address the needs of migrants in vulnerable situations.
- Promote or strengthen development programs and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels, which take into account the socio-economic realities of migration, paying special attention to economically and socially depressed areas, in order to address the root socio-economic causes of irregular migration and the smuggling of migrants, such as poverty and underdevelopment.
- Ensure that irregular migration is not criminalized and migrants do not become liable to criminal prosecution under such protocols for having been the object of smuggling. Make sure that victims' rights are protected, and prosecute perpetrators without burdening the victims of trafficking.

Options for practical action:

- Design particular measures to ensure the safety and protection of migrants who have experienced violence, and special protection measures to prevent reoccurrence or further victimization (e.g. accessible and confidential gender-based violence prevention and protection services, functioning (trans-)national referral pathways, child protection services, including psychosocial support).
- Facilitate closer cooperation with other governments, international organizations, and all other relevant stakeholders, including from civil society, to ensure relevant public officials are adequately trained to prevent, combat and eradicate smuggling and trafficking and to protect the rights of migrants who have been victims of such.
- Engage the business sector to fight trafficking of migrants. Many companies are working to identify and eliminate abusive practices and slavery in the supply chains.
- Provide and strengthen information programs and campaigns to increase public awareness of smuggling of persons and of the fact that it can pose serious risks to the migrants concerned. States and other relevant actors should cooperate more closely in order to prevent potential migrants from falling victim to organized criminal groups.

Policy and Practice Examples

*6Degree.org[152] is a crowdfunding portal to support voluntary return and sustainable integration of human trafficking victims launched in 2015 through a partnership between **IOM** and **Microsoft**. The site is backed by Microsoft Azure cloud-computing platform, while IOM provides the resources to help human trafficking victims. The platform meets IOM`s strict requirements for victim privacy and protection and is in place not only to help victims, but also to raise awareness for human trafficking and enhance the global commitment to stopping it.*

*The **Australia-Asia[153] Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons (AAPTIP)[154]** works with ASEAN member states and sectoral bodies to strengthen criminal justice responses to human trafficking. AAPTIP supports more effective and ethical investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases. The program achieves this through training and capacity building of investigators, prosecutors, judges and court officials, and by helping establish specialist units to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases. AAPTIP has enhanced regional cooperation and ASEAN leadership on countering trafficking in persons, evidenced by increased numbers of cross-border trafficking investigations; and the development and implementation of the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons.*

*The cooperation under the **Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime**, often referred to as the **Bali Process[155]**, co-chaired by Indonesia and Australia since its inception in 2002, has more than 48 members, including international organizations. The Bali Process has developed some important mechanisms which have contributed to improving comprehensive responses to irregular migration to prevent migrant smuggling, promote early detection and protection of victims of trafficking, and strengthen the prosecution of the perpetrators of the transnational crime in the Asia Pacific Region. Among these initiatives are (1) the **Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF)** to reduce irregular migration in the Asia Pacific region, (2) the **Bali Process Government and Business Forum,** to engage the business community to curb migrant smuggling by promoting and implementing humane, non-abusive labor practices throughout their supply chains, and (3) the **Bali Process Consultation Mechanism**, as the Ministerial level mechanism to convene meetings of member states in response to emergency irregular migration situations.*

(3) Improving identification

Policy Options:

- Develop effective mechanisms and procedures for the identification of migrants who have specific protection needs in order to provide them with adequate support and protection

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[152] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2642.
[153] http://aaptip.org.
[154] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/2243.
[155] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/1895.

as soon as possible upon arrival, especially children. Develop particular measures to identify and help potential victims of trafficking.

Options for practical action:

- Strengthen and improve systems of migrant identification based on human rights and protection-sensitive principles, which acknowledge the specific needs of each group (e.g. unaccompanied children). Measures include appointing protection assistance focal points who are conversant with associated procedures and can act as liaison officers between the different actors providing protection assistance to migrants who may be vulnerable.
- Develop capacities of immigration and other relevant officials through providing specialized training. Refer persons belonging to groups prone to vulnerable situations to specialized medical, psychological and social services where needed in coordination with relevant governmental and non-governmental actors.

Policy and Practice Examples

*In order to provide a better protection for migration children, **Mexico** has created a unique model for the **Protection of Unaccompanied Migrant and returnee children and adolescents**[156]. The model includes the creation of a specialized corps of child protection officers (in Spanish: Oficial de Protección a la Infancia, OPI) within the National Migration Institute (INM). Similarly, **Thailand**[157] has set up to collect baseline data for future policies on migrant children. It aims at promoting the welfare and protection of children and families and the predominant approach of the legislative framework is one of rescue and rehabilitation.*

*The **Netherlands** established a **National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and Sexual Violence against Children**[158]. The Rapporteur's main task is to report on the nature and extent of human trafficking and sexual violence against children in the Netherlands, and on the effects of the government policies pursued. The reports contain information on relevant regulations and legislation, as well as information on prevention, criminal investigations regarding human trafficking and sexual violence against children, prosecution of perpetrators and victim support. They also contain policy recommendations aimed at improving the fight against human trafficking and sexual violence against children.*

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[156] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/19.
[157] https://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/443.
[158] http://gfmd.org/pfp/ppd/376.

III. Provide feedback on the recommendations made in the "Sutherland Report" in light of a strengthened role of the GFMD and its contribution to the Global Compact on Migration

The Sutherland Report comments on the GFMD's continued purpose in the following way:

As migration is becoming more firmly anchored in the UN, the GFMD's membership will face inevitable questions regarding the Forum's continued purpose and added value. I propose that, in the immediate future, the GFMD serve to support consensus-building on an ambitious global compact on migration and to advance the implementation of the migration-related commitments in the 2030 Agenda. The Forum could be a place where governments and other stakeholders report on their efforts to fulfill their SDG commitments and also serve as a platform to facilitate partnerships to deliver on these commitments, the results of which should feed into the UN's High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the body designated to review progress towards SDG achievement. To this end, the GFMD should consider adopting a multi-year program of work equipping itself with a more robust secretariat and strengthening its role as a policy review body that helps States more systematically assess and evaluate the effectiveness of their policy choices. It may also want to consider governance reforms to encourage genuine joint ownership by States, civil society and the private sector.[159]

As highlighted in the previous sections of this document, GFMD has been instrumental in paving the way for recent advances in the area of international cooperation on migration and development. These include, inter alia, the presence of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the inclusion of IOM – "an organization regarded by its member States as the global lead agency on migration"[160] – in the UN system, and the adoption of the New York Declaration. Taken together, these advances have enabled the process initiated by the New York Declaration, i.e. to develop and adopt the UN Global Compacts on Migration and on Refugees[161]. This calls for a reflection on the GFMD's future added value, since the Forum was established and set up outside the UN system at a time when it was considered more conducive to facilitate a constructive dialogue on migration and development if they were held in an informal setting. The GFMD has therefore started such reflections, which will need to continue in light of the eventual outcome of the GCM and as IOM's role in the UN system continues to evolve.

In this process, the GFMD should consider how to safeguard and further develop its strengths and essential characteristics, namely: (1) a platform for open dialogue between governments as well as other critical stakeholders, including international organizations, civil society, trade unions and the private sector, on all issues related to migration and development. Beyond this, the Forum could become more action-oriented by serving as a catalyst for (2) practical cooperation and partnerships. GFMD could furthermore (3) contribute to the review of the migration-related commitments in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the

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[159] *Sutherland Report*, 2017, Recommendation 15.
[160] Agreement concerning the Relationship between the UN and IOM, A/70/976, 2016, Art. 2, http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/976.
[161] *GCM Modalities Resolution*, 2017.

GCM. Finally, GFMD as a global platform outside the UN system could (4) continue to interact with the UN system and feed in its outcomes into relevant UN processes.

These four points are in line with the decision taken at the 2016 summit meeting in Dhaka, where GFMD outlined that it will advance the review and facilitate the implementation of the migration-related commitments in the 2030 Agenda, namely by:

1.   Providing a platform for voluntary sharing of experiences, progress and evidence on migration aspects of the 2030 Agenda;
2.   Facilitating voluntary action by building partnerships on migration-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda; and
3.   Informing Member States, observers and relevant organizations of migration-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda and provide inputs to the formal follow-up and review mechanisms of the United Nations.[162]

(1) Platform for open dialogue

As an informal forum, GFMD has proven its capacity to advance discussions on politically sensitive issues. Its traditional core added value as a platform for dialogue and trust-building amongst all stakeholders could therefore continue to add value in a possible post-GCM architecture as of next year. The international debate on migration permanently faces controversial topics, such as most recently the discussions on refugees and on return and reintegration.

GFMD could continue providing a valuable space for sharing views, positions and interests with the aim of results-oriented consensus-building. As a state-led but not state-only process, it seeks to integrate a wide range of actors. The GFMD could therefore be used for annual discussions of relevant substantive issue pertaining to the GCM.

A range of practical tools at the 2017 Berlin summit drew special attention to strengthen dialogue by enhancing the quality of discussion:

o   Short, succinct and readable background papers were drafted in preparation of the Roundtables, in order to stimulate focused debates during the meeting. These served to outline the development-related relevance of the roundtable topics, to contribute actionable recommendations to the respective cluster themes of the GCM.
o   The support of professional facilitators contributed to dynamic and well-structured in-depth exchanges in different formats. Small panels were key for giving space to the participants of the sessions and including their expertise. A workshop atmosphere incited participants to actively engage in a dialogue, rather than reading out prepared statements.
o   The Chatham house rule proved once more to be a successful tool for providing a safe space for communication within GFMD.

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[162] GFMD, Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda, presented 12 Dec. 2016 at the Summit Meeting in Dhaka, https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_ad_hoc_wg_2030_agenda_report.pdf.

As a means to foster outcome-orientation, a GCM Rapporteur Team evaluated the debates at the Berlin summit from the perspective of GFMD's contribution to the GCM.[163]

Cooperation with the Civil Society and Business Mechanism components of the GFMD was further strengthened in joint planning of important GFMD sessions before and during the GFMD Summit in Berlin, including the entire program of Common Space and the Business Mechanism. The exchange with the 4th Mayoral Forum on Human Migration, Mobility and Human Development in 2017 has been an asset for including a local perspective and thus might serve as a model for future collaborations.

(2) Platform for practical cooperation and partnerships

In line with its self-conception as a "space for creativity rather than accountability"[164], GFMD serves as an informal platform for country exchanges on migration and development policies and best practices. In the future, the Forum could advance from showcasing best practices towards becoming a marketplace for an exchange of policy advice and multi-stakeholder cooperation. By contributing to translating standards for safer, more orderly and more regular migration into practical approaches in line with the international standards and obligations, GFMD could thus complement its traditional dialogue function with a – more action-oriented – cooperation dimension. The Forum could contribute to upscaling initiatives by making the outcomes of such coalitions between groups of different stakeholders available to others.

While by no means seeking to become an implementation or financing mechanism itself, GFMD could serve as a platform to facilitate operational partnerships between two or more countries, possibly accompanied by international agencies or other partners equipped with the necessary resources and expertise. This could be done by thematically linking the mechanisms of the GFMD closer to commitments in the 2030 Agenda and the GCM as well as by inviting partners to form problem-solving government- or multi-stakeholder teams geared towards specific deliverables and inviting them to voluntarily report back on their efforts in the GFMD.[165] Additionally, after having restructured its Migration and Development Policy and Practice Database in line with the SDGs in 2017, the Forum looks forward to further developing its Platform for Partnerships in order to best support such initiatives.

(3) Platform for the review of the migration-related commitments in the Agenda 2030 and in the GCM

Following the decision taken already in Dhaka, the GFMD proposes to be a platform for voluntary sharing of experiences, progress and evidence on the GCM and the migration related targets of the 2030 Agenda in support of the implementation and formal follow-up and review

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[163] GFMD, Report of the GCM Rapporteur Team at the 10th Summit Meeting, Berlin, 2017, https://gfmd.org/files/documents/the_global_compact_on_migration_at_gfmd.pdf.
[164] GFMD, Report on the Future of the Forum session at the Tenth Summit in Berlin, 2017, p. 2, https://gfmd.org/files/documents/report_on_the_future_of_the_forum_session_in_berlin.pdf.
[165] GFMD, Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda, presented 12 Dec. 2016 at the GFMD Summit Meeting in Dhaka, p. 3, https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_ad_hoc_wg_2030_agenda_report.pdf.

mechanisms of these processes. This should be facilitated by providing the necessary space in the agenda of GFMD meetings.

The GFMD participating states agreed at the Dhaka summit meeting that GFMD needs a standing agenda item dedicated to contributing to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda reflected in the multi-annual work program of the GFMD. Its efforts should seek to reflect the global state of affairs as it relates to migration in the 2030 Agenda. Ultimately, the global state of affairs should include:

a) Experiences and evidence related to the development outcomes for migrants (i.e. not leaving them behind);
b) The progress towards the migration-specific and related targets, including in relation to facilitating the exchange of data for migration-related indicators;
c) Harnessing the contribution of migrants towards inclusive growth and sustainable development; and
d) Identifying emerging issues likely to affect the realization of poverty eradication and achieving prosperity for migrants.[166]

Closely connected to its support for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, GFMD could assist in promoting synergies and complementarity between the GCM commitments – yet to be determined – and the migration-related SDGs. GFMD could contribute to better equip participating states and other stakeholders for voluntary follow-up and implementation of recommendations emanating from the discussions in the Forum.

In order to discharge its role as a platform for review of the Agenda 2030 and the GCM and with a view to provide services to the GFMD community, GFMD could explore different options to bring in greater analytical capacity to its dialogues. This should include seeking input from experts on the state of play and progress on the substantive commitments.

Broadening the agreement on the GFMD's follow-up and review function regarding the SDGs at the Dhaka summit[167], the GFMD could, inter alia:

1. Assist in the exchange of data for migration-related targets and indicators (e.g. through encouraging participating states to submit data to agencies assigned with collecting relevant data);
2. Invite expert agencies to provide preliminary aggregated global findings to the GFMD Friends of the Forum and showcasing these through the Platform for Partnership; highlighting policy and regional trends, progress towards targets, gaps, etc.;
3. Invite voluntary sharing and informal exchange of experiences by participating states and other stakeholders on migration-related indicators, on migrant inclusion and on migrants' and migration's contribution to progress towards the commitments in the SDGs and the GCM; and
4. Invite expert agencies, academia and research institutes to share in depth case-studies, including through thematic indicators, to give more detailed understanding (e.g. why certain policies might produce certain outcomes; why migration might be

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[166] GFMD, Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda, presented 12 Dec. 2016 at the GFMD Summit Meeting in Dhaka, p. 4, https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_ad_hoc_wg_2030_agenda_report.pdf.
[167] Ibid., p. 4.

contributing to the achievement of SDGs in some places more than in others; how migrants have been included more effectively etc.).

(4) Interaction with the UN System

The GFMD remains outside the UN system, but could build on its relations with IOM to benefit from its recent entry into the UN system, while continuing to interact with the broader UN system, including the Global Migration Group, to draw on the mandates and comparative advantages of its different entities. The GFMD will also deepen its close ties with the international community at large, building upon and restructuring the dialogue in the multi-stakeholder spirit of the GFMD.

The Forum will cooperate more systematically with the UN system by feeding the outcomes of its discussions into UN processes, as has already been done in the context of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). These inputs will create greater thematic and institutional synergies between the GFMD and the UN migration architecture in a mutually reinforcing way.

Following an invitation by the ECOSOC Chair, the GFMD has examined activities of governments including cooperation examples, illustrated with best practices, and presented a report[168] to the 2017 HLPF. Through its involvement, the GFMD has sought to contribute to the review of the 2030 Agenda in general, and particularly to the SDGs and the respective targets that are most relevant to the GFMD's mandate.

By incorporating the present thematic recollection into the GCM stocktaking process, the GFMD highlights its commitment to provide a specific and action-oriented input based on its long-standing expertise. In doing so, the GFMD also signals that it could come to support the review and follow-up of the GCM commitments in the future.

The GFMD appreciates the contributions of the 2006 and 2013 UN High Level Dialogues on International Migration and Development to the international debate on migration issues. It equally acknowledges IOM's International Dialogues on Migration as a regular opportunity to bring the debate on these topics forward. The Forum could continue to make its acquired expertise on development-oriented migration policies available and deepen its links with these related processes.

To date, the GFMD is led by governments which, on a voluntary basis, commit themselves to chair the Forum, assisted by a light Support Unit located in Geneva. Against the backdrop of the negotiation process and outcome of the GCM, the GFMD will engage in a critical process to review its future role and subsequently, if deemed necessary, its internal structures. It will initiate a dialogue with its key partners to explore potential synergies and areas of cooperation. The Forum will maintain its state-led character, its multi-stakeholder engagement and the principle of a rotating Chairmanship, which guarantees state ownership and has been valuable for its role as an agenda-setter in the international migration debate. To ensure the continuity of its activities, the GFMD will equip itself with an updated multi-annual work plan.

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[168] GFMD, Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the 2030 and the Global Compact on Migration, presented 5 April 2017 at the GFMD Preparatory Meeting in Geneva, https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14327GFMD.pdf.

IV. Conclusions and Action Areas for the Global Compact on Migration

Rather than restating existing commitments in the field of migration in international standards and frameworks, the GCM might prefer to focus on translating these into policies, actionable commitments and achievable measures. In doing so, the GCM would contribute to implementing the migration-related SDGs.

The present thematic recollection illustrates how policies, practical action as well as policy and practice examples in the field of migration and development could look like. States might want to draw on the GFMD's experience for the Global Compact on Migration.

The GFMD identified a number of cross-cutting issues that span the cluster structure of the GCM's consultative phase. These might constitute the main ingredients for the GCM's success:

o First and foremost, making migration safer and avoiding potential risks of irregular migration starts with providing greater opportunities to migrate in a safe, orderly and regular way. People should be in a position to migrate out of choice instead of necessity. The GFMD's experience shows that promoting existing regular pathways – for example in the form of migration resource or information centers – is a key element for an informed decision on whether and how to migrate from one's country. This suggests to give priority to enhancing regular pathways, while addressing related risks, minimizing irregular migration and tackling human rights abuses such as trafficking or crimes committed against migrants in the context of smuggling. Commitments for crises prevention and preparedness as well as conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts are essential in order to prevent displacement.

o Migration – if well-managed – can be a positive and empowering experience for migrants and can generate economic, social and cultural benefits for societies in countries of origin, transit and destination. To align with the overarching aim of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to "leave no one behind", states might choose to make people-centered, human rights-based and gender-responsive commitments. The GCM might therefore consider ensuring that migrants have access to basic services, emergency treatment as well as to speedy justice and complaint mechanisms, irrespective of their legal status. It might furthermore consider including measures to provide special assistance to migrants who may be vulnerable, especially women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, families left behind, groups facing violence and discrimination.

o Mixed migration, including people in search of a better livelihood and job opportunities, people seeking family reunification, people who have been forcibly returned to their country of origin, people who fall under the specific protections of the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees as well as people that migrate in the face of climate change and environmental degradation, are a growing reality. This illustrates one of the areas where there are strong interlinkages between the Global Compact on Refugees and

the Global Compact on safe, orderly and regular Migration, especially with a view to migrants in vulnerable situations. The two Compacts could support these by relating to each other in providing specific and appropriate measures.

o The GFMD debates recurrently emphasize that collecting and analyzing data is a precondition for tailored, evidence-based migration policies and accountability. The Forum deems tools and capacities to monitor the migration-related SDGs as crucial elements for a successful follow-up. The GCM might therefore consider including concrete measures to enhance the knowledge on migration, as well as to come up with disaggregated data on migration, and to measure the progress of its own implementation.

o According to the Forum's experience, it is vital for achieving policy coherence that parliamentarians embrace a holistic view on migration issues, and that states adopt a whole-of-government and a whole-of-society-approach when it comes to implementation. The Forum sees local actors as key partners in this regard. Empowering local authorities and decentralized administrative agencies would enable them to actively contribute to operationalizing convened goals and targets. The GCM might hence consider promoting tailored capacity development measures for local actors in order to support these to best fulfill their crucial role.

o Home and host communities can benefit culturally, economically and intellectually from migrants' contributions. As the policy options, options for practical action as well as the policy and practice examples from governmental and non-governmental actors in this thematic recollection show, states alone cannot succeed in harnessing the potentials of migrants. This would thus suggest that the GCM could promote inclusive policy-making as a collective responsibility in order to bring migration-related commitments to life. The GCM might consider encouraging states to create an enabling framework for civil society contributions, including migrant associations, diaspora, the private sector, trade unions, and other actors.

o Policies need to be based on the shared interest to harvest the potential of safe, regular and orderly migration. The GFMD's discussions in the last decade have brought together a broad range of actors and have helped to bridge diverging interests and priorities. Coalitions between groups of different stakeholders have proven to be a pragmatic way to come forward with solutions. The GCM might consider facilitating innovative partnerships between countries of origin, transit and destination, including regional cooperation and other stakeholders, as a promising tool to implement joint approaches and projects.

Against the backdrop of the GCM negotiation process and its eventual outcome, the GFMD will engage in further reflections on its own mandate. The GFMD could remain instrumental in a possible post-GCM architecture as a voluntary, informal and governmental-led multi-stakeholder platform for open dialogue. The Forum will explore which possible future roles are consistent with its strengths and essential characteristics and could enhance its traditional function, thus increasing its value for the international migration governance framework. This could mean becoming more action-oriented by serving as a catalyst for practical cooperation and partnerships. Furthermore, the Forum could potentially contribute to the review and follow-up of the migration-related commitments in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the GCM. Finally, the GFMD as a global platform outside the UN system could continue to interact with the UN system and feed its outcomes into relevant UN processes.